

# ALTERNATIVE PUPAE DESTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

In response to weather-related pupae busting challenges identified by growers in Southern NSW, the Bollgard® 3 Resistance Management Plan (RMP) was amended to provide an alternative pupae destruction method. The process acknowledged that growers in winter-rain dominant areas were achieving sub-optimal outcomes for both resistance management and their farm by pupae busting in conditions that were not suitable.

## The Resistance Management Plan (RMP)

If opting to apply a registered attract and kill program for *Helicoverpa* instead of pupae destruction:

- Grower must advise Bayer if opting-in for an attract and kill strategy, contact your Technology Service Provider (TSP) for opt-in dates and details of the required process.
- For growers in the Lachlan, Murrumbidgee, Menindee, Murray Valleys and Victoria, grower must apply three (3) weekly applications commencing no earlier than 10 February with the final application being no later than 1 March.
- For all other valleys (excluding Central Queensland) contact your local Bayer Cotton Territory Business Manager.
- Application must be made by an applicator accredited and approved by AgBiTech.
- Grower must make applications as per the label of the registered attract and kill for *Helicoverpa* spp.

## MAGNET® - AGBITECH COMMERCIAL OFFER 2023/24

Magnet® Insect Attractant Technology is the registered "attract and kill" product as described in the RMP. The application of Magnet in combination with a registered insecticide (refer to Magnet label for full list) is now available as an alternative to pupae destruction. Timing of application is critical to ensure effective *Helicoverpa* spp. control.

*Helicoverpa* spp. moths rely on energy from nectar found in flowers and fat reserves they accumulated as larvae. Magnet mimics the plant odours emitted by flowers to attract and stimulate *Helicoverpa* spp. moths to feed. Moths are killed by an insecticide added just prior to application. By killing moths, the number of eggs laid in the crop can be greatly reduced, and as a result growers can reduce their reliance on foliar applied insecticides for larval control.



Initially developed by the Australian cotton industry, Magnet is a blend of 6 plant volatiles and feeding stimulants. The mix of Magnet and insecticide is applied to strips throughout the crop as an ultra-coarse droplet allowing the moths to intercept it while feeding. Repeated applications are applied to the same strips throughout the crop.

Application requirements for the RMP:

- Use three (3) applications of Magnet Insect Attractant Technology in conjunction with a registered insecticide, applied at the label rate on 72 m spacings (refer to the Magnet Insect Attractant Technology label).

## PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

The option to utilise the Attract & Kill Option as an alternative to pupae busting is subject to Magnet availability#. Growers who wish to utilise this option must notify their nominated TSP by 10 January 2024. TSP's will be able to opt-in growers on the End of Season Survey between 8 December 2023 and 10 January 2024. Product availability will be determined by AgBiTech and in the instance where product is not available, growers will be required to pupae bust (unless field(s) are defoliated prior to 31 March 2024 – for Victoria, New South Wales and Southern Queensland).

## PROCESS FOR GROWERS THAT WISH TO UTILISE THE ATTRACT AND KILL OPTION

1. Grower notifies TSP of opt-in field(s) to be managed with applications of attract and kill technology. This must be done by 10 January 2024.
  - a. AgBiTech's 2023/24 commercial offer requires opt-in in MTrack by 10 January 2024.
  - b. TSP's will be able to opt-in grower's fields on the End of Season Survey from 8 December 2023.
  - c. Once grower's have opted-in there is no opportunity to opt-out.
2. Bayer will provide details of opted-in fields (location, area, grower contact details) to AgBiTech
3. AgBiTech will confirm opted-in field detail with grower
4. Grower will nominate aerial operator with AgBiTech and authorise AgBiTech to collect and share application records with Bayer post application
5. AgBiTech will accredit aerial operator for application of Magnet prior to use
6. AgBiTech will notify grower of planned application dates (3 weekly applications to be completed between 10 February and 1 March)
7. AgBiTech will advise accredited aerial operator of the three commencement dates and opted-in field details and provide Magnet Insect Attractant Technology
8. Accredited aerial operator will liaise directly with grower prior to, and at the time of application as per best practice
9. Aerial operator will send application records to AgBiTech post application (within 10 days of application)
10. AgBiTech will provide application records to Bayer as part of the RMP audit requirements

11. Grower will be invoiced by their TSP for the volume of Magnet Insect Attractant Technology and added insecticide
12. Once all three applications have been completed as required and the spray records have been provided to Bayer, the fields will be recorded as compliant

## COMPLIANCE WITH THE RMP

If for any reason the attract and kill applications are not completed as required in the RMP i.e.

- All three applications are not completed (i.e. due to weather or applicator availability only 2 out of 3 applications are made).
- Applications are not completed on the correct dates.
- Incorrect products or rates are used.

All affected fields will be recorded as non-compliant and a Resistance Risk Management Plan (RRMP) will be issued to the grower to bring affected field(s) back into compliance with the RMP.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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To find out more visit [bollgard3.com.au](http://bollgard3.com.au)

**Bollgard<sup>3</sup>**

**AgBiTech**

**MAGNET**  
INSECT ATTRACTANT TECHNOLOGY



\*Refer to AgBiTech for full details on pricing. #Bayer does not guarantee supply of Magnet. Growers must refer to AgBiTech for full details on product availability.

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