

Country Report: Namibia

Fall Armyworm Technical Meeting

Nairobi, Kenya
25 – 26 April 2017

1. Fall Armyworm Infestation.....conti

1.2. Scientifically Identification:

- No scientific identification were carried out
- The pest was identified by Ministerial staff members from Division of Plant Health
- Made use of various sources of information and contacted neighbouring countries to compare collected samples

2. FAW Present Distribution in the country

- Fall Armyworm was reported and detected in most of Maize growing regions:
 - Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Omusati, Otjozondjupa Region and Omaheke. Except in Hardap region.
- Hectares affected:
 - ✓ A total of about 720 Ha of maize were destroyed, in Etunda (220) and Musese (470ha) green schemes, and also in Olushandja (30 Ha), causing a loss of about 5,000MT maize yield.
 - ✓ An additional 1,260 Ha of maize were affected to a lesser extent in green schemes such as Sikondo (360Ha), Vunguvungu (282 Ha), Ndonga Linena (96Ha), Shadi Kongoro (60Ha), and Shitemo (462 Ha), a further 6,500Ha in commercial farms in the maize triangle area and 12 172ha in Communal land.
- Replanted hectares:
 - ✓ Green Scheme Irrigation Project (Musese and Etunda) replanted 560 hectares
 - ✓ Due to the heavy infestation most of the small scale farmers at Etunda have abandoned their maize plots and started selling damaged maize plants for livestock feeds at a low price.

3. Impact Assessment

- No formal impact assessment and estimated tonnage projections of maize loss were conducted due to budget constraints.

"The Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) reported that the country could expect a mid-year bumper harvest of about 69 000 tonnes of white maize, despite an invasion by armyworms. With 3000 tonnes expected from the Green Scheme, this year's harvest is predicted to come close to the 72 438 tonnes recorded during the 2012/13 season"

- Etunda Irrigation Project expected to harvest 1100 tons of dry maize by August 2017, but currently the expected yield is 200 tons due to the outbreak of the worms.
- Both Medium Scale Farmers and Small Scale Irrigation Farmers were expecting 180 tons of dry maize harvest, as estimated based on the ha planted with maize crop

Damages



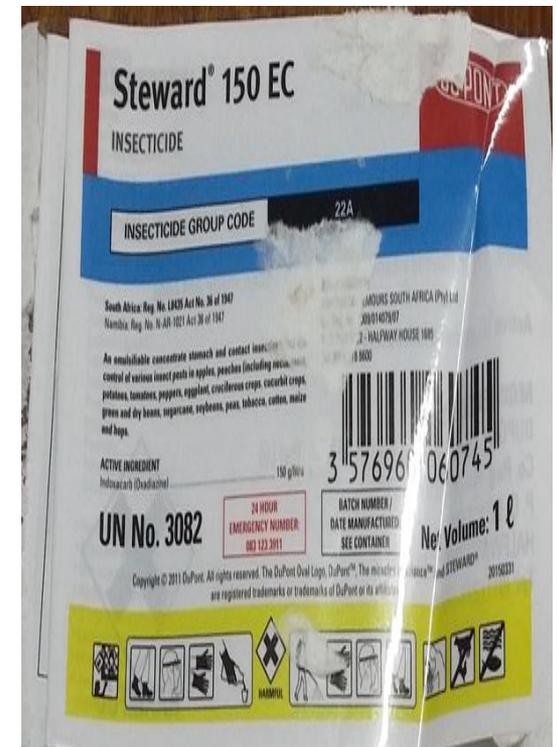
4. Control Strategies

- Field scouting
- Hand picking and burning of the worms
- Use of Chemical pesticides



4. Chemical or bio pesticides used

- Cyperphos, Chloropyrifos, Cypermethrin, Ampligo, Sorba, Ace, Coragen, Steward 150 EC and VITEX



5. Government response

- Registered pesticides for controlling FAW
- Supported affected farmers with Pesticides (Chlorofyriphos and Cypermethirin) as well as spraying their fields
- Aailed funds to procure more insecticides but the procuring process delayed by bureaucracy.
- No funds from donors were received to respond to pest outbreak

6. Impact Assessments and contingency plan/action

- Impact Assessments and contingency plan/action plan for outbreak of pests – in progress
- Responsible Ministry for implementing the plan:
 - ✓ Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (Division of Extension Services and Plant Health),
 - ✓ Farmers Union,
 - ✓ AGRBUSDEV
 - ✓ Namibia Crop Growers Association (NCGA)
 - ✓ Seed Grower Cooperatives

7. Plan to monitor the FAW prevalence and prepare for containment in the winter, dry season and coming rainy season cropping's

- Procuring of FAW Traps
- Availing budget for field monitoring and related issues
- Availing of pesticides to affected areas
- Creating awareness on FAW damage
- Effective control measures to be implemented at farm level
- Enhance coordination among the stakeholders

11. Existing opportunities in terms of existing national institutional mechanisms and structures of containing and managing the pests

- MoU to cooperate with Training Institutions in conducting research
- Stakeholders willing to participate and support initiatives
- Strengthening Information sharing
- Establish coordination platforms
- Create awareness of crop pests
- Strengthening of surveillance
- Develop and implement more effective response actions
- Use of alternative control methods

12. Major gaps or challenges in effectively containing the pest (short and long term respective)

- Implementation of pest forecasting systems
- Inadequate financial and human resources
- Lack of facilities
- Low priority given to plant health vs other sectors

Thank You