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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 June 2015

South west monsoon is expected during second week of June. Farmers having facility for using underground water will be raising paddy nursery / transplanting for the ensuing months. They are advised to monitor for the presence of thrips in the nursery and leaffolder, caseworm, leafhoppers and brown spot in the early stage transplanted crops. To manage these problems farmers are advised to adopt the following recommendations.

I. Disease management

Wet seed treatment

a. Treat the seeds with carbendazim 2 g/kg (or) *Pseudomonas fluorescens* @ 10 g/kg of seed in one litre of water over night.
b. Application of *P. fluorescens* @ 1.5 kg/20 cent nursery along with 30 kg farm yard manure, 48 hours before pulling out of seedling is advocated.

(or)

c. Seedling root dip

Select 25 sq.m area in the main field and stagnate water upto a depth of 2.5 cm at one corner and dissolve 2.5 kg of *P. fluorescens.* In this stagnated water, dip 20 cent nursery seedling for 30 minutes and transplant.

II. Insect management

1. Apply neemcake @ 12.5 kg / 20 cent nursery as basal dose.
2. Set up light trap to monitor the adult moths and other insect pests.
3. Spraying NSKE 5% with sticking agent.
4. Sucking pests populations crossed ETL level, apply chllropyriphos 80 ml/ 20 cent nursery.

Sucking pest management in Agricultural and Horticultural crops

If dry weather prevails 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. Apply carbofuran 3 G @ 33 kg /ha at the time of planting or spray any one of the following insecticides, buprofezin 25 SC 1 ml/l or dimethoate 1 ml /ha.

Bhendi:

Yellow vein mosaic virus: Spray systemic insecticides like methyl demeton or imidacloprid 17.8 SL 2 ml/10l 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.

Nematode management in vegetables

The farmers raising vegetable crop (Tomato, Bhendi, Brinjal and Cucurbits) are requested to do summer ploughing and expose the main field to sunlight for 10-15 days in order to minimize the incidence of nematodes which is a serious pest in the above vegetable crops.

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

Further contact:

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