

Squash Vine Borer

Melittia cucurbitae

Squash vine borer attacks squash, zucchini, pumpkins, and gourds, causing the vines to wilt. Active in June and July, the adult is a day-flying, black and red moth that resembles a wasp. Eggs are laid on the plant's stem and the immature larvae cause damage by feeding inside the stem. An orangish or greenish sawdust-like material oozing from holes in the stems confirms the presence of borers.



Adult



Larva

Control

- Cover stems with a barrier, such as strips of nylon stockings, to prevent egg laying.
- Catch and destroy the moths.
- Remove borers from vines if detected before much damage is done.
- Make chemical applications when eggs are hatching (read the label FIRST).

Provided by

wimastergardener.org



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Additional Resources

Squash Vine Borer

- UW-Extension Publication A3756-E, *Squash Vine Borer*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Squash-Vine-Borer-P555.aspx>
- UW-Extension Garden Fact Sheet XHT1136, *Squash Vine Borer*, at <http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/squash-vine-borer/>
- Article on MG website at <http://wimastergardener.org/article/squash-vine-borer-melittia-curcurbitae/>

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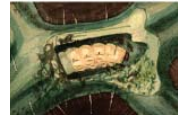
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