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RESEARCH PAPER

Evaluation of biological control methods against fall armyworm in maize

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Abstract: The evaluation of biological control methods against fall armyworm in maize was carried out by the District Agricultural Advisory and Transfer of Technology Centre (DAATTC), Vizianagaram, in five farmers' fields during 2022–23 and 2023–24. The results revealed that pest incidence was lower in the biological control plots compared to the farmers' practice. An increase in yield of 3.67% was recorded in the biological control demonstration (8632 kg/ha) over the farmers' practice (8327 kg/ha). The net returns from the IPM and farmers' practice were 11,07,796/ha and 199,730/ha, respectively. The extension gap, technology gap, and technology index were 306 kg/ha, 618 kg/ha, and 6.68%, respectively. The lower technology index indicated that the technology is feasible under farmers' field conditions and should be popularized to minimize the extension and technology gaps.

Key Words: Fall armyworm, maize, Technology gap, Extension gap, Technology index

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