High density planting cotton variety 'Suraj' response to harvest-aid defoliants K Mrunalini, M Sree Rekha, V R K Murthy and K Jayalalitha

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted during *kharif* 2016 to determine the effect of harvest-aid defoliants on boll opening percentage (BOP) and yield of cotton. Defoliation @ 60 BOP with Etherel @ 2000 ppm resulted in higher number of picked bolls plant⁻¹ and boll opening percentage. Seed cotton yield (2359 kg ha⁻¹)also higher with Etherel @ 2000 ppm. Dropp Ultra 540 SC (Thidiazuron 360 + Diuron 180) @ 200 ml/ha recorded significantly higher leaf defoliation (99.7 %) and was superior over other defoliants tried.

Key words: Boll opening percentage, Defoliants, Seed cotton yield.