



# Corn Growth and the European Corn Borer

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# Corn Background

- Taxonomical Family – Poaceae
  - Grasses
  - Angiosperms
    - Monoecious – “same house”

# Corn Background

- Hypogeal Emergence
  - Makes plant more protected towards aboveground pests

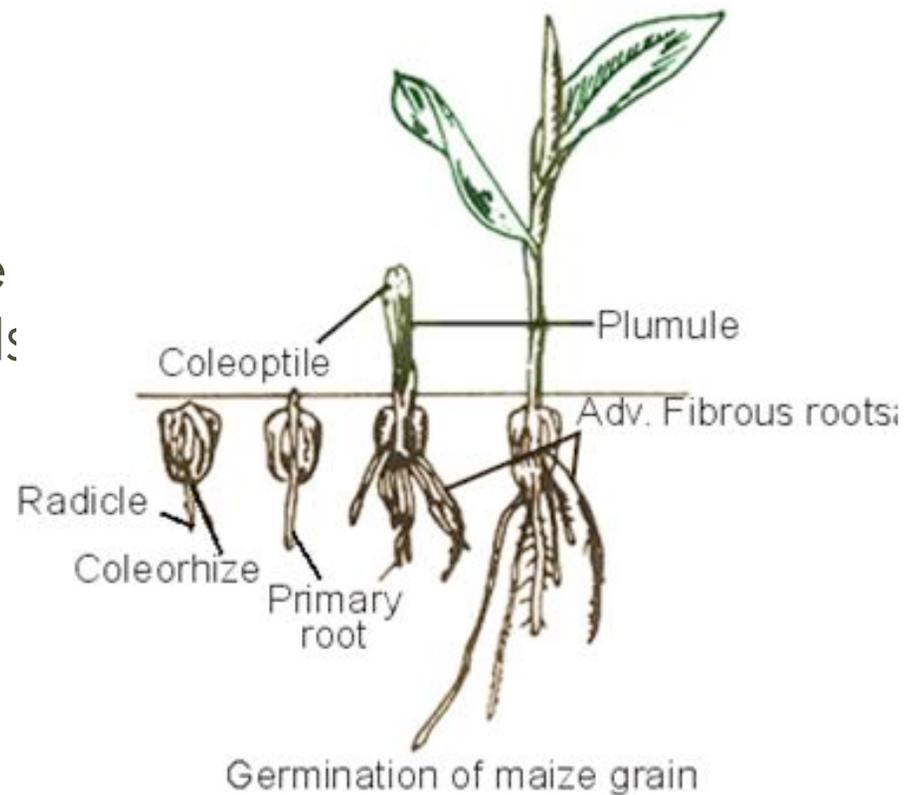


Image found at [www.transtutors.com](http://www.transtutors.com)

# European Corn Borer Background

- Complete Life Cycle
- Came from Europe in the early 1900s
- Part of the Lepidoptera Order



Images from  
[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

# Effects of Borer on Corn

- Larvae eat through stem in buckshot feeding
- Causes Lodging
- Multiple Generations per season

Image found at  
[bulletin.ipm.illinois.edu](http://bulletin.ipm.illinois.edu)



# Preventative Means

- Insecticides
  - Ineffective once larvae bore into stalk
  - Resistance – Natural Selection
- Biotech Corn
  - *Bacillus thuringiensis*
  - Protein—Bt delta endotoxin—harmful only to Lepidoptera larvae



Image found at [www.apsnet.org](http://www.apsnet.org)

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