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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 7/22/2024

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### Insecticide Approved for Fall Armyworms in Rice

**LITTLE ROCK, AR** — The Arkansas Department of Agriculture has been granted a Section 18 Exemption for the use of Intrepid 2F Insecticide. The emergency request was submitted for use against fall armyworms in rice.

A Section 18 Exemption from Registration is designed to provide temporary relief for growers or producers when they encounter a pest that cannot be controlled by pesticides currently registered for a crop/use site. The request was prompted by Dr. Nick Bateman, Extension Entomologist at the University of Arkansas, who contacted the [Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Plant Industries Division](#) on July 9. He reported significant armyworm populations in rice and highlighted the limited options available for pest control.

Arkansas rice producers have reported severe infestations of fall armyworm in the southern half of rice-producing counties, with expectations that the infestation will spread northward over time. Environmental conditions have favored the establishment of fall armyworm populations. Moreover, winds associated with hurricane Beryl from Texas heightened the migration of fall armyworms to Arkansas.

The request was submitted to EPA and notification was sent to the pesticide manufacturer Corteva. The Department submitted the crisis request due to an estimated impact on 250,000 acres of rice.

Arkansas Department of Agriculture Secretary Wes Ward emphasized, "Without the use of Intrepid 2F Insecticide, Arkansas rice producers could face additional yield losses in areas already affected by adverse environmental conditions."

[Arkansas is ranked #1](#) in the nation for rice production, valued at \$1.4 billion annually. The state accounts for nearly 50% of total U.S. rice production and 56% of long grain production. There are 1.4 million acres of rice farmed in 40 Arkansas counties.

The crisis exemption label and forms to report applications can be found on the [Department's website](#).

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