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Weekly Report on Management of Important Cotton Pests on Alternate Host Plants in Cotton Districts

Management of Whitefly, Mealy Bug, Dusky Bug

Directorate General Pest Warning &
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Lahore

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Total Area Visited: Total 9302 km were surveyed in 14 districts while in case of ornamental plants 73 Kanals were surveyed. (Table I).

Dusky Cotton Bug: It was observed on 61 trees, 61 weeds and 12 ornamental plants in districts of Multan, Khanewal, Vehari, Lodhran, Sahiwal, Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar and R.Y.Khan. Farmers were advised to adopt plant protection measures as under;

1. Bury infested plants and weeds carefully.
2. Keep cotton sticks away from the water channels.
3. Keep field crops, vegetables, ornamental plants, orchards, field bunds and water channels free from weeds.
4. Eradicate weeds at their early stage.
5. Remove alternate host plants.
6. Use effective insecticides at recommended doses (Table 2).

Mealy Bug: It was observed in traces on 3 weeds and 3 ornamental plants in district Sahiwal, Bahawalpur and Bahawalnagar. Farmers should monitor its population on every host plant and adopt appropriate control measures in consultation with local field staff of Pest Warning or Extension Wings of Agriculture Department.

1. Apply Mineral Oil (diver) along with recommended insecticides on ornamental plants, field crops and vegetables for its effective control (Table 2).
2. Bury infested plants and weeds carefully.
3. Keep cotton sticks away from the water channels.
4. Keep field crops, vegetables, ornamental plants, orchards, field bunds and water channels free from weeds.
5. Eradicate weeds at their early stages.
6. Uproot carefully the mealy bug infested plants and bury them.
7. Prune the shrubs and trees infested with Mealy bug.

Whitefly: It was observed on 2 Tree and 8 weeds and 1 ornamental plants in district Khanewal³ and Bahawalpur. Farmers were recommended following measures on the spot;

1. Eradicate weeds which are acting as alternate host plants of Whitefly.
2. Motivate farmers to keep whitefly on alternate hosts at the lower ebb.
3. Avoid excessive use of Nitrogen in vegetables and other crops.
4. Install cards of green lacewing (*Chrysoperla* sp.) in the field crop as biological control agent. Farmers may get cards from Biological Control Labs of Agri. Extension Wing at Vehari, Sahiwal, Faisalabad, T.T.Singh, Jhang, M.Garh, Layyah, Pakpattan and Okara.
5. Apply pesticides as last resort as given in the table 2.

Table 2: Pesticides recommended against Dusky Bug, Mealy Bug and Whitefly of Cotton		
S#	Common Name	Dose/Acre
Dusky Cotton Bug		
1	Fipronyl	400 ML
2	Triazophos 40 EC	1000 ML
3	Lambda Cyhalothrin 2.5EC	330 ML
4	Bifenthrin 10 EC	300 ML
Mealy Bug		
1	Imidacloprid 70 WG/ SC	72 -75 GM
2	Dimethoate 40% + Diver (Mineral oil) 97%	200 + 1000 ML
3	Profenofos50 EC+ Diver (Mineral oil) 97%	200+1000 ML
4	Profenofos 50 EC	800 ML
5	Chlorpyrifos 40 EC	1000 ML
6	Chlorpyrifos 40 EC+ Diver (Mineraloil) 97%	200+1000 ML
7	Carbosulfan 20EC	500 ML
8	Methidathion 40 EC	400 ML
9	Methomyl 42SP	300 GM
10	Profenofos + Lambda 61.5 EC	500 ML
Whitefly		
1	Imidacloprid 70 WG/ SC	72 -75 G
2	Imidacloprid 20 SL	250 ML
3	Diafenthiuron 500 SC	250 ML
4	Buprofezin 25 WP	600 G
5	Acetamiprid 20 %SL	125 ML
6	Acetamiprid 20SP	125 G
7	Pyriproxyfen 10.8 SC	500 ML
8	Spirotetramate 240SC	125ML