

katale

ANIMAL FEEDS

VETERINARY SERVICES

FERTILISER

SEEDS

TRANSPORT

EQUIPMENT

market place**GOV'T IMPORTS
PREDATORS TO KILL
FALL ARMYWORM**

The imported predators, according to Naro, will complement the pesticides like the Striker which is currently combating the deadly fall armyworm Tausi Nakato, writes

In a bid to completely contain the killer fall armyworm, government has imported prowling insects which will eat the heavily destructive worm. On Thursday at the ongoing National Agricultural Trade Show in Jinja, Dr Imelda Kashaija, the deputy director general for technology at Naro, revealed the predators are being tested by experts at Namulonge.

"We approached our colleagues in South Africa and they offered help. They encouraged us to explore the option of the predators which eat the fall armyworm aggressively. I can confirm the predators are already in the country and currently our lab experts are testing

**FACTS**

The fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) is part of the order of Lepidoptera and is the larval (see caterpillar) life stage of a fall armyworm moth. It is regarded as a pest and can wreak havoc on crops if left to multiply. Its scientific name is derived from its feeding habits: frugiperda is Latin for lost fruit as it can destroy crops. Native to the Americas, these caterpillars mainly attack maize crops.

Wikipedia

their efficiency," said Kashaija. "Once the tests are done probably before the next season, we will internally test them at our stations before rolling them to the farmers. We have hope that the fall armyworm will be contained," she added.

The outbreak of the fall armyworm which negatively impacts on food and nutrition security was confirmed early this year.

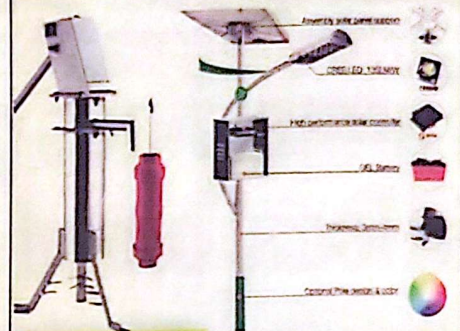
According to Kashaija, government which early this year distributed over 2500 litres of pesticides to maize farmers has not lost hope on the use of pesticides saying the predator insects will only complement the control. She said before the marauding predators are unleashed, the farmers should stick to spraying their gardens using the tested and recommended pesticides like the Striker 247 SC and Rockett 44EC.

**2500**

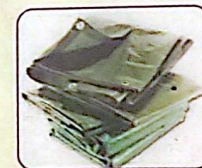
LITRES OF PESTICIDES THAT
FARMERS RECEIVED FROM
GOVERNMENT TO SPRAY THE
DESTRUCTIVE WORMS



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Plot 7629, Block 244, Kiwafu Road,
Near Heritage International School,
Kansanga-Muyenga, Kampala, Uganda
T: +256 752462592, +256 7775140910