



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
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To  
The Editor,

Date: 18-4-2017

Sir,

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

### **Pest Forecast for the Month of April 2017**

#### **Rice**

Leaffolder and stemborer incidence are noticed in rice growing tracks. Hence, farmers are advised to spray neem seed kernel extract 5% along with sticking agent 2.5 ml/lit and also set up light traps (2.5/ha) to monitor the pest population. If needed spray either phosphamidon 40SL 562 ml/ha or profenofos 50EC 1000 ml/ha.

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.

#### **Cotton**

Cotton crops are at harvesting stage and the pink bollworm infestation may continue through stubles remained in the field. After harvested the field may be ploughed or cut the stems and burnt immediately including Bt cotton. If it is observed in the field, need based application of profenophos 50% EC @ 1500 ml/ha. or triazophos 40 EC 2500 ml/ha or quinalphos 25 EC @ 2000 ml/ha or thiodicarb 75% W.P. @ 1000 g/ha is recommended besides setting up pheromone traps to monitor the adult activity.

#### **Maize**

Sporadic incidence of stem borer was noticed in a irrigated maize. Farmers are advised to monitor the adult moths by setting up light traps and if needed farmers have to apply carbofuran 3 G 17 kg/ha by mixing with sand to make up a total quantity of 50 kg/ha in the leaf whorls.

#### **Tomato**

In tomato early blight, late blight and peanut bud necrosis virus incidence is expected during the season. The farmers are advised to spray mancozeb @ 2 g/lit of water, twice at weekly interval for the management of leaf spot. For the management of vector, the farmers are advised to spray dimethoate 30 EC @ 1 ml/l or methyl demeton 25 EC @ 1 ml/l along with neem oil @ 2 ml/l of water.

## **Chillies**

Leaf curl virus is expected during the season. Place 15 nos of Yellow sticky traps/ha and spray dimethoate 30 EC @ 1 ml/l or methyl demeton 25 EC @ 1 ml/l along with neem oil @ 2 ml/l of water.

## **Mango**

In mango, anthracnose is expected during the season. Spray carbendazim 0.1% or mancozeb @ 0.2% at flowering stage and at fruiting stage twice at 15 days interval.

## **Papaya**

In papaya, papaya ring spot virus is expected. For the management of the disease, the farmers are advised to raise two rows of maize as border crop one month prior to planting, place yellow sticky traps (12 nos. /ha) swabbed with grease or castor oil to attract the aphids, spray neem oil 1% or acephate 1.5 g/lit or imidacloprid 0.075% up to 4 months of planting, spray boron 0.1% and zinc sulphate 0.5 % in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> month to sustain yield of infected plants.

## **Sugarcane**

Borer pests were noticed in sugarcane. 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.

The woolly aphid incidence was also reported by farmers. Avoid using synthetic insecticides to conserve natural enemies to manage this pest.

## **Cashew**

Tea mosquito bug incidence was observed in Cuddalore district. Hence, farmers are advised to spray profenophos (0.05%) (or) chlorpyrifos (0.05%) at flowering stage.

## **Coconut**

Incidence of spiralling whitefly was noticed in coconut growing tracts particularly in pollachi. Insect predatory population were also found to co-occur with the whitefly. If required, the predators can be obtained from Department of Agricultural Entomology, TNAU, Coimbatore and released as an inoculative release.

### **Further contact:**

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