PHEROMONE TRAPPING SYSTEMS:
REFINEMENT OF PROTOCOLS FOR MONITORING
EUROPEAN CORN BORER IN SWEET CORN;
AND
DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE PHEROMONE TRAPPING SYSTEM FOR
EUROPEAN CORN BORER IN POTATO, PEPPERS AND SNAP BEANS

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SUMMARY:
Evaluate New Pheromone Blend for E-ECB

European corn borer, Ostrinia nubilalis (ECB), is an important insect pest in many diverse agricultural systems. Some of these systems (such as sweet corn, potatoes, peppers, snap beans) have extremely high cosmetic standards, requiring high pesticides use. Effective monitoring of field populations is crucial because of the need to precisely time control measures between egg hatch and larval entry into the host plants. Effective monitoring is complicated, however, by the fact that ECB exists as at least three distinct races that are morphologically indistinguishable, differing only in their pheromone communication systems, voltinism characters and host plants (bivoltine E, bivoltine Z, univoltine Z). Recently, three new chemicals of the E-ECB pheromone were isolated and evaluated for trapping efficiency in the field. Unfortunately, the new pheromone lure 100 µg 99:1 with the 3 additional components did not enhance trap catch compared to the commercial lures tested. Due to the difficulties in the field, such as poor trapping sites, low populations levels of ECBs and variations in the quality of standard chemicals, this experiment should be repeated for one more year to validate these results.

For a printed copy of the entire report, please contact the NYS IPM office at:

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