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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 Forecasting for the Month of April 2014**

#### **Rice**

In Erode, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Villupuram districts leaf folder and stem borer incidence were noticed in paddy. Hence farmers are advised to spray Neem seed Kernel extract 5 per cent and set up light trap to monitor the movements of adults.

#### **Bacterial leaf blight (BLB)**

For the control of Bacterial leaf blight in rice, farmers are advised to spray kocide at the rate of 2.5 g/l of water.

#### **Blackgram**

Yellow mosaic virus incidence was noticed in 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 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 Kernel extract 5 per cent.

## **Sugarcane**

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

## **Groundnut**

In Erode, Coimbatore, Tindivanam, Villupuram, Ramanathapuram and Thiruvarur 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.

## **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 white fly, mealybug, jassids and thrips in various cropping systems.

Farmers can install yellow sticky traps @ 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 3 per cent or triazophos 2ml / litre of water.

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

Public Relations officer