

Technological Circular of the Department of Agriculture 01/2018

My NO:Pa/1/2/5/4
Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya.
03.12.2018.

All Additional Director Generals of the Department of Agriculture,
All Directors/Chief Engineer,
Chief Accountant/Chief Internal Auditor,
Registrar of Pesticides/Principle Agriculturist/Principle
Agricultural Scientist,
Additional Directors,
Deputy Directors { (Inter-Provincial) (Monaragala/Pollonnaruwa/
Anuradhapura/Ampara/Hasalaka/Hambantota) }
Assistant Directors,
Officers-in-charge,
Heads of Units/Branches,

Instructions for Field Programme to Control Fall Armyworm

This Departmental Technological Circular is issued with guidelines on strategies to be followed by entire agricultural community in order to minimize the damage caused to agricultural fields by the pest know as Fall Armyworm present days.

1. Immediate steps should have to be taken to eradicate the threat of Fall Armyworm (Spodoptera trugiperda) an alien invasive pest to Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan farmers should be encouraged to practice potential pest control methods to prevent the spread of this pest. Extension Staffs in Provinces/Inter-provinces/Mahaweli areas as well, should engage in this effort efficiently and promptly rushing to fields.
2. The field staff should be grouped in to two and while one group should be directed to field awareness Programmes under the supervision of a senior field officer, other group should be directed to monitor the control of the pest, under the supervision of a senior field officer.
3. A list of pesticides recommended to control the spread of Fall Armyworm has already been made available to you and the list of distributor companies of such pesticides is also attached to it. The listed pesticides belong to 03 groups of mode of action and when reapplying a pesticide in this list to the same field, a pesticide that belongs to another group of mode of action should have to be applied.
4. The Extension & Training Centre has prepared a project report forthwith the reporting the damage of Fall Armyworm on chemical control of the pest and approval has been obtained to the project report. Provisions allocated to provinces and inter-provinces have already been provided through this project.
5. A taskforce has also been appointed for the purpose and your exclusive involvement and co-operation should be dedicated to the decisions and programmes introduced by the said taskforce.
6. Pesticides required for the control of Fall Armyworm should be purchased by Regional Procurement Committees and pest control programmes should be launched by providing half of the pesticide requirement of a farmer field free of charge.

7. Provisions allocated to inter provinces are available at the Director, Extension and Training Centre and payments for pesticides purchased through a proper procurement procedure should be made to the institution from which pesticides were purchased submitting the documents to be proved that the relevant pesticides were duly distributed to the farmer together with suitable recommendations.
8. When making payments to pesticides purchased by officers of Provincial Directors and Provincial Deputy Directors through formal procurement procedure, such payments should be made to the Institution from which pesticides were purchased as reimburse expenses of National Food Production Programme by submitting the documents to be proved that the relevant pesticides were duly distributed to the farmer together with appropriate recommendations, to the Progress Monitoring & Evaluation Unit.
9. In incidences where after applying a pesticides, damage of the pest is reported again in the same field a pesticide of another group of mode of action should be reapplied to the same field. In this time also the farmer should purchase a half of the pesticide requirement.
10. In order to access promptly to the detail of the spread & intensity and progress of pest control programmes, a suitable co-ordinating officer should be appointed to represent/ Provinces, Inter-Provinces and Mahaweli areas and his name, post, T.P.No. (Mobile and Fixed) and E-mail address should be forwarded to me without delay. Thus, the officer so appointed should be assigned his responsibilities in writing.
11. In terms of the Plant Protection Act No.35 of 1999, to minimize the spread of Fall Armyworm when moving infected parts of crops including maize to other areas, such plant materials should be safely transported having controlled the pest.
12. Your maximum contribution and commitment are expected to minimize the damage of Fall Armyworm controlling its destruction of agricultural fields.

Dr. W.M.W. Weerakoon
Director General of Agriculture

Copies to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
2. Chief Secretary (North-Western, North-Central, Uva, Northern)
3. Additional Director (Development/Agri-Technology)
4. Secretary, Provincial Ministry of Agriculture (North-Western, North-Central, Uva, Northern)
5. Provincial Director, Department of Agriculture (North-Western, North-Central, Uva, Northern)

:- For information and to bring the content of this circular to the notice of the Director General of the Sri Lanka Mahaweli Authority Please.

For information and necessary action please.