

Nature of Damage:

- Caterpillars immediately after hatching cause damage to tender leaves.
- As larvae grows, consumes all cane leaves and remaining only midrib
- Broom stick appearance of sugarcane
- 5th & 6th Instar larvae feeds heavily & consumes 60 per cent of larval food
- Nocturnal and during day remain hidden beneath the leaf sheaths, dry trash or in loose soil to a depth of 5-8 cm.
- Damage serious in fields where trash is left unburnt
- Especially ratoons more affected
- Infestation during early stages of crop growth



Management:

- Burning of trash after harvest.
- Ploughing the fields deep to expose larvae and pupae for natural predation.
- Collect and destroy egg masses and young larvae.
- Install pheromone traps in the field to know the status of the moths.
- Install bird perches @ 25/ha
- NPV (Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus) @ 250 LE/ha, Entomopathogenic fungi Such as *Metarhizium anisopliae* (1×10^8 cfu/g) or *Beauveria bassiana* (1×10^8 cfu/g) or *Nomuraea riley* (1×10^8 cfu/g) @ 5 gm/lit. water.
- Use egg parasitoids *Trichogramma* spp. and *Telemonus remus*.
- Spraying of Emamectin benzoate 5 SG @ 4 gm or Chlorantraniliprole 18.5 SC @ 3.75 ml or Thiamethoxam 12.6 + lambda cyhalothrin 9.5 ZC @ 2.50 ml/ 10 lit of water.