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Mediaverklaring / Media Release

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Kundiges verwag dat herfskommandowurm landswyd in Suid-Afrika kan versprei

EXPERTS EXPECT FALL ARMYWORM MAY SPREAD THROUGHOUT SOUTH AFRICA

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Volgens 'n onlangse mediaverklaring, verwag kundiges dat die herfskommandowurm oor Suid-Afrika heen sal versprei (met die moontlike uitsondering van die Wes-Kaap). Die verslag dui aan dat besmetting in vyf distrikte in Limpopo, dele van Mpumalanga asook in die Oos-Kaap aangemeld is.

Die Departement van Landbou, Bosbou en Visserye (DAFF) het versoek dat boere en landbou-organisasies hul monitering- en aanmeldingspogings ten opsigte van hierdie plaag landswyd opskerp.

Daaglikse en weeklikse verslae moet aan DAFF voorgelê vir alle nuwe gebiede waar FAW voorkom.

Agri SA verwelkom die tydige optrede deur DAFF, insluitend die beskikbaarstelling van plaagdoders om die verspreiding van die plaag te bekamp. Agri SA wil graag boere daarop attent maak dat die aanwending van chemikalieë in konsultasie met die betrokke verteenwoordigers moet geskied.

Alhoewel hierdie wurm meestal mielieplante aanval, kom dit ook soms voor in katoen, koring, sorghum, sojabone, aartappels en grondbone. Om dié rede is dit belangrik om te let op skade aan hierdie gewasse en die teenwoordigheid van die indringer-spesies.

Dan Kriek, President van Agri SA, het Graan SA en ander rolspelers wat die situasie namens die bedryf moniteer bedank.

Uitgereik deur Agri SA, Direktooraat: Korporatiewe Skakeling

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EXPERTS EXPECT FALL ARMYWORM MAY SPREAD THROUGHOUT SOUTH AFRICA

According to a recent media release, experts expect the fall armyworm (FAW) to spread across South Africa, with the possible exception of the Western Cape province. The report indicates that FAW infestations have been detected throughout Limpopo Province's five districts, parts of Mpumalanga as well as the Eastern Cape.

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) has requested that farmers and agricultural organisations sharpen their monitoring and reporting efforts on the occurrence of this pest throughout the country.

Daily and weekly reports have to be submitted to DAFF for all new areas where FAW is found.

Agri SA welcomes the timeous actions being taken by DAFF, including its making pesticides available to combat the spread of this pest. Agri SA wishes to alert farmers that the application of chemicals must be carried out in consultation with chemical representatives.

Although this fall armyworm attacks mostly maize plants, it may occasionally attack cotton, wheat, sorghum, soybeans, potatoes and groundnuts. It is therefore also important to scout these crops for damage and the presence of the invasive species.

Dan Kriek, President of Agri SA, thanked Grain SA and other role-players who monitor the situation on behalf of the grain industry.

Issued by Agri SA, Directorate: Corporate Liaison

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