



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
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To  
2011  
The Editor,

Date: 10-5-

Sir,

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

**Pest and Disease Surveillance & Forecast report for May 2011**

**Rice**

The incidence of stemborer and leaf folder was noticed in Salem, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Dharmapuri, Trichy and Thiruvarur districts. Farmers are advised to set up light traps to monitor the adult movement of moths. If the damage is severe, farmers are advised to spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract (NSKE) 5% or Profenophos 50EC 400 ml/ac or Chlorpyriphos 20EC 500ml/acre. In Trichy, Coimbatore and Virudhunagar districts, false smut incidence was found because of unusual rains. At flowering stage, the affected grains are converted into yellow colour smut balls. Hence farmers can spray Propiconazole @ 1g/litre of water.

**Cotton**

Aphids and Jassids incidence were noticed in Theni, Dindigul, Dharmapuri and Tirunelveli districts. Farmers are advised to set up yellow sticky traps @ 5/acre to monitor the aphids and other sucking pests. If the damage is severe, spray NSKE 5% or Imidacloprid 40ml/acre or Dimethoate 200ml/acre. Regarding bollworm damage, Theni district recorded spotted bollworm incidence. If the damage is severe, spray Quinalphos or Chlorpyriphos 2ml/litre of water.

Cotton mealybug damage is noticed in Dindigul and Virudhunagar districts. Farmers are advised to spray either Profenophos or Chlorpyriphos 2ml/litre of water if the damage is severe.

**Sugarcane**

Early shoot borer damage is noticed in Dharmapuri and Villupuram, internode borer damage in Virudhunagar and Salem districts and top shoot borer damage in Thiruvarur and Thanjavur districts. Farmers are advised to release

*Trichogramma* egg parasitoid @ 6 cc/ac in 6 releases @ 1cc/ac/release starting from 45<sup>th</sup> day onwards.

### **Yellow Mosaic Virus**

Yellow mosaic virus was recorded in cucurbits in Coimbatore district; in Virudhunagar and Thanjavur districts this disease is prevalent in blackgram. Farmers are advised to set up yellow sticky traps @ 5/acre to monitor the movements of the vector whitefly and if the whitefly population is noticed in YMV affected fields, farmers are advised to spray dimethoate or methyl demeton 2ml/lit of water to manage the vector whitefly.

### **Papaya Mealybug**

Sporadic incidence of papaya mealybug is noticed in Udumalpet, Karur, Erode, Ramanathapuram and Madurai areas. The incidence is more in tapioca than in papaya. The high build-up of population in papaya gardens in Tamil Nadu were brought down to a negligible level after the introduction of the parasitoid, *Acerophagus papayae*.

To manage this pest, TNAU is mass producing the parasitoid in all the Colleges, Research Stations and Krish Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of TNAU located in the state. Farmers can obtain the parasitoids at free of cost. Farmers are advised to monitor the crop regularly and avoid use of insecticides to conserve the natural enemies.

For further details contact:

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