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**F.No 3-6/2022-23/IPM/Advisory**  
**भारतसरकार/ Government of India**

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय / Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग / Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
वनस्पति संरक्षण, संगरोध एवं संग्रह निदेशालय / Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage  
एनएच4, फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) – 121 001/ NH-IV, Faridabad (Haryana) – 121 001

Dated: 12.07.2024

To

The Directors of Agriculture  
Punjab and Haryana

**Sub: Advisory on whitefly of cotton crop -reg.**

Sir,

It is to bring to your notice that incidence of Whitefly is reported in Chak Jandanwala village of Bathinda district of Punjab state. As whitefly infestations have consistently exceeded Economic Threshold Level (ETL) over the past few years. Keeping in view the current crop stage and prevailing weather conditions, it is crucial to issue preparatory advisories this year to prevent damage caused by whitefly in cotton. Important IPM practices for management of whitefly in cotton are listed below

- Regular pest surveillance on host crop including alternate hosts should be carried out through NPSS for timely management of whitefly.
- Eradicate alternate weed hosts to check the multiplication of whitefly.
- Balanced use of fertilizers & optimum use of irrigation.
- Farmers must be educated to identify, conserve and augment the natural enemies available in the cotton fields parasitoides like *Eretmocerus mundus*, *Encarsia formosa* and predators like Spiders, Syrphid fly, *Chrysoperla Zastrowi*, Lady bird beetle, Dragon and Damsel flies, Praying mantis, staphylenids, Predatory ants, bugs & wasps are helpful to suppress the white fly population.
- Use of yellow sticky traps @ 40 per acre during initial phase of the cotton crop to check the early infestation of whitefly.
- Use of 5% Neem Seed, Kemal Extract (NSKE) against white fly.
- Azadirachtin 0.15%, (Neem Seed Kernel Based EC) @ 2.5-5.0 l a.i per ha in 500-1000 litres of water or Azadirachtin 05.00% w/w Min. Neem Extract Concentrates in 750 litres of water per hectare could be used against whitefly.

- *Verticillium lecanii* 1.15%WP Strain - AS MEGH-VL Accession No- MCC-1028 (containing  $1 \times 10^8$  CFU/gm) could be used @ 2.5 kg/ha in 500 litres of water against whiteflies.
- Pesticides should be used as per label claim approved by the Registration Committee. A list of recommended biopesticides for whitefly of cotton is also available on website link .

[https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major\\_uses\\_of\\_pesticides\\_insecticides\\_bio\\_insecticides\\_as\\_on\\_31.03.2024.pdf](https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major_uses_of_pesticides_insecticides_bio_insecticides_as_on_31.03.2024.pdf) and recommended pesticides is available on website link [https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major\\_uses\\_of\\_pesticides\\_insecticides\\_as\\_on\\_31.03.2024.pdf](https://ppqs.gov.in/sites/default/files/major_uses_of_pesticides_insecticides_as_on_31.03.2024.pdf)

Further the following strategies should be adopted for spreading awareness among farmers

- Mobilization of extension functionaries at grass route level for regular local monitoring of pest status through NPSS and coordinate with CIPMC for advisory.
- Regular meetings of State Pest Surveillance and advisory unit and District Pest Surveillance and Advisory Unit may be conducted
- Awareness among farming community through newspapers, printing and electronic media, Kisan Gosthi, leaflet and pamphlets.
- The concerned officials at the district/ division/ block level may be advised to take the suitable plant protection measures.

The detailed information on pest incidence may also be sent to the directorate through email to [ppa@nic.in](mailto:ppa@nic.in) or [appa.ipm-dppqs@gov.in](mailto:appa.ipm-dppqs@gov.in) urgently to apprise the same to Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, MoA&FW.

Yours faithfully

Encl: as above

(Dr. J.P.Singh)

Plant Protection Adviser

**Copy for information:**

1. PPS to Additional Secretary (PP), DAC & FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi- I 10001
2. The Directors of Agriculture of other cotton growing states with the request to keep close watch on pest build up & take appropriate measures as indicated above
3. Officer In-charges, all CIPMCs of cotton growing states with directions to conduct regular survey in the area using NPSS and issue timely advisory in coordination with local SAU & ICAR institutes also to ensure and necessary follow-up with the state authorities.