

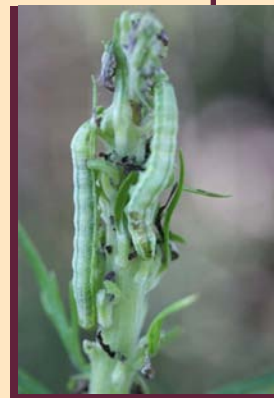


Delphinium Worm

This species is also known as the Golden Plusia Moth because of the golden wing colour of the adults.

SYMPTOMS

Young shoots of Delphinium, Larkspur, Monkshood and Globeflower are spun together by small grayish-green, black spotted caterpillars during the spring. Later in the season, caterpillars feed openly on the leaves and are up to 40 mm long when fully grown. They are generally bright green with a dark dorsal longitudinal stripe and white lateral stripes.



LIFE CYCLE

Young caterpillars overwinter in hollow stems of old plants and emerge in spring to feed on new growths. In late spring and early summer fully fed caterpillars pupate in yellow silk cocoons that they spin on the undersides of the leaves and adults emerge from these a few weeks later.

Females lay eggs on plants in July and young caterpillars feed amongst buds and in seed capsules before hibernating low down in the hollow stems of their food plants. There is usually only one adult generation a year.

CONTROL

The most important preventative control for battling Delphinium Worms is to cut down affected stems to soil level in fall. This will remove the overwintering spot of the worms. Hand pick worms and cocoons in spring/summer when noticed.

BTK is a biological insecticide that is very effective against delphinium worm.



780-467-7557

greenlandgarden.com

gardening@greenlandgarden.com