



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 May 2013

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

Rice

In Dharmapuri, Karur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Ariyalur, Erode and Coimbatore districts the leaf folder and stem borer incidence were noticed. To manage this pest set up light trap @ 1 / acre to attract and to kill the adult moths. For managing these pests, spray neem seed kernel extract 5% 25kg/ha (or) if needed spray any one of the following insecticides, phosalone 35 EC 600 ml / ac (or) phosphamidon 40 SL 200 ml / acre (or) profenophos 50 EC 400 ml (or) chlorpyrifos 20 EC 500 ml / acre.

Bacterial leaf blight incidence was noticed in Dharmapuri and Ramanathapuram Districts. Hence farmers are advised to take plant protection measures if needed and spray kocide (Copper hydroxide) 101 @ 2.5g/litre of water.

Groundnut

In Sivagangai, Tirunelveli, Dharmapuri, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Coimbatore and Erode districts, leaf miner incidence was sporadically recorded. Hence, the farmers are advised to monitor the insect using light traps. If normal summer rains were not received there is a possibility of pest to cross ETL level and if needed farmers can spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract 5%.

Sugarcane

In Sivaganga, Karur and Erode districts borer pest complex were noticed hence farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid *Trichogramma* @ 2 cc / acre (6 releases) at 15 days interval starting from 45 days onwards.

Cotton

In Tirunelveli district, spotted bollworm incidence was found sporadically hence farmers are advised to monitor the insect using light trap @ 1 / acre. If needed spray NSKE 5%.

Yellow mosaic virus

Yellow Mosaic Virus was recorded in Tiruvallur and Thanjavur districts. To manage this diseases farmers are advised to set up yellow sticky trap @ 5 / acre to monitor the movements of the vector whitefly and if the vector population is noticed farmers are advised to spray dimethoate (or) methyl demeton 2 ml / lit to manage the vector white fly.

Papaya mealybug

Tapioca, Papaya and mulberry farmers are advised to watch for the incidence of papaya mealybug, *P.marginatus*. There is a possibility for outbreak of papaya mealybug in crops viz., papaya, mulberry and tapioca due to the onset of summer. Hence farmers are advised to monitor the pest in the above crops. The farmers are requested not to spray any pesticide for this pest. 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.

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

For further details contact:

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