



ICAR – KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

THIRUVANNAMALAI DISTRICT, TAMILNADU



Report on Diagnostic Field visit to Paddy armyworm affected fields

A technical team of KVK along with officials from State Department of Agriculture visited the armyworm (*Spodoptera mauritia*) affected paddy fields on 16.11.2017 at Vazhkudai and Echur villages of Cheyyar taluk in Thiruvannamalai district. The details are given below:

Team members :

1. Mr.N.R.Rameshraj, Senior Scientist and Head i/c , ICAR-KVK, Thiruvannamalai.
2. Mrs.Shanthi, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Anakavur, Thiruvannamalai dist.
3. Mr.P.Narayanan, SMS (Plant Protection), KVK Thiruvannamalai.
4. Mr.V.Suresh, SMS (Agricultural Extension), KVK Thiruvannamalai
5. Mr.P.Rajesh, SMS (Agronomy), KVK Thiruvannamalai
6. Selvi.B.Karthikayni. Agriculture Officer, Cheyyar, Thiruvannamalai.

Problems identified

- The armyworm outbreak approximately spread in about 200 acres in Cheyyar taluk of Thiruvannamalai district. The crop is nearing harvesting stage.
- The larvae cut the panicle and defoliated the plants by feeding on leaves causing severe damage to crop.
- It was reported by farmers that in severe cases the yield loss went upto 80%.
- The larvae appear in the field in large numbers, eat away the plants and move to adjacent fields like an army.
- It was noticed that the number of larvae per hill of paddy in affected fields were around four to six.
- The larva living inside the soil during morning hours and they come up only in the evening.

Recommendation given to farmers.

- Spraying of Chlorpyrifos 20% EC @ 500 ml/acre or 2.5 ml/lit of water during the evening hours.

Steps taken for the wide dissemination of information

- The technical information on management of armyworm were sent to 18902 farmers of the Thiruvannamalai district through Kisan Mobile Advisory service.
- A special coverage on the pest outbreak was telecasted in the Polimer News channel on 16.11.2017 and news was also published in daily news papers.

- The information on the pest outbreak and management measures has been uploaded in the KVK's website and KVK portal.

KVK Thiruvannamalai-Joint Diagnostic field visit to paddy armyworm affected area



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