

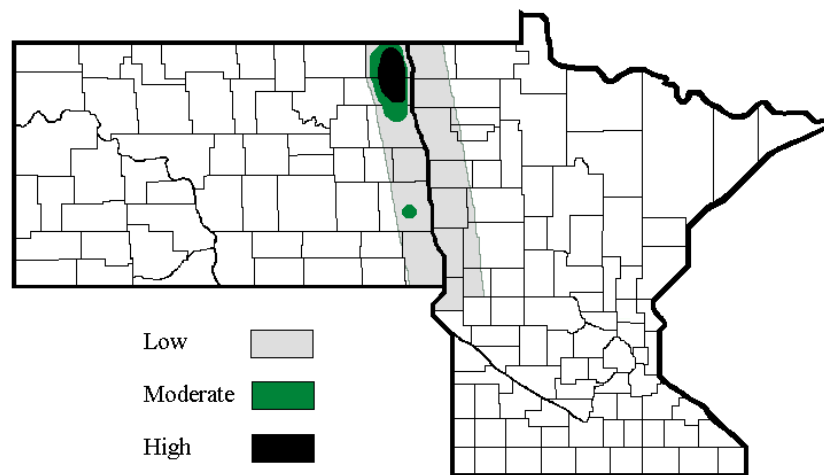
## 2005 SUGARBEET ROOT MAGGOT POPULATION FORECAST

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Data from sticky-stake trapping and root damage surveys at sites throughout the production area indicate that sugarbeet root maggot (SBRM) populations expanded their territory last year. Accordingly, the risk areas are slightly larger for 2005 (Fig. 1). The highest infestations are expected within 12 miles on either side of a north/south line running from just south of the Canadian border near Nêche in northern Pembina Co., ND to the Voss/Forest River vicinity in southern Walsh Co. Moderate infestations are expected within a 7- to 10-mile radius outside of the high-risk zone. Moderate population levels are also expected in beet fields in the extreme north central portion of Grand Forks Co., and for fields in the Casselton/Amenia area in Cass Co. Low infestations are anticipated for the remainder of the production area, including all fields in western Minnesota.

Proximity of sugarbeets to previous-year beet fields, especially those where insecticide performance was unsatisfactory, increases the risk of having damaging population levels. Weather conditions within the growing season can affect the precision of this forecast, and infestations can vary significantly from one field to another. Growers in areas at risk from SBRM injury should continue using insecticides at planting time to protect their fields and pay close attention to fly activity levels during the first 2 to 3 weeks of June to determine whether postemergence insecticide applications will be needed. Producers are also encouraged to review research findings published in recent volumes of "Research and Extension Reports" and to use this production guide to design effective insect management programs. NDSU extension will continue to inform growers regarding SBRM activity each spring via radio reports, the NDSU "Crop & Pest Report," and by notifying the sugar cooperative agricultural staff on an as-needed basis.



**Fig. 1. Anticipated SBRM population levels for the 2005 growing season in the Red River Valley.**