

# Agriculture Ministry Issues Directives to the States to Check the Adverse Affect of White Fly on Cotton

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INVC NEWS New Delhi, Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry has issued extensive directives to the States producing cotton to check the adverse affect of white fly on cotton. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has given these directives in view the likely menace to the crop of cotton in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan from white fly. White fly had inflicted tremendous damage to cotton last year in Punjab and Haryana. To save crop of cotton from the likely menace of white fly, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has taken various preventive measures. Elaborate assessment and analysis has been carried out about the loss inflicted last year. The sowing process of cotton is set in, in the beginning of April in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Central Cotton Research Regional Centre, Sirsa (Haryana) has recently held a meeting in which officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and senior officials of Departments of Agriculture from Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan reviewed the preventive measures to check the menace of white fly. After the review, the Government of India has forwarded extensive directives to the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The directives say that the sowing process may be carried out within the precincts of scheduled timeframe, only recommended seeds might be utilized, close watch might be kept on the movement of pests and timely sprinkling to check its spread. Indian Council of Agricultural Research has also provided a list of the pests resist seeds for the farmers. This year emphasis is being given on the timely sowing of cotton.

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