

PEST AND DISEASE FORECAST FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2016

Rice

In Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagappattinam, Coimbatore, Thiruvannamalai and Pudukottai districts, the leaf folder incidence were noticed in few locations. 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.

Mealybug incidence is being recorded in direct seeded rice in some locations of Nagapattinam district. Due to water scarcity the incidence may increase and spread to neighbouring fields. Hence, farmers are advised to spray Buprofezin (25 SC) @200 ml/200 lit of water for 1 acre or Thiamethoxam (20 WDG) @100 g/200 lit of water for 1 acre or Dimethoate (30 EC) 400 ml

Brown planthopper damage is noticed in a few places of Thiruvannamalai district. The field become burnt up appearance and typical damage symptom in the plants called 'hopper burn' will be noticed. The nitrogenous fertilizers can be split into 3-4 doses. Avoid spraying / using resurgence causing and synthetic pyrethroid group of insecticides. The botanical compound 3 % neem oil can be used @ 6 lit/ac with soap oil. The insecticides dichlorvos 76 % SC 200 ml/ac or buprofezin 25 % SC @ 325ml/ac or fipronil 5 % SC 400ml/ac or imidacloprid 17.8 % SL 40 ml/ac can be used. Farmers should be insisted that before spraying chemicals for the management of brown planthopper, water should be drained from the field. The spraying should be done to target the base of the stem portion.

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

Sugarcane: Red rot disease incidence was noticed in some villages of Kattumanarkoil Taluk, Cuddalore district

Red rot management strategy

1. Red rot disease incidence was noticed in CoC 24 variety. Ratoon crop in red rot disease infected field may be avoided. In future, planting of CoC 24 variety may be avoided.
2. Wherever the disease is just noticed, the affected clumps should be uprooted and burnt outside.
3. In that area, soil drenching with Carbandazim @ 1g/lit of water should be done.
4. The irrigation interval in a red rot affected field must be lengthened. Frequent irrigation hastens the spread of the disease while delayed irrigation (once in 15 days during tillering and growth phases and once in 25 days during maturity phase) restricts the spread of the disease.

5. As far as possible, avoid the flow of irrigation water from affected to healthy crop.
6. Red rot affected fields should not be allowed for ratooning even if the incidence of the disease is very negligible (below one per cent).
7. If a disease free field is allowed for ratooning (with a red rot susceptible variety), immediately after stubble shaving, the cane furrows should be drenched with Carbendazim @ 1 g/litre of water (about 300-400 lit of solution is required for an acre). Ensure that there is sufficient soil moisture in the field at the time of soil drenching and drenching has to be done when the cut ends are fresh. (Soil drenching in dry field and in old stubbles will be of little use).
8. Burn the trashes in red rot affected field (after harvest) by spreading it uniformly in the field.
9. The red rot affected field must be crop rotated with rice for one season.
10. Crop nurseries may be raised in upland areas of disease free village.
11. Adopt sett treatment with Carbendazim before planting (Carbendazim 50 WP @ 50 g along with one kg of urea in 100 lit of water per acre for 5 minutes).
12. A close watch may be given in the nurseries and ensure complete freedom from red rot disease before seed cane cutting.
13. If the nursery crop is affected by red rot, (even by 1 per cent), it should be rejected for seed purpose and may be treated as bulk crop.

Sugarcane – Top borer(s) damage was noticed in Kallakuruchi area in Villupuram District. The following management practices may be adopted to reduce the damage.

- The matured sugarcane crop affected by internode borer (INB) and top shoot borer (TSB) should be harvested at the earliest and crushed.
- Top most priority should be given for harvesting the affected canes. This would help to avoid further multiplication of the pest and also spread to other young crops which are in grand growth phase.
- The farmers are suggested to monitor the moths of inter node borer and top shoot borer in the crops at grand growth phase by installing sex pheromone trap @ 20/ha.
- Release of egg parasitoids, *Trichogramma chilonis* @ 2.5 CC/ha and *Trichogramma japonicum* @ 2.5 CC/ha at fortnightly intervals so as to reduce the damage of INB TSB, respectively. Water logging should be avoided in the fields. Detrashing should be done for the crops at grand growth phases at 5th and 7th month after planting. Propping should be done to avoid the incidence of borer complex.

Cotton

In 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.

Groundnut

The leaf miner incidence was noticed in some places of Tirunelveli, Thiruvannamalai, Pudukottai, Cuddalore and Villupuram districts. 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 Tindivanam and Pudukkottai districts, leaf spot incidence was noticed. To manage this disease, spray carbendazim 500 g (or) mancozeb 1000 g / ha. If necessary give the second round 15 days later.

Sucking pest management in Agricultural and Horticultural crops

If dry weather continuous, 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.

Bhendi and Pulses

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 favour of your kind information. Necessary control measures may please be adopted.

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