



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
O/o the Public Relations Officer
Coimbatore – 641 003

Dr. Venkata Pirabu, Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer &
Professor (Agrl. Extension)
Mobile: 94890 56730

Phone: 0422 - 6611302
Fax: 0422 – 2431821
E-mail: pro@tnau.ac.in

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 November 2014

Paddy

In Coimbatore, Erode, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur, Sivaganga, Thiruvarur, Tirunelveli, Villupuram and Salem districts, the incidence of leaf folder and stem borer was noticed. To manage this pest, set up light trap @ 1 / ha to attract and kill the adult moth. Spray neem seed kernel extract 5 per cent (or) if needed, spray any one of the following insecticides: phosalone 35 EC 1500 ml (or) phosphamidon 40 SL 600 ml or profenophos 50 EC 1000 ml / ha.

In Pudukkottai, Sivaganga, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Salem and Thiruchirapalli districts, thrips incidence was noticed in nursery. Hence, farmers are advised to spray neem seed kernel extract 5 per cent or phosphamidon 40 SL 50 ml or monocrotophos 36 SL 40 ml for 20 cent nursery area.

Apart from the above pests, there is a possibility for outbreak of paddy blast in Tamil Nadu. Hence, the farmers are advised to spray hexaconazole (2 g/lit.) twice at weekly intervals. Besides, foliar application of 0.2% *Pseudomonas fluorescens* at fortnightly interval is recommended to increase the yield.

Brown spot incidence was found in many rice growing district. Hence, farmers are advised to spray mancozeb (2.0g/lit) 2 to 3 times at 10 - 15 day intervals, based on the intensity of disease.

Cotton

In Dharmapuri, Villupuram and Salem districts jassid incidence was noticed, whereas in Theni district aphid incidence was recorded. Farmers are advised to set up yellow sticky trap @ 5 / acre for monitoring the sucking pests and to spray fish oil rosin soap at the rate of 1 kg in 40 lit of water. If the sucking pests incidence crosses ETL,

farmers can spray triazophos 40 EC 2.0 l (or) acephate 75 SP @ 1.30 kg or methyl demeton 25 EC @ 500 ml/ha.

In Tirunelveli District, pink boll worm incidence was noticed. Hence, farmers are advised to set up pheromone trap to monitor and kill the adults at the rate of 5 / acre. *Spodoptera* incidence was noticed in Bt cotton cultivars in Perambalur district. Farmers can spray chlorpyrifos 25 EC 2.0 l (or) phosalone 35 EC 2.5 l or carbaryl 50 WP 2.5 kg/ha for both pests.

Groundnut

In Erode, Tindivanam, Madurai, Sivaganga, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Salem districts, the leaf miner incidence was noticed. Hence, farmers are advised to setup light trap to monitor and to kill the adult moths and watch for the incidence of red hairy caterpillar. If needed, spray any one of the following insecticides: phosphamidon 40 SL 750 ml (or) chlorpyrifos 20 EC 1250 ml (or) phosalone 35 EC 750 ml/ha.

In Tindivanam and Pudukkottai districts, leaf spot incidence was noticed. To manage this disease, spray carbendazim 500 g (or) mancozeb 1000 g (or) chlorothalonil 1000 g/ha. If necessary give the second round 15 days later.

Sugarcane

In Coimbatore, Erode, Dharmapuri, Nagapattinam, Sivaganga, Villupuram, Salem and Tiruchirapalli districts, the internode borer incidence was noticed. Hence farmers are advised to release *Trichogramma* egg parasitoid @ 1 c.c / acre 6 times starting from 4th months onwards at 15 days interval.

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

Further details contact:

1. The Director,
Centre for Plant Protection Studies,
TNAU, Coimbatore – 641 003.
Phone No: 0422-6611237
2. The Professor and Head,
Department of Agrl. Entomology,
TNAU, Coimbatore – 641 003.
Phone No: 0422-6611214 / 6611414
3. The Professor and Head,
Department of Plant Pathology,
TNAU, Coimbatore – 641 003.
Phone No: 0422-6611226

Public Relations Officer