

## **PEST AND DISEASE FORECASTING FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2016**

### **Rice**

In Kanniyakumari, Ramanathapuram, Theni, Pudukkottai, Thirunelveli and Salem districts, leaf folder and stem borer incidence are noted in rice. Hence farmers are advised to set up light traps and if needed they can spray Neem seed Kernel extract 5% or cartap hydrochloride 50% SP @ 400 g/ac (or) chlorpyrifos 20% Ec @ 500 ml/ac.

Brown spot incidence was found in rice at Theni and Ramanathapuram, districts. Hence farmers are advised to spray Mancozeb 400-500 g/ac or Edifenphos 200 ml/ac - 2 to 3 times at 10 - 15 day intervals. Based on the intensity of disease.

Bacterial leaf blight incidence was found in rice at Ramanathapuram and Theni district. Hence farmers can take proper plant protection measures and spray copper hydroxide @ 500 g/ac.

### **Cotton**

In Tirunelveli and Virudhunagar districts, sucking pests *viz.*, jassids and thrips were noticed. Hence farmers are advised to monitor the sucking pests using yellow sticky traps. If needed spray NSKE 5 per cent (or) Imidacloprid 200 SL at 40 ml / acre (or) methyl demeton 25 EC 200 ml / acre (use 400 litre spray fluid / acre).

Cotton bollworm incidence was noticed in Theni, Salem and Virudhunagar districts. Hence the farmers are advised to setup pheromone traps @ 5 / ac to monitor the adult moth activity and if needed spray NSKE 5 per cent (or) phosalone 35 EC 600 ml / ac or chlorpyrifos 20 EC 800 ml/ac.

### **Sugarcane**

In Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Erode, Virudunagar and Salem districts, the borer pest complex was noticed below ETL. Dry weather is expected in the coming months hence farmers are advised to release the egg parasitoid,

*Trichogramma* from 4<sup>th</sup> month onwards at 15 days interval @ 1c.c/acre per release to manage the above pest.

### **Groundnut**

In Virudhachalam, Cuddalore, Virudhunagar, Theni and Pudukottai district leaf miner incidence is found to damage the crop. Farmers are advised to monitor leaf miner adults using light traps, if needed farmers can spray neem seed kernel extract at 5 per cent.

Tikka Leaf spot incidence was found in Salem and Ramanathapuram district. Hence farmers are advised to spray Carbendazim 200 g/ac or Mancozeb 400 g/ac or Chlorothalonil 400 g/ac.

### **Greengram / Blackgram**

Yellow mosaic virus is a serious problem in these crops. To suppress the vector causing the disease, dimethoate 20 EC – 200 ml / ac or methyl demeton 25 EC – 200 ml / ac can be used.

### **Vegetables**

#### **Tomato**

For the management of fruit borer in tomato, grow simultaneously 40 days old American tall marigold and 25 days old tomato seedlings @ 1:16 rows, Set up pheromone traps @ 12/ha and release *Trichogramma chilonis* @ 50,000/ha/ release, coinciding with flowering time. Based on ETL of 10% damage, spray *Bacillus thuringiensis* 2g/l or azadirachtin 1.0 % EC (10000 ppm) 2.0 ml/ l or indoxacarb 14.5 % SC 8 ml/10 l or flubendiamide 20 WG 5 g/10 l.

If serpentine leaf miner damage is noticed spray Neem Seed Kernel Extract 5% and for managing whitefly

1. Install yellow sticky traps @ 12 /ha to attract the adult.
2. Remove alternate weed host *Abutilon indicum*
3. Apply carbofuran 3 G @ 33 kg /ha at the time of planting or spray dimethoate 1 ml /lit.

#### **Bhendi:**

Yellow vein mosaic virus: Spray systemic insecticides like methyl demeton or imidacloprid 17.8 SL 2 ml/10 l or dimethoate @2 ml / l to kill the insect vector, whitefly.

#### **Chillies**

Fruit borer: Integrated pest management of fruit borer:

1. Set up pheromone traps for *Helicoverpa armigera* / *Spodoptera litura* @ 5 no. /ac.
2. Collection and destruction of damaged fruits and grown up caterpillars.
3. Spray *Bacillus thuringiensis* @ 2 g / lit.

**Papaya mealy bug:**

Tapioca, Papaya and mulberry farmers are advised to watch for the incidence of papaya mealybug *P.marginatus*. If any incidence is noted, farmers are requested to release parasitoids for managing this pest.

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

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