

Symptoms of Damage:

- Caterpillars immediately after hatching cause damage to tender leaves .
- As larvae grows, consumes all cane leaves and reaming only main rib
- 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 of Army worm:

- Follow clean cultivation in field.
 - Collect and destroy egg masses and young larvae.
 - Install pheromone traps in the field to know the status of the moths
 - NPV (Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus) @ 250 LE/ha, Entomopathogenic fungi Such as *Metarhizium anisopliae* (1 x 10⁸ cfu/g) or *Beauveria bassiana* (1 x 10⁸ cfu/g) or *Nomuraea rileyi* (1 x 10⁸ cfu/g) @ 5 gm/lit. water.
 - Use egg parasitoids *Trichogramma* spp. and *Telelmonus remus*.
 - Spraying of Emamectin benzoate 5SG @ 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.
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