



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
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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 2017**

The pest and disease incidence were found below economic threshold level in all the districts of Tamil Nadu. Hence, the farmers are advised to monitor the crops for pest activities by setting light traps, yellow sticky traps in their fields.

South west monsoon started during the first week of June. Farmers having facility for using underground water will be raising paddy nursery / transplanting for the ensuing months.

#### **Recommendation for Rice farmers:**

##### **Integrated Pest and disease management in rice**

In the nursery, hoppers, thrips and caseworm are the major insect pests and diseases like brown spot and blast are expected in the nursery during the kuruvai rice crop. To manage these problems farmers are advised to adopt the following recommendations:

##### **For managing diseases**

**Wet Seed Treatment:** Treat the seeds with Carbendazim 2g/kg (or) *Pseudomonas fluorescens* 10g/kg of seeds in one litre of water for overnight.

Application of *P.fluorescens* @ 1.5kg/20 cent nursery along with 30kg Farm Yard Manure, 48 hours before pulling out of seedlings is advocated (or)

**Seedling root dip:** Select 25 sq. m area in the main field and stagnate water up to 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 seedlings for 30 minutes and transplant.

##### **For managing the insects**

- Set up light trap to monitor the adult moths and other insect pests
- Spraying NSKE 5% with sticking agent @ 5ml/lit
- Apply neem cake @12.5 kg/20 cent nursery as basal dose
- Spray any one of the following in nursery stage

- Neem oil 3% or dichlorvas 20 ml/lit. or chlorpyrifos 20 EC @ 2 ml/lit. if needed.

### **Sugarcane**

In Cuddalore, Thiruvanamalai, Villupuram, Sivaganga, Karur and Erode districts, borer pest complex can be noticed. Hence farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid *Trichogramma* @ 2 cc / acre (6 releases) at 15 days interval starting from 45 days onwards.

### **Cotton**

In Cauvery delta districts, pink bollworm incidence was found sporadically. Hence farmers are advised to monitor the insect using light trap @ 1 / acre. If needed spray NSKE 5%. Similarly, in some areas sucking pests like thrips, whitefly and mealybug incidence was noticed. Farmers are advised to monitor the pest.

- ❖ Removal and destruction of alternate weed hosts like *Abutilon indicum* and *Solanum nigrum*.
- ❖ Monitoring the activities of the adult white flies by installation of yellow sticky traps 12 nos/ha. at 1 feet height above the plant canopy.
- ❖ Spray any one of the following plant products either alone or in combination with the recommended dose of insecticide - Neem seed kernel extract 5% and neem oil at 30 ml/lit. of water.
- ❖ The use of synthetic pyrethroids should be avoided as it causes resurgence of whiteflies.
- ❖ Farmers were advised to spray any one of the following botanicals/insecticides (500 liter spray fluid/ha) if the pests reach the economic damage.

For sucking pest need based application of any one of the following

- Spray of botanical insecticide Azadirachtin (10,000 ppm) @ 2500 ml/ha
- Fish Oil Rosin Soap 25g/litre of water
- Dimethoate 30 EC 500ml/ha
- Buprofezin 25% SC 1000 ml/ha
- Imidacloprid 17.8% SL 100 -125 ml/ha
- Thiamethoxam 25%WG 100g/ha

For bollworm pest need based application of any one of the following

- Profenophos 50% EC @ 1500 ml/ha.
- Triazophos 40 EC 2500 ml/ha
- Quinalphos 25 EC @ 2000 ml/ha
- Thiodicarb 75% W.P. @ 1000 g/ha

## **Pulses**

Adopt seed treatment. Monitor whitefly incidence in pulses in Thiruvannamalai, Tiruvallur, Nagapattinam and Thanjavur districts. To manage Yellow mosaic virus disease farmers are advised to set up yellow sticky trap @ 5 No. / acre to monitor the movements of the vector whitefly and if the vector population is noticed farmers are advised to spray dimethoate (or) methyl demeton 200 ml / ac to manage the vector white fly.

## **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 @ 25 gm/lit. of water.

## **Papaya mealy bug:**

Tapioca, Papaya and mulberry farmers are advised to watch for the incidence of papaya mealybug *P.marginatus*. If any incidence is noted, farmers are requested to release parasitoids for managing this pest.

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

## **Further contact:**

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