

Press Release

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Tropical Agro Unveils Tag Stem Lee – A Patented Breakthrough in Paddy Protection

India's First Granular Insecticide with 3 Active Ingredients for Stem Borer & Leaf Folder | Greater Impact with Lower Dosage

Chennai, India – May 05, 2025: *Tropical Agro*, a pioneer in agri-input innovation, has unveiled a game-changing breakthrough – **Tag Stem Lee**, a **patented, first-of-its-kind granular insecticide** powered by **three active ingredients**. This cutting-edge solution is designed to combat two of the most devastating pests in paddy cultivation — **Stem Borer** and **Leaf Folder** — which continue to significantly impact rice productivity across India.

Rice stem borer infestations in India cause substantial economic losses, with yield reductions ranging from **10% to 40%**. Their damage is most severe in the form of '*dead heart*' during the vegetative stage and '*white earhead*' during the reproductive stage. Studies indicate that **just 1% dead heart can lead to a 0.3% yield loss (approx. 12 kg/ha)**, while **1% white earhead can result in a 4.2% yield loss (around 183 kg/ha)**.

Similarly, **rice leaf folder infestations can reduce yields by 30% to 80%**, posing a serious threat to productivity. These challenges highlight the urgent need for **effective and long-lasting pest control solutions** to safeguard food security and protect farmer livelihoods.

With the **Second Advance Estimates** projecting **136.437 million metric tonnes (MMT)** of rice output for India in 2024–25 (Kharif and Rabi), the urgency for smarter pest solutions has never been higher.

Tag Stem Lee addresses this need with a **dual-action, triple-protection formula**, delivering **superior pest control with just 2 kg per acre**. It effectively eliminates key symptoms like **Dead Heart and White Earhead**, ensuring **long-lasting protection** and **sustainable results** with minimal environmental impact. The product is easy to apply—simply mix with FYM (farmyard manure) or sand and broadcast — making it ideal for widespread adoption across both **Kharif and Rabi seasons**.

Commenting on the launch, **Mr. V. K. Jhaver**, *Founder, Tropical Agrosystem (India) Pvt. Ltd.*, stated: "At Tropical Agro, we are committed to pioneering innovations that help farmers overcome challenges and shape a stronger agricultural future for India. *Tag Stem Lee* is a major leap forward in offering smarter, safer, and more sustainable crop protection. This patented innovation is only the beginning — many more transformative solutions are in the pipeline."

He also shared the inspiration behind the product's name:

"The name *Tag Stem Lee* was envisioned to reflect the product's powerful dual action against **Stem Borer** and **Leaf Folder** — a name that captures both its purpose and impact."

Mr. R. Shanmuga Sai, *Vice President – Sales, Tropical Agrosystem (India) Pvt. Ltd.*, added:

"What sets *Tag Stem Lee* apart is not just its unique three-active-ingredient formulation, but also its **effectiveness at a low dosage and ease of application**. It holds immense promise for improving farmer outcomes, particularly in rice-producing states".

Key Highlights of Tag Stem Lee:

- **India's First Granular Insecticide with 3-Active Ingredients**
- **Dual Action:** Controls both Stem Borer and Leaf Folder

- **Only 2 kg per Acre:** Maximum effectiveness with minimum input
- **Convenient Application:** Mix with Farmyard Manure (FYM)/ sand and broadcast
- **Effective Across Seasons:** Works in both Kharif and Rabi
- **Triple Protection** for paddy crops – Ensuring healthier yields



Introducing
India's first patented granular insecticide with 3 active ingredients for Stem Borer & Leaf Folder

TAG STEM-LEE is designed to help farmers protect paddy crops from two of the most destructive pests — Stem Borer and Leaf Folder.

With a powerful 3-way formula, superior pest control, and long-lasting protection, Tag Stem Lee delivers greater impact towards sustainability as it comes with a lower dosage of just 2 kg per acre.

As a brand trusted by millions of farmers, Tropical Agro continues to lead India's agri-innovation journey with both Chemical & Biological solutions that are science-backed, farmer-centric, and environmentally responsible. The launch of *Tag Stem Lee* reaffirms the company's mission to secure the future of farming — and **many more patented products on the horizon.**

About Tropical Agrosystem (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Established in 1969, Tropical Agro is a leader in India's crop protection and plant nutrition industry, spanning the Chemical, Biological, and Organic segments. A part of the Jhaver Group, the company is dedicated to empowering farming communities and advancing responsible, sustainable farming practices across the country.

Recognized for its unwavering commitment to innovation, quality, and environmental stewardship, Tropical Agro has earned numerous accolades, including the **ICFA, AIASA, IEDRA, and BioAg India** awards. The company is also certified with globally recognized standards such as **ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45001:2018, WHO-GMP, IMO, DSIR, NABL, and TUV SUD South Asia**, highlighting its excellence and adherence to the highest industry standards.

With a robust turnover of **USD 170 million**, Tropical Agro's extensive farm-to-consumer value chain impacts over **8 crore** farmers nationwide. Its operations are supported by **20,000 distributors and retailers, 4,000+ field assistants, and 1,100 employees**. The company delivers over 300 solutions, ranging from seed treatment to post-harvest care, developed across **7 advanced manufacturing facilities** and **3 R&D hubs**.

Addressing pressing global challenges such as food security, soil health preservation, and safe farming practices, Tropical Agro remains at the forefront of **revolutionizing agriculture**. Guided by a vision of

sustainable growth, the company is committed to advancing India's ambition to become the “*Food Basket of the World*”.

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