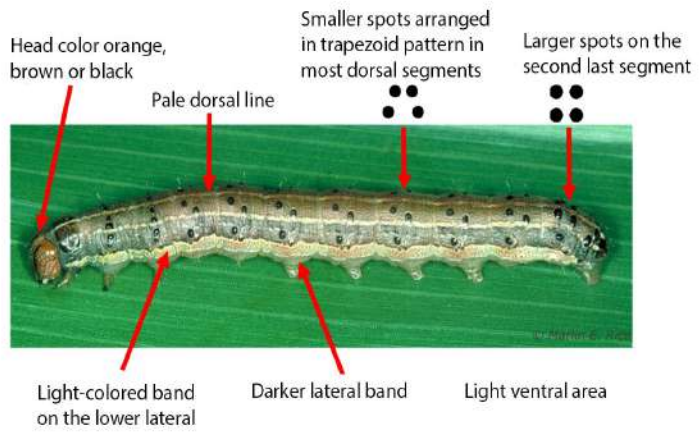




BEWARE OF THIS INVASIVE PEST

FALL ARMYWORM (FAW) *Spodoptera frugiperda*

How to Identify FAW?



Upside down "Y" pattern on head

Four spots near "tail" shaped in a square

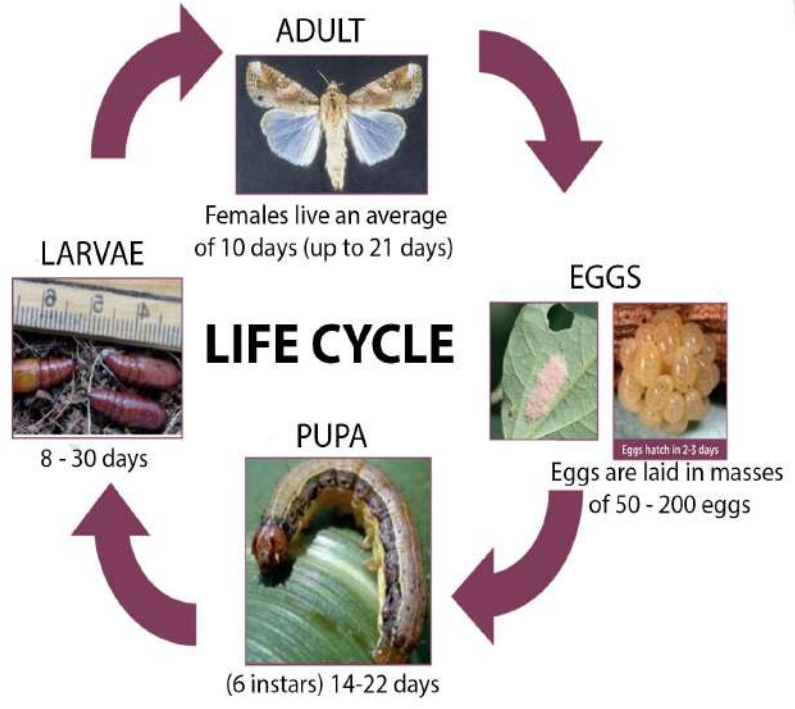
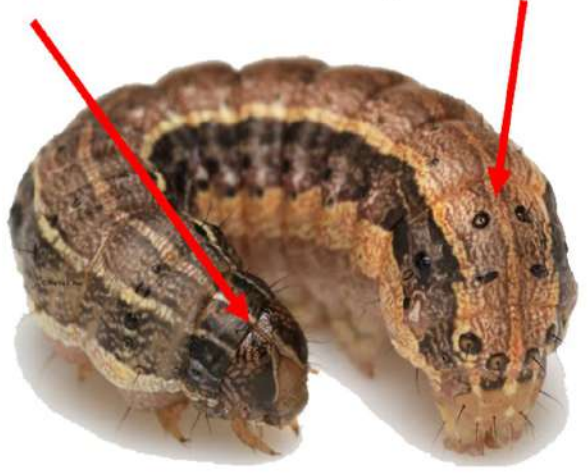


Photo credits: CORTEVA & FAO
Source: Bureau of Plant Industry, Crop Pest Management Division

DID YOU KNOW?

This pest is native to the tropical and subtropical regions of the Western Hemisphere, where its defoliating damage to maize can lead to more than 70% yield reduction. Under heavy infestations, larvae may disperse to new emerging adjacent fields with reports of 100% plant cutting damage to newly planted maize.



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FALL ARMYWORM MANAGEMENT ADVISORY



FALL ARMYWORM (*Spodoptera frugiperda*)

A global invasive pest which can feed on more than 80 plant species including corn, rice sorghum, sugarcane, and vegetable crops by feeding on leaves, fruits, and grains causing significant yield loss if not well managed.

HOW TO IDENTIFY



1 - Egg



2 - Head



3 - Tail



4 - Adult Male



5 - Adult Female

HOW TO MONITOR

Monitor your crops weekly for signs of damage. Look for:



Eggs

Look for egg masses on the undersides of the leaves (see picture 1).



Larvae

Look for larvae on the undersides of leaves and the whorl. They are light green to dark brown with an upside-down pale Y-shaped marking on the head (see picture 2) and four dark spots in a square shape on their second to the last body segment (see picture 3).



Adults

Look for adults on the underside of the leaves and inside the whorl. Use fall armyworm pheromone trap to monitor adult populations.

HOW TO MANAGE



Practice field sanitation and ploughing under corn stubbles after harvest.



Use biological control agents such as predators, parasitoids and entomopathogens to manage the pest. Conserve them by preserving flowering plants on the edges of your farm.



Practice synchronous planting to avoid having plots of different stages.



Properly use or apply neem-based and FPA-registered insecticides to manage fall armyworm infestation. Avoid excessive usage.



Handpick and destroy egg masses and caterpillars found.



Apply contact and stomach type of pesticides only when needed based on economic thresholds. Seek advice on which to use from your agricultural extension worker.

Source: Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Plant Industry



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