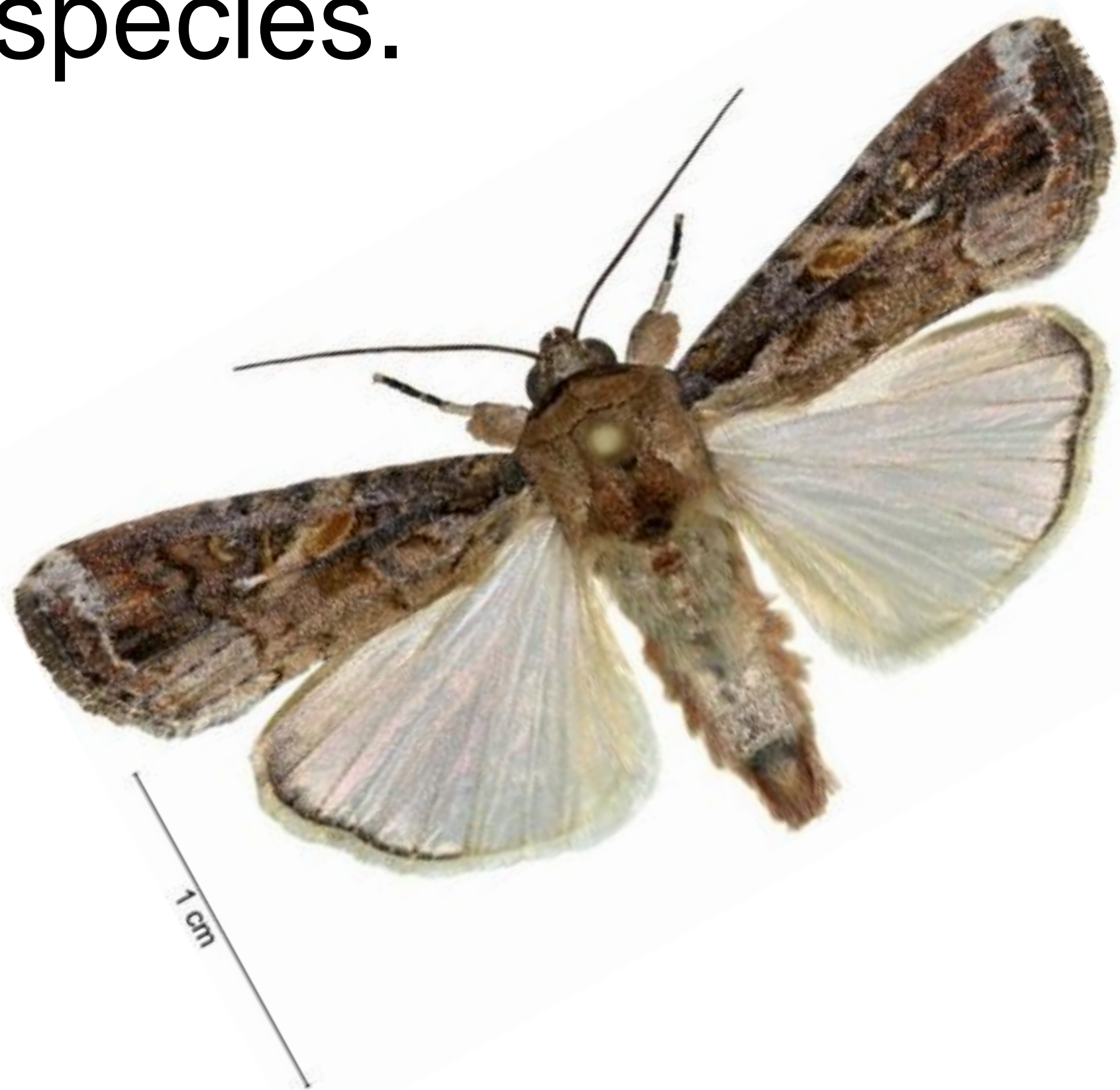


# Combatting invasive pests in Africa

Invasive pests such as fall armyworm (FAW) continue to wreak significant havoc to production of staple food crops in Africa, affecting food security of millions of farmers. IITA has been at the forefront of research using crop breeding to produce varieties resistant to pests and diseases, biocontrol, and IPM to **sustainably manage** invasive species.



## The fall armyworm

- Polyphagous, attacking over 80 plant species
- Present throughout sub-Saharan Africa
- Impact: ranked as severe, reducing maize yields by 27-62%
- A significant threat to household food security and revenues

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## Initiatives for FAW

- Horizon scanning to determine pest status
- Modeling pest distributions under climate change scenarios
- Building Early Warning & Rapid Response Systems
- Developing tolerant maize varieties
- Capacity building of national and regional partners
- Screening synthetic insecticides, biopesticides and biorationals under artificial & natural infestation
- **Exploring genetic diversity** of natural enemies (parasitoids, **entomopathogenic viruses & fungi**)