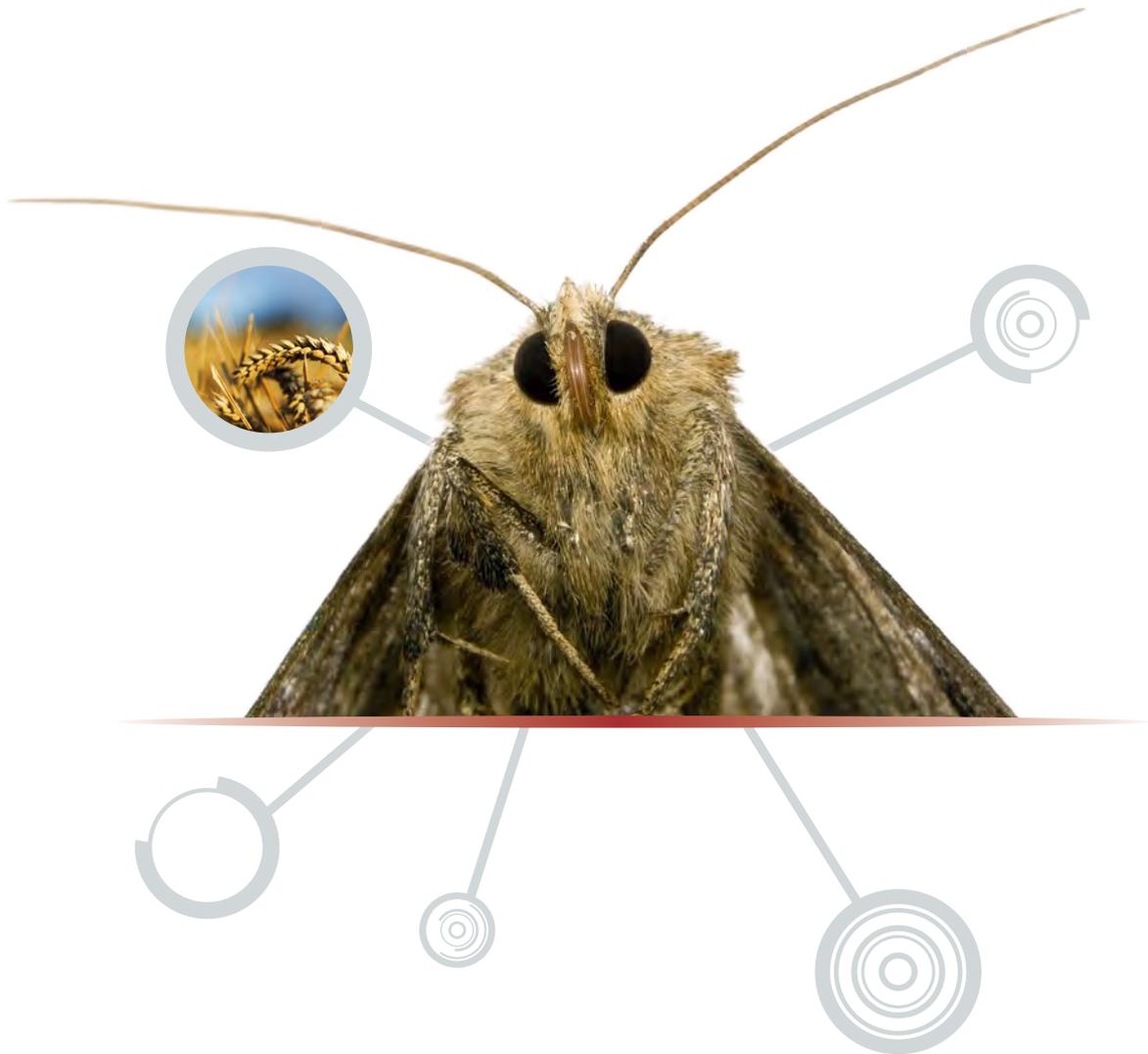


IPM & INSECT ID

IN THE NORTHERN NSW GRAINS INDUSTRY



Grains Research &
Development Corporation





Integrated pest management (IPM) utilises a combination of biological, cultural and chemical controls to manage pest species.

IPM encourages a move away from a sole reliance on pesticides and insecticides by typically combining a variety of biological, cultural and chemical control techniques to facilitate effective control using pesticides only as a support tool.

A critical component of successful IPM for is the correct identification of the pest species. The foremost aim of this initiative is to offer a free insect identification service to assist in the implementation of IPM for grain growers in the Northern region of NSW.

This initiative is funded by the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) and the University of New England (UNE).



© AIMS OF THE PROJECT

To establish an insect pest identification service to assist growers in the northern grain growing region of NSW with the identification and monitoring of insect pests in grain crops. Correctly identifying pest insects is essential for judicious control of pest populations and to encourage a build-up of natural enemy and generalist predator populations in crops.

In addition to providing the insect identification service, we will also be running workshops and field days (often on-farm) aimed at increasing awareness and knowledge about IPM and also teaching growers and agronomists to accurately identify insects themselves. Through this we hope to encourage discussion and information sharing between growers, agronomists and researchers.

Additionally, through the course of the project UNE will be identifying IPM research areas of priority for the region and initiating any resulting research projects.*

* Similar services are provided in Queensland by DEEDI (www.thebeatsheet.com.au) and in southern NSW through CESAR consultants/PestFacts (www.cesarconsultants.com.au/services/pest-facts.html). These providers have previously assisted, and in some cases will continue to assist, growers in the Northern region. All three services fall under the banner of the National Invertebrate Pest Initiative (www.csiro.au/partnerships/NIPi.html)

© BENEFITS OF IPM

- » A reduced dependence on pesticides
- » Fewer problems with the development of resistance to insecticides
- » A reduction in the risk of the emergence of secondary pests
- » The conservation of natural enemies and other beneficial insects
- » A greater understanding of the ecology of the farm environment
- » Lower pest control costs
- » Avoidance of health issues relating to pesticide use
- » Avoidance of environmental problems such as spraydrift, waterway contamination and residual pesticides affecting wildlife

© PERCEIVED BARRIERS TO CHANGE

- » IPM is often perceived as a complex system
- » Broad spectrum insecticides seem relatively cheap in the short-term
- » Changing to alternative methods can be time consuming and create uncertainty
- » Advisors to growers are often inexperienced in IPM strategies
- » There may be an initial increase in levels of damage during the transition phase as populations of beneficials will require time to return to significant levels

With long-term commitment and support from entomologists and extension officers through this initiative, it is anticipated that these barriers can be easily overcome and the benefits of IPM realized.



© HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

- » Send in specimens in to the insect identification service for insects of all GRDC leviable grain crops using the form on our website:
www.une.edu.au/sweepnet
- » Subscribe to the blog on our website
- » Participate in local workshops and other events organized to promote and coordinate discussions about IPM issues and management options



© FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact us directly with any IPM related questions you may have:

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