



Phone: 0129-2413985
E-mail: ppa@nic.in

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: 22.07.2022

To

The Director of Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development
2nd Floor, 'C'-Wing, Vinyaçhal Bhawan, Arera Hills,
Government of Madhya Pradesh
Bhopal (M.P.) – 462004

Sub: Advisory on Hairy Caterpillar (*Spilosoma obliqua*) on Soybean crop in Madhya Pradesh -reg.

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that Hairy caterpillar (*Spilosoma obliqua*) is polyphagous and sporadic pest mainly attacking soybean crop especially in western Madhya Pradesh. When favourable condition prevails, this pest also causes severe damage to crops such as oilseeds, pulses, vegetables, fodder, fibre crops, and fruit trees. The larvae are voracious feeders, damaged leaves of the plant appear in skeletonised/web form and its population often reaches epidemic level during that time they completely defoliate the plants and move from one field to another field, feeding up all the vegetation of that area.

Keeping in view the availability of soybean crop & prevailing favourable weather conditions for the pest the soybean crop should be monitored regularly for pest build up and adopt Integrated Pest Management techniques. AESA based IPM Package of practices of Soybean pest specific package of practices of Hairy Caterpillar are available at DPPQ&S website in the link <http://ppqs.gov.in/ipm-packages>. Important IPM practices are listed below.

- Pre-monsoon deep ploughing (two/three times) will expose the hibernating pupae to sunlight and predatory birds.
- Collect & destroy infested plant parts, egg masses and young larvae.
- Maintain the field bunds clean and hygiene.
- Intercrop soybean either with (early maturing) pigeon pea variety or maize or sorghum in the sequence of 4:2.
- Removal and destruction of alternate wild hosts and weeds which harbour the hairy caterpillars
- Grow trap crops like cowpea, castor and jatropha on field bunds to attract the caterpillar.
- Install one light trap (i.e., 200Wats mercury vapour lamp) per hectare to catch the adults of hairy caterpillar (positively phototropic).
- Setting of bonfires to kill migrating larvae.
- Digging of bunds & trenches to kill migrating larvae
- Conserve the bio control population of spiders, long horned grasshoppers, praying

.....To be continued in next

mantis, robber fly, ants, green lace wing, damsel flies, dragon flies, flower bugs, shield bugs, lady bird beetles, ground beetle, predatory cricket, Braconids, Trichogrammatids.

- Crude extracts of Mahogany & Karanja leaves in neem oil individually and in combination by equal amount of water (1:1 ratio) could kill Hairy caterpillar due to presence of feeding deterrents and toxic components extract in neem oil.
- Spraying of *Bacillus thuringiensis* Krustakii, Serotype H-3a, 3b, Strain Z-52 @ 750 g/ha in 500-700 Ltrs water.
- Pesticide must be used as per label claim approval by the Registration Committee. Detailed information is available at directorate website. <http://ppqs.gov.in/divisions/cib-rc/major-uses-of-pesticides>

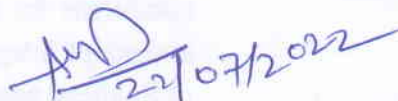
Further the following strategies should be adopted for spreading awareness among farmers

- Mobilization of extension functionaries at grass route level for regular monitoring of pest status.
- Awareness among farming community through newspapers, printing and electronic media, KisanGosthi, 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 pest 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.

Yours faithfully

Encl: as above


(Dr. J.P. Singh)
Plant Protection Adviser

Copy for information:

1. PPS to Joint Secretary(PP), DA & FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi- I 10001
2. The Directors of Agriculture of other Soybean 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-charge, CIPMC Indore with directions to conduct regular survey in the area to ensure and necessary follow-up with the state authorities.