



New Invasive Pest Alert in NE India

Invasion of Fall Armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Smith) in Northeastern India

The Fall Armyworm (FAW), *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Smith) is the most devastating pest of many economically important crops, native to the tropical and subtropical region of America. It has invaded many African countries and caused huge economic losses. FAW has been reported for the first time in India during May 2018 in Karnataka and subsequently it has spread into the several states of India within a short span. Recently, severe incidence of FAW has also been observed in Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur and adjoining states on Maize crop.



Photo credit: Dr. Rumki Heloi Ch Sangama

The detailed information on life history, identification and ecology is available on ICAR-NBAIR website (http://www.nbair.res.in/insectpests/Spodoptera_frugiperda.php) and the management action plan for this devastating pest is available on the advisory section of the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DOPPPQS), Faridabad (<http://ppqs.gov.in/advisories-section>) and also available on the ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru website (http://www.nbair.res.in/recent_events/spodoptera%20frugiperda.pdf). Agriculture departments of different states of Northeastern India are advised to kindly aware the farmers of the region and follow the recommended guidelines and action plan suggested by the DOPPPQS, Faridabad and ICAR institutes.