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A weekly newsletter from ICAR-CICR

Survey and monitoring of Pink bollworm infestation on BG-II cotton hybrids in Wardha district of Maharashtra

A field visit was carried out by a team headed by Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Scientist (Entomology), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur; Mr Sujit Kumbhare T-1, Mr Ashish Bopche, Dr Prashant S. Umbarkar, PC KVK, Wardha and Dr Vidya Mankar, SAO, Wardha on dated 27th July, 2018 to survey and monitor pink bollworm infestation in Wardha district (Maharashtra). In district, cotton was sown in the first and second week of June and Pink bollworm moths recorded 3 - 32 moths/trap/week when at the age of cotton crop just 45-60 days. The pink bollworm infestations of 14.29 % were observed in flowers of BG-II hybrids that were sown as pre monsoon crop. Rosetting of flowers were noticed in early sown cotton crops (55 DAS old crop) in Nizampur village of Arvi Tahshil, Wardha (Maharashtra). PBW's larvae were observed inside the rosette



flowers and they were feeding within the floral parts like anthers, stigma and tender green bolls. In Bt cotton fields, the 3rd instars larvae (pink in colour) were noticed on feeding the dry anthers and entering tender green bolls. For the management of pink bollworms in flowers, farmers were spraying cocktail of different insecticides like Thiamethoxam, Emamectin benzoate and micronutrient mixture fertilizer (ZIB) at 50 days after sowing as directed by pesticides dealers. They also visited some of ginning mills in Arvi namely Rahul Cotton Fibre, Ashirwad Cotton, NM Agrawal, Prudhivivinayaka Ginning mills. All ginneries have installed pheromone traps and light traps around the ginneries. Some of ginneries have left waste cotton seeds and lint that will be act as a source of inoculums of pink bollworms.







Meetings / TV talk

- Dr Nandini Gokte-Narkhedkar and Dr V. S. Nagrare, Principal Scientist, CICR, Nagpur attended meeting on 7th July 2018 at Kadimbag, Nagpur on preparedness for pink bollworm management in the ensuing crop season. The meeting was chaired by Shri S. P. Singh, Agriculture commissioner, Dept. of Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra. In the meeting, all cotton growing divisions' joint director of Agriculture/ District Superintendent Agriculture Officers (DSAO) informed the cotton area sown and arrangement of input like pheromone traps and pesticides. Dr Narkhedkar and Dr Nagrare participated in the discussion and assured help and cooperation for technical guidance. Video on Pink bollworm management was also screened by CICR scientists. Higher officials from State Agril. department, representatives from input agencies such as seed, pesticide, pheromone traps, MAIDC etc. attended the meeting.
- Dr D. Monga, Head, ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa attended the first in house discussion with Quinquinial Review Team (QRT) Meeting at ICAR-CICR Nagpur on 21.08.2018. In this meeting, the action taken report on the recommendations of previous QRT were presented before the committee by the Director followed by discussion. The plan and program of visit of QRT members to north central and south zone was worked out.
- 'Sahyadri' Doordarshan channel telecasted show on 'Weather forecast and advisory by experts' under program Amchi Mati Amchi Manas. The show was telecasted on 13th July 2018. Dr V. S. Nagrare along with officials from state agri department and Meterological department participated.

Publication

Nagrare V.S., Naikwadi Bhausaheb, Deshmukh Vrushali and Kranthi S. (2018) Biology and population growth parameters of the cotton mealybug, Phenacoccus solenopsis Tinsley (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae), on five host plant species. Animal Biology, DOI 10.1163/15707563-17000080 (NAAS rating: 6.57)

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