Hein, Gary L., University of Nebraska Panhandle Research and Extension Center, 4502 Ave I, Scottsbluff, NE 69361. - Control of early season cutworms in sugarbeets.

Two species of cutworms, pale western cutworm and army cutworm, are becoming more of a problem as growers are using more fall planted small grain cover crops to reduce winter soil erosion. In 1993 and 1994 four planting time treatments and a broadcast rescue treatment were tested for cutworm control. The planting time insecticide treatments included Lorsban 15G (9 oz/1000 row feet), Counter 15G (8 oz/1000 row feet), Temik 15G (9 oz/1000 row feet), and Ammo 0.75G (9 oz/1000 row feet). A broadcast rescue treatment of Lorsban 4E (2 pt/A) and an untreated check were also included. Twenty pale western cutworms (5-6th instar) were infested into metal barriers for all insecticide treated plots and the untreated check. Stand loss for Counter and Temik were no different from the untreated check. The other two planting time treatments Ammo, a pyrethroid, and Lorsban provided good protection of the stand in this trial. The pyrethroid provided more consistent cutworm control than Lorsban 15G. In 1994 Lorsban 15G performance was likely hindered by extremely dry conditions. The rescue treatment of Lorsban 4E provided equal control to the Ammo treatment. Since Ammo is not a registered product for sugarbeets and Lorsban 15G showed variable control, the most consistent option remains the rescue treatment with Lorsban 4E. This requires that growers be prepared to scout fields to pick up the presence of cutworm problems early enough to treat.