



Cabbage Worms

There are four fairly common worms found on Cole crops; cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, collards, kale & kohlrabi. Below I will describe each, corresponding to the images. ↘

Imported Cabbageworm - This is a slow, velvety worm that is usually found closer to the center part of the plant, often along the mid-rib near the base of the leaf. The adult is usually a white to pale yellow butterfly. Begin searching for worms when you see the butterflies in the area.



Imported Cabbageworm

Cabbage Looper - This larvae is much more active and can be found throughout the plant. When discovered the worm will curl up in a "C" and will fall to the ground, also look for frass on the plant interior. see image bottom right ↘ The adult is a mottled, grayish-brown with a silvery mark in the middle of the front wing.



Cabbage Looper



Diamondback Moth - This is a smaller larvae with a forked tail and a voracious appetite, feeding on the under side of the leaf up through the top. The adult is a slender light brown moth, the wings fold together and make a pattern.



Diamondback Moth Larvae



Cross-Striped Cabbageworm - This is a bluish-gray larvae with black stripes running cross-wise on the back and a black and yellow stripe along the sides, lengthwise. It prefers to eat the young leaves and buds, the adult is a yellowish-brown moth with dark zigzag patterns on the wings.



Cross-Striped Cabbageworm



Control

When the worms are young, the Bt products are best. *Thuricide* and *Dipel Dust* are both Bt and due to a short life, numerous applications may be required.

Natural Guard Spinosad is a dead bacteria that will seep between the cells on the leaf, leaving a residue that can help control even larger, more mature larvae.



For the Cross-Striped Cabbageworm and large larvae, use *HY Lawn, Garden, Pet & Livestock Spray*. This also leaves a longer residue to reduce applications.

Due to waxy leaves, the addition of *Spreader Sticker* is required for sprays to stick.



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