



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 February 2013

Based on the pest and disease surveillance reports from different districts of Tamil Nadu, the following forecast are made 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).

Rice

The incidence of stemborer and leaf folder were noticed in Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Namakkal, Theni, Pudukkottai, Karur, Kanyakumari, Tiruvannamalai, Sivaganga, Villupuram and Tirunelveli districts. If the damage is severe, farmers are advised to spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract 5% or Profenophos 50 EC 400ml or chlorpyriphos 20 EC 500 ml / acre. Setup light traps to monitor and to kill the adult moths.

Groundnut

In Coimbatore, Salem, Villupuram and Tirunelveli districts, the leafminer incidence was sporadically recorded. Hence, the farmers are advised to minor the insect using light traps. If needed farmers can spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract 5%.

Sugarcane

In Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram districts borer pest complex were found below Economic Threshold Level (ETL). Hence farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid Trichogramma @ 6cc/acre.

Cotton

In Tirunelveli and Theni district sucking pests are noticed below Economic Threshold Level. Farmers are advised to setup yellow sticky trap (5/acre) to monitor the pest population. If needed farmers can spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract 5%.

In Salem and Theni districts, bollworm incidence was found in cotton hence farmers are advised to monitor the insect using the pheromone traps @ 5/acre and if needed spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract (NSKE) 5% (or) Phosalone 35 EC 1 lit/ac or Triazophos 40 EC 1 lit/ac.

Papaya mealybug

Tapioca, Papaya and mulberry farmers are advised to watch for the incidence of Papaya mealybug, *P.marginatus*. If any incidence is noticed, farmers are requested to contact nearby TNAU colleges / Research stations / KVK's for obtaining the Papaya mealybug parasitoids, free of cost for field release.

For further details contact:

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