

True Armyworm Monitoring Program in Manitoba - 2025



Larvae of armyworms, *Mythimna unipuncta*, sometimes called true armyworms, can cause significant feeding injury to cereals and forage grasses when levels are abundant. They do not overwinter in the Canadian prairie provinces, but large numbers can potentially migrate in. If conditions are favorable for their survival and reproduction when they arrive, and if natural enemies do not limit population establishment, populations can increase.

Pheromone-baited traps (Figure 1), which attract the male moths, are established for a 12-week period from early-May until late-July to detect the arrival of populations of armyworms early in the season. The cumulative counts from the traps cannot predict what levels of larvae will be, but can be used to determine regions of the province where increased attention for armyworms is recommended when scouting fields of cereals and forage grasses.



Figure 1. Trap for armyworms



Figure 2. Armyworm moth

Summary (as of June 25, 2025)

Pheromone-baited traps for adult moths were set up at 30 locations in Manitoba in 2025.

Armyworms have been caught in 29 traps. The highest cumulative counts so far have been in the Interlake region, where there are three traps with cumulative counts over 100. All three traps in the Eastern region have cumulative counts ranging from 41 – 71. In the Southwest region there are three traps with cumulative counts between 27 – 37.

The highest cumulative trap count so far is 262 from a trap near Riverton in the Interlake region.

Looking for larvae of armyworms while scouting cereals and forage grasses is recommended, particularly in fields in the Interlake and Eastern regions.

Table 1. Highest cumulative trap counts for true armyworm per agricultural region in Manitoba as of June 25, 2025.

Location	Count	Location	Count
Southwest			
Lyleton	37	Isabella	14
Brandon	28	Melita	6
Pierson	27	Birtle	0
Central			
Arnaud	9	Emerson	1
Eastern			
New Bothwell	71	Greenland	41
Kleefeld	66		
Interlake			
Riverton	262	Miklavik	9
Framnes	162	Cloverdale	7
Washow Bay	113	East Selkirk	7
Fisher Branch	61	Balmoral	6
Zbaraz	57	Grosse Isle	6
Okno	23	Warren	5
Ledwyn	22	Minnewakan	4
Teulon	19	Faulkner	2
Shorncliffe	16	Gimli	1
Pleasant Home	11		

Guidelines for monitoring larvae of armyworm can be found at:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/pubs/armyworms-factsheet-revised-january2024.pdf>