

Plant Protection

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1. Rodent Control Programme

In Andhra Pradesh, Rodent pests are one of the important non-insect pests of agricultural crops, particularly in Rice. In the coastal districts of Guntur, Krishna, East Godavari, West Godavari and SPSR Nellore where paddy crop is grown throughout the year followed by summer pulses and thus the environment is congenial for rodent breeding. Every year due to cyclonic rains in delta mandals, the spoiled paddy in the inundated areas/field provide ecologically favorable condition for rodents. Hence in coastal areas rodent problem is very high resulting in heavy yield losses. Continuous implementation of this programme for the last three years in Andhra Pradesh, the rodent menace was reduced and resulted in incremental productivity of 5-7 quintals per ha.

Rodents damage the Rice crop right from the nursery stage to harvesting of the crop, however maximum damage is more pronounced from the panicle initiation stage. The estimated loss due to rodent infestation in rice is 5 to 10 percent.

Objective:

The main objective of implementing Rodent Control Programme is aimed at reduction of yield losses due to rodents and also to produce quality food grain.

This programme is implemented from June to October during Kharif season and November to March during Rabi season.

Benefits:

The proposed area to be treated is 14.48 lakh ha during 2018-19. Paddy grain losses to a tune of 5 - 8 Quintals per ha can be saved due to the implementation of the programme.

Guidelines for implementation of Rodent Control Programme during the year 2018-19

- The Rodent Control Campaign has to be started in one or more villages on the stipulated date and it should be continued in all villages of the mandals and should be completed on the same day without fail.
- Poison Bait should be prepared preferably at a common place in the villages in stipulated time and made available to the farmers at that place.
- Farmers should contribute the bait material and meet the operational costs.
- Poison baits shall be distributed to all the farmers as per the area requirement.
- The Rodenticide treatment has to cover the cropped area, common sites, roads, canals, drain bunds, barren lands, waste lands etc.. Treatment has to be taken up in all the areas simultaneously.



- The Gram Panchayats should bear the cost of bait material and operational charges required to treat the waste lands and other Government lands etc(no man lands).
- The programme has to be organized on community approach considering village as a unit.
- Co-ordination and motivation of all institutional agencies at village level for mass campaign on Rodent control
- Rodent Control campaign is proposed to be organized in 5 Districts i.e East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur and SPSR Nellore districts.
- The programme will be implemented on whole village basis by involving all farmers in the village to implement the programme on the same day to achieve higher rate of Rodent control.
- The programme will be implemented not only in Rice fields but also in barren lands.

District wise Physical & Financial targets

During 2018-19, it is proposed to implement the programme in five Districts viz. East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur and SPSR Nellore with an **estimated budget of Rs 179.32 lakhs** to cover an **area of 14.48 lakh ha** under RKVY-RAFTAAR. The details are given bellow

District wise allocation of Physical & Financial targets for 2018-19

ANNEXURE -I

District wise allocation of Physical & Financial targets for 2018-19

Sl.No.	District	Proposed Targets					
		Physical Area to be treated(in lakh ha)		Financial Requirement(Rs in Lakhs)			
		Kharif	Rabi	Gen (76.77%)	SCP (17.36%)	TSP (5.85%)	Total
1	Krishna	2.41	0	23.160	5.237	1.765	30.168
2	Guntur	1.78	0	17.357	3.926	1.325	22.608
3	East Godavari	2.53	1.81	41.926	9.481	3.195	54.612
4	West Godavari	2.59	1.85	40.297	9.112	3.071	52.490
5	S.P.S.R.Nellore	0	1.51	14.924	3.375	1.137	19.440
Total		9.31	5.17	137.66	31.13	10.49	179.32

Subsidy pattern

Under this programme the Rodenticide chemical, Bromadiolone (0.25 percent CB) shall be distributed to the schedule caste, schedule tribe and general farmers on 100% subsidy @ 8 to 10 gm/ha depending on the severity of rodent infestation and the whole village area is proposed to be covered. The farmers have to use their own bait material (broken rice & vegetable oil) for mixing with the rodenticide chemical, Bromadiolone chemical (0.25%CB) mixed with bait material is placed in the rodent burrows. In this Programme, Bromadiolone (0.25%CB) chemical is distributed to the farmers on free of cost and the entire area in the village is covered.

Budget Source: RKVY-RAFTAAR

2. Strengthening and Establishment of Pesticide Testing Laboratories

Agricultural chemicals including pesticides are widely used to increase the crop production by controlling pests, diseases and weeds. To monitor the quality of pesticides and ensure availability of good quality of pesticides to farmers, more number of samples are to be drawn and analyzed. Hence, the quality of pesticides has to be assessed before its use by the farmers. The Pesticide testing laboratories are to be equipped with latest sophisticated equipment and the equipment needs regular maintenance and servicing as new generation molecules are released into the market every year.



Objective

- ❖ The main objective of the Project is timely analysis of pesticides samples and communication of analytical reports to Insecticide Inspectors for regulation of spurious pesticides in the market.
- ❖ To ensure the availability of good quality pesticides / bio- pesticides to the farming community.
- ❖ To reduce the indiscriminate and non-judicious use of chemical pesticides in agriculture by regularly assessing and creating awareness on the pesticide residues present in the food products.
- ❖ To identify hazardous pesticide molecules and spurious bio-products.

Expected benefits/outcome

- ❖ Quality of pesticides and Bio-Pesticides can be assessed by regular analysis of samples.
- ❖ Analytical reports help quality control inspectors for regulation of spurious pesticides in the market.
- ❖ Providing information on spurious pesticides to farming community.

Target

In Andhra Pradesh, Five Pesticide Testing Laboratories are functioning to analyze the samples. During 2018-19, the target is fixed as 5270 samples which is as detailed below.

PTL wise pesticide samples targeted for the year 2018-19

ANNEXURE -II

S. No	Name of the Laboratory	No of Pesticide samples to be analysed
1	PTL, Ananthapuramu	1200
2	PTL, Kurnool	820
3	PTL, Guntur	1540
4	PTL, Tadepalligudem W.G	1000
5	PTL, Visakhapatnam	710
Total		5270