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## Agro-advisory to Farming Community of Jute and Allied Fibres (15-21<sup>st</sup> April, 2020)

### I. Likely weather in the coming week in jute growing states

State/Agroclimatic Zone/Region	Weather Forecast
<b>Gangetic West Bengal</b> (Murshidabad, Nadia, Hoogly, Howrah, North 24-Prganas, Purba Burdwan, Paschim Burdwan, South 24-Parganas, Bankura, Birbhum)	Trace to light rainfall is expected in next 5 days. Maximum temperature is expected to be around 33-41°C, and minimum temperature of around 24-26°C.
<b>Sub-Himalayan West Bengal</b> (Cooch Behar, Alipurduwar, Jalpaiguri, North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur and Malda)	Light to heavy rainfall is expected in next 5 days. Maximum temperature ( $T_{max}$ ) is expected to be around 27-33°C, & minimum temperature ( $T_{min}$ ) of around 18-21°C. In Malda - $T_{max}$ will be 34-38°C and $T_{min}$ of 24-25°C.
<b>Assam:</b> Central Brahmaputra Valley Zone (Marigaon, Nagaon)	Light to medium rain (upto 20 mm)/thunder showers are very likely to occur. Maximum temperature is expected to be around 24-34°C, minimum temperature of around 17-21°C.
<b>Assam:</b> Lower Brahmaputra Valley Zone (Goalpara, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Baongaigaon, Barpeta, Nalbari, Kamrup, Baksa, Chirang)	Heavy rain/thunder showers are very likely to occur. Maximum temperature is expected to be around 27-32°C, minimum temperature of around 17-21°C.
<b>Bihar:</b> Agro-climatic Zone II (Northern East, (Purnea, Katihar, Saharsa, Supaul, Madhepura, Khagaria, Araria, Kishanganj)	No/Trace to light rainfall is expected. Maximum temperature is expected to be around 31-38°C, minimum temperature of around 20-24°C.
<b>Odisha:</b> North Eastern Coastal Plain (Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur)	Light rain is expected. Maximum temperature is expected to be around 35-39°C, minimum temperature of around 24-26°C.
<b>Odisha:</b> North East and South Eastern Coastal Plains Region: Kendrapara, Khurda, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Nayagarh, parts of Cuttack, and parts of Ganjam	No to trace rain is expected. Maximum temperature is expected to be around 33-37°C, minimum temperature of around 24-26°C.

Source: IMD (<https://mausam.imd.gov.in/>) and weather.com



## II. Agro-advisory

### 1. Those farmers have not yet sown

- They are suggested to complete the land preparation and sow immediately utilizing Norwester rainfall". To get good yield and quality fibre, use JRO 204 (Suren) variety of jute seed and treat the seed with Bavistin 50 WP or Carbendazim (2g per kg seed), at least 4 hours before sowing.
- Sowing should be done in line through CRIJAF Multirow seed drill machine and required seed rate will be only 350 - 400 gm / bigha.; Line sowing with row spacing of 20-25 cm and sowing at depth of 3 cm are recommended. In case of extreme emergency and non-availability of Seed Drill machine, broadcasting of the seed with maximum seed rate of 800 g / bigha ( 6.0 kg / ha) followed by weeding operation with CRIJAF Nail Weeder strictly is recommended for maintaining the proper spacing ( plant- to- plant & row –to- row). Laddering of field after sowing which will act as dust mulch for conservation of soil moisture which will be helpful for better germination of seed.
- For medium and high fertility land , the recommended fertilizer will be N: P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> : K<sub>2</sub>O : : 60:30:30 kg / ha. For low fertility land it will be 80:40:40 kg / ha. Nitrogen needs to be applied in 2-3 spilt dose. However phosphorus and potash should be applied as basal. tFarmer can also refer Soil Health Card for actual NPK application as per their soil test

### 2. Those who already completed sowing

- They should use CRIJAF Nail Weeder at 5 - 8 days after emergence with irrigation for composite weed control and soil moisture conservation. Similarly, CRIJAF Single wheel weeder should be used at later stage at 15 - 20 days after emergence.
- For simultaneous weed control, thinning and line arrangement in broadcast jute, operate CRIJAF nail weeder at 4 to 7 days after sowing keeping 10 cm gaps in-between successive runs.
- For post emergence grass weed control, spray Quizalofop ethyl 5 EC @ 1.0 ml/lit of water at 8-10 days after sowing and 1.5 ml/lit at 15 days after sowing.
- The farmers are advised to be vigilant on the infestation of indigo caterpillar particularly in the newly emerged seedlings which are cut from the ground level. The infestation will be more after rain or irrigation. The larva hides below the clods in the base of the plant. For control of indigo caterpillar, Chlorpyrifos 20EC @ 2ml/l may be sprayed in the afternoon. Repeat it at 8 - 10 days interval, if the problem persists.

3. **In the area where moderate** rainfall is predicted, wait for applying irrigation to the crop. In case drought type of situation prevails after sowing, sprinkling of irrigation water can be done. Thinning of excess jute plants should be done at 2 - 3 weeks after emergence. One nail weeding is to be done between the rows after completion of thinning.

### III. Crop growth stage and application of Agro-advisory



For one bigha land 80 litre water required for spray in both the cases



Spray of Pretilachlor 50 EC @ 3ml / lit after 48 hours of sowing with irrigation to control weeds or Butachlor 50EC @ 4ml/lit of water just after 48 hours of sowing, but irrigation is not needed.

For post emergence grass weed control, spray Targa Super (Quizalofop ethyl) 5 EC @ 1.0 ml/lit of water at 8-10 days after sowing and 1.5 ml/lit at 15 days after sowing



Use CRIJAF Nail Weeder at 5 and 8 days after emergence. Apply scrapper after 21 DAS



Use CRIJAF Single wheel weeder at 15 - 20 days after emergence



At 5 – 10 cm height of seedling, farmers are advised to be vigilant on the infestation of indigo caterpillar particularly in the newly emerged seedlings which are cut from the ground level. The infestation will be more after rain or irrigation. The larva hides below the clods in the base of the plant. For control of indigo caterpillar, Chlorpyrifos 20EC @ 2ml/l may be sprayed in the afternoon. Repeat it at 8 - 10 days interval, if the problem persists.



#### **IV. Safety and preventive measures to be taken to prevent spread of COVID-19 virus**

- 1) Farmers should follow social distancing, safety measures and to maintain personal hygiene by washing hands with soap, wearing of face mask and protective clothing at each and every step in the entire process of field operations like land preparation, sowing, weeding, irrigation.
- 2) Prefer sowing operations by CRIJAF seed drill over the broadcasting wherever feasible. Also stagger the field operations wherever possible and avoid engaging more number of persons for sowing and land preparation on the same day.
- 3) Proper sanitation and cleanliness of machine like seed drill, nail weeder, irrigation pump, tilling equipment, tractor etc. are to be maintained especially when machines are shared and used by farmer groups.
- 4) Also maintain safe distance of 3-4 feet during rest, taking of meals, seed treatment at home, loading/unloading of manures and fertilisers.
- 5) Engage only familiar persons to the extent possible and after reasonable enquiry as to avoid the entry of any suspect or likely carrier during field activity.
- 6) Collect the seed, fertilizer, pesticides and other inputs from known shop and after returning from market immediately wash your hands and exposed parts of the body. Always use face masks while going market for seed purchase.