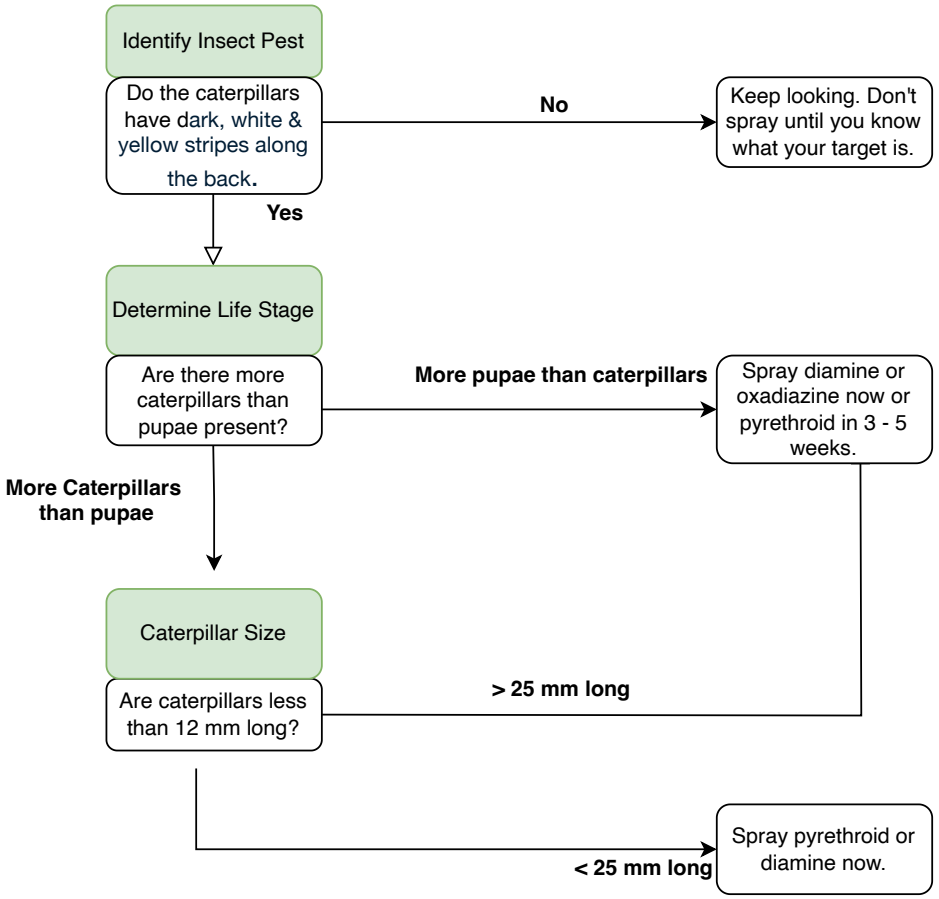
Lawn Armyworm Management Guide



Chemical Options		
Active	**Chemical Group**	**Resistance Group**
Bifenthrin	Pyrethroid	3
Beta-cyfluthrin	Pyrethroid	3
Chlorantraniliprole	Diamide	28
Tetraniliprole	Diamide	28
Cyantraniliprole	Diamide	28
Indoxacarb	Oxadiazine	22

Step 1: Identify what the pest is.

Look at the turf canopy in the daytime to see if you can find any armyworms crawling across the surface. If not, either apply a soapy water flush or take a section out of the turf to find what is causing the damage. If you find caterpillars, do they have dark, white or yellow stripes along their back? If they don't, you need to investigate the source of damage further. Do not apply any insecticide until you are sure what is causing the damage. If the caterpillar has the stripes, proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Determine the life stage present

Once you have figured out that lawn armyworms are the problem, take a small section of the turf and examine the top 50 mm of the soil profile. If you see more pupae than larvae (caterpillars), apply a diamide (see “Chemical Options” for a list of active ingredients) now or a pyrethroid in 3-5 weeks. If you find more larvae (caterpillars) than pupae, proceed to Step 3.

Step 3: Caterpillar size

Take an approximate measurement of the length of a larva. If it is greater than 25 mm, apply a diamide now or a pyrethroid in 3-5 weeks. If it is less than 25 mm, you can spray a pyrethroid for a “quick-knockdown” but this does not provide a long control window (1-2 weeks maximum) or apply a diamide that takes a few days to work but provides several weeks of protection.

How to conduct a soapy-water flush:

Step 1. Fill a container with 4-8 L of water. Put 15-30 ml of lemon-scented liquid dish detergent. If you are doing this on bentgrass, dilute the rate further to minimise turfgrass stress.

Step 2. Mix by hand until soap suds appear.

Step 3. Slowly pour the soap mixture over approximately 1 m2 of turfgrass. When you apply this mix make sure to pour it onto healthy turfgrass around damaged areas. You are less likely to find insects in heavily-damaged turfgrass.

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