

12 The status of western bean cutworm, *Striacosta albicosta* (Smith), in New York State

*Ken Wise¹, Marion Zuefle¹, Dan Olmstead¹, Ryan Parker¹, Keith Waldron¹, and Carol MacNeil²

¹NYS IPM Program, Cornell University, Geneva, NY

²Cornell Vegetable Program, CCE Ontario County, Canandaigua, NY

*Presenting author: Ken Wise, klw24@cornell.edu

Abstract: In 2009, Western Bean cutworm (WBC), a Lepidopteran pest of corn and dry beans native to North America's Great Plains region and west, was found in NY state. The range of WBC has expanded eastwards and now poses a serious risk to field corn, sweet corn and dry bean growers in NY. In 2010 a monitoring network was established in NY to track the movement of this pest into the state and to alert growers of potential risk. Each year, pheromone traps were placed near field corn, sweet corn and dry bean fields throughout NY and monitored weekly beginning in June. With 100 pheromone traps across the state efficient reporting was important, therefore an app was developed to record weekly counts for each trap. WBC trap catches have steadily increased for eight years. Peak flight occurs between late July and early August. Knowing when peak flight occurs as well as the cumulative trap catch for each site, helps us inform growers when fields are at risk and when to start scouting. An online adult WBC flight model will next be validated for use at newa.cornell.edu, using real time localized weather data from grower owned stations throughout the eastern United States.