

# SOD WEBWORM & LAWN ARMYWORM



*Sod Webworm*



*Lawn Armyworm*

The damage caused by Sod Webworms usually appears in early Spring. The damage shows up as small dead patches of grass among the normally growing grass. The Summer generation may cause general turf thinning or even irregular dead patches. Sod webworms prefer sunny areas and the larvae are often found on south facing, steep slopes and banks, where it is hot and dry. Heavily shaded turf is seldom attacked by the larvae.

The Lawn Armyworm larvae pupate in chambers they construct in the soil. They are deep brown in colour and measure about 15 mm in length and 5 mm in width. Egg masses are seldom laid directly on the host plants, and are more commonly found on adjacent vegetation and under the eaves of buildings. Young Armyworms have well developed 'silk glands' and may use silk threads to lower themselves to the ground. They prefer sheltered feeding sites. Feeding commences immediately after hatching and continues at night until larval maturity.

These two turf pests commonly referred to as 'lawn grubs' can cause serious damage to turfed areas during the growing season. For this reason Technigro recommend the proactive treatment of turfed areas with Bifenthrin, a synthetic pyrethriod with extended residual activity that controls target insects via contact and ingestion for up to eight weeks. The residual nature of this treatment controls these pests over longer periods when compared to traditional, more hazardous insecticides that have commonly been used in the past.

## Benefits of Bifenthrin

- > Outstanding efficacy as an Adulticide and larvae of Lepidoptera species
- > Long-term residual control – limits the number of pesticide applications
- > An odourless product, rainfast once dry
- > Low solubility in water and high affinity for soil particles combine to ensure low leaching potential

## Application

Bifenthrin is also registered for the control of a range of ant species, mosquitoes and flies in situations where their activity can affect the public. The residual nature of Bifenthrin offers the asset manager a proven ability to control a wide range of insect pests of amenity horticulture over an extended period.