

Rutgers Cooperative Extension

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SWEET CORN IPM FIELD GUIDE FOR NEW JERSEY

Sampling Method: 10 samples per field, random area. Sample 5 consecutive plants for a total of 50 plants.

Seedling Stage

PEST	THRESHOLD	NOTES
Flea Beetle	6+/100 seedlings if no soil insecticide used.	Observe from an upright position so as not to disturb these pests.
Fall Armyworm	>/= 12% of plants infested.	Check for ragged injury, droppings, and live fall armyworms.

Whorl-Tassel Stage

PEST	THRESHOLD	NOTES
European Corn Borer	>/= 12% of plants infested.	Check leaves for “shot-hole” type feeding signs. Check emerging tassels for live European corn borers.
Fall Armyworm	>/= 12% of plants infested.	Check leaves for ragged-hole type feeding signs. Check inside whorl for droppings and larvae.
Leaf Rust	Presence	Check for pustules.
Northern Corn Leaf Blight	Presence @ whorl; presence >3 sample sites @ pre-tassel/tassel.	Check for lesions.
Sap Beetles	Note: presence may require frequency adjustment to silk spray program.	Check emerging tassels for sap beetles.
Corn Leaf Aphid	>/= 12% of plants infested; may require specific insecticide during silk spray program.	Check emerging tassels for aphid.

Silk Stage

PEST	THRESHOLD	NOTES
Corn Earworm	Apply insecticides at interval prescribed by local blacklight trap catches.	See local blacklight trap information guide spray schedule in the Plant & Pest Advisory Vegetable IPM Updates.
Two-spotted Spider Mite	Presence at >1 site.	Check for colonies on underside of leaves.
Japanese Beetles	~10% or more plants with beetles feeding on silks.	Check for presence on emerging silks.