

Cutworm on Kales

► *Agrotis spp.*

	Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
 <p>Crippled kale Source: www.avrdc.org</p>  <p>Black cut worm larvae Photo by John.- CUF; Jack Kelly Clark</p>  <p>Adult cutworm moth Photo by John.- CUF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Keep the nursery and field free of weeds ◆ Plough before transplanting during the dry spell to expose the cutworm to the natural enemies ◆ Remove and burn crop debris ◆ Ensure fields are free from cutworms before transplanting or sowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Look out for plants that are collapsed from the base in a row 2 days after transplanting. ◆ Dig round the base of cut stem about 5cm deep to find a stout soft bodied grey/black caterpillar with greasy appearance. ◆ Use light traps to trap adult moths that are dark grey to brown with varying mottled patterns (spots) on forewings. ◆ Consider direct control when there are more than 5 larvae per square meter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Dig around the collapsed plant to get the cutworm and kill it. ◆ Flood the area to suffocate the larvae in the soil ◆ Drench using 0.03% Azadirachtin (Nimbecidine EC) ◆ Mix equal quantities of sawdust, bran and molasses with enough water to make mixture sticky and spread around the base of the plants in the evenings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Spray with Alpha Cypermethrin (Tata Alpha 10 EC-5ml/20 litres water, Lambda-cyhalothrin (Dududthrin, 1.7- EC Rate-60ml per 20Lor 0.4 Lts per acrea) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ WHO class II (moderately hazardous) ◆ PHI- 3 days ◆ MRLs 0.7 mg/kg ◆ WHO class II(moderately hazardous) ◆ PHI-7 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ When using a pesticide (even a botanical home-brew), always wear protective clothing. ◆ Follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, pre-harvest interval, max number of sprays, restricted re-entry interval. ◆ Do not empty into water drains.



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