

Fall armyworm



male



female



Image by James Castner,
University of Florida

Look.
Report.
Protect.

Call the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
on 13 25 23 if you see this pest

Fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*)

- Fall armyworm is an exotic pest that has been detected in Queensland.
- Adults can fly long distances and migrate quickly. They can also be spread through movement of plants and plant products.
- Signs of the pest could include egg masses, plant leaf damage or fruit or vegetable damage.



Eggs

Eggs are pale yellow in colour. Egg masses stick to foliage with a mould/silk-like furry substance.



Larvae

The larvae are light coloured with a larger darker head. As they develop, they become darker with white lengthwise stripes. They also develop dark spots with spines.



Adult

The adult moths have a brown or grey forewing and a white hind wing, and a wingspan of 32 to 40 mm. Male fall armyworms have more patterns and a distinct white spot on each of their forewings.

All images by James Castner, University of Florida

Pest risk

Fall armyworm caterpillars eat more than 350 different plants, including corn, sugarcane, rice and many vegetable and fruit crops.

Crops can be ruined almost overnight without control measures when population levels are high.

It may also have an impact on Australia's natural environment.

What should I do?

If you think you've seen fall armyworm, call us on **13 25 23**.

More information

For more information, contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries on **13 25 23** or visit daf.qld.gov.au