

**Section VII.  
Foliage & Seed Feeding Pests**

**Monitoring of Major worm Pests in the San Joaquin Valley of California, 2001**

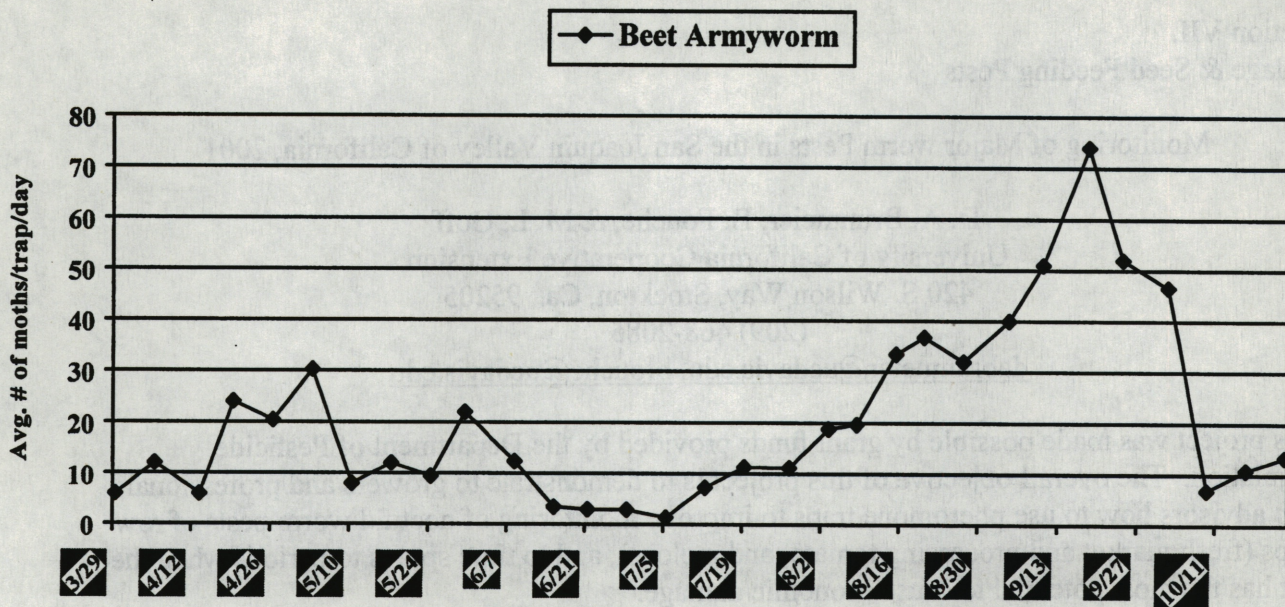
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This project was made possible by grant funds provided by the Department of Pesticide Regulation. The overall objective of this project is to demonstrate to growers and professional crop advisors how to use pheromone traps to improve monitoring of noctuid worm pests of row crops (fresh market and processing tomato, and melons), and to time sprays to periods when the pest has the most potential to cause economic damage.

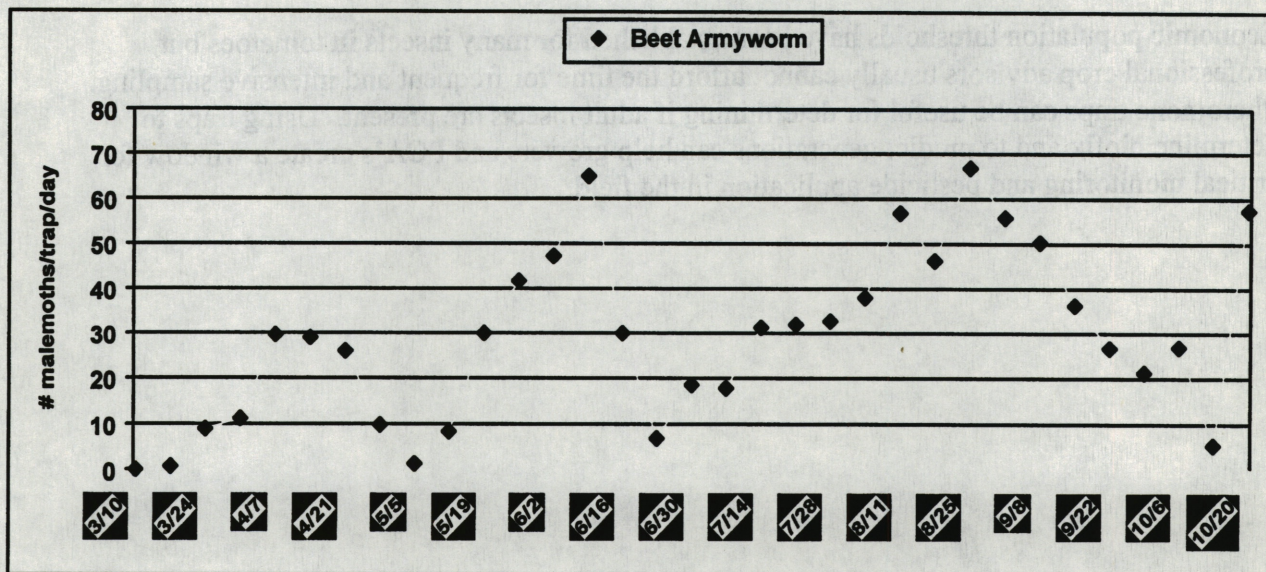
Noctuid worm pests regularly cause damage to tomato and melon crops in California. Worms feed on foliage and fruit, causing losses in yield and quality. For fresh market crops, such as tomato and melons, worm feeding may cause cosmetic damage to fruit, reducing the economic value of the crop, or reduce fruit yield by damaging the plant and/or fruit. In processing tomatoes, worm damage to fruit increases the entry of pathogens that cause fruit mold, resulting in loss of yield and quality.

