ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal

Advisory (January 01-15, 2024) for Sowings and other practices across zones of India Crop Season 2023-24

Based on the input from wheat researchers and IMD regarding precipitation and temperature forecast in the forthcoming days, following advisories are issued for different states and zones: Early flowering:

There are reports that in some areas under certain varieties, the flag leaf is appearing and showing sign of early heading (flowering). It is advised to the farmers not to spray any chemical on crop and try to irrigate the field and apply light nitrogen dose.

Suitable very late sowing varieties:

In the Northern India due to late harvesting of sugar cane, cotton, Rice, mustered and potato some farmers are planting wheat very late. The suitable varieties for very late are HD 3271, HI 1621, HD 2851, WR 544.

Seed rate (late sown):

Under very late wheat, sowing should be done using 50 kg/acre seed rate at a row spacing of 18 cm. Fertilizer dose:

Application of Nitrogen dose should be completed up to 40-45 days after sowing. Apply urea just before irrigation.

Weed management (Herbicide Spray):

- To control narrow leaf weeds in wheat, apply Clodinafop 15 WP @ 160 gm per acre or Pinoxaden 5 EC @ 400 ml per acre. To control broad leaf weeds, spray 2,4-D 500 ml/acre or Metsulfuron 20 WP at 8 grams per acre or Carfentrazone 40 DF at 20 g/acre.
- If there are both narrow and broad leaf weeds in wheat field then use Sulfosulfuron 75 WG @ 13.5 gm/acre or Sulfosulfuron+Metsulfuron at 16 gm/acre in 120-150liters of water before the first irrigation or 10-15 days after irrigation.
- For control of multiple herbicide resistant Phalaris minor (Kanaki/Gulli Danda), spray Pyroxasulfone 85 WG at the rate of 60 grams/acre 0-3 days after sowing or Spray ready mix combination of Clodinafop + Metribuzin 12+42% WP at 200 g/acre at 10-15 days after first irrigation using 120-150 lit of water.

Advisory for Yellow Rust:

Keeping in view the favorable humid weather for rust, farmers are advised to visit their crop regularly for observing stripe rust (yellow rust) incidence. If farmers observe yellow rust in their wheat fields, following measures are recommended:

- One spray of Propiconazole 25EC @ 0.1 per cent or Tebuconazole 50 % + Trifloxystrobin 25 % WG @ 0.06% be given at the infection area to avoid its further spread.
- One ml of chemical should be mixed in one litre water and thus 200 ml of fungicide mixed with 200 L of water should be sprayed in one acre wheat crop.
- Farmers who have applied one type of fungicide previous year, it is suggested to apply alternate recommended fungicide this year.

Farmers should spray the crop when weather is clear i. e. no rain, no fog / dew etc.

Advisory for Pink Borer:

It has been observed in areas particularly where paddy, maize, cotton, sugarcane are grown, pink borer attack occurs.

Symptoms of damage: The wheat crop is mainly damaged by caterpillars. The caterpillar enters the stem and eats the tissues. Due to this, dead hearts are formed in the stem in the initial stage of the crop. Affected plants turn yellow and can be easily uprooted. When the plants are uprooted, pink colored caterpillars can be seen on their lower veins.

Pest management:

- Hand picking of infested tillers and their destruction reduces borer attack.
- To avoid the infestation, use of nitrogen fertilizers in split doses is advised.
- If infestation is more, spray of 1000 ml quinalphos 25%EC in 500 liters of water per ha. be applied.

Weather: Jan 01-15, 2024

No major Rainfall is likely to occur during this period in North, North East and Central India. The Temperature during the week will be normal but may be above normal in the second week.

(Gyanendra Director