



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 Forecasting for the Month of April 2016

Based on the pest and disease surveillance reports received from different districts of Tamil Nadu, the following forecast are made. By and large the pest and disease incidence is below ETL.

Rice

Incidence of leaf folder and stem borer was noticed in Coimbatore, Erode Dharmapuri, Karur, Tiruvallur, Pudukkottai and Tirunelveli districts. Farmers are advised to set up light traps to monitor and to kill the adult moths. If needed they can spray Neem seed Kernel extract (NSKE) 5% or cartap hydrochloride 50% SP @ 400 g/ac (or) chlorpyrifos 20% Ec @ 500 ml/ac.

In all rice growing districts of Tamil Nadu, brown spot incidence was noticed. Hence, farmers are advised to spray Mancozeb 400-500 g/ac, 2 to 3 times at 10 - 15 day intervals based on the intensity of disease.

Groundnut

In Coimbatore, Erode, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram, Pudukkottai and Dharmapuri districts, the leafminer incidence was sporadically recorded. Hence, the farmers are advised to monitor the insect using light traps. If needed farmers can spray neem seed kernel extract 5%.

Sugarcane

In Coimbatore and Erode districts internode borer incidence was sporadically recorded. Hence farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid *Trichogramma* @ 6 cc / acre.

Cotton

In Tirunelveli, Dharmapuri, Salem and Coimbatore districts, sucking pests viz., leaf hopper was noticed. Hence, farmers are advised to setup yellow sticky trap (5/acre) to monitor the pest population and if needed farmers can spray neem seed kernel extract 5%.

Special forecast for sucking pests

Due to the continuous drought prevailing in many places in Tamilnadu, there is a possibility of flare up of sucking pests like papaya mealybug, spiraling whitefly attacking agricultural and horticultural crops, woolly aphid in sugarcane, aphids in pulses, hoppers and mealybugs in cotton.

Hence farmers are advised to monitor for movement of sucking pests by installing yellow sticky traps @ 5 / acre.

If any incidence is noted, farmers are requested to release parasitoids for managing this pest. For managing other sucking pests give NSKE 5% spray or use any neem formulations.

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

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