

TECHNICAL NOTES

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ACTIVE INGREDIENT: TETRANILIPROLE

GROUP

28

INSECTICIDE

LAWN ARMYWORM (Spodoptera mauritia)

Lawn armyworms are the **larval stage of a moth** and are a major turf pest that can cause significant damage to **lawns, sports fields, and golf courses**. They are named "armyworms" because they move in large numbers, devouring grass as they advance like an army.

Identification

- → Larvae (Caterpillars):
 - 2 to 4 cm long when fully grown.
 - Greenish brown to dark brown with distinctive stripes along their body.
 - A dark, upside-down "Y" marking on the head.

→ Adult Moths:

- Brown or gray in color.
- Have a wingspan of about 35-40 mm.
- Females lay eggs in clusters on grass or nearby surfaces.

→ Life Cvcle:

- **Eggs** (laid on grass, fences, walls) hatch within a few days.
- Larvae (caterpillars) feed on turf for 2-3 weeks, causing the most damage.
- Pupae develop in the soil before emerging as adult moths.
- Moths reproduce, continuing the cycle.

Damage to Lawns

- Rapid defoliation of grass as they chew through leaf blades.
- Patches of brown, dying turf that can quickly expand.
- → Turf appears scalped, as if mowed too closely.
- Active at night, hiding in thatch or soil during the day.



CONTROL & MANAGEMENT

Chemical Control:

→ <u>Tetrino</u>® (Tetraniliprole) is a powerful broad-spectrum turf insecticide which provides fast knockdown and long residual protection against armyworm.



Biological Control:

Natural predators such as parasitic wasps and birds can help reduce populations.

Cultural Practices:

- → Maintain healthy turf to withstand infestations.
- Avoid excessive nitrogen fertilisation, which attracts armyworms.
- → Monitor closely during warm, humid weather when outbreaks are common.

CONTROLLING LAWN ARMYWORM WITH TETRINO

Application Rates and Timing

- → Timing: For optimal results, apply Tetrino® Turf
 Insecticide at the first sign of armyworm activity.
 Targeting early larval stages helps prevent extensive turf damage and ensures effective control.
- → Application rate, 1.15 L/ha.
- → Apply to mown turf in a minimum application volume of 400 L/ha. Apply when insects or damage first appear. Re-apply as needed.
- → Irrigation: Delay watering and mowing for 24 hrs after application.
- → To effectively control lawn armyworms (Spodoptera mauritia) in Australia using <u>Tetrino® Turf Insecticide</u>, always read the label before use.

Post-Application Guidelines

→ Re-entry Period: Do not enter treated areas until the spray has dried.





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TREATMENT TIPS FOR BEST RESULTS

To achieve the best control of lawn armyworms in Australia using <u>Tetrino® Turf Insecticide</u>:

- 1. Use Proper Application Equipment
 - Sprayer Calibration: Use a boom sprayer or equivalent that delivers a medium spray quality to achieve uniform coverage.
 - Coverage Check: Make sure the entire infested area is thoroughly covered to reduce the chance of untreated spots.
- 2. Implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
 - Regular Monitoring: Inspect your turf regularly for early signs of armyworm activity, such as chewed grass tips or clusters of larvae.
 - Cultural Practices: Maintain a healthy turf by:
 - * Mowing at the recommended height.
 - * Managing irrigation and fertilisation to avoid overly lush growth, which can attract moths.
 - * Removing excess thatch, which can harbor larvae.
 - Resistance Management: Rotate insecticides with different modes of action to prevent the development of resistance.

Implementing these tips will not only help maximise the efficacy of Tetrino® against lawn armyworms but also support a sustainable, integrated approach to turf pest management.

STEWARDSHIP

Always read the label before use.

For full list of application and usage recommendations, see the <u>Tetrino label</u>.

CONTACT US

For further information on the treatment of Lawn Armyworm or other turf damaging insects, please contact the Envu team.

Details can be found on the Envu website by visiting Our Team in Australia







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