



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To
The Editor,

Date: 12-3-2015

Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Pest and Disease Forecasting for the Month of March 2015

Rice

In Coimbatore, Erode, Salem, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Villupuram districts leaf folder and stemborer incidence were noticed in paddy. Hence farmers are advised to spray Neem seed Kernal extract (NSKE) 5 per cent and set up light trap to monitor the movements of adults.

Bacterial leaf blight incidence was noticed in paddy in Kanjeeपुरam, Salem and Tirunelveli districts to manage this problem, farmers are advised to spray copper hydroxide 2.5 g / litre of water.

Blackgram

Yellow mosaic virus incidence was noticed in Tutuicorin, Pudukottai and Thiruvarur district. Hence to suppress the vector causing the disease farmers were advised to spray dimethoate 20 EC – 2 ml / litre of water or methyl demeton 25 EC – 2 ml / litre of water.

Cotton

In Salem, Dharmapuri, Theni and Tirunelveli districts farmers are advised to set up yellow sticky trap to monitor the population of jassids and thrips and if needed they can spray Neem seed Kernal extract (NSKE) 5 per cent.

Sugarcane

In Coimbatore, Erode, Cuddalore, Tindivanam, and Theni districts, borer pests were noticed. Hence farmers are advised to release egg parasitoids, *Trichogramma* from 4th month onwards @1 CC/release at 15 days interval. Six releases, are to be made.

In Erode district the wooly aphid incidence was reported by farmers. Avoid using synthetic insecticides to conserve natural enemies to manage this pest.

Groundnut

In Coimbatore, Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri and Ramanathapuram districts leaf miner incidence was noticed in groundnut. Hence farmers are advised to monitor the adult insects using light traps. If normal rain is not received during this month, then there is a possibility for outbreak of the pest. To manage this pest farmers can spray NSKE 5 per cent.

Rust and Tikka leaf spot diseases are noticed in the above groundnut growing areas. Hence to control these disease farmers are advised to spray hexaconazole 1 ml / lit. or mancozeb 2 g/lit.

Sucking pest management

In general dry weather is expected in all the districts of Tamil Nadu. Hence farmers are requested to be alert in monitoring sucking pests like spiralling white fly, mealy bug, jassids and thrips in various cropping systems.

Farmers can install yellow sticky trips @ 5 traps / acre and light trap @ one per field to monitor the movements of various sucking pests and if control measure is needed, they can spray NSKE 5 per cent or neem oil 2 per cent or dimethoate 2ml / litre of water.

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

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