

Central Institute for Cotton Research

Second Weekly Advisory for Cotton Cultivation: 29th July to 4th August 2012

"The advisory is based on inputs received from the State Agricultural Universities of the respective states"

NORTH INDIA

Punjab

The cotton crop in the state is at square formation stage. Whitefly infestation has been noticed above ET level. If the infestation of white fly increases more than 6adults/leaf, then 600ml Trizophose 40EC or 800 ml Ethion 50 EC per acre may be sprayed. In Faridkot, whitefly incidence is high and is being managed with OPs (Ethion @800ml/acre; Triazophos @600ml/ac). Jassids have increased in numbers compared to the last week of 2-3/ 3 leaves. Prevailing dry weather & hot and humid conditions will continue favoring the insect pests. Irrigation can be done if dry conditions persist. CLCuD was found in traces to 95 % with 0-IVth grade severity on different hybrids. Check the vector whitefly and uproot the virus infected plants. Bacterial blight and fungal foliar leaf spots were observed in traces at farmers' fields. Weeds can be controlled with Paraquat at 500ml/acre or Glyphosate at 1L/acre in 100 L of water with protective hood to avoid drift on to cotton leaves.

Haryana

The cotton crop is in peak vegetative to early square phases. Weeding and inter-culture must be carried out and wherever basal dose has not been applied, fertilizer application after irrigation must be done immediately. To control spotted bollworm in *desi/American* cotton varieties, spray of 600 ml. Quinalphos 25 EC or Nimbecidene 1 lt./acre in 150-175 lt. of water is recommended. In root rot patches, soil drenching with carbendazim solution @ 2 g/L. water can further stop the spread of the disease. Leaf curl virus disease has been noticed in some parts of Hisar district. Nimbecidene @ 5 ml/l of water may be sprayed for the vector management to avoid further infestation. Weeds of *Sida* and *Abutilon* spp. must be removed around the fields, water channels and road side to check the whitefly population on alternate host of the virus/vector. If rains and cloudy conditions prevail over the week, it can trigger sucking pests and foliar diseases in cotton growing area of Haryana.

Rajasthan

The cotton crop in the regions of Sriganganagar & Hanumangarh is in the flowering stage. White fly attack is below ETI level. Attack of spotted bollworm in Desi Cotton can be managed by spraying Neem @1L/ac. The weather condition during next 4 days would be stable with scanty to heavy rains. Farmers are advised to complete sowing of kharif pulses. Advanced planted cotton and maize crops are in good condition for which the farmers are advised to have inter culture operations with urea top dressing.

CENTRAL INDIA

Madhya Pradesh

During last week about 80 mm rains were received at Khandwa. Weeding, interculture & fertilizer application are advised as per requirement. Drainage is advised in water logged fields otherwise the incidence of sucking pests specially jassids get increased. Incidence of jassids now crossing ETL & thrips incidence also started. Spray of Neem oil+ NSKE @1L/ac is recommended.

Gujarat

There has been scanty rains during the week in several areas of the state. Attack of jassids already started in some parts.

Maharashtra

In Nanded, infestation of jassids in pre-seasonal cotton (irrigated) is observed. Spray of systemic insecticide like Thiomethaxam 25 WG @ 3g is recommended. Top dressing of urea 30 kg N/ha should be applied after sowing, if not applied previously. Wilting of plants is reported in some pockets. Drenching of fungicide Carbendazim @ 25 g/10 lit. water may be done. Where plants are in stress condition, spraying of 2% KNO₃ should be undertaken. For rainfed cotton, if basal dose is not applied at sowing, it should be applied with dose of 48:60:60 NPK Kg/ha.

Germination and growth at Akola is satisfactory in monsoon cotton and in some pockets, resowing was taken where dry spell occurred after rains. Pre monsoon cotton was grown under drip system in some pocket of western region of Vidarbha where irrigation is available. It was noticed that 5 to 25 per cent of cotton plants (Bt Cotton) showed stunted growth and wilting that did not recover after application of fungicides and fertilizer mixture. Incidence of thrips was noticed in some fields. Due to continuous rains, farmers are advised to take intercultural operations; Fertilizer application immediately during rain free period is recommended. Wherever excess rain is there, it should be drained out from field immediately to avoid parawilt.

Odisha

The cotton crop is at four to five week stage. Hoeing and earthing up should be done for controlling weeds. Quizalofop-p-ethyl may be sprayed @ 50g/ha for controlling monocot weeds. First top dressing must be done with 25% N and 50% K₂O. There is incidence of alternaria blight and Bacterial leaf spot in some place. Mancozeb@2.5 g per one litre of water for Alternaria blight and Steptocycline@0.1g with copper oxychloride 2.5g per one litre water for bacterial leaf spot may be sprayed. 500 litre of these spray solution for one hectare area are to be sprayed. For reducing the jassid and aphid population, first spraying should be done with neem based pesticide @ 3 ml/litre of water.

SOUTH INDIA**Andhra Pradesh**

In Telangana region the crop is 10-40 days old. Further sowings are not advised in Telangana districts. Normal rainfall was recorded during the week and the crop is healthy. Low to moderate incidence of sucking pests (Jassids, Aphids) is observed. 1st split dose of fertilizers is recommended. In Coastal region crop is sown in 50% area and the crop is 10-20 days old.

Karnataka

Advised no sowing of Hy.cotton beyond July. Instead, Hy. Maize and sunflower crops are suggested as an alternate or contingent crops and sowing of these crops can be continued throughout August depending upon the rainfall conditions. Advised top dressing of cotton crop with 25 kg N/ha (i.e. 50 kg Urea/ha) as spot application and interculture the crop sown during June. Shoot weevil damage is observed in almost all cotton growing districts where the crop is at vegetative stage (30-45 days old). Advised spraying of Profenophos 50 EC @ 2 ml/lit + Dichlorovos 100 EC @ 2.0 ml/lit of water. Under unavoidable conditions it is suggested to hand pick the weevil during morning hours and to destroy.

In some parts of Dharwad district under cloudy and drizzling conditions, snails are damaging the cotton seedlings. As drizzling is forecast during next week also, it is advised spraying with 2% Metaldehyde (Snail kill) @ 12.5 kg/ha. It is to be applied at the hideouts of the snails, on the bunds and to the soil around the crop where the damage is seen. Under severe infestation, collect the snails manually from the surface of the soil/crop and destroy. Keep bunds clean and dust with 5% Malathion or Quinolphos.

In southern districts of the state the crop under protective irrigation which is at square formation and flowering stage is to be irrigated in alternate furrows to cover more area with the available water. Advised top dressing of the crop with 50 kg urea/ha (i.e. 25 kg N/ha) as last top dressing immediately. Foliar spray of 2% KNO₃ is suggested. In mirid bug prone areas of southern districts, it is suggested to have close monitoring of the insect in the crop which is at square formation stage and advised to take up control measures with spraying of Acephate 75 SP @ 1 g/lit of water. Sowing of desi cotton varieties (Jayadhar, DDHC-11 and RAHS-14) can be continued either as sole crop or as an intercrop in onion or chilli.

Tamil Nadu

In the summer irrigated zones of Tamil Nadu (Parts of Tirunelveli, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Madurai districts) picking of kapas is in progress. Minor level of American boll worm (*Helicoverpa*) and pink boll worm was noticed in the above areas. Dry windy weather is prevailing in winter irrigated as well as in winter rainfed tract of Tamil Nadu. Preparatory work for winter irrigated sowing is in progress.

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