



Reduce Risk Strategies for Cabbage Maggot Control



LEAD RESEARCHER

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Crucifers (crops in the cabbage family) provide numerous opportunities for Canadian vegetable growers but are under attack by cabbage root maggots. In this research activity, the team has been working to find new management tools to allow growers to see decreased crop losses from cabbage root maggot.

This growing season has seen the British Columbia team complete a transplant trial with broccoli and a direct seed rutabaga trial. Two more trials are under way. The crops were transplanted from the University of the Fraser Valley greenhouse.

The research team is assessing transplant tray treatments for products Cimegra and Equento. Cimegra has performed well in trials as a post-transplant drench. Growers are interested in doing Cimegra applications to transplant trays. Equento is newly registered for wireworms, but the company is interested in other possible registrations including cabbage maggots.

A total of five field trials were conducted, although the first direct seed trial was abandoned due to poor germination. The remaining four trials were successful with the fourth and final trial ending in mid-August.

There are two field trials remaining to collect data on. The researchers also plan to survey for biological control. There are plans to organize field trials in Nova Scotia for the 2027 field season.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

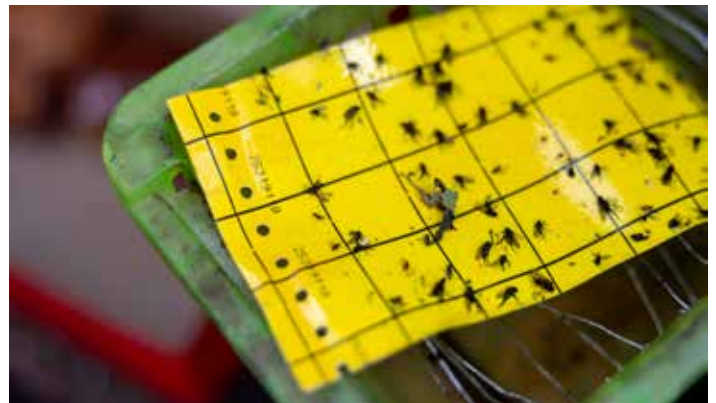
- Cimegra has performed well in trials as a post-transplant drench. Growers are interested in doing Cimegra applications to transplant trays.
- Equento is newly registered for wireworms, but the company is interested in other possible registrations including cabbage maggots.
- Two trials have been successful this year, with the earliest planting of rutabaga abandoned due to poor germination.
- There are plans to organize field trials in Nova Scotia for the 2027 field season.



Cabbage root maggot field plot trials at Abbotsford, B.C.



Cabbage plant plots at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Agassiz Research and Development Centre.



A test strip with cabbage root maggots on it. Photos: Toban Dyck

