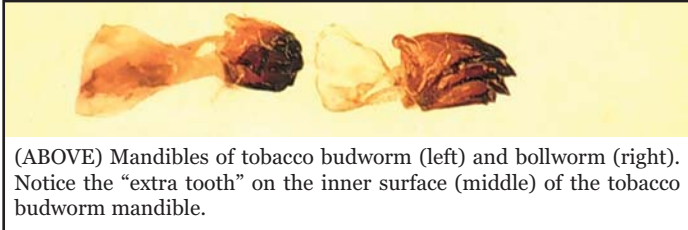




Tobacco Budworm (TBW) and Bollworm (BW) Larval and Adult Identification

Bollworm and tobacco budworm are similar in appearance as caterpillars and require proper identification when control is necessary because of differences in susceptibility to insecticides. Identification of larvae can be accomplished with a hand lens or dissecting microscope when larvae are 1/2 inch or longer. Look for the presence or absence of an “extra tooth” on the inner surface of a mandible.



(LEFT) Tiny spines (micro-setae) found at least half way up tubercles of 1st, 2nd and 8th abdominal segments of tobacco budworm. These micro-setae do not extend at least half way up on the tubercles of bollworm.

(BELOW) Adults of bollworm (left) and tobacco budworm (right).



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University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture, and County Governments Cooperating.

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