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To
2011
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Pest and Disease Surveillance & Forecast report for July 2011

Generally, the pest and disease incidence were found below economic threshold level in all the districts of Tamil Nadu. Hence, farmers are advised to monitor the crops for pest activities by setting light traps in their fields.

The following recommendations are made for the benefit of rice farmers in Cauvery delta zone and other rice growing areas in the state:

Integrated Pest and Disease management in Rice

In the nursery, thrips and caseworm are the major insect pests. Diseases like brown spot and blast are expected in the nursery during the Kuruvai rice crop. To manage these problems farmers are advised to adopt the following recommendations:

Wet Seed Treatment: Treat the seeds with Carbendazim 2 grams (g) / kg (or) *Pseudomonas fluorescens* 10g/kg of seed in one litre of water for overnight. Application of *P.fluorescens* @ 1.5kg/20 cent nursery along with 30 kg Farm Yard Manure, 48 hours before pulling out of seedlings is advocated

(or)

Seedling root dip: Select 25 sq. m area in the main field and stagnate water upto a depth of 2.5 cm at one corner and dissolve 2.5 kg of *P. fluorescens*. In this stagnated water, dip 20 cent nursery seedlings for 30 minutes and transplant.

For managing the insects:

- Set up light traps to monitor the adult moths and other insect pests.
- Spraying NSKE (Need Seed Kernel Extract) 5% with sticking agent (@ 5 ml/lit).
- Apply neem cake @ 12.5 kg/20 cent nursery as basal dose.
- Spray either Phosphamidon 40 SL 50 ml or Profenophos 50 EC @ 1,000 ml / hectare if needed, in nursery stage.

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