

## **Proceedings of the Rythu Bharosa Training and Visit (T & V) Workshop for the Month of March 2022**

Rythu Bharosa Training and visit workshop was held through virtual mode for the Agriculture and line departments of West Godavari district on 05-03-2022. Dr. M. Ramabhadra Raju, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) introduced the scientific staff from RARS, Maruteru, KVK Undi, ARS, Peddapuram, ARS, Vijayarai and DAATTC, Undi to the group and later welcomed Sri. Ramakrishna, Deputy Director of Agriculture and all the ADA's to the virtual workshop.

Dr. G. Jogi Naidu, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Maruteru & President of the workshop heartily welcomed Deputy Director of Agriculture, members of Agriculture depts. and scientific staff of Godavari zone to the workshop. Dr G. Jogi Naidu discussed about progress of paddy transplantation during *rabi*. He requested the ADA's to discuss about pests and diseases, rodent management and problems regarding cultivation during current season and seek data regarding performance of minikits in rice.

Dr. T. Srinivas requested information on varietal distribution in *rabi*, details regarding MTU 1318-yield, marketability, price and farmers opinion etc.

### **Feedback on Crop Situation by Department of Agriculture, West Godavari district**

**Sri Rama Krishna, Deputy Director of Agriculture, West Godavari district** informed that crop is in tillering to panicle initiation stage. He requested the discussion in best management practices for major pests and diseases in paddy during *rabi* season.

**ADA, Maruteru:** MTU 1121 is the major variety cultivated. Pests and disease damage is below ETL. MTU 1318 in *kharif* sustained under cyclones also, performed well and farmers were satisfied with the performance of minikit variety.

**ADA, Akiveedu:** Total area under paddy in the division is 31127 ha. MTU 1121 is major rice variety in *rabi*. Zn deficiency is observed in some fields. Leaf folder and stem borer incidence is below ETL. Due to heavy rains during *kharif*, lodging of crop was observed in most of the paddy varieties. However yield of 20-25 bags/ac is obtained in non lodging MTU 1318. The minikit variety was purchased as common variety. In minikits, crop condition is satisfactory. Expressed that arrangements for procurement of MTU 1290 through e-crop booking would help farmers.

**ADA, Bhimadolu:** Paddy is cultivated in 7000 acres, increase in area is observed in comparison with previous year. Maize is cultivated in 12000 acres instead of actual 17000 acres, pulses in 500 acres instead of 4000 acres. The trend of cultivating paddy is increasing. Trend is gradually shifting towards monoculture of paddy. There is a need for policy decision to promote other crops. He requested for necessary measures to increased cultivation

**ADA, T. P. Gudem:** Paddy crop is in flowering to grain filling stage. Tikka disease in groundnut, leaf blight in maize, Maruca pod borer in pulses are observed in field. All the pests and diseases are below ETL.

**ADA, Narsapuram:** MTU 1121 is the major rice variety (80-85%) cultivated in *rabi*, MTU 1156 and MTU 1153 were cultivated in remaining area. Stem rot, leaf folder and stem borer incidence is observed which is below ETL. MTU 1318 in *khariif* condition is satisfactory

**ADA, Palakol:** Paddy is cultivated in 35000 acres, MTU 1121 being major variety (98%), followed by MTU 1153 and MTU 1156 in 2% area. Requested information on usage of nano urea.

**ADA, K R Puram:** Cultivated area under different crops is, maize -2844 acres, pulses-610 acres, chillies- 5973 acres and groundnut -1530 acres. Leaf blight is observed in maize. All the pests and disease incidence is below ETL in different crops. VBN-8 variety of blackgram is given under NFSM scheme; he requested the information on package of practices for VBN-8.

**ADA, Kovvur:** MTU 1121 being major variety (95% area) cultivated in paddy, Maize in 2906 ha, Tobacco in 4962 ha and Groundnut in 29 ha, sugarcane and pulses are cultivated in remaining area. Stem rot incidence in paddy, leaf blight and fall army worm incidence in maize, tikka leaf spot in groundnut are observed.

\* Assistant Directors of Agriculture from Tanuku, Bhimavaram, Eluru, Chintalapudi and Nidadavolu could not present information on the current status of crops during the workshop.

