

Fall Armyworm Record sheet

Accurate monitoring of Fall Armyworm helps assess level of risk to guide timely response and management decisions. Consistent monitoring provides a clear picture of infestation trends enabling more effective control and reducing potential crop losses.

Date: _____ Paddock/block/crop: _____ Crop/pasture: _____

Plant	Egg masses	Very Small larvae 1-2 mm	Small larvae 3-4 mm	Medium larvae 5-15 mm	Large larvae 16-30+ mm	Total Larvae	Number plants infested	Natural enemies	Plant damage rating*
		1 st instar*	2 nd instar	3 rd – 4 th instar	5 th – 6 th instar				
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
Average = total/25									

* 1st instar (hatchlings) record presence, don't count especially if hatching from egg masses. Most of these larvae will die before they can cause damage.

Use a rating that is useful for your purposes. E.g. Low, moderate, severe or the 1-9 Davis scale.



The Davis Scale

Use this scale as a simple method for assessing Fall Armyworm damage on crops and pasture when completing the monitoring worksheet. This rating system provides a standardised way to rate leaf damage making observations consistent across your farm team and comparable over time and across locations.

Visual rating scale for leaf damage assessment

Scale	Description
0	No visible leaf damage
1	Only pinhole damage on leaves
2	Pinhole and shot hole damage to leaf
3	Small elongated lesions (5–10mm) on 1–3 leaves
4	Midsized lesions (10–30mm) on 4–7 leaves
5	Large elongated lesions (>30mm) or small portions eaten on 3–5 leaves
6	Elongated lesions (>30mm) and large portions eaten on 3–5 leaves
7	Elongated lesions (>30cm) and 50% of leaf eaten
8	Elongated lesions (30cm) and large portions eaten on 70% of leaves
9	Most leaves with long lesions and complete defoliation observed

For more information and support resources

Reach out to your local agronomist, Dairy Australia team or visit dairyaustralia.com.au/issues-and-emergencies/fall-armyworm.



Example 'W' pattern to be used for monitoring in crops and pastures



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