

Heligen

Heligen is an inexpensive and effective biological option for controlling Corn Earworm and Tobacco Budworm. Because of its lower economic threshold, Heligen can be applied early to reduce damage and manage populations throughout the season.

TIPS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR HELIGEN APPLICATION

BE PROACTIVE For optimal results, apply early at first appearance on small larvae (1/4 inch or less). Do NOT use when the majority of larvae is larger than 1/2 inch in length at time of application.

GET GOOD COVERAGE Heligen should be applied by ground rig at a minimum of 10 gallons/acre or aerial application at a minimum of 3 gallons/acre.

TANK-MIX COMPATIBLE Tank mixing Heligen with a preventative fungicide, foliar fertilizer, or herbicide, (if small larvae are present), is an ideal combination that introduces the virus in the crop at no additional application cost. Mixture should not exceed a pH of 8.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER APPLICATION Soon after infection, larvae will stop feeding, even though they may appear alive and healthy. Infected caterpillars usually die in 4-6 days, releasing huge amounts of NPV, which continues to infect healthy larvae. The replicated virus could last in the field for weeks to months depending on conditions.

RATE OF HELIGEN

Sub-threshold populations and/or larvae less than 1/4 inch in length	1.0 oz/acre
Sub-threshold populations and/or larvae less than 1/2 inch in length	1.6 oz/acre

AgBiTech

TECHNICAL INQUIRIES
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Helicoverpa growth stage identification

Showing the actual size of *H. zea* larvae at a given age (days since egg hatch) when reared at 77°F.

Instar	Age days	Size category	Length inches	Actual size	Heligen timing
1st	0 - 2	Very Small	1/8"		✓✓
2nd	2 - 4	Small	1/4"		✓✓
3rd	4 - 8	Medium (small)	1/2"		✓
4th	8 - 11	Medium (large)	3/4"		✗
5th	11 - 14	Large	1"		✗
6th	14 - 18+	Large (snake)	1 1/4"		✗

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