

Pests that can be confused with FAW

Cotton bollworm (Figure 5) often shows a similar pattern of dots on its back, but its head is usually paler. Although it can also have an upside-down Y-shaped mark, this is usually a similar colour to the rest of the head. Unlike fall armyworm, these caterpillars feel rough to the touch due to tiny spines. These and other species of caterpillars and borers are illustrated below and should not be mistaken for fall armyworm, although they can also be found on maize.



Cotton bollworm *Helicoverpa armigera*



Fall armyworm and Beet armyworm



Southern armyworm *Spodoptera eridania*



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African armyworm *Spodoptera exempta*



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Beet armyworm *Spodoptera exigua*



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African cotton leafworm
Spodoptera littoralis



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Spotted stem borer *Chilo partellus*



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African maize stalk borer *Busseola fusca*