

Efficacy of Defoliant in American Cotton

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ABSTRACT

An experiment was conducted at Agricultural College, Bapatla to know the effect of different defoliant and their time of application on High Density Planting American Cotton (HDPS). It was carried out with Suraj variety, for two consecutive years during 2018 and 2019 in split plot design with four replications. Three defoliant, Dropp Ultra @ 250 ml ha⁻¹ (D₁), Mepiquat chloride @ 100 ml ha⁻¹ (D₂) and Etherel @ 3000 ppm (D₃) assigned as main plots and three times of applications 80 % Boll Opening (T₁), Node Above Cracked Boll (NACB) and Node Above White Flower (NAWF) assigned as sub plots. Results indicated that highest defoliation percent and Boll Opening were noticed with Dropp Ultra @ 250 ml ha⁻¹ (D₁) and 80 % Boll Opening (T₁), which was comparable to Node Above Cracked Boll (NACB-T₂) in defoliation percentage. Highest seed cotton yield was obtained with application of Dropp Ultra @ 250 ml ha⁻¹ and found on par with Etherel @ 3000 ppm (D₃) and when sprayed at 80 % Boll Opening, which was found at par with Node Above Cracked Boll (NACB) stage.

Keywords: *Cotton, Boll open percent, Defoliant, Time of application and Yield.*