

**SURVEY REPORT OF INSECT-PESTS OF COTTON IN HISAR, BHIWANI, JIND
FATEHABAD AND SIRSA DISTRICTS**

Survey period	Area surveyed
28.6.2016	Bichhpuri, Barwala, Badawad, Budayan, Badoda, Igrah, Bass, Kungar, Pur, Bawani Khera, Kulana
29.6.2016	Landhari, Kaliraman, Sadalpur, Sulikhera, Pilimandori, Bhattu Kalan, Darban Kalan, Panjuana, Panniwala Mota, Odhan

Twenty two fields of cotton were surveyed for the pest incidence in Hisar, Bhiwani, Jind, Fatehabad and Sirsa districts and following observations were recorded:

- Adults of whitefly were observed in all the cotton fields visited. Mean adult whitefly population per leaf ranged from 0.3 to 8.1. Adult whitefly population was below economic threshold (ET) (6-8 adults/leaf) in all the fields visited except in one field in village Bass (Hisar) where adult population was above ET (8.1 adults /leaf). Adult whitefly population was also recorded on moongbean (<1 adult/leaf) in village Sadalpur.
- Incidence of leafhopper was observed in all the fields. Mean leafhopper nymph and adult population ranged from 0.1-3.0/leaf. Population of leafhopper was above ET (2 nymphs and adults/leaf) in villages Barwala (2.7), Badawad (2.9), Badoda (3.0) and Landhri (2.1). Incidence of thrips was observed in traces.
- No incidence of mealybug was reported.

Predictions and suggestions:

- Farmers should monitor cotton crop for whitefly and leafhopper incidence on weekly basis and apply control measures only at ET.
- High activity of natural enemy, *Chrysoperla* sp., which feed on whitefly and leafhopper, was observed in all the cotton fields. Therefore, farmers should refrain from unnecessary insecticide application in order to conserve this beneficial insect.
- In the next fortnight, the leafhopper population on cotton may increase if rains occur frequently and mean relative humidity remains above 70 per cent. However, the whitefly population is likely to remain at low to moderate level. In case of long dry spell of 15 days or more, the population of whitefly may increase fast.
- In case, whitefly population crosses ET on cotton, initial sprays of nimbecidine 300 ppm @1 litre/acre in 200 litres of water may be given twice at five days interval.
- For the control of leafhopper in cotton, farmers are advised to apply 40ml imidacloprid (Confidor) 200SL or 40g thiamethoxam (Actara) 25WG in 120-150 litre of water/acre.
- The present weather conditions are also favourable for build-up of red hairy caterpillar. Therefore, wherever this pest is a problem, particularly in the sandy areas, recommended insecticides may be sprayed for its control.


Prof. & Head

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