

TARGET SPECIALTY PRODUCTS®

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

STORED PRODUCT MOTH MONITOR

MONITORING DEVICES

For

INDIANMEAL MOTH (*Plodia interpunctella*)

The **TARGET SPECIALTY PRODUCTS STORED PRODUCT MOTH MONITOR** can detect activity of the Indianmeal moth in stored food products. This system consists of a small diamond trap with a sticky inside surface and a pheromone dispenser (lure) containing the Indianmeal moth sex pheromone.

Diamond Trap

- The trap is made from durable cardboard and is easy to handle.
- The trap when opened is shaped like a diamond with the sticky surface (glue) on the inside.
- The glue traps the moths making it impossible for them to escape.

Pheromone Dispenser (lure)

- The dispenser (lure) contains the sex pheromone that attracts the male moths into the trap.
- The small ½" X ½" lure is placed on the upper middle section of the sticky side of the trap.
- The dispenser (lure) controls the release of the pheromone.
- The dispenser (lure) attracts moth for 6 to 8 weeks.
- This pheromone also attracts other species of pest moths:
Almond moth (*Ephestia cautella*).
Raisin moth (*Cadra figulilella*).
Tobacco moth (*Ephestia elutella*).
Mediterranean flour moth (*Angasta kuehniella*).

Trap Density and Placement

- Place the traps in a grid pattern at 50 to 60 foot intervals.
- Place at shorter intervals when an infestation is suspected to pinpoint the problem area.
- Capture efficiency can be maximized by hanging traps as close to the ceiling as possible.
- Areas that are suspected sources of contamination:
Ducts where dust accumulates.
In or around equipment.

Trap Inspection

- Once a week (twice weekly if an infestation is suspected).
- Since moths are most active at night, inspections should be performed in the morning.
- Record the number of insects caught in the trap.

When to Monitor

- In heated warehouses or warm climates a year round monitoring program is recommended for early detection of moths.
- Most insect development ceases at 55⁰ F.
- Even in unheated storage areas it is important to pinpoint locations where the temperature is warmer, such as in areas around machinery.

Service and Storage

- For longest possible life span the lures should be stored in their original pouches (unopened) and in a cool area.
- Lures should be replaced every 6 weeks.
- When monitoring the amount of moths the traps should remain fairly free of debris and insects to achieve best results.

About the Indianmeal Moth

- A major pest of stored food products.
- The female lays 200-400 eggs directly in the produce and the eggs typically hatch after 4 days.
- The moth larvae make a silken web in the food material that soon becomes contaminated with frass.
- The average life span of the moth is 10-24 days.