

Diamondback Moth Reaches Economic Threshold

Diamondback moth, an insect pest in canola, met economic thresholds earlier this week in southern Renville, Ward, and Bottineau Counties. The larval stage of the moth damages the plant by stripping leaves, and more seriously flowers and seedpods. The larva is cigar shaped, light green in color, and approximately 1/4" long. They may be difficult to observe on the plant as the color blends into the canola. To scout for the larva, pull several canola plants from at least 5 locations in the field, and tap them on the hood of a vehicle, or in a large bucket to dislodge the larva from the plant. The larva may dangle from the plant on a silken thread and writhe about vigorously. If 1-2 larva per plant



are found an insecticide treatment is warranted. Insecticides labeled on canola in ND include: Capture at 2.1-2.6 fl oz/A, Delta Gold (formerly Decis) at 0.8 fl oz/A, and Warrior at 1.92-3.84 fl oz/A. The approximate cost of insecticide ranges from \$2.15 to \$5.50 (not including application costs) for Delta Gold and the low rate of Capture, respectively. If insecticide applications during flowering are necessary, apply in the evening

when honey bees are not actively foraging. For more information refer to the 2007 Field Crop Insect Management Guide or <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/plantsci/pests/e1143w1.htm>. *Always read and follow pesticide labels.*