



Government Announces 50 Vacancies for Entomologists in the Department of Plant Protection (DPP)

The Department of Plant Protection, under the Ministry of National Food Security & Research (MNFS&R), Government of Pakistan, has announced 50 vacancies for the position of Entomologist (BS-17).

These positions are being offered on a contract basis until June 30, 2026, with the possibility of a one-year extension, reflecting the government's continued focus on strengthening plant protection and pest management systems nationwide.

According to the advertisement, candidates must possess relevant qualifications in Agriculture (Entomology) from HEC-recognized institutions. The maximum age limit is 30 years, with a general age relaxation of up to five years as per government rules.

The selected candidates will be offered a monthly salary of approximately Rs. 90,000, which is currently under consideration for upward revision.

Interested applicants are required to submit their applications through the official National Job Portal (<https://njp.gov.pk/>) within 15 days of the advertisement's publication.

Candidates already serving in government departments may apply through proper channels and must present a No Objection Certificate (NOC) at the time of interview.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for walk-in interviews in Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad, where they will be required to present original academic documents along with attested copies. No TA/DA will be admissible for appearing in the interview. The department has emphasized that all submitted information will be strictly verified, and any false or forged documentation may lead to disqualification or legal action. Additionally, the DPP reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of posts or cancel the recruitment process at any stage without assigning any reason.

This recruitment drive is a significant step toward enhancing pest surveillance, plant health management, and sustainable agricultural practices across Pakistan.

For more information please visit at www.njp.gov.pk

CONDOLENCE

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ



Mr. Aurangzeb Noor

CEO, Pesteco

The Pakistan Entomological Society (PES) expresses its deepest sorrow on the passing of Mr. Aurangzeb Noor, a true pioneer of Pakistan's pest management industry.

With over 45 years of dedicated service, Mr. Aurangzeb Noor played a vital role in introducing modern pest control practices and elevating professional standards across the country.

His unwavering commitment, integrity, and vision helped shape the foundation of the pest management sector in Pakistan. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues, and the entire pest management community. May his soul rest in peace.

Mango Mealybug: A Growing Threat to Yield, Exports and Farmer Livelihoods

Article by: Mr. Ahmad Mujtaba

The mango mealybug (*Rastrococcus invadens*) is an invasive pest severely impacting mango production, particularly among smallholder farmers. Feeding on plant sap, it weakens trees, reduces fruit size and quality, and produces honeydew that leads to sooty mould, further limiting photosynthesis and causing premature leaf and fruit drop. As a quarantine pest, it also poses risks to international trade.

With a rapid life cycle and high reproductive capacity, infestations can escalate quickly, leading to significant yield losses—up to 80–89% in parts of Africa. The economic burden is substantial, increasing production costs while reducing farmer income and threatening food security in affected regions.

Effective management relies on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies, including cultural practices (removal of infested parts), and cautious chemical use due to the pest's waxy protection. Strengthening farmer awareness, insecticides, and early detection systems remains critical to limiting its spread and safeguarding exports & livelihoods.

Intercropping Sweet Corn and Turmeric for Fall Armyworm Management and Economic Viability

The study evaluated intercropping sweet corn (*Zea mays*) with turmeric (*Curcuma longa*) as a strategy to manage fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) and improve land productivity. Conducted in Indonesia over two cropping cycles, results showed no early impact, but in the second cycle, intercropping significantly reduced pest infestation, leaf damage, larval populations, and ear damage.

Agronomically, reduced pest pressure led to significantly higher sweet corn cob weight in the second cycle under intercropping than under monoculture, while economic analysis revealed nearly six times greater net profit compared to monoculture. This profitability was confirmed by strong metrics: Revenue/Cost (R/C), Benefit/Cost (B/C), and Return on Investment (ROI) ratios of 2.50, 1.502, and 150.2%, respectively, all exceeding monocultures.

Overall, the system proved to be a sustainable and profitable IPM approach for effective fall armyworm management.

Authors: Wilyus, W., Johari, A., Asniwita, Natasha, & Joshi, R. (2026)

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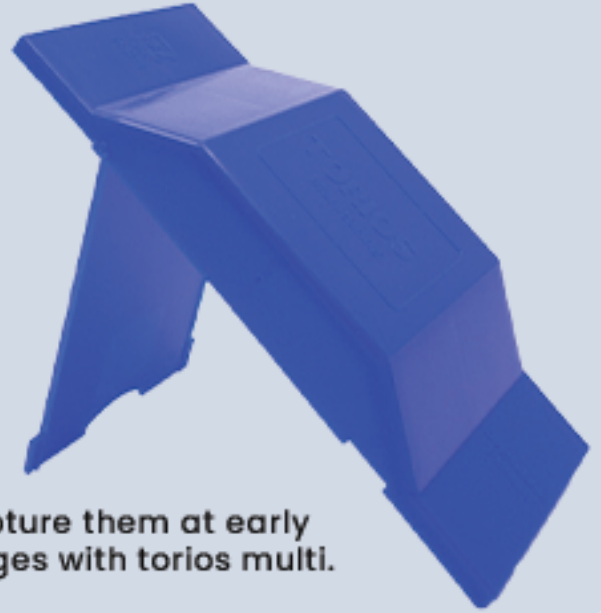


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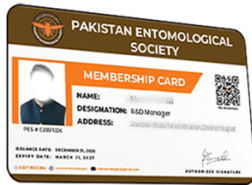
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