# Western Bean Cutworm

To monitor Western bean cutworm, place pheromone traps with lures installed at shoulder height (approximately 1.2–1.3 m) along the edge of at-risk or affected fields such as corn or dry beans. Install lures inside the trap (e.g., bucket) and replace every 3 weeks (or 30 days) to maintain consistent attractiveness throughout the adult moth flight period.

Key Recommendations:

- Trap type: Bucket (Green Universal Bucket Trap) or modified milk jug traps both work well. Bucket traps tend to be cleaner and safer.
- Placement: Install traps on the field edge where prevailing winds can carry the pheromone plume into the crop. Place within corn or bean rows for best results.
- Timing: Set traps by late June or before expected moth flight (peak flight usually July–August, depending on region).
- Inspection: Check traps at least weekly, and more often during peak moth activity.
- Lure storage: Keep unused lures in the freezer until needed to preserve effectiveness.
- Trap maintenance:
    - *Bucket traps:* Use an insecticidal strip inside (no liquid needed), and empty/count moths weekly.
    - *Jug traps:* Use trapping fluid, replacing or topping up as required.

One trap per field is usually sufficient for monitoring, though larger fields may benefit from multiple traps. Trap counts help guide scouting for eggs and larvae and assist in timing any needed insecticide applications.

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