

Weeds in paddy field

Farmers are bothered with various types of weeds, grasses and non-grasses, in the upland paddy fields where the crop is usually sown direct. They can control the weeds of the grass type by spraying D.P.A. (3,4-dichloropropionalide) at three litres of the active ingredient in 500 litres of water per hectare on a three-week-old crop. If there be broad-leaved weeds also in the upland paddy field, they can be controlled with a spray of MCPA at 2 kg. acid equivalent per hectare two weeks after spraying D.P.A.

When the land has been prepared well and clean before transplanting, weeds will not be a big problem in wet land paddy fields. Some broad-leaved weeds may still be there, and these can be put down by spraying MCPA a month after transplanting. If any grass weeds still persist, these can be trampled down or weeded out by working a

rotary weeder, a week after the application of MCPA.

Weeds in wheat field

During rabi, farmers will have to be careful not to allow weeds rob them of bumper wheat yields. Grasses usually do not bother the wheat crop, if the land has been well prepared. But if non-grass weeds occur, a spray of 2, 4-D sodium salt (1 kg. acid equivalent sodium salt in 600 litres of water) when the wheat plants put forth 4 to 5 leaves will see the end of these. The weedicide is best sprayed after the crop has been irrigated.

If, however, the crop of wheat has been raised mixed with crops like gram, mustard, linseed, etc., 2, 4-D cannot be sprayed, as it will harm other crops. In such a case it is better to use a hand hoe to weed the grasses out.

Control Sugar Cane Mosaic

Sugar cane mosaic disease shows as light-yellow elongated stripes on

leaves of infected sugar cane. Leaves appear covered with spots and blotches. Sunken, dead areas or cankers may appear on the stalks of canes susceptible to mosaic. Plants become stunted and leaves lose their green colour.

Sugar cane mosaic is caused by a virus transmitted by aphids. The virus is also carried in infected stalks and cuttings used for propagation.

Here are some way you can control sugar cane mosaic:

Select carefully cane points for planting. Choose only those points free from mosaic disease. Inspect your nurseries regularly. If you notice any sign of mosaic, remove all infected plants and burn them.

Plant resistant varieties of sugar cane. Spray with some of the more common insecticides to control aphids. Uproot and burn all infected plants in your field.



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