



अखिल भारतीय समन्वित गन्ना अनुसंधान परियोजना
All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane
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Advisory on Fall Army Worm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) attack on Sugarcane

As you are aware that an invasive pest, Fall Army Worm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) (FAW) has invaded in India during 2018. Primarily, it's a major pest of Maize, however, it has been reported to attack more than 350 plant species worldwide. Of late, FAW has been reported to attack sugarcane particularly grown in the vicinity of Maize or Sorghum crops. In view of its prevalence in sugarcane growing states like U.P., Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, A.P., Telangana, Karnataka, Bihar, Gujarat, M.P. etc., all the stakeholders including Scientists, Sugar Mill officials, State Cane Dept. officials, extension functionaries and farmers are advised to be remain vigilant for the attack of FAW on sugarcane and follow the under mentioned recommendations as per need.

1. Regular monitoring of sugarcane fields with special emphasis on sugarcane grown near Maize and Sorghum fields.
2. Monitoring of FAW moths by using pheromone traps @ 10 nos./ha.
3. Erect bird perches @ 25/ha soon after observance of FAW larvae on sugarcane crop to encourage insectivorous birds in the field.
4. Spray neem formulation (Azadirachtin 1500 ppm) @ 5 ml/l water or 5% Neem Seed Kernel Extract (NSKE) at initial level of attack or one moth/trap/day in pheromone trap.
5. Augmentative release of *Telenomus remus* @ 4000 nos./ac or *Trichogramma pretiosum* @ 50,000 nos./ac at weekly interval till the moth catches in the pheromone traps.
6. For the management of early instars of FAW, *Bacillus thuringiensis* v. *kurstaki* formulation 2% @ 2 g/l or *Metarhizium anisopliae* or *Beauveria bassiana* @ 5 g/l may be applied.
7. In case of severe incidence, CIB&RC (Govt. of India) recommended insecticides viz., Chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC @ 0.4 ml/l or Spinetoram 11.7% SC @ 0.5 ml/l or Emamectin benzoate 5% SG @ 0.4 g/l or Thiamethoxam 12.6% + Lambda-cyhalothrin 9.5% ZC @ 0.25 ml/l may be sprayed.

Farmers should be advised to use protective gears while spraying of synthetic insecticides. Insecticide sprays should be rotated with other recommended chemicals in the subsequent sprays to avoid development of resistance in FAW against insecticides. It is also advised to follow CIB&RC (Govt. of India) recommendations on uses of insecticides.


(A.D. Pathak)