ADVISORY for the month of May 2025 for the management of apple foliar diseases

Department of Plant Pathology

Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry Nauni, Solan-Himachal Pradesh

As there are wide spread hailstorms and intermittent rains during last week and this week, the epidemiological conditions (temperature, humidity and wetness) were congenial for occurrence and spread of leaf blight and other leaf spots in apple and other fruit crops. In the orchards where these diseases were prevailing during last year, the spray of fungicides as per spray schedule given by the Directorate of Horticulture and the University should be followed. Farmers are advised to continuously monitor the status of these leaf spots/blights and need based application of fungicides should be done as per the recommendations in the spray schedule. However, the following advisory is issued to the farmers:

- For the hail damage: Spray 100 gm carbendazim or 600 gm mancozeb in 200 L of water immediately after hail. OR Spray 200 gm Boric acid + 500 gm Zinc Sulphate + 250 gm Quick lime in 200 L of water within 3-4 days of hail storm. OR After 10 to 12 days, a spray of micro-nutrients like Agromin, Multiplex or Microvit @ 400 to 600 g per 200 L of water is also recommended. Spray the hail affected apple orchard with 1 kg Urea in 200L of water.
- For the management of leaf spots /blight, the farmers are advised to spray, if the need be of mancozeb (600gm / 200L of water) as the protectant application. However, where these spots / blights are observed, the farmers are advised to spray alternatively the formulations consisting of, hexaconazole 4% + zineb 68% WP (500gm / 200L of water) or carbendazim 25% + flusilazole 12.5% SC (160ml/200L of water) at 10-12 days interval in the infected orchards.
- Do not mix any pesticide/chemical/micro-nutrient/growth regulator/hormone with the recommended pesticides to avoid phytotoxic effects, russeting and other disorders. When necessary, these may be sprayed separately.

Farmers are also advised to report the symptoms of the diseases with photographs and queries, if any on hodmpp2014@gmail.com.

Professor & Head

Professor and Head Deptt. of Plant Pathology Dr. Y.S.P. UHF, Nauni, Solan-173