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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 2015**

#### **Rice**

In Coimbatore, Erode, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Thiruvannamalai, Pudukottai and Salem 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. If needed, spray Neem seed kernel extract 5% (or) spray any one of the following insecticides, phosalone 35 EC 1500 ml/ha (or) quinalphos 25 EC 1000 ml/ha (or) phosphamidon 40 SL 1250 ml/ha.

Brown spot incidence was found in many rice growing districts. Hence, farmers are advised to spray mancozeb (2.0g/lit) 2 to 3 times at 10 - 15 day intervals, based on the intensity of disease.

#### **Cotton**

In Tirunelveli and Salem districts, the cotton bollworm incidence was noticed. Hence, farmers are advised to monitor the movement of adult moths by setting up pheromone trap and if needed spray any one of the following insecticides (1000 l of spray fluid / ha) phosalone 35 EC 2.5 l/ha (or) quinalphos 25 EC 2.0 l/ha (or) carbaryl 50 WP 2.5 kg/ha (or) profenophos 2.0 l/ha.

In Salem district, white fly incidence was noticed. Hence to manage this pest spray any one of the following plant products. Neem seed kernel extract 5% (or) neem oil at 3 ml/l of water (or) Fish oil rosin soap 25 kg (1 kg in 40 lit of water) (or) Notchi leaves extract 5% (or) spray any one of the following insecticide during early stage (500 l of spray fluid/ha) acetamiprid 20 sp 100 g/ha or buprofexin 25 SC 1000 ml/ha (or) spray any one of the following in mid and late stages (1000 l spray liquid/ha) diafenthiuron 50 WP 600g/ha

(or) fipronil 5 SC 340 ml/ha (or) triazophos 40 EC 2.0 l/ha (or) profenophos 50 EC 1000 ml/ha.

### **Groundnut**

In Coimbatore, Erode, Dharmapuri, Tirunelveli, Thiruvannamalai, Pudukottai and Salem districts, the leaf miner incidence was noticed. Hence, the farmers are advised to set up light trap to monitor and to kill the adult moths and if needed, spray any of the following insecticides diflubenzuron 25 WP 400 g/ha (or) monocrotophos 36 WSC 500 ml/ha (or) methydemeton 1000 ml/ha (or) chlorpyriphos 20 EC 1250 ml/ha (or) quinalphos 25 EC 1500 ml/ha.

In Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Tindivanam and Pudukkottai districts, leaf spot incidence was noticed. To manage this disease, spray carbendazim 500 g (or) mancozeb 1000 g (or) chlorothalonil 1000 g/ha. If necessary give the second round 15 days later.

### **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 rosin soap @ 1 kg in 40 lit of water.

### **Vegetables**

#### **Tomato**

For the management of fruit borer in tomato, grow simultaneously 40 days old American tall marigold and 25 days old tomato seedlings @ 1:16 rows; set up pheromone traps @ 12/ha and release *Trichogramma chilonis* @ 50,000/ha/ release, coinciding with flowering time. Based on ETL of 10% damage, spray *Bacillus thuringiensis* 2g/l or any one of the following insecticides, azadirachtin 1.0 % EC (10000 ppm) 2.0 ml/ l or indoxacarb 14.5 % SC 8 ml/10 l or flubendiamide 20 WG 5 g/10 l.

If serpentine leaf miner damage is noticed spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract 5% and for managing whitefly

1. Install yellow sticky traps @ 12 /ha to attract the adult.

2. Remove alternate weed host *Abutilon indicum*
3. Spray any one of the following insecticides, buprofezin 25 SC 1 ml/l or dimethoate 1 ml / lit. water.

### **Bhendi**

Yellow vein mosaic virus: Spray systemic insecticides like methyl demeton 2 ml/l or imidacloprid 17.8 SL / 0.2 ml / l or dimethoate @2 ml / l to kill the insect vector, whitefly.

### **Chillies**

Pests

Fruit borer: Integrated pest management of fruit borer:

1. Set up pheromone traps for *Helicoverpa armigera* / *Spodoptera litura* @ 12 no. / ha.
2. Collection and destruction of damaged fruits and grown up caterpillars.
3. Spray *Bacillus thuringiensis* @ 2 g / lit.

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

### **Further contact:**

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