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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 2014

As the South west monsoon is round the corner during second week of June, farmers under the auspices underground water will be raising paddy nursery / transplanting for the ensuing months. They are advised to monitor for the presence of thrips in the nursery and leafhopper, caseworm, leafhoppers and brown spot in the early stage of the transplanted crops. To manage these problems farmers are advised to adopt the following recommendations.

I. Disease management

Wet seed treatment

- a. Treat the seeds with carbendazim 2 g/kg (or) *Pseudomonas fluorescens* @ 10 g/kg of seeds in one litre of water over night.
- b. Application of *P. fluorescens* @ 1.5 kg/20 cent nursery along with 30 kg farm yard manure, 48 hours before pulling out of seedling is advocated.

(or)

- c. Seedling root dip

Select 25 sq.m area in the main field and stagnate water upto 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 seedling for 30 minutes and transplant.

II. Insect management

1. Apply neemcake @ 12.5 kg / 20 cent nursery as basal dose.
2. Set up light trap to monitor the adult moths and other insect pests.
3. Spraying NSKE 5% with gluing agent.

4. If pest incidence is more spray chlorpyrifos 20 EC – 80 ml / 20 cent nursery area 40 lit of water.

Sucking pest management in Agricultural and Horticultural crops.

If dry weather is 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 rasin soap @ 1 kg in 40 litres of water.

Necessary control measures may please be adopted.

Public Relations Officer