

European corn borer, western corn rootworm now infesting corn

Written by By Assefa Gebre-Amlak, CSU Extension specialist

European corn borer moths began to emerge and lay second-generation eggs in some of the pheromone trap locations in northeastern Colorado. Second-generation flight can last for four weeks. Damage due to second brood in corn may contribute to lodging and ear drop losses.

Second-generation egg masses are generally found on the underside of the leaf, usually within three leaves above or below the ear leaf. These egg masses appear flat and white with black spots appearing as the eggs mature.

Generally, late-maturing cornfields are more attractive to second-generation egg-laying moths than early-maturing fields. The female summer moth prefers to lay eggs in corn that is tasseling and in the green silk stage.

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