



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 forecast for the month of January 2013**

Based on the pest and disease surveillance reports received from different districts of Tamil Nadu, the following forecast is made by the Centre for Plant Protection Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

#### **Paddy**

In Coimbatore, Salem, Pudukkottai, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Thanjavur districts leaffolder, stemborer were noticed. To manage the leaffolder and stemborer, set up light trap @ 1 / acre to attract and kill the adult moth. Spray 5% Neem Seed Kernel Extract @ 25 kg/ha (or) if needed, spray any one of the following insecticides: Profenophos 50 EC 1000 ml / ha (or) Phosalone 35 EC 1500 ml / ha.

Brown spot incidence was found in rice at Coimbatore, Pudukkottai and Ramanathapuram districts. Hence farmers are advised to spray Mancozeb (2.0 g/lit) 2 to 3 times at 10-15 days intervals based on the intensity of disease. Bacterial leafblight was found in rice at Pudukkottai and Ramanathapuram district. Hence farmers can spray (Copper hydroxide) Kocide 101 @ 2.5g/litre.

#### **Cotton**

American bollworm incidence was noticed in Dharmapuri, Tirunelveli and Madurai district. Hence farmers are advised to set up Pheromone traps @ 5/acre to attract and kill the adult moth. If needed, farmers can spray Chlorpyrifos 25 EC 2.0 l/ha (or) phosalone 35 EC 1.5 l/ha.

In Salem and Tirunelveli districts, sucking pest Jassid was noticed in cotton. Hence the farmers are advised to monitor the pest population and spray any one of the following insecticides on need basis (500 l spray fluid / ha) Methyl demeton 25 EC 200 ml/ac or Imidacloprid 200SL at 100 ml / ha.

## **Groundnut**

In Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts, the leafminer incidence was found to damage the crop. Farmers are advised to monitor leafminer adults, using light traps, if needed farmers can spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract @ 5 per cent.

Tikka leaf spot incidence was found in Madurai and Ramanathapuram district. Hence farmers are advised to spray Carbendazim (0.1%) or Mancozeb (0.2%) or Chlorothalonil (0.2%).

## **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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