

# Cost of Ear Damage in Production Seed Corn Fields

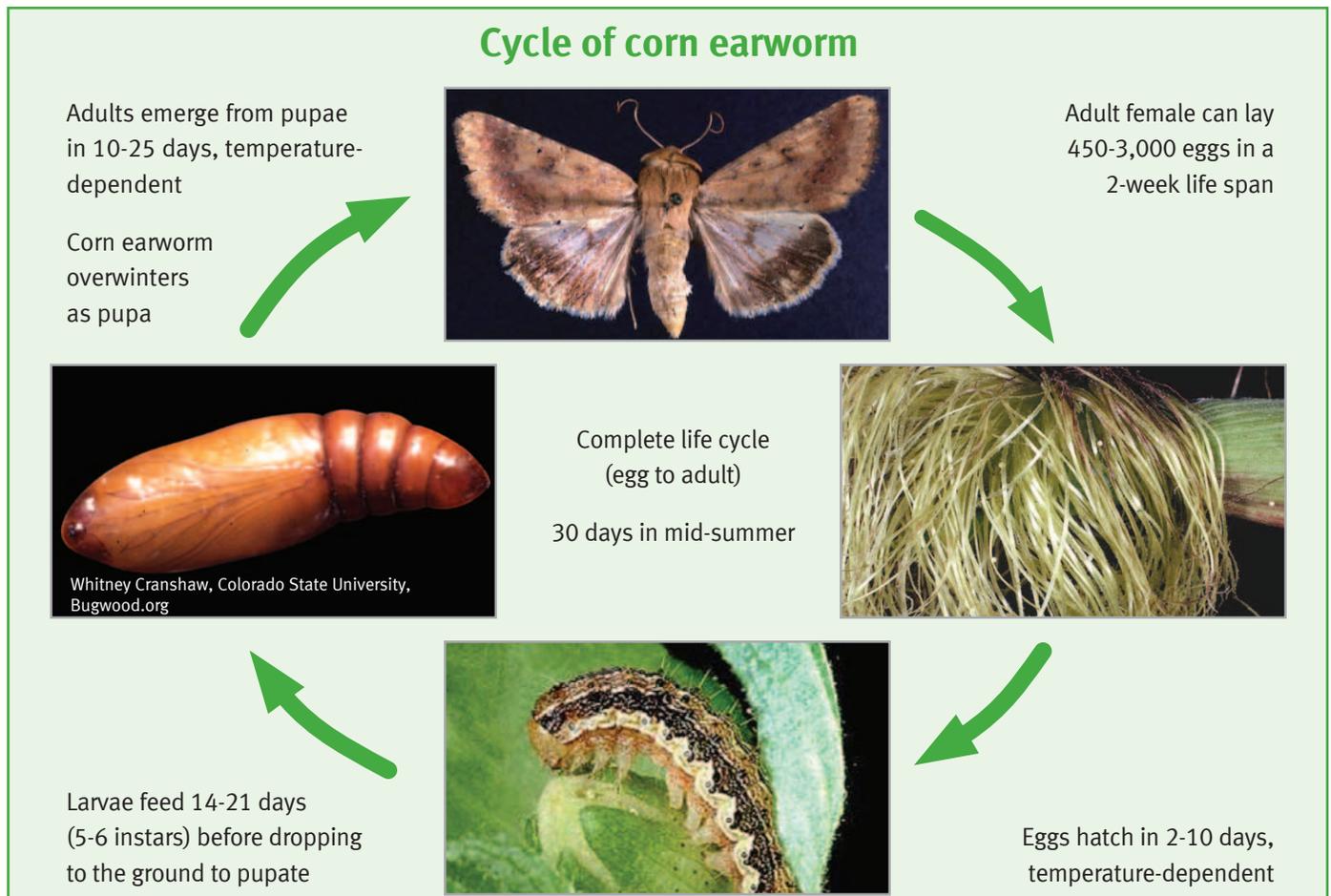
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## Recommendation Sheet — Seed corn

### Intensive Management

Seed corn is a high value crop where each 80,000 unit of corn bagged off a production field may be worth more than \$400. Seed corn production fields are labor-intensive and have management needs that significantly impact results. Pests, particularly insects, can quickly impact the bottom line of a seed production field. One of the most critical aspects to manage is the infestation of insects. Fields almost always are scouted daily during pollination and ear fill for preventive management of insects. One such pest to manage is corn earworm.

Corn earworms cause damage by feeding on the developing kernels on the ends of the ear. Because of the prolific egg laying by adult moths, daily scouting is required. Based on the number of adult moths caught in a night, spray applications may be required as often as every three days. Frequent scouting and application is necessary to protect yield and the cost to the bottom line if corn earworms are not controlled.





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# DuPont™ **Prevathon®** insect control



## One hypothetical scenario of the cost of corn earworm (CEW) damage in seed corn

- Average corn earworm destroys 12 kernels/infected ear
- Average CEW infestation is 33% of the plants in the field
- Average female plants in a production field = 20,000

12 kernels x 33% plants infested = an average of 4 kernels/plant

4 kernels/plant x 20,000 female plants = 80,000 kernels

80,000 kernels = 1 unit of corn

Approximate gross margin on seed = \$242

**The above scenario costs seed company \$242**

**Minimal cost of one DuPont™ Prevathon® insect control treatment + application = \$28**

Potential return on Investment to seed company is \$242 - \$28 = \$214 or **\$7.50 return for \$1 invested**

(Actual pressure could be much higher)

## DuPont™ **Prevathon®** insect control

Due to the severe impact insects can have on seed corn acres and the intense management needs, it is critical for seed production acres to be managed differently than commercial corn acres. DuPont™ **Prevathon®** delivers key insect control to help preserve and protect yields.

## For more information

Put this powerful tool to work for you. Contact your local crop protection retailer, seed company representative or DuPont representative to learn how you can get more consistent control of corn earworm and other key pests in seed corn with DuPont™ **Prevathon®** insect control. And visit us on the Web at [prevathon.dupont.com](http://prevathon.dupont.com).