

SUGARBEET ROOT MAGGOT POPULATION FORECAST FOR 2013

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The 2013 forecast map for anticipated levels of sugarbeet root maggot (SBRM) fly activity and potential risk of damaging larval infestations in the Red River Valley is shown in Figure 1. Areas at **high risk** of damaging SBRM infestations include rural St. Thomas, Crystal, Thompson, and Reynolds, ND. **Moderate risk** is expected near Forest River, Grand Forks, Minto, and Nash, ND, as well as near Ada, Borup, and Euclid, MN. The remainder of the Valley will be at low risk of damaging infestations. Despite the occurrence of high fly activity at many fly monitoring sites in 2012, follow-up assessments of roots indicated that many of those same fields incurred low levels of SBRM feeding injury. Although this could indicate that control efforts were successful during the 2012 growing season, it should be noted that SBRM populations can increase rapidly from year to year. Proximity to previous-year beet fields increases risk for damaging SBRM infestations, especially when beets are planted near fields in which SBRM control was unsatisfactory during the previous year. ***Sugarbeet fields near those where high fly activity occurred in 2012 should be closely monitored in 2013.*** Growers in areas at moderate to high risk of damaging infestations should continue using some form of insecticidal protection (i.e., granular insecticide or insecticidal seed treatment) at planting time and pay close attention to fly activity levels during late May through mid-June to decide whether a postemergence insecticide is needed. NDSU Entomology will continue to inform growers regarding SBRM activity levels and hot spots each year through radio reports, the NDSU "Crop & Pest Report", and notification of sugar cooperative agricultural staff when appropriate. In-season SBRM fly count information and historical records from monitoring programs from previous years can be viewed at: <http://www.ndsu.edu/entomology/people/faculty/boetel/flycounts/>.

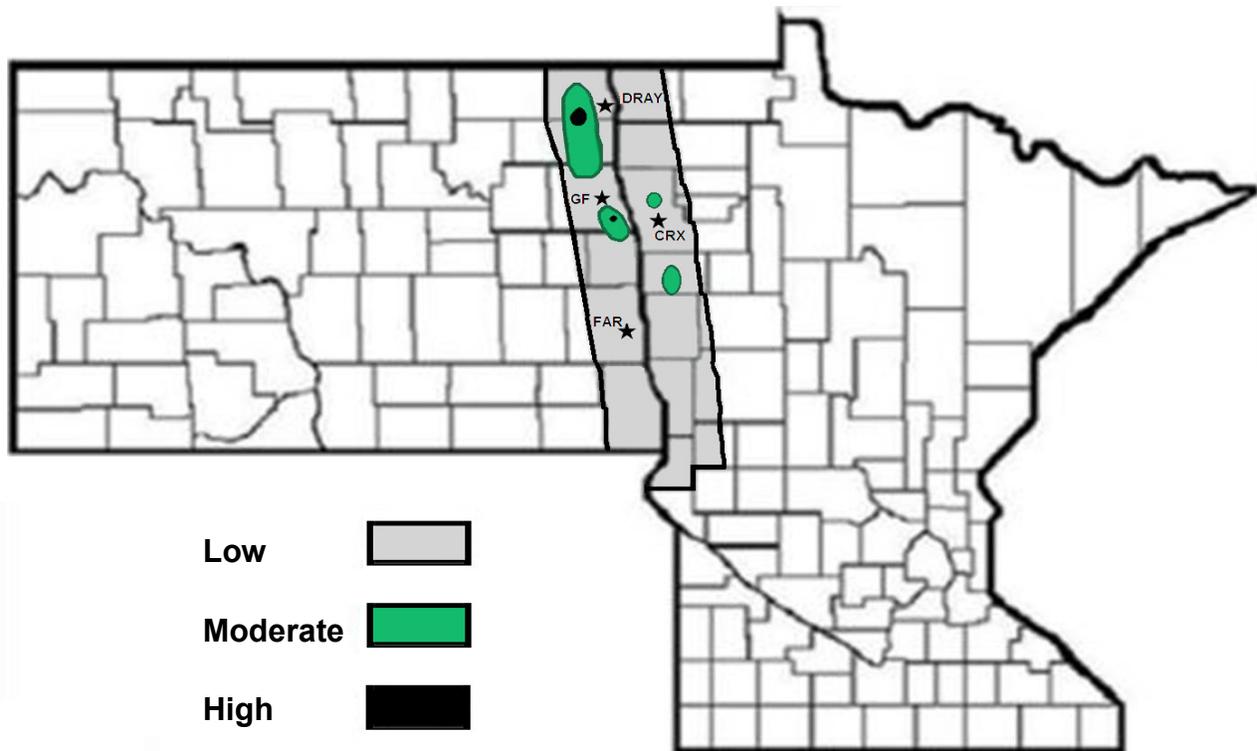


Fig. 1. Anticipated risk of SBRM fly activity and damaging larval infestations in the Red River Valley.