Risk Forecast for Bertha Armyworm in Manitoba in 2025

The population of adult moths of bertha armyworms are monitored using pheromone-baited traps during the flight and egg-laying period. The monitoring period extends from about early-June through July (June 8 to August 2 in 2025).

The cumulative moth counts from the traps, which are presented in the table below, cannot predict what the level of larvae will be in the field a trap is in, but can be used, in conjunction with counts from other traps in a region, to determine areas of the province at higher risk and where increased monitoring of fields for larvae may be necessary.

Figure 1. Trap for monitoring bertha armyworm

Figure 2. Bertha armyworm moths

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Summary (as of June 26, 2025)

Data from pheromone-baited traps for bertha armyworm has been reported from 80 locations in Manitoba.

- Counts remained in the low risk category in all traps.

June 26, 2025

Manitoba

- Bertha armyworms have been found in 63 out of 80 traps that counts were reported from.
- The highest cumulative trap count is 91 from a trap near Broad Valley in the Interlake region.

Table 1. Highest cumulative counts of bertha armyworm moths from five agricultural regions of Manitoba as of June 26, 2025.

0-300=low risk 300-900=uncertain risk 900-1,200=moderate risk 1,200+=high risk

Location	Count	Location	Count	Location	Count
Northwest					
Swan River	17	Durban	6	Minitonas	2
Makaroff	12	Silverwood	6	Bield	1
The Pas	8	Grandview	5	Russell	1
Birchview	7	Petlura	3	Shell Valley	1
Angusville	6	Birch River	2		
Carrot Valley	6	Dropmore	2		
Southwest					
Metigoshe	47	Kenton	7	Melita	1
Whitehead	30	Lyleton	4	Sandy Lake	1
Ninga	17	Wawanesa	4	Shoal Lake	1
Coulter	12	Hartney	3		
Rapid City	10	Isabella	1		

Central					
Emerson	57	Osterwick	8	Wingham	4
Carman	29	St. Claude	8	Elm Creek	3
Baldur	27	Grund	7	Hilton	3
Cypress River	17	Darlingford	4	Strathcona	3
Haywood	17	Fannystelle	4	Belmont	2
Arnaud	11	Glenboro	4	Rosebank	1

Interlake					
Broad Valley	91	Moosehorn	9	Gimli	4
Pleasant Home	46	Fisher Branch	8	Riverton	4
Vidir	30	Blind Bay	7	Finns	3
Ledwyn	17	Arborg	6	Meadows	2
Warren	13	Faulkner	6	East Selkirk	1
Lundar	11	Clandeboye	4	Gunton	1

Interpreting Bertha Armyworm Cumulative Moth Counts

The following table relates the cumulative moth counts over the trapping period with the risk of larval infestation.

Cumulative number of Moths / Trap		
From	To	Larval Infestation Risk Level
0	300	Low - Infestations are unlikely to be widespread, but fields should be inspected for signs of insects or damage.
301	900	Uncertain - Infestations may not be widespread, but fields that were particularly attractive to egg-laying females could be infested. Check your fields.

901	1200	Moderate - Canola fields should be sampled regularly for larvae and for evidence of damage.
1200+		High - Canola fields should be sampled frequently for larvae and for evidence of damage.

For information on techniques to monitor levels of larvae of bertha armyworm, and economic thresholds, see: https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/pubs/bertha-armyworm-factsheet.pdf