



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
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To  
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

**Pest and Disease forecasting for the month of August 2013**

Based on the pest and disease surveillance reports from different districts of Tamil Nadu, the following forecast are made **for the month of August 2013** by the Centre for Plant Protection Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. By and large the pest and disease incidence is below Economic Threshold Level (ETL).

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

**Recommendation for Rice farmers:**

The following recommendations were made for the benefit of rice farmers growing samba rice 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 and diseases like brown spot and blast are expected in the nursery during this **samba** rice crop. To manage these problem farmers are advised to adopt the following recommendations:

**Wet Seed Treatment:** Treat the seeds with Carbendazim 2g/kg (or) *Pseudomonas fluorescens* 10g/kg of seeds in one litre of water for overnight, before sowing.

Application of *P.fluorescens* @ 1.5kg/20 cent nursery along with 30kg 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 up to 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 trap to monitor the adult moths and other insect pests
- Spraying NSKE 5% with sticking agent (@ 5ml/lit)
- Apply neem cake @ 12.5 kg/20 cent nursery as basal dose
- Spray any one of the following in nursery stage  
Neem oil 3% or chlorpyrifos 20 EC @ 2 ml lit. of water, if needed.

#### **Sucking pest management in Agricultural and Horticultural crops.**

If dry weather continuous due to delay in monsoon setting there is a possibility for multiplication of jassids, thrips, whitefly, spiraling whitefly and different species of mealybug including papaya mealybug.

Hence, farmers are advised to monitor the sucking pests by installing yellow sticky traps @ 5 / acre and if needed they can spray neem seed kernel extract 5% (or) fish oil resin soap @ 1 kg in 40 lit of water.

This is for the favour of your kind information. Necessary control measures may please be adopted.

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