

ADVISORY FOR POMEGRANATE CROP HIT BY UNSEASONAL RAINS AND HAIL STORM

Unseasonal rainfall and hailstorms in various states have damaged several lakh of hectares of agriculture and horticulture crops not only in Maharashtra but also in neighbouring and other states in India. The extent of losses varies from mild to 100%. Though in some cases the losses are irreparable, in others where the damage is less the crop can be saved. The advisory for pomegranate crop damaged to varying extents in different stages is given below based on crop stage.

S. No	Stage/Extent of Damage	Recommendation
1.	All Fruits Damaged and Branches Broken/Shredded	Remove and discard fruits, prune broken and shredded branches, apply 10% Bordeaux paste on cut ends, followed by spray of 1% Bordeaux mixture. Leave the crop on rest, follow IDIPM to prepare for next bahar.
2.	Fruits Ready for Harvest	Harvest the damaged fruits and sell if fruits do not show rotting, otherwise put in compost pit. A protective spray of boric acid (2g/l) before harvest will help avoid rotting in fruits with surface injury.
3.	Fruits to be harvested after one month	Follow spray schedule given below at i, ii & iii
4.	Fruit lemon size	If 75% fruits damaged remove all fruits, prepare for next <i>bahar</i> (August/Sep./Oct.)
		If 25% or less fruits damaged, remove affected fruits and protect remaining fruits with sprays mentioned at i, ii & iii followed by IDIPM Schedule
5.	Flowering/Fruit set started	: Remove affected flower buds/fruits. Take sprays mentioned at i, ii & iii followed by IDIPM Schedule. Wait for more flowering and fruit set. If satisfactory flowering and fruit set is observed continue with IDIPM or otherwise leave on rest and prepare for next bahar.
6.	Non-bearing trees/in rest, with shredded leaves and branches	Prune and remove affected branches, paste cut ends with 10% Bordeaux paste, followed by spray of 1% Bordeaux mixture. Follow IDIPM Schedule thereafter.
7.	Leaves fallen, fruits attached with some scars	If fruits received few and minor injuries take recommended sprays at i, ii & iii, irrigate adequately if rains were not sufficient, to initiate new growth. Can provide shade net to avoid scorching.

Spray Schedule:

- i. Spray Boric Acid (2 g/l) + Zinc Sulphate (2.5 g/l) + quick lime (1.25g/l gm)+Mancozeb (2.5 gl) immediately after hail storm.
- ii. After 1 week of above spray Urea(2.5-5g/l)+Carbendazim(1g/l) + (in bacterial blight affected orchards) streptocycline /Bronopol (0.5g/l)
- iii. After 10-12 days of above, a spray of chelated micronutrients @ 2-3g/l

Integrated Disease and Insect Pest Management (IDIPM) Schedule

- **For crop in rest period:** Take sprays of Bordeaux mixture (1%) altered with 2-bromo, 2-nitro propane-1, 3-diol @ 0.5g/l mixed with copper based formulations like copper oxychloride (2.5g/ l) or copper hydroxide (2.0g/ l) at 10-15 days intervals.
- **For crop in fruiting:** Spray Bordeaux mixture (0.5%), altered with streptocycline (0.5g/l) or 2-bromo, 2-nitro propane-1, 3-diol @ 0.5g/l mixed with copper based formulations like copper oxychloride or copper hydroxide (2.0-2.5g/ l) or carbendazim (1g/l) or appropriate fungicides depending on fungal problems present. In rainy days take sprays at 7 days and in winter season or dry seasons at 10-15 days interval. Mix suitable insecticides if required.
- Insecticide sprays may be taken as per requirement.
- Orchards not having bacterial blight should not take streptocycline and 2-bromo, 2-nitro propane-1, 3-diol. Only fungicide and insecticide sprays should be taken
- Recommended fertilizer application may be taken as per stage and age of crop.

NOTE: For Bahar wise detailed schedules checkdownloads on website www.nrcpomegranate.org