




# Stalk borers on maize

*Busseola fusca*, *Eldana saccharina* and *Chilo partellus*

	Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
 <p>Stalk borer infestation on maize (Photos: Muzira Fred)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burn or deep bury the maize debris after harvest</li> <li>• Rotate maize with non-host plants, especially non-cereals (beans, cassava, sweet potato, soybean etc)</li> <li>• Plant maize and cowpea/or desmodium in the same garden to reduce the numbers of caterpillars</li> <li>• Collect and bury attacked stems or feed them to animals</li> <li>• Plant elephant grass around the field to attract the larvae of stalk borers</li> <li>• Plant your maize and sorghum at the onset of rain so that the maize passes the most preferred stage of the caterpillar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start looking for signs and symptoms of damage when plants are 2 to 4 weeks old, depending on the area. If you find damage holes in the leaves then constitute a control program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mix dry clay or sawdust with small neem (<i>Azadirachta indica</i>) powder (ground neem seeds) at a rate of 1:1 and place in the funnel of the plant</li> <li>• Handpick and kill caterpillars found on plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spray with Permethrin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WHO Class II; Moderately hazardous</li> </ul>
 <p>Larva of stalk borer on maize leaf (Photo: Muzira Fred)</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spray with Cypermethrin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WHO Class II; Moderately hazardous</li> </ul>
 <p>Stalk borer larva feeding on maize (CABI)</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spray with Malathion. Spray with Chlorpyrifos-methyl</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WHO Class III; Slightly hazardous. WHO Class III; slightly hazardous</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult your extension worker and always read the label for direction on use. Always wear protective gear (overalls, gumboots, goggles, caps, gloves and face masks) when handling chemicals</li> </ul>	



## Uganda

CREATED/UPDATED: December 2014

AUTHOR(S): Fred Muzira (Department of Crop Protection, MAAIF)

EDITED BY: Plantwise