

COTTON Innovate



Weekly Newsletter from Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

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A weekly newsletter from ICAR-CICR

“Cotton Mobile App” A device for cotton information

Dr S.M. Wasnik, CICR, Nagpur



Check mixtures before applying to crops



Pick your herbicides and nutrients

The word “app” is an abbreviation for application. An app is a piece of software which can run on the internet, on your computer, or on your smart phone any other electronic device. In cotton, Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidhyapeeth (VNMKV), Parbhani has created and prepared high-tech mobile and Web applications entitled ‘Kapus’- a ‘Cotton App’ in Marathi language for the smart phone users under ‘e- Kapas’ project to help cotton farmers manage their crops. As the use of new technologies for increasing the efficiency in communicating and decision-making is increasing the interest to users, an ‘e- Kapas’ initiative of CICR Nagpur for utilization of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for delivering appropriate cotton technologies to farmers was launched during 2012. Under the Technology Mission on Cotton-Mini Mission 1, a project entitled ‘e- Kapas Network and Technology Documentation’ was formulated for 18 co-operating centres with CICR Nagpur as the Lead Centre having the goal of providing the voice message services to all end users. Under the project Dr.Bhede and Co-workers from VNMKV, Parbhani has developed the cotton mobile app. The app provides information related to cotton cultivation the details of present cotton scenario, planning for cultivation, selection of Bt varieties, cotton sowing, seed treatment, nutrient management, weed management, water management, cotton growth management, pest management, disease management, picking and storage, management of lalya, high density planting system, etc.

Any farmer can download this application free of cost by searching “Cotton (Kapus) VNMKV, Parbhani” on Google Play Store. Maharashtra cotton growers can now use a smart phone or tablet anywhere – in the field, at home or on the other location – to manage everything from plant growth and irrigation scheduling to disease control and management of crop. The ‘Cotton (Kapus) App’ will not only help to the android mobile or smart phone users but also helpful to the extension personnel in transfer of the technology amongst the farmers to adopt cotton technologies and reap higher yields at reduced production costs.



Cotton Pest Survey

Dr S. K. Verma and Dr Satish K. Sain surveyed the cotton crop in District Sirsa, Bathinda and Faridkot on 26 July, 2016. During the survey they interacted with the farmers. The whitefly population at all the locations visited ranged between 1- 8 and was below ETL. At one location in Chormar (Sirsa), the population above ETL was also recorded and the farmers were advised to spray Flonicamid @80g/acre. At almost all the locations the population of leafhopper (jassids) was also recorded.

Dr Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist visited the Haryana and Punjab cotton area as a member of the committee constituted by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to review the status of whitefly in cotton, Dr. B.S. Phogat, Addl. Plant Protection Adviser was coordinator. The committee visited the various locations on 1-2 August and observed the whitefly scenario below ETL except few locations in Distt Fazilka. At some locations the leafhopper incidence was observed but it was below ETL.

Dr Rsihi Kumar and Dr Satish Kumar Sain visited village Rangari on 25 July, 2016 under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav to discuss about the pest management strategies against cotton pests including the bollworm management in Desi cotton. Beside this the pest management strategies for rice, moong and guar were also discussed. The demonstrations on integrated pest's management in Bt cotton were also visited.

Delhi Doordrashan (DD Kisan) Team visited CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa: **Meeting attended**

A team for Delhi Doordrashan (DD Kisan) visited CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa on 28.07.2016 to shoot a documentary on thrust areas of CICR, RS, Sirsa , good agricultural practices for cotton and IPM /IRM for pest management in cotton. Dr D. Monga, Head Central Institute for Cotton Research, Regional Station, Sirsa explained the thrust areas of the station, Dr R A Meena briefed about the Desi cotton varieties and hybrid seed production and Dr Rishi Kumar & Dr Satish Kumar explained the IPM/IRM strategies in the field.

Dr. D. Monga and Dr. Rishi Kumar attended Interstate Whitefly Consultative Committee Meeting to discuss the incidence of whitefly on 03.08.2016 at Abohar (Punjab). The meeting was chaired by V.C. PAU, Ludhiana and addressed by Director Agriculture, Punjab and JDA Cotton Punjab. In the meeting, the survey and incidence report of whitefly in the north zone and population dynamics of whitefly was presented. The overall situation of whitefly incidence is below ETL at almost all the locations except few locations in Fazilka Distt of Punjab.



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