### Biology
- Adult moths get attracted to standing water and light and lay eggs on young seedlings.
- Transplanting infected young seedlings favors development of the insect.
- Adults are nocturnal and are attracted by light therefore paddy fields near lighted towns are prone to infestations.
- Multiply in delayed crop under stagnant water.
- Caterpillars hang on leaf edges in a tubular case.
- Severe infestation occur on dwarf, compact, high yielding varieties during rainy season.

### Geographical Distribution
- In Kenya it can be found in (Ahero, Bunyala, Kirinyanga, Kisumu, Kilifi, and Kwale counties), Tanzania (Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Mbeya, Moshi) and Uganda (lake Kioga, Buguri, butalenja and lira districts).

### Damage on rice crop
- Feeds on rice at seedling and tillering stages resulting in stunting of the plant.
- Feeding of the worm cuts leaves at right angles similar to those cut by a pair of scissors.
- Cut leaves are seen floating in water.
- Skeletonized leaf tissues that appear ladder like and leaves become serrated.
- Attack of 25% of scraped leaves in the first month after transplanting result in 10% yield loss.

### Management Strategies

#### 1. Cultural Control methods
- Monitor regularly the crop to detect ladder cases in field margins and standing water.
- Practice early and synchronized planting.
- Sprinkle kerosene and drag a rope on the surface of water to remove floating larva cases.
- Practice proper water management. Ensure good drainage for three days, since larvae cannot survive without water.
- Level the field as accurately as possible and start the crop in 7-10 cm of water. Increase the water depth slowly after the leaves begin to grow upright.

#### 2. Biological control
- Release egg parasitoid *Trichogramma* spp at a rate of 50,000 to 100,000 eggs per acre.

#### 3. Chemical control
- Spray when there is infection by using Alpha-Cypermethrin 100g/L (e.g. Bestox at 10ml/20L of water)