

Report of first detection of Fall armyworm(FAM), *Spodoptera frugiperda*, in United Arab Emirates

Publication Date: Thu, 7 , May , 2020

Country: United Arab Emirates

Pest Identification: Fall Armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*)

Hosts: Corn (Maize)

Pest Status: Present only in limited areas, Under eradication program.

Geographical Distribution: Some areas in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (Al Ain, Al Dafrah , Abu Dhabi).

Summary:

- Cooperation between Ministry of Climate Change & Environment with Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority and local governments have conducted for national survey of *Spodoptera frugiperda* Fall Armyworm (FAW) in host crop fields and border.
- Suspected larvae were detected at corn fields in some areas in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (Al Ain, Al Dafrah , Abu Dhabi) which consist about 0.003% from the UAE agricultural areas, were Identified as *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Fall Armyworm). This is the first detection of *Spodoptera frugiperda* in United Arab Emirates.
- Currently the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority is conducting the official control *Spodoptera frugiperda* emergency strategies: Eradication the infected crops and host weeds, Pesticides treatment and Public awareness through multiple media. They are the best strategies to control this pest in current situation.



- The government continuous to conduct intensive specific survey, field inspection and monitoring by using pheromone traps for detection Fall Armyworm around the infected areas and all agricultural growing regions.

Danger: The damage by *Spodoptera frugiperda*, Fall Armyworm (FAM) in United Arab Emirates may not to be significant due to intensive pest management control.

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