



TIPS TO HELP CONTROL PESTS IN CALLALOO FIELDS

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

CARDI Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute, [Jamaica]
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NB A crop PEST is any living thing that causes damage or slows down the growth of the plants.

BEFORE PLANTING

CHOOSE GOOD SEEDS AND HEALTHY SEEDLINGS

Good planting material is the best start for any crop.

PROTECT YOUR NURSERY

Covering the nursery with mesh will keep some pests away from seedlings.

NB. Mesh should allow 70% of sunlight to come through.



AFTER PLANTING

CARE FOR YOUR PLANTS

Water, fertilize and weed your callaloo plot when needed.

Stronger plants can help protect themselves from pests and diseases.

REMOVE WEEDS FROM YOUR FIELD REGULARLY

Worms and other pests of callaloo feed on some weeds in callaloo fields. If weeds are not removed pests will hide and breed in them.

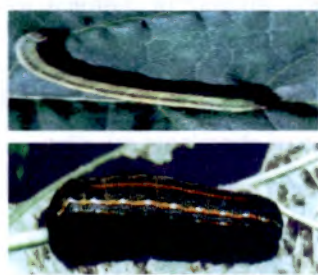


REMOVE OLD PLANTS FROM YOUR FIELD AT THE END OF THE CROP SEASON.

Old callaloo plants and plants of other crops can serve as a breeding ground for harmful insects and mites which will soon move over to your new crop when it is established.

KNOW YOUR CALLALOO PESTS

Learning about the different pests that affect callaloo and being able to identify them and the damage they cause will help you to choose the right method to control them.



Armyworm larvae



Spotted cucumber beetle

WATCH FOR ANY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MOTHS (" BATS ") FLYING IN YOUR FIELD

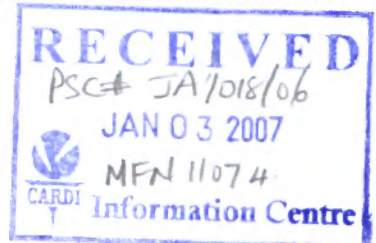
Greater numbers of moths flying in your field is a warning that many eggs are being laid and that tiny worms will hatch in a few days to start eating the callaloo plants.



Armyworm adults

SPRAY CALLALOO ONLY WHEN NECESSARY

Look at your plants regularly. Search the leaves to see if worms and other harmful insects and mites are present before spraying. Unnecessary spraying will make the pests resistant and the chemical ineffective.



WHEN SPRAYING USE THE RIGHT CHEMICAL (S) FOR THE PEST (S) YOU HAVE

Some chemicals can only kill certain types of pests. Read the label to be sure that the chemical (s) you have is for the pest (s) you want to kill.

DO NOT MIX THE SPRAY TOO STRONG OR TOO WEAK

Read the label to know the right amount of chemical to use or ask your extension agent. Using too strong or too weak mixtures will make the next generation of pests harder to kill. Strong mixtures of chemicals are also harmful to the farmer and people who eat the callaloo.

DO NOT USE THE SAME CHEMICAL ALL THE TIME

From time to time change the type of pesticide you use to kill each kind of pest during each callaloo crop. eg If you use a pyrethroid for the first six weeks you can change to an insect growth regulator for the next six weeks and so on.

USE PHYSICAL BARRIERS

A nylon mesh covering provides a physical barrier between your crop and various pests.

NB. Mesh must allow at least 70% sunlight to reach plants.



- **AT HARVEST**

REMOVE WASTE CUTTINGS FROM YOUR FIELD AFTER EACH HARVEST AND DESTROY THEM

If cuttings are left in the field pests will crawl from them back onto callaloo plants.