

INSECT PEST OF MAIZE AND SORGHUM

MAIZE BORER

T.N. *Chilo partellus*

Family: Pyralidae

Order: Lepidoptera

IDENTIFICATION

- Adults are yellowish-grey
- Larvae are dirty greyish white with black head and four brownish longitudinal stripes on the back





Egg

Eggs - cluster form
Underside of leaves near midrib
220-225 eggs/female
Hatching 2-5 days



Larvae: 5-6 instars
Larval period: 15-20 days



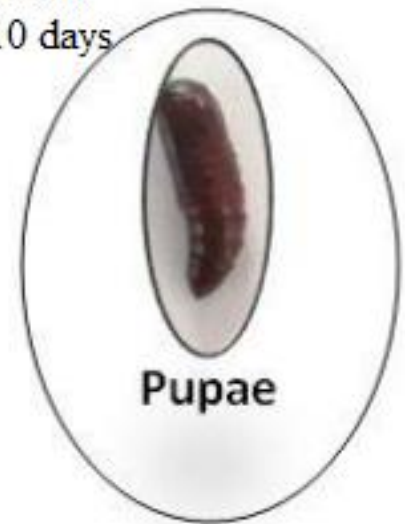
5 generations/yea



Adult 1 week



Pupate inside the stem
Pupal period: 7-10 days



Pupae



DAMAGE

- Young larvae firstly feed on the leaves, making a few holes and then bore their way downwards through the central whorl and the plant also shows **“Dead Heart”**.
- Young seedlings are more often destroyed by the attack of this pest.



CONTROL

- Destroy the weeds, and stubbles by ploughing the field after harvest
- Removal and destruction of infested plants, dead hearts
- Light traps
- Use of biological control agents
 - *Trichogramma* spp. - egg parasitoid
 - *Apanteles* spp. - larval parasitoid
- Use of carbofuran G 8-10 kg/acre.

SORGHUM SHOOT FLY

T.N. *Atherigona soccata*

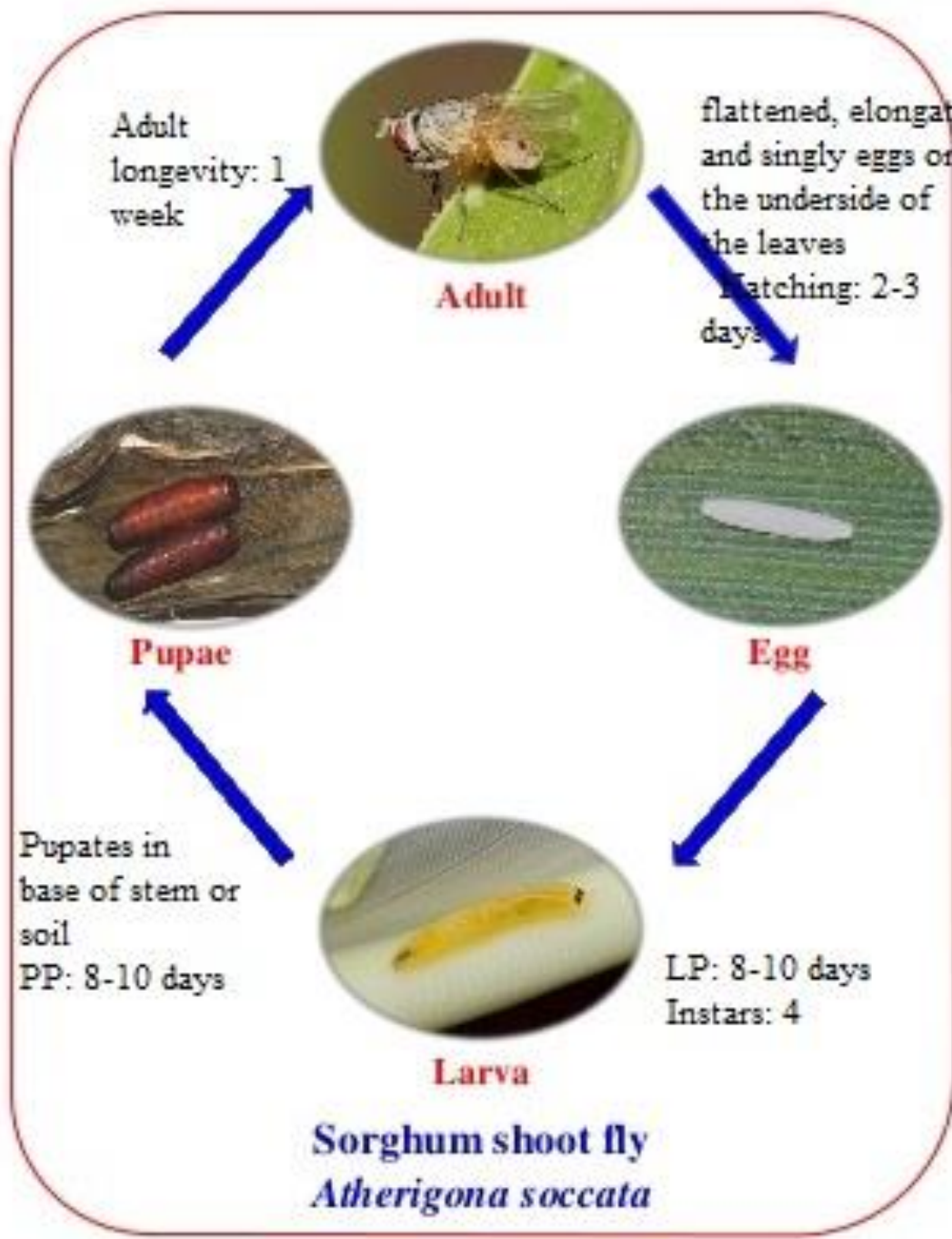
Family: Muscidae

Order: Diptera

IDENTIFICATION

- Sorghum shoot fly is also known as the sorghum stem fly
- Eggs - white in color
- Larvae - yellowish brown
- Adults are pale grey with yellowish abdomen





Adult longevity: 1 week



Adult

flattened, elongate and singly eggs on the underside of the leaves
Hatching: 2-3 days



Pupae



Egg

Pupates in base of stem or soil
PP: 8-10 days



Larva

LP: 8-10 days
Instars: 4

Sorghum shoot fly
Atherigona soccata

DAMAGE

- Attacks on the young seedlings, producing deformed, twisted and dead heart
- Maggots bore into the stem and cut the main shoot and by the time they pupate, the plant is almost dead
- Crop yield is reduced



CONTROL

- Grow resistant varieties
- Destruction of attacked plants or plant parts
- Sowing of crop early June to the 2nd week of the July normally escapes the shoot fly attack
- Spray
 - Carbosulfan EC 250 ml/acre
 - Carbofuran G 10 kg/acre.