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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 October 2013

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

Paddy

In Tirunelveli, Salem, Kanyakumari, Theni, Thiruvarur, Villupuram, Dharmapuri, Tirunelveli, Madurai and Pudukottai leaf folder and stemborer incidence was found in Paddy hence farmers are advised to spray Neem seed kernel extract 5% and set up light traps (one/ac) to monitor the pest population. If needed spray any one of the following insecticides: Phosphamidon 40SL 225 ml/ac or Profenofos 50EC 400 ml/ac.

Apart from the above pests, paddy blast is also noticed. Hence, the farmers are advised to spray hexaconazole (0.25%) twice at weekly intervals. Besides, foliar application of 0.2% *Pseudomonas fluorescens* at fortnightly interval is recommended to increase the yield.

Black gram

Yellow mosaic virus and dry root rot was noticed in Sivagangai and Pudukottai districts in Black gram. Hence the farmers are advised to control the vectors by spraying dimethoate 30EC – 2ml / litre of water or methyl demeton 25EC – 2ml / litre of water. In addition, for the management of dry root rot soil drenching with carbendazim @ 0.1% is recommended.

Cotton:

In Salem, Dharmapuri and Madurai districts sucking pests were noticed hence farmers are advised to setup the yellow sticky traps @ 5/ac to monitor the pest population.

In Tiruvannamalai district pink boll worm incidence was found in cotton hence farmers are advised to monitor the insect using the Pheromone traps. If needed they are advised to spray triazophos 40 EC 800 ml/ac.

In Coimbatore, Erode and Perambalur district infection by Tobacco Streak Virus and shore shin disease has been noticed. Hence, farmers are advised to spray thiamethoxam @ 100g/ha. The shore shin disease can be managed through soil drenching with difenaconazole @ 0.05% twice at weekly interval.

Tomato

In Coimbatore, Tiruppur and Dindugul districts tomato leaf blight incidence was noticed. Hence, the farmers are advised to spray mancozeb @ 2 g/ lit of water, twice at weekly interval.

Turmeric

In Erode, Coimbatore and Tiruppur districts turmeric leaf spot incidence was noticed. Hence, the farmers are advised to spray mancozeb @ 2 g/ lit of water, or propiconazole 0.2%, twice at weekly interval

Sugarcane

In Salem, Sivagangai, Theni, Thiruvannamalai, Pudukottai and Villupuram districts borer pests complex were found below ETL, hence, farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid Trichogramma @ 2.5cc/ha.

Groundnut

In Salem, Sivagangai, Thiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts leaf miner incidence was sporadically recorded. Hence, the farmers are advised to monitor the insect using light traps. If normal 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%.

Besides, dry root rot was noticed here and there. Hence, the farmers are advised to drench the soil with 0.1% carbendazim.

Maize

In Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Madurai, Pudukottai and Dharmapuri districts sporadic incidence of stem borer was noticed. Farmers are advised to monitor the adult moths by setting up light traps and if needed spray NSKE 5% along with sticking agent @ 1ml /lit.

Carnation

In, Nilgiris, Kodaikanal and Yercaud, the incidence of fairy ring leaf spot has been noticed. Hence, the carnation growers are advised to spray, either hexaconazole or propiconazole or mancozeb @ 0.2% at weekly interval.

Lillium

In Nilgiris, the incidence of grey leaf spot has been noticed. Hence, the lillium growers are advised to spray, hexaconazole or propiconazole or mancozeb @ 0.2% at weekly interval.

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

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