WORKSHOP ON FALL ARMYWORM MANAGEMENT IN BANGLADESH

The Feed the Future Bangladesh Integrated Pest Management Activity (IPMA) co-hosted an in-person knowledge sharing workshop entitled, “Fighting Back Against Fall Armyworm – Integrated Pest Management Solutions” together with the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) in Dhaka, Bangladesh on June 22, 2022.

Discussions focused on developing an ecosystem-friendly Integrated Pest Management (IPM) package to address Fall Armyworm (FAW), Spodoptera frugiperda, specifically in a climate-adapted sustainable food system. About 200 participants from research, extension, academia, private sector, media and international organizations participated in the workshop. Specialists from Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Bangladesh Wheat and Maize Research Institute (BWMRI), CIMMYT and FAO gave technical presentations based on their research and field experience.

Participants emphasized that maize is the second most widely grown cereal crop in Bangladesh. More than 95 percent of maize is grown from October to May (Rabi season). Maize is an incredibly profitable crop in Bangladesh, profiting over $1,000/ha. The country produced 5.4 million metric tons of maize in 2019-20; however, grains worth $0.4 billion/year were imported. The Government of Bangladesh has listed maize as a priority crop. Since its introduction in
2018, the fall armyworm has become an unprecedented challenge to maize growers. Infestation at the vegetative stage of maize was estimated at 40-50 percent, while ear damage was estimated around 23-30 percent in the summer season (BWMRI 2020). To minimize maize production loss safely and effectively, a holistic IPM strategy is essential for addressing this devastating pest. From the workshop, two sets of IPM packages were recommended for managing FAW during Rabi (winter) and Kharif (summer) seasons, respectively.

**IPM package for Rabi (winter) maize:**

i. Variety: Pioneer 3355  
ii. Time of sowing: October-November  
iii. Seed treatment with Cyantraniliprole  
iv. Intercropping with radish or red amaranth  
v. Early release of natural enemies (*Trichogramma, Bracon, Telenomus*)  
vi. Spray with SfNPV and Chlorantraniliprole alternatively, if needed.

**IPM package for Summer (Kharif) maize** is the same as the IPM package for winter maize excluding intercropping, as there is no crop match with maize in that season. The IPMA will be implementing this IPM package in maize fields with the cooperation of the project’s stakeholders.

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The XI Argentinean and XII Latin American Congress of Entomology will be held in the city of La Plata, Argentina, between October 24 and 28, 2022. On this opportunity, the Latin American Federation of Entomology (FELA) will hold its Ordinary Assembly, in which the new authorities are to be elected and the venue for the next Congress shall be chosen. FELA will also host the "Entomology without Borders" roundtable, with the participation of the Representatives of the Entomological Societies that are members of FELA.

For more information, please visit the following link:  

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The IAPPS Newsletter is published by the International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences and distributed in Crop Protection to members and other subscribers. Crop Protection, published by Elsevier, is the Official Journal of IAPPS.

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It seeks to provide a global umbrella for the plant protection sciences to facilitate and promote the application of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to the world’s crop and forest ecosystems.

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