

'Best Bet' IPM strategy

Establishment pests – Northern region

	Pre-season	Pre-sowing	Emergence	Crop establishment
Blue earth mites (BOM)	<p>Assess risk.</p> <p>High risk when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> history of high mite pressure susceptible crop (canola, pasture, lucerne) rotating from pasture to crop seasonal forecast for dry or cool, wet conditions. <p>If risk high, consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> planting a less susceptible crop controlling mites in the pasture to reduce carryover using a seed dressing on susceptible crops. 	<p>If high risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> monitor frequently until crop establishment consider a higher sowing rate to compensate for seedling loss consider scheduling a post plant pre-emergence treatment. <p>Note: bare-earth treatments will impact on predators of slugs.</p>	<p>Monitor to establishment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> be aware of edge effects (mites moving from weed hosts) consider an insecticide application prior to winter eggs production to suppress populations and reduce risk in following season. 	<p>As the crop grows, it becomes less susceptible to mites unless growth is slowed by dry or cool, wet conditions.</p>
False wireworm (FWW)	<p>Assess risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> use germinating seed baits following rain direct sample the field for larvae close to sowing. review paddock history of FWW 	<p>If high risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reassess crop choice or timing of sowing consider seed dressing (may be ineffective against high densities) and/or in-furrow treatment. 	<p>No post-emergence treatment available. Consider re-sowing severely affected areas of crop.</p>	<p>No longer susceptible to FWW.</p>
Cutworm	<p>Control weeds hosts in fallow and in paddocks at least 2 weeks prior to sowing to minimise risk of larvae moving onto crop.</p>	<p>Monitor crop edges, especially adjacent to weedy fallows and roadsides as cutworm may move following a herbicide application.</p>	<p>Monitor for leaf and seedling damage. Larvae feed at night and shelter at the base of plants during the day.</p>	<p>Very occasionally cutworm will damage older seedlings.</p>

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Slugs	<p>Assess risk.</p> <p>High risk when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high stubble load • heavy clay soil • >450 mm rainfall & summer rainfall • history of slug infestation <p>If risk is high, deploy shelter traps prior to sowing. Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cultivation (affected areas of field) • rolling to compact seed bed and restrict slug movement along rows. • burning stubble • managing weeds at least 8 weeks prior to sowing in and around paddocks • baiting at 25-30 baits/m² (most effective prior to sowing or crop emergence when soil is moist). 	<p>If slug pressure is high, repeat baiting may be necessary. Monitoring will guide bait use.</p>	<p>If slug pressure is high, regular baiting may be necessary. Monitoring will guide bait use. Slugs are active at night; night monitoring may be necessary to confirm slugs as the cause of seedling loss.</p>	
Scarabs	<p>Assess risk.</p> <p>High risk when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sowing crop into pasture • previous history of scarab damage to crop in that field. Some species have a 2 year lifecycle. • wetter than average seasons <p>Direct sample field to determine incidence of scarab larvae.</p>		<p>No options for control once crop is sown. Larvae do not emerge from the soil.</p>	<p>Resowing may be an option, but larvae may persist through winter into spring. Larval size will guide this decision.</p>