

Old World Bollworm

Helicoverpa armigera

The Old World Bollworm is a native to Europe and Asia. It has not yet established itself within the U.S, but the threat is still possible if precautions are not met. Any possibility of infestation will be made through imports of cut flowers, vegetables, fruits and possibly through aircraft carry.



Pupa(e); Paolo Mazzei



Larva(e); Central Science Laboratory, Harpenden Archive

Description:

Larvae are usually a shade of green but colors can vary while developing. They can grow up to 2in. long and have stripes that can range from brown to light green to black. Hairs can be seen also when observed up close or

held up to the light. Pupa's are reddish-brown and stay in the soil roughly for 10-14 days if it's not the winter season.

An adults forewings are a light fawn color with a kidney-shaped spot in the middle. The hindwings can be grey to grey-brown. A broad dark band can be found on both wings near the outer third of the wing although on the hind wing, a pale patch is found in the middle of the dark band. The wings appear to be held like a roof when at rest.

Damage:

It's active and high reproductive rate makes this pest significant if it were able to establish a breeding ground. Approximately half of the U.S. is thought to be a suitable habitat for the bollworm, mostly in areas with a high rate of agricultural significance, depending on temperature and seasons.



Adult; Paolo Mazzei

Information and Image Sources:

Invasive.org. [Old World Bollworm](#). [Cotton Bollworm](#). 4 May 2010. 6 April 2012.
<http://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=9408>

