Feed the Future: Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management Trip Report

Country(s) Visited: Kenya.

Dates of Travel: 27-29 March 2019

Travelers' Names and Affiliations: Tadele Tefera

Purpose of Trip:

The objectives of the trip were:

To asses lab and field performance of *Trichogramma* and *Telenomus* against FAW

Observations

On March 27, I travelled to Nairobi.

On March 28, I travelled to Mwea with my lab technician Peter Malusi, about 105 Km from Nairobi; we met our host farmers Mr Kamathi, who leased us his land to plant maize under his management condition to release the egg parasitoids, *Trichogramma* and *Telenomus* against FAW. We released the parasitoids for the third week in a row. The farmer was very happy because his farm was clean/free of FAW damage compared to the neighboring control farm whereby no parasitoid was released. Mr Kamathi is learning the role of biological control agents with his fellow farmers; he collected the eggs of the FAW with us from the control plots but could not find any eggs on treated plot.

We took data on plant damages randomly from both control and treated plots.

On March 29 morning, I visited Josephine Semiyu's (MSc student) experiment, in both greenhouse and lab. She is running an experiment on biology of FAW on wheat, bean and maize, using choice and no choice tests.

In the afternoon I left for Addis.

Suggestions, Recommendations, and/or Follow-up Items:

- Release adult egg parasitoids then their pupal stage, as we observed predators are feeding on the pupae.
- Repeat the same trial in three different agroecology

- Increase colony population of both FAW, mill moth and *Trichogramma* by exposing them to more natural enemies