

### Early Season Corn Insect Pests, VE to V8

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Corn Growth Stage									
VE	V2	V4	V6	V8	V10	V12	VT	R1	
BELOW-GROUND INSECT PESTS									
SEEDCORN MAGGOT									
SEEDCORN BEETLE									
SUGARCANE BEETLE									
WHITE GRUBS									
WIREWORM									
SANDHILL CUTWORM									
			CORN ROOTWORM LARVAE						
ABOVE-GROUND INSECT PESTS									
SOD WEBWORM									
GRAPE COLASPIS									
BLACK, DINGY, CLAYBACK CUTWORMS									
CHINCH BUG									
	BILLBUG								
		COMMON STALK BORER							
			1ST GENERATION EUROPEAN CORN BORER						
			1ST GENERATION SOUTHWESTERN CORN BORER						
			1ST GENERATION SOUTHERN CORN BORER						
ABOVE-GROUND NON-INSECT PESTS									
MILLIPEDES									
SLUGS									

#### Below-Ground

When searching for below-ground pests, a small garden trowel or pocketknife is a handy tool to use. Early season insects can be found attacking the seed (seedcorn maggot, seedcorn beetle), the seed and below-ground parts of the seedling (wireworm, sugarcane beetle), they may be more limited to the roots (white grubs), or attack the under-ground stem (sandhill cutworm). White grub is a generic term for the larval stage of insects like the Japanese beetle, rose or sand chafer, and May or June beetles. True white grubs are the

larval stage of May and June beetles. To identify the grubs, the raster pattern, or the setae (hair) pattern on the posterior end is used. Michigan State University has developed an excellent publication, Severe Grub Damage Spotted in Northern Michigan Hay field, that can be used to help identify white grubs in the field. Follow this link, <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/severe-grub-damage-spotted-in-northern-michigan-grass-hay-field> to access the Field ID Sheet.

## *Early Season Corn Insect Pests, VE to V8*

Corn rootworm larvae may be present during the later stages of early season growth but may be too small to readily detect. If detected, they will have a brown to black head and a brown to black anal plate.



*Wireworms*

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University,  
Bugwood.org.



*Seed corn maggot*



*White grub*

Alton N. Sparks, Jr., University of Georgia,  
Bugwood.org.



*Sugarcane beetle*

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative  
Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org.



*Sandhill cutworm*

James Kalisch, University of Nebraska,  
Bugwood.org.



*Corn rootworm larvae*

Scott Bauer, USDA Agricultural Research  
Service, Bugwood.org.

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## Above-Ground

Some of these insect pests feed above-ground but can also be found under-ground. The cutworm species feed above-ground at night but spend the day under soil clods.



*Black cutworm*

Roger Schmidt, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Bugwood.org.



*Claybacked cutworm*

James Kalisch, University of Nebraska, Bugwood.org.



*Maize billbug*

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org.



*Common stalk borer*

James Kalisch, University of Nebraska, Bugwood.org.



*Southern corn stalk borer*

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org.



*European corn borer*

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.



*Southwestern corn borer*

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.



*Millipede*

Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org.

## Legal Statements

Performance may vary, from location to location and from year to year, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of these conditions on the grower's fields.

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