

Theilai

July 2017 (Monthly advisory note for Anamallais planters)

UPASI TEA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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WEATHER: The rainfall received at TRI during June 2017 was higher by 50.4 mm compared to the same period during the previous year. Weather data recorded in June 2017 at the TRF observatory are given below, along with the corresponding figures for June 2016.

Year	Total Rainfall	Mean Sunshine	Mean Temperature °C		Mean Relative Humidity % at		Mean Evaporation	Wind speed
	mm	hr/day	Max.	Min.	08.30	14.30	mm/day	km/hr
2017	694.0	1.26	23.7	18.7	94	82	-	0
2016	643.6	0.55	23.2	17.7	94	88	1.7	0

CULTURAL PRACTICES

Nursery: Due to the prevailing humid weather over head shade is recommended to be adjusted to avoid too much of shade. Fungicide application such as Indofil M 45 to be continued @ 30 g in 10 L of water using a rose can twice in a week to prevent die back disease.

Young tea: Soil conservation measures such as mulching, provision of staggered trenches and drains to be taken up due to high intensity of rainfall.

Mature tea: In shear harvested fields application of Indofil M 45 @ 30 g in 10 L of water is recommended for the prevention of die back disease.

Fertilizer application: Estates which could not complete the second split application of NK may apply one split application of urea based NK fertilizer when there is a break in monsoon. The N: K₂O ratio may be decided based on pruning height during the pruned fields and in other fields the N: K₂O ratio could be 4:3 or 1:1 depending on the anticipated yield of the concerned field.

Pest control: The population of tea mosquito should be monitored regularly and if the average infestation is above 5% immediate control measures must be done soon after plucking with a follow up round at 7-10 days interval. The interval may be extended to fifteen days if the attack is mild. The following insecticides

can be used for the control of tea mosquito. 1. Quinalphos 25 EC @ 1000 ml/ha, 2. Thiamethoxam 25 WDG @ 100-125 g/ha, 3. Deltamethrin 2.8 EC @ 500 ml/ha, 4. Thiacloprid 240 SC @ 500 ml/ha, 5. Clothianidin 50 WDG @ 80 g/ha and 6. Alike @ 150ml/ha. Keeping the field free from weeds is the most important measure to minimize the tea mosquito infestation. Removing the bare stalks while plucking will destroy the eggs of tea mosquitoes.

Mild incidence of Red spider mite is noticed in some estates. The population should be monitored and spraying should be done with the recommended acaricides.

Blister blight: In the prevailing weather condition, spraying operations should be commenced immediately. Pruned fields should get priority in control measures. Regular assessments of infection will greatly help in planning the control strategies. The spray equipments should be checked for their discharge rate and trouble free running and wherever necessary, the defective sprayers may be replaced with new ones. During spraying, precautions/safety measures should be strictly followed.

Fungicide schedule for the month of July

a) Blister blight

Schedule	Dosage per hectare*	Spray interval (days)
Fields under plucking		
Hexaconazole + copper oxychloride	200ml + 210g	7
Propiconazole + copper oxychloride	125ml + 210g	7
Fields recovering from pruning		
Hexaconazole + copper oxychloride	200ml + 210g	5
Propiconazole + copper oxychloride	125ml + 210g	5

*Add 0.05% of any non-ionic wetting agent which is certified by UPASI TRF

Grey blight control: If grey blight/die back disease are noticed during this month. Companion (Carbendazim 12% + Mancozeb 63%) at 20g in 10 L of water to be sprayed at 10-15 days interval using hand operated knapsack sprayers may be used for the control of the above disease.

Weed control: Manual weed control to be carried out to remove the creeper weeds.

