

SUGARBEET ROOT MAGGOT FORECAST FOR 2004

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The sugarbeet root maggot population forecast map for 2004 is presented in [Fig.1](#). Data from sticky-stake trapping and surveys of root injury at sites throughout the production area indicate that maggot populations will be highest in the south central portion of Pembina Co. and extreme north central Walsh Co., ND (mainly rural Glasston, Hensel, Hoople, and St. Thomas). Moderate infestations are expected north of ND highway 5 in Pembina Co. and south of Nash in Walsh Co., and infestations will be progressively lower in fields closer to the Red River. Low activity is likely in the remainder of the production area, including most ND fields south of the Walsh/Grand Forks County line and all of western Minnesota.

Proximity of sugarbeets to previous-year beet fields, especially where insecticide performance was unsatisfactory, increases the risk of damaging population levels. **Generally, significant fly activity is likely in beets planted adjacently to previous-year beet fields that had moderate to high fly densities and/or substantial maggot feeding pressure.** Environmental conditions within the growing season can affect the precision of this forecast. Therefore, fly populations must be monitored for producers and pest managers to make that determination.

Forecasts of this nature are general and cannot always be precise on an individual-field basis. Growers in areas affected by the SBRM are encouraged to continue using planting-time insecticides. Fields should be carefully monitored from late May through June for significant increases in fly activity. High activity or an extended emergence period may warrant the need for additional control measures. Growers are encouraged to review research findings published in recent volumes of "Research and Extension Reports" to design effective management programs. NDSU extension will continue to inform growers on SBRM activity each spring via radio reports, DTN, and issues of the NDSU "Crop & Pest Report."

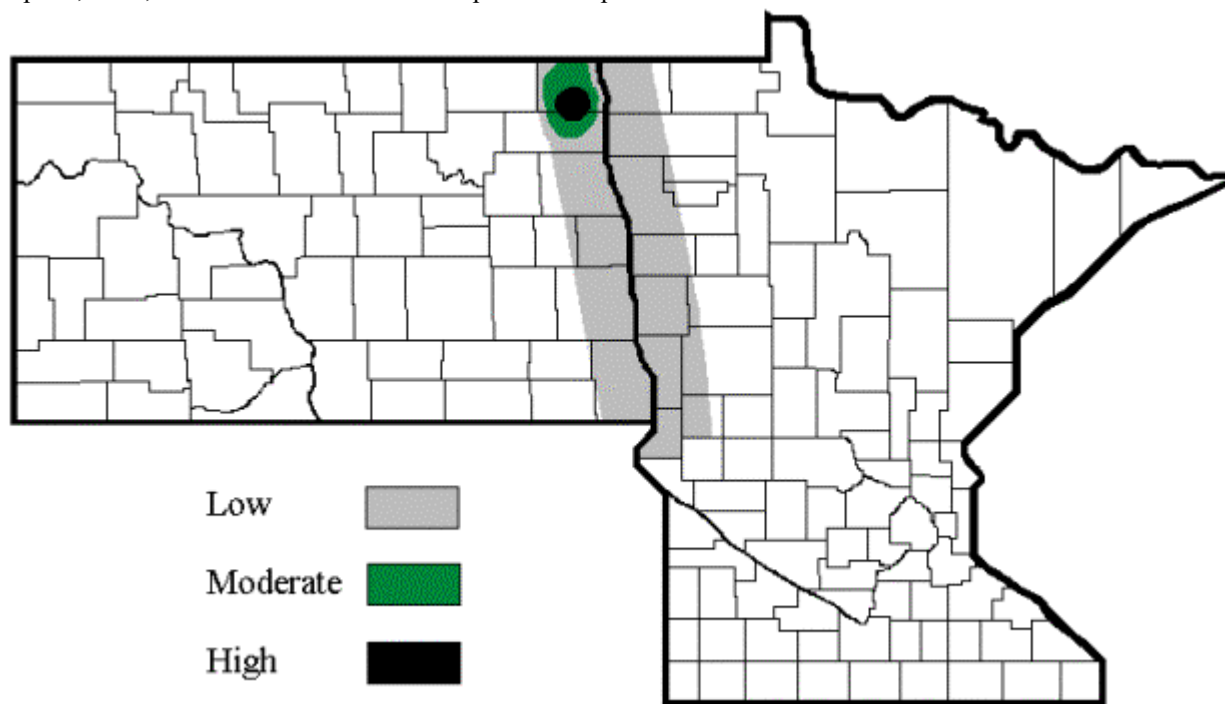


Fig. 1. Anticipated SBRM population levels for the 2004 growing season in the Red River Valley.