

ARMYWORMS

The true armyworm and the fall armyworm are parasitized by several species of wasps and flies. However, these natural enemies are apparently less effective during cool, rainy weather, and armyworm moths can fly long distances and escape them.

A parasitic wasp which commonly parasitizes the fall armyworm is *Chelonus*. The female deposits her eggs inside the armyworm egg. Upon hatching, the parasite larva consumes the armyworm. The parasite then spins a tough, white cocoon in which it develops to the adult stage. Groups of 10 or more of these white cocoons can be seen where an armyworm was consumed by these parasites.

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