



## 2016 Wireworm Study

### Results Summary

31 Vernon (pheromone) traps were located on 7 organic farms across PEI as follows:

1. Charlottetown (5)
2. North Wiltshire (5)
3. Stanley Bridge (5)
4. Freetown (5)
5. Linkletter (1)
6. Alberry Plains (5)
7. Orwell (5)

Significant populations were indicated from these traps located in Orwell, Alberry Plains; moderate levels in Charlottetown; low levels in North Wiltshire, Freetown, Stanley Bridge; and none in Linkletter.

As an addendum: 2 Noronha light traps were located on a farm in Bedeque on May 10, 2016. No click beetles were trapped in either trap over a 43 day period. On June 22, 2 pheromone traps replaced the light traps, and only 3 beetles were trapped during the period from June 22 - July 27 (when the pheromone traps were removed).

Also, of interest:

42 Light traps were located on 5 farms across PEI (4 in the Eastern portion of the province and the other in Bedeque as previously mentioned).

All farms had experienced significant wire worm damage to their crops in previous years. 17 traps were located on 2 large potato farms (7 in an oat field and 5 in each of two potato fields) and a very large number of beetles were trapped over the course of approximately 60-65 days. We found that on those large farms there was not sufficient time for the farmers to regularly maintain the traps (i.e. empty the traps and refill cups with soap and water). In general, on these farms the traps were effective in removing a large number of click beetles from the population. Similarly, on one of the smaller, mixed vegetable farms the traps were effective but were more easily maintained and monitored by the farmer.

On another mixed vegetable farm which produces specialty potatoes; 5 light traps were installed in two areas on the farm where there had been significant potato crop losses in prior years due to wire worm. The producer, on this farm had undertaken in the interim crop years, an aggressive "3 crops in two years" of buckwheat control measure; and, interestingly no click beetles were trapped over a 60 day period on the farm and there were no crop losses due to wire worm damage in fields previously affected.

The Bedeque farm was described earlier.