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**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: 12.07.2024

To,

The Director of Agriculture  
Maharashtra

**Sub: Advisory on Fall Army Worm (FAW) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on Maize -  
regarding.**

Sir,

It is to bring to your notice that Fall Armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) is a polyphagous economically important insect pest. Its incidence is reported above ETL on maize in Nagpur and Amravati districts in 3 hectare area and Village Khuntewadi and Pimpalgaon of Nashik district in 310 hectare area of Maharashtra. Keeping in view the favourable climatic conditions, availability of maize crop throughout country and previous year observations there is possibility that the pest population may increase therefore the following strategies are suggested well in advance to prevent the pest attack.

- Follow clean cultivation i.e, removal of alternate hosts helps to break down life cycle of FAW and hand picking and destruction of egg masses and larvae in mass by crushing or by immersing in water
- Pre sowing and summer ploughing will expose FAW pupae to predators.
- Follow intercropping of maize with suitable pulse crops such as pigeon pea, black gram/green gram
- Erection of bird perches @ 10/acre during early stage of the crop (up to 30 days) as birds acts as good predator on lepidopteran larvae
- Sowing of 3-4 rows of trap crops (e.g. Napier) around maize field and spray with 5% NSKE or Azadirachtin 1500 ppm as soon as the trap crop shows symptom of FAW damage.
- Install pheromone traps @ 15/acre in field for mass trapping and destruction of male moths

- Eggs parasitoids such as *Trichogramma pretiosum* and *Telemonus remus* can be released for destroying the egg stage of FAW @ 50000 per acre at weekly intervals (avoid spraying chemical pesticides for few days during the time of release in the field)
- Pesticides should be used as per label claim approved by the Registration Committee. A list of recommended Biopesticides for Fall armyworm in maize is available on website link

[https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major\\_uses\\_of\\_pesticides\\_insecticides bio insecticides as on 31.03.2024.pdf](https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major_uses_of_pesticides_insecticides_bio_insecticides_as_on_31.03.2024.pdf) and recommended pesticides is available on website link

[https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major\\_uses\\_of\\_pesticides\\_insecticides\\_as\\_on\\_31.03.2024.pdf](https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major_uses_of_pesticides_insecticides_as_on_31.03.2024.pdf)

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

- Mobilization of extension functionaries at grass route level for regular local monitoring of pest status through NPSS and coordinate with RCIPMC, Nagpur for timely advisory.
- Regular meetings of State Pest Surveillance and advisory unit and District Pest Surveillance and Advisory Unit may be conducted
- 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.

The detailed information on pest incidence may also be sent to the directorate through email to [ppa@nic.in](mailto:ppa@nic.in) or [appa.ipm-dppqs@gov.in](mailto:appa.ipm-dppqs@gov.in) urgently to apprise the same to Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, MoA&FW.

Yours faithfully

  
(Dr.J.P.Singh)

Plant Protection Adviser

**Copy for information:**

1. PPS to Additional Secretary (PP), DAC & FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi- I 10001
2. The Directors of Agriculture of other maize growing states with the request to keep close watch on pest build up & take appropriate measures as indicated above
3. Officer In-charges, all CIPMCs of maize growing states with directions to conduct regular survey in the area using NPSS and issue timely advisory in coordination with local SAU & ICAR institutes also to ensure and necessary follow-up with the state authorities.