

Fall Armyworm (FAW) on Maize

Spodoptera frugiperda

	Prevention	Scouting	Direct control	Direct control	Restrictions
 <p>Eggs mass of <i>S. frugiperda</i> (Desiree van Heerden, Syngenta)</p>  <p>Early damage: "window pane" (Phil Sloderbeck, Kansas State University, Department of Entomology)</p>  <p>Fall armyworm damage in whorl of maize (Victor Clotley, CABI)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant early with the first rains as Fall Armyworm (FAW) populations build up later in the crop season Avoid planting at different times as this provides a continuous source of food for FAW If available, plant maize varieties developed with resistance to FAW Consider planting short maturity maize varieties Ensure optimum use of fertilizer for strong maize plants able to compensate for pest damage Keep the area around the plot free of weedy grasses Conserve wildlife shelters and flowering plants on the field edges for beneficial insects Intercrop maize with less susceptible crops such as beans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start scouting as soon as the maize emerges Scout 10-20 consecutive plants in 5 different locations of the field and calculate % of infestation (See Scouting Form) Look for signs of FAW feeding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAW are easiest to control when they are small FAW are extremely hard to find when they are small Look for FAW 'signs' in the central emerging leaves (whorl): Light coloured patches ("window panes") and elongated holes Accumulation of FAW excrement in the whorl <p>Decision point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At early whorl stage (knee high), take action if >20% of plants are damaged At late whorl stage (shoulder high), take action if >40% of whorls are freshly damaged At tassel and silk stage, do not spray anymore 	<p><i>This Green Column describes control options that are safest for small holder farmers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On small-scale farms, handpick and destroy the egg masses and larvae 	<p><i>This Yellow Column describes control options that require additional safety precautions for small holder farmers</i></p> <p><i>Note: The effectiveness of available pesticides is currently being tested. This will be completed in the future.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid spraying broad spectrum synthetic insecticides which might kill beneficial insects or harm the applicator Only select products with proven success in controlling Fall Armyworm.  <p>FAW larvae showing "four-dot square" and "Y" marking (Russ Ottens, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org)</p> <p>For more information, please consult Fall Armyworm in Africa: A Guide for Integrated Pest Management https://feedthefuture.gov/lp/partnering-combat-fall-armyworm-africa</p>	

South Sudan

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