

**F.No 3-6/2022-23/IPM/Advisory**

भारतसरकार/ Government of India

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय / Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग / Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

वनस्पति संरक्षण, संगरोध एवं संग्रहनिदेशालय / Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage

एनएच4, फरीदाबाद(हरियाणा) – 121 001/ NH-IV, Faridabad (Haryana) – 121 001

Dated: 20.01.2023

To

The Director of Agriculture
Maharashtra**Sub: Advisory on management of *Helicoverpa spp* (Pod borer) in Gram (Chick pea) crop -reg.**

Sir,

This is to bring into your kind notice that the incidence of *Helicoverpa spp* (Pod borer) has reported in above Economic Threshold level (ETL) from various parts of Chick pea growing areas of Maharashtra state. The larvae of the pod borer feed on all parts of plant preferably flowers and pods which causes high yield loss. Keeping in view the current crop stage and prevailing weather conditions population of these pests are expected to increase. Therefore, Chickpea crop should be monitored regularly for pest build up and adopt Integrated Pest Management techniques. Agro Ecosystem Analysis (AESA) based IPM Package of practices of Chickpea are available at DPPQ&S website in the link <http://ppqs.gov.in/ipm-packages>. The Important IPM practices for management of Pod borer are listed below:

- Set up light traps @ 2 traps/ha 15 cm above the crop canopy for monitoring and mass trapping insects.
- Install Pheromone traps @5/ha.
- Hand picking of grown up larvae.
- Use trap crops such as Castor, Chrysanthemum, and Marigold around the field to attract the pest.
- Grow attractant plants such as Coriander, alfalfa and Nectar rich plants with small flowers i.e. anise, Caraway, dill, parsley, mustard, Malvaceae sunflower, buck wheat and cow pea to attract natural enemies to pod borer.
- Farmers must be educated to identify, conserve and augment the natural enemies such as **Parasitoids:** *Telenomus spp.* (egg), *Chelonus blackburni* (egg-larval), *Carcelia spp.* (larval/pupal), *Campoletis chloridae* (larval), *Goniophthalmus halli* (larval), *Bracon spp.* (larval) etc. and **Predators:** *Chrysoperla carnea*, *coccinellids*, King crow, *common mynah*, wasp, dragonfly, spider, robber fly, reduviid bug, praying mantis, fire ants, big eyed bugs (*Geocoris sp.*), Pentatomid bug (*Eocanthecona furcellata*), earwigs, ground beetles, rove beetles etc.
- Use Azadirachtin 0.03% WSP (300 PPM) Neem Oil use with the waiting period of 7-days.
- Use of pesticides should be need based and it should be used as per label claim approved by the

Registration Committee. Detailed information is available on Directorate's website in the link <http://ppqs.gov.in/divisions/cib-rc/major-uses-of-pesticides>.

Further the following strategies should be adopted for spreading awareness among farmers:

- Mobilization of extension functionaries at grass route level for regular monitoring of pests status.
- Awareness among farming community through newspapers, printing and electronic media, Kisan Gosthi, leaflet and pamphlets.
- The concerned officials at the district/ division/ block level may be advised to take the suitable plant protection measures immediately

The detailed information on pests' incidence may also be sent to the directorate through email ppa@nic.in or appa.ipm-dppqs@gov.in urgently to apprise the same to Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

Encl: as above

Yours faithfully


(Dr. J.P. Singh)

Plant Protection Adviser

Copy for information:

1. PPS to Joint Secretary(PP), DA & FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001
2. The Director of Agriculture of other Gram growing states with the request to keep close watch on pest build up & take appropriate measures as indicated above
3. PPS to PPA for information
4. Officer In-charges, all CIPMCs of Chick pea growing states with a direction to conduct regular survey in their areas to ascertain the pest incidence level and necessary follow-up with the state authorities.