

The fall armyworm (FAW) is one of the most devastating pests of pastures and hayfields, reducing both forage availability and hay yields. Damage can appear almost overnight and infestations can be easily overlooked when the caterpillars are small and eating very little. Beginning as early as late June or July significant fall armyworm populations can occur in Arkansas.

**Host Plant preference** – FAWs feed on variety of forage crops but often prefer lush green well-fertilized bermudagrass.

**Scouting** - Arkansas producers are encouraged to diligently scout their pastures and hayfields for FAWs. Examine at least 10 one sq. ft. samples at random across the field. Female fall armyworm moths prefer to lay eggs in areas of abundant growth, be sure to include a few of these areas in your 10 samples.

**Control** – Chemical control is usually needed when 3 or more worms per square foot are found. Read label instructions and follow harvesting and grazing restrictions. Insecticides available for control of FAWs are listed in the table. Before purchasing or using insecticides always read and follow directions on product label.

Additional information is available in “Managing Armyworms in Pastures and Hayfields” at <http://www.uaex.edu/publications/PDF/FSA-7083.pdf> and in the Insecticide Recommendations for Arkansas at <http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx>.

## Fall Armyworm - *Spodoptera frugiperda*



**Fall Armyworm Adults**  
**Fall Armyworm Larvae**



**Key Characteristics of Larvae**



**Inverted Y**

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Insecticide	Form/ Acre	Lb ai/ Acre	Acres/ Gal	Comments
Mustang Max (R) (9.6% zeta-cypermethrin)	2.8-4.0 oz	0.0175- 0.025	32-45	No grazing restriction for grass forage or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay).
Baythroid XL (R) (12.7% beta-cyfluthrin)	2.6-2.8 oz	0.020- 0.022	45.7-49.2	No grazing restriction for grass forage or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay).
Tombstone (R) (24.7% cyfluthrin)	1.6-1.9 oz	0.025- 0.030	67.4-80	No grazing restriction for grass forage or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay).
Lambda-cy AG & others (R) (13% lambda- cyhalothrin, 1lb/gal)	2.5-3.8 oz	0.02-0.03	33-50	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application.
Warrior II & generics (R) ~22.8% lambda- cyhalothrin, 2 lb/gal)	1.28-1.92 oz	0.02-0.03	66-100	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application.
Sevin XLR Plus (44.1% carbaryl)	2-3 pt	0.5-1.0	2.7-4.0	Allow 2-3 days for control to become effective. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest or grazing.
Intrepid (22.6% methoxyfenozide)	4-8 oz.	0.06- 0.12	16-32	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application.
Blackhawk (36% spinosad) Tracer (44.2% spinosad)	1.1-2.2 oz. 1-2 oz	.033-.066	7-14/lb. 64-128	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 3 days of application.
Prevathon (5% chlorantraniliprole)	10-13 oz.*	0.034- 0.044	10-13	No restriction for grazing or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay). * 2(ee) rate
Besiege (R) (9.26% chlorantraniliprole & 4.63% lambda-cyhalothrin)	6-9 oz.	0.059- 0.088	14-21	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application

(R) = Restricted use pesticide