

UK pest status report for *Spodoptera frugiperda*

Field	Detail
Pest species name	<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i> (Smith, 1797)
Pest taxon (order, family)	Insecta: Lepidoptera: Noctuidae
Synonyms	<p><i>Laphygma frugiperda</i> var. <i>fulvosa</i>: Riley, 1876</p> <p><i>Laphygma frugiperda</i> var. <i>obscura</i>: Riley, 1876</p> <p><i>Laphygma inepta</i>: Walker, 1856</p> <p><i>Laphygma macra</i> Guenée, 1852</p> <p><i>Phalaena frugiperda</i> Smith, 1797</p> <p><i>Prodenia autumnalis</i> Riley, 1871</p> <p><i>Prodenia plagiata</i> Walker, 1856</p> <p><i>Prodenia signifera</i> Walker, 1856</p>
Pest common name	Fall armyworm; grass worm
Regulatory status	<p>Great Britain: Regulated quarantine pest</p> <p>Northern Ireland: Regulated quarantine pest</p>
Pest status in UK (as per ISPM 8¹)	<p>Absent: pest not recorded</p> <p>Intercepted on 58 occasions to date, predominantly in association with <i>Zea mays</i> (sweet corn – corn on the cob) imports from West Africa.</p>
Global distribution	In recent times it has been increasing its geographical range rapidly and is now virtually cosmopolitan. In Europe it is thus far only recorded in Spain (inc. Canary Islands).
Main hosts	Main Hosts: Soybean (<i>Glycine max</i>); cotton (<i>Gossypium hirsutum</i>); sugar cane <i>Saccharum officinarum</i> ; <i>Sorghum bicolor</i> ; sweet corn

	(<i>Zea mays</i>), but very highly polyphagous and will feed on most plants, with more than 350 hosts recorded to date.
Likelihood for establishment in UK	Likely, though perhaps protected cultivation is more suitable. Outdoors, transient summer populations are likely, though overwintering ability is uncertain.
Website(s)	https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LAPHFR https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/doi/10.1079/cabicompendium.29810 https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/doi/10.1079/cabicompendium.29810

References

- ¹ International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 8 Determination of pest status in an area