**KVK, Undi, Dr. N. Mallikarjuna Rao, Program Coordinator** has informed that pests and diseases in different crops as observed in the fields were below ETL.

**Mr. K. Phani Kumar, DAATTC, Eluru:** Leaf folder, Pink Stem borer and Brown planthopper (BPH) were observed in paddy fields. MTU 1318 condition is good in cyclone during *khariif*, but in normal conditions MTU 7029 is preferred by farmers. As VBN-8 is blackgram variety released from TNAU, its cultivation in AP should be discouraged and promoting ANGRAU released varieties is important.

### **Research Recommendations from Scientists of Godavari Zone**

**Dr. K. M. Dakshina Murthy, Principal Scientist (Agronomy):** Nitrogen recommendation for *rabi* is 72 kg/ac, 50 kg urea is applied as top dressing, replace it with nano urea. Using of both urea and nano urea at one time is not advisable. IFFCO nano urea is the only nano fertilizer approved by the Government of India and included in the fertilizer control order (FCO). It contains 4.0% total nitrogen (w/v) evenly dispersed in water, Nano nitrogen particle size varies from 20-50 nm. The recommended dose of nano urea per acre is 500 ml. mix 2.5 ml/L and spray on crop leaves at active growth stages. It is recommended to spray during maximum tillering stage and one top dressing can be avoided. It is recommended not to skip N applied through DAP or complex fertilizer at the basal stage. One dose of top dressed urea can be skipped. Further

research is under progress at RARS, Maruteru on NUE of nano urea and other plant uptake studies. P fertilizers and complex fertilizers should not be used in top dressing.

**Dr. T. Srinivas, Principal Scientist (Rice):** MTU 1121 is in panicle initiation stage, if there is water stress during grain hardening stage broken grains will be observed. Discourage use of excess N, only 2 doses should be applied. MTU 1318 is on par with MTU 7029 in field conditions. To control false smut in MTU 1318 spraying of propiconazole @ 1 ml/L at booting or panicle emergence stage is recommended. He requested to send information on minikits data at the earliest. As MTU 1290 is a minikit, it is difficult to procure it as a variety through e-crop booking. Blackgram variety VBN-8 is resistant to MYMV and is a product of TNAU, Tamil Nadu.

**Dr. M. Ramabhadra Raju, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology):** Stem rot and BLB were observed in paddy fields. Diagnosis of disease is important because 30-40% of reported damage is due to blackening of roots due to sulphide injury, not due to stem rot. Compared to BLB and sulphide injury, stem rot is less likely the cause of damage. Seed treatment with antibiotics will reduce BLB to some extent. To control stem rot spraying of Tebuconazole 25.9% EC @ 2 ml/L or 38.3% SC @ 1.5 ml/ L or Hexaconazole @ 2.0 ml/l, or Carbendazim @ 1 g/L is recommended at initiation of disease and subsequently second spray should be given at 10 days interval.

**Dr. A. Anand Kumar, Scientist (Entomology):** Incidence of BPH is in initial stage, it is favoured by increase in humidity. If BPH is 10-15/hill, then spraying is recommended. Application of Triflumezopyrim @ 94 ml/ac or dinotefuran 100 g/ac or pymetrozine 120 g/ac is recommended. Alternate use of these chemicals is advisable. Using of synthetics pyrethroids like profenophos, triazophos and quinolphos should be avoided as use will lead to resurgence of BPH. Spraying should be done after 11.00 am as BPH is active during that time.

**Ms. B. Anusha, Scientist (Entomology):** Community rodent campaigns will be organized for demonstration of poison baiting in rodent management. Primarily the campaigns will be organized in early planted areas followed by late planted areas. Burrows will be treated during demonstrations.

**Dr. G. Jogi Naidu, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Maruteru** in his concluding remarks informed all the ADA's that the farmers were spraying pesticides excessively even though there is no need. So, awareness regarding need based spraying should be given by DAATTC scientists, Agricultural Officers or other field observers. Promoting the nano urea can reduce the scarcity of urea. The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Dr. N. Srinivas, Senior Scientist (Entomology), RARS, Maruteru.

  
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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

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