# Risk Forecast for Bertha Armyworm in Manitoba in 2023

The population of adult moths of bertha armyworms are monitored using pheromone-baited traps during the flight and egg-laying period. The monitoring period extends from about early-June through July (June 4 to July 29 in 2023).

The cumulative moth counts from the traps, which are presented in the table below, can not predict what the level of larvae will be in the field a trap is in, but can be used, in conjunction with counts from other traps in a region, to determine areas of the province at higher risk and where increased monitoring of fields for larvae may be necessary.

**Figure 1. Trap for monitoring bertha armyworm**

**Figure 2. Bertha armyworm moths**

## Summary (as of July 26, 2023)

Data from pheromone-baited traps for bertha armyworm has been reported from 92 locations in Manitoba.

- Counts remained in the low risk category in all traps except for a trap near Waskada.
- The highest cumulative trap count is 411 from a trap near Waskada in Southwest Manitoba.

July 26, 2023

Manitoba

**Table 1. Highest cumulative counts of bertha armyworm moths from five agricultural regions of Manitoba as of July 26, 2023.**

0-300=low risk 300-900=uncertain risk 900-1,200=moderate risk 1,200+=high risk

| Location | Count | Location | Count | Location | Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Northwest** | | | | | |
| The Pas (East) | 219 | Makaroff | 66 | Shell Valley | 38 |
| Durban | 122 | Minitonas | 66 | Russell | 35 |
| The Pas (West) | 107 | Minitonas | 63 | Swan River | 34 |
| Inglis | 99 | Swan River | 57 | Swan River | 33 |
| Minitonas | 79 | Benito | 51 | Whitebeech | 33 |
| **Southwest** | | | | | |
| Waskada | 411 | Rossburn | 104 | Shoal Lake | 66 |
| Miniota | 178 | Russell | 80 | Ninga | 57 |
| Cypress River | 122 | Crandall | 71 | Minnedosa | 51 |
| Minto | 118 | Rapid City | 70 | Belmont | 47 |
| Pierson | 110 | Whitehead | 67 | Hartney Jct. | 46 |
| **Central** | | | | | |
| Lowe Farm | 165 | Horndean | 19 | Elm Creek | 7 |
| Emerson | 91 | Altona | 18 | Fannystelle | 5 |
| Graysville | 38 | Barnsley | 14 | Layland | 4 |
| Barnsley | 20 | Carman | 10 | Culross | 1 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gretna | 19 | Brunkild | 7 | Rosenfeld | 1 |
| **Eastern** | | | | | |
| Whitemouth | 113 | Beausejour | 69 | Tourond | 14 |
| Stead | 92 | Ste. Anne | 30 | Hadashville | 1 |
| **Interlake** | | | | | |
| Teulon | 126 | Steeprock | 53 | Winnipeg Beach | 30 |
| Stonewall | 69 | Poplarfield | 51 | Vidir | 23 |
| Meadows | 63 | Arborg | 44 | Lundar | 22 |
| Ashern | 61 | East Selkirk | 41 | Riverton | 6 |
| Hodgson | 54 | Selkirk | 31 | | |

## Interpreting Bertha Armyworm Cumulative Moth Counts

The following table relates the cumulative moth counts over the trapping period with the risk of larval infestation.

| **Cumulative number of Moths / Trap** | | |
|---|---|---|
| From | To | Larval Infestation Risk Level |
| 0 | 300 | Low - Infestations are unlikely to be widespread, but fields should be inspected for signs of insects or damage. |
| 301 | 900 | Uncertain - Infestations may not be widespread, but fields that were particularly attractive to egg-laying females could be infested. Check your fields. |
| 901 | 1200 | Moderate - Canola fields should be sampled regularly for larvae and for evidence of damage. |
| 1200+ | | High - Canola fields should be sampled frequently for larvae and for evidence of damage. |

For information on techniques to monitor levels of larvae of bertha armyworm, and economic thresholds, see: https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/pubs/bertha-armyworm-factsheet-revised-may2023.pdf