

# Cabbage Worms and Cabbage White Butterflies

Cabbage worms feed on the leaves of brassica plants which include broccoli, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, collard greens, and kale. If left unchecked, they can be extremely destructive.

## Appearance

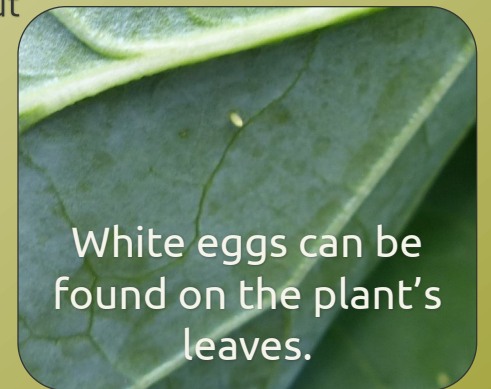
Green caterpillars are about 1" long. They are usually found on the underside of the plant's leaves and can be difficult to see due to their coloration.

Adults emerge as white butterflies with a 2" wingspan. Butterflies do not feed on the plant but can lay up to five generations of eggs in a single season.



## Prevention and Control

- Frequently check plants for eggs and small caterpillars. Handpick and dispose of any you find.
- Use floating row covers when plants are small and most vulnerable to infestation to eliminate the possibility of eggs being laid.
- Neem oil can be used to prevent butterflies from laying eggs on the leaves if you do not use row covers or netting.
- *Bacillus thuringiensis* is effective at killing existing caterpillars that have already hatched.
- Remove old plants and debris in the fall to prevent pupae overwintering and emerging in the spring.



White eggs can be found on the plant's leaves.