Economic population thresholds have been established for many insects in tomatoes but professional crop advisors usually cannot afford the time for frequent and intensive sampling. Pheromone traps can be useful for determining if adult insects are present. Using traps to determine biofix and to predict generations can help growers and PCA's create a window for critical monitoring and pesticide application in the field.

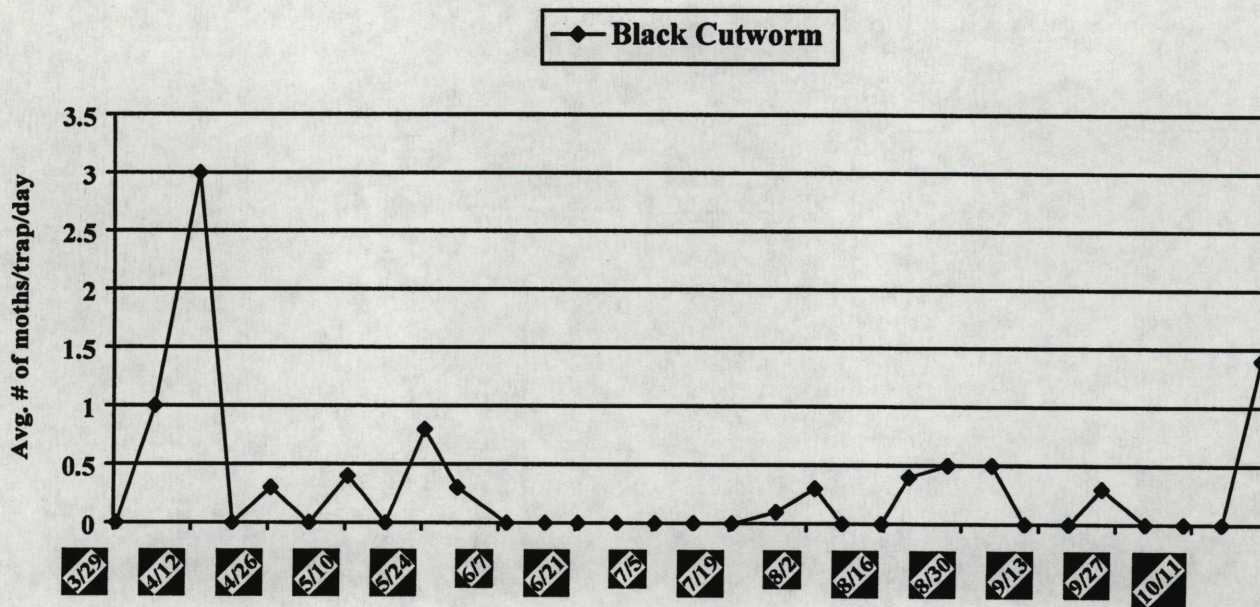
## S. J. County Melon Trap Counts Vernalis, CA-2001



## S.J. County Fresh Market Melon Trap Counts-2000 Vernalis, Ca



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## S.J. County Fresh Market Melon Trap Counts-2000 Vernalis, Ca

