

Yellowstriped Armyworm

Yellowstriped armyworm (*Spodoptera ornithogalli*) is one of the largest and most brightly marked of the various caterpillars that may be found in hemp. It is a generalist feeder that feeds on the leaves of a very wide range of plants. Eastern Colorado is at both the western edge of where this insect occurs, which is much more common in midwestern and, particularly, southeastern states.

To date the presence of yellowstriped armyworm in Colorado hemp has only been detected infrequently and it has only been found in the Arkansas Valley. As a defoliator present late in the season its potential to significantly damage the crop seems minimal, at least in Colorado.

Lepidoptera: Noctuidae



Adult of the yellowstriped armyworm. Photograph courtesy of David Shetlar, Ohio State University.



Yellowstriped armyworm in maturing seed head.



Full-grown caterpillar of the yellowstriped armyworm, migrating from field in search for