

PEST FORECAST FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2016

Rice

Leaf folder and stemborer incidence were found in rice in Tirunelveli, Salem, Kanyakumari, Theni, Thiruvapur, Villupuram, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Thanjavur and Pudukottai districts. Hence farmers are advised to spray acephate 75 SP 400 g/ac or cartap hydrochloride 50 SP 400 g/ac or chlorantraniliprole 18.5 SC 60 ml/ac. along with sticking agent 1 ml/lit of water and also set up light traps (one/ac) to monitor the pest population.

In the forthcoming rainy season, blast and false smut diseases in rice are expected. Hence, farmers are advised to monitor the rice crop for the above diseases. The blast symptoms will appear as spindle-shaped lesions with white to gray-green borders. Farmers are advised to delay application of nitrogenous fertilizer and spray tricyclazole 75 WP @ 200 g/ac or carbendazim 50WP @ 200 g/ac immediately after observing initial infection of the blast disease.

The farmers are advised to use the bioagents for the management of rice diseases. Bioagents can be applied as: seed treatment with TNAU Pf 1 liquid formulation @ 10 ml/kg of seeds, seedling root dipping with TNAU Pf 1 liquid formulation (500 ml for one hectare seedlings), soil application with TNAU Pf 1 liquid formulation (500 ml/ha) and foliar spray with TNAU Pf 1 liquid formulation @ 5ml/lit.

Sesame

In sesame, leaf spot and powdery mildew is expected during the forthcoming season. Apply sulphur dust @ 10 kg/ac or wettable sulphur @ 2 g/l to manage powdery mildew and spray mancozeb @ 2 g/ lit of water, twice at weekly interval to manage leaf spot.

Cotton

Sucking pests were recorded in perambalur and coimbatore districts. Hence farmers are advised to setup the yellow sticky traps @ 5/ac to monitor the pest population and spray imidacloprid 200SL at 40 ml / ac, if needed.

Bollworms are expected in non Bt cottons. Pink bollworm started infesting even Bt cotton and the incidence was only 2 %. In case of increased damage (>10%) setting up sex pheromone traps to monitor the activities of bollworm and need based application of profenophos 50% EC @ 600 ml/ac. or triazophos

40 EC 1000 ml/ac or quinalphos 25 EC @ 800 ml/ac or thiodicarb 75% W.P. @ 400 g/ac.

Sugarcane

Borer pests complex problem when exceeds 10 %, farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid *Trichogramma* @ 1 cc/ac for six times at 15 days interval.

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 Inter node borer and Top shoot borer, 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.

The incidence of whitefly and mite were noticed in Cuddalore, Vakkipalayam, PN Palayam and Ezhumedu villages of Cuddalore district.

The following management practices are to be adopted to reduce the damage.

1. Water logging should be avoided in the fields.
2. Detrashing should be done for the crops at grand growth phases at 5th and 7th month after planting.
3. Judicious application of nitrogenous fertilizers.

Red rot

Red rot disease incidence was noticed in Keerapalayam and Kattumannarkoil blocks of Cuddalore district in CoC (SC) 24 and in Nettapakkam Commune of Puducherry UT.

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. Soil drenching with carbendazim @ 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. As far as possible, avoid the flow of irrigation water from affected to healthy crop.
5. Red rot affected fields should not be allowed for ratooning even if the incidence of the disease is very negligible (below one per cent).
6. 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).
7. Burn the trashes in red rot affected field (after harvest) by spreading it uniformly in the field.
8. The red rot affected field must be crop rotated with rice for one season.
9. Crop nurseries are to be raised in upland areas of disease free village.
10. 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).
11. A close watch may be given in the nurseries and ensure complete freedom from red rot disease before seed cane cutting.
12. 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.

Cashew

Tea mosquito bug incidence is expected in Cuddalore district. Hence, farmers are advised to spray profenophos (0.05%) (or) chlorpyrifos (0.05%) at flowering stage.

Groundnut

Leaf miner incidence is expected in the groundnut track. The farmers are advised to monitor the insect using light traps and spray malathion 50 EC 500 ml/ac. or dimethoate 30 EC 270 ml /ac or methyl demeton 25% EC 400 ml/ac.

In groundnut, rust and late leaf spot are expected. The farmers are advised to spray carbendazim 250 g + mancozeb @ 400g/ac or chlorothalonil @ 400g/ac to manage rust and leaf spot.

Maize

For managing stemborer damage, farmers are advised to setup light traps till mid night to monitor, attract and kill adults of stem borer. If needed, farmers are advised to apply carbofuran 3 G 6.8 kg/ac or phorate 10 G 3.2 kg /ac. with sand to make up a total quantity of 20 kg/ac and apply in the leaf whorls.

Banana

In banana, sigatoka leaf spot is expected during the rainy season. The farmers are advised to spray 3 times carbendazim @ 0.1 % or propiconazole @ 0.1 % or mancozeb @ 0.25 % along with teepol at 10-15 days interval.

Tomato

In tomato early blight incidence is expected. Hence, the farmers are advised to spray mancozeb @ 2 g/ lit of water, twice at weekly interval.

Bhendi

For the management of powdery mildew, dust sulphur @ 10 kg /ac or apply wettable sulphur @ 2 g/lit immediately after noticing the incidence and repeat 15 days interval.

Onion

Leaf blotch is expected during the rainy season. The farmers are advised to spray mancozeb @2g /l or copper oxychloride @2.5 g/l for managing the leaf blotch incidence.

Turmeric

Turmeric leaf spot incidence was noticed in Erode, Coimbatore and Tiruppur districts. Hence, the farmers are advised to spray mancozeb @ 400 g/ ac or propiconazole 200 ml/ac twice at weekly interval.

Coconut

Incidence of spiralling whitefly was noticed in several villages of Anaimalai block. Insect predatory population were also found to co-occur with the whitefly.

If required, the predators can be obtained from Department of Agricultural Entomology, TNAU, Coimbatore as an inoculative release. Black headed caterpillar infestation was also noticed in Coimbatore and Dharmapuri district village. *Bracon brevicornis* parasitoid were released in the field for manage the black headed caterpillar. If need the same to be continued.

Leaf blight is expected during the month of November-December. Spraying bordeaux mixture 1% or copper oxychloride 0.25 % or mancozeb 0.2 % (2 times at 45 days interval), root feeding of carbendazim 2 g or hexaconazole 2 ml + 100 ml water (3 times at 3 months interval) along with application of an additional quantity of 2 kg of MOP, are recommended.

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