Abstract – Where have all the corn borers gone?

Where have all the corn borers gone? They've disappeared, nearly every one. Oh when will they ever return?

European corn borer has historically been an economically significant pest of sweet corn in New York State since the early 20th century. In recent years, however, research has shown a steady decline in populations across North America. In New York State this has also been confirmed using a 25-year pheromone trap dataset collected by the NYS IPM program, beginning in the early 1990s through the present. We will discuss these changes in corn borer populations, possible reasons for such changes and implications for corn borer management in sweet corn production systems of New York State in the future.