## ‘Best Bet’ IPM strategy

### Establishment pests – Northern region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pest</th>
<th>Pre-season</th>
<th>Pre-sowing</th>
<th>Emergence</th>
<th>Crop establishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Blue earth mites (BOM)**    | Assess risk. | If high risk:  
• history of high mite pressure  
• susceptible crop (canola, pasture, lucerne)  
• rotating from pasture to crop  
• seasonal forecast for dry or cool, wet conditions. | Monitor to establishment.  
• 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. | As the crop grows, it becomes less susceptible to mites unless growth is slowed by dry or cool, wet conditions. |
| High risk when  
• planting a less susceptible crop  
• controlling mites in the pasture to reduce carryover  
• using a seed dressing on susceptible crops. | If high risk:  
• monitor frequently until crop establishment  
• consider a higher sowing rate to compensate for seedling loss  
• consider scheduling a post plant pre-emergence treatment.  
Note: bare-earth treatments will impact on predators of slugs. | |
| **False wireworm (FWW)**      | Assess risk:  
• use germinating seed baits following rain  
• direct sample the field for larvae close to sowing.  
• review paddock history of FWW | If high risk:  
• reassess crop choice or timing of sowing  
• consider seed dressing (may be ineffective against high densities) and/or in-furrow treatment. | No post-emergence treatment available. Consider re-sowing severely affected areas of crop. | No longer susceptible to FWW. |
|                              |            |            | Monitor any for leaf and seedling damage. Larvae feed at night and shelter at the base of plants during the day. | Very occasionally cutworm will damage older seedlings. |
| **Cutworm**                  | Control weeds hosts in fallow and in paddocks at least 2 weeks prior to sowing to minimise risk of larvae moving onto crop. | Monitor crop edges, especially adjacent to weedy fallows and roadsides as cutworm may move following a herbicide application. | | |

### False wireworm (FWW) Assessment:
- Use germinating seed baits following rain.
- Direct sample the field for larvae close to sowing.
- Review paddock history of FWW.

### Cutworm Control:
- Control weeds hosts in fallow and in paddocks at least 2 weeks prior to sowing to minimise risk of larvae moving onto crop.

### Blue earth mites (BOM) Assessment:
- Assess risk.
- **High risk** when:
  - History of high mite pressure.
  - Susceptible crop (canola, pasture, lucerne).
  - Rotating from pasture to crop.
  - Seasonal forecast for dry or cool, wet conditions.
- If risk high, consider:
  - Planting a less susceptible crop.
  - Controlling mites in the pasture to reduce carryover.
  - Using a seed dressing on susceptible crops.

### Cutworm Monitoring:
- Monitor crop edges, especially adjacent to weedy fallows and roadsides as cutworm may move following a herbicide application.

### False Wireworm (FWW) Monitoring:
- Monitor to establishment.
- 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 the following season.
### Slugs

**Pre-season**
- Assess risk.

**High risk** when
- high stubble load
- heavy clay soil
- >450 mm rainfall & summer rainfall
- history of slug infestation

If risk is high, deploy shelter traps prior to sowing. Consider:
- 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).

### Pre-sowing

If slug pressure is high, repeat baiting may be necessary. Monitoring will guide bait use.

### Emergence

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.

### Crop establishment

If slug pressure is high, regular baiting may be necessary. Monitoring will guide bait use.

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### Scarabs

**Pre-season**
- Assess risk.

**High risk** when
- 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

Direct sample field to determine incidence of scarab larvae.

**Pre-sowing**

No options for control once crop is sown. Larvae do not emerge from the soil.

**Emergence**

No options for control once crop is sown. Larvae do not emerge from the soil.

**Crop establishment**

Resowing may be an option, but larvae may persist through winter into spring. Larval size will guide this decision.