

Guidelines for May

- In Nagpur mandarin and sweet orange one year old tree should be given 17 litres of water /day/ tree, 5 year old tree need 102 litres / day / tree, 8 years tree require 188 litres / day/ tree and 10 years and above tree require 235 litres water / day/ tree.
- In acid lime (lemon) one year tree should be given 11 litres water / tree / day , 5 years tree need 42 litres / day / tree, 8 years tree require 73 litres / tree/ day while 10 years and above tree need 108 litres water per day per tree.
- In kitchen garden the water moisture in soil should be seen and if dry ,water should be applied.
- Irrigation should be continued to maintain the fruit set of *Ambia bahar*. Frequency of the irrigation should be maintained at 4-5 days interval during the high (summer) temperature regime which is likely to touch 47⁰C in this month. If possible drip irrigation method should be followed for efficient utilization of water. Besides, black polythene sheet of 100 micron thickness or any organic mulch (grass / straw) should be spread around the tree trunk to reduce water evaporation.
- Give water stress to tree for preparing them for the *Mrig bahar* in June.
- In case a new orchard of citrus is to be established then dig the pits of size (75cm x 75cm x 75cm) at 6 x 6 meter spacing for Nagpur Santra (Nagpur mandarin), Mosambi (Sweet orange) and acid lime and the pits should be kept exposed to solar rays.
- Apply Bordeaux paste on the tree trunk upto height of 60 cm by paint brush. For preparation of Bordeaux paste dissolve 1 kg copper sulphate in 5 litres of water in a plastic bucket and 1 kg slaked lime in 5 litres of water in separate bucket and leave it overnight. Next day mix them together in another bucket to make a paste. Apply the paste on tree trunk with in 12 hours after mixing.
- If citrus trees are showing oozing symptoms of gum then scrap the area with a sharp knife and apply mefenoxam MZ-68 or fosetyl A1 paste on it.
- Spraying and drenching with mefenoxam MZ-68 @ 2.5 gm or Fosetyl A1, 2.5 gm in one litre water on the tree for controlling *Phytophthora*.
- To check fruit drop in citrus crop spray the solution containing 1.5 gm 2, 4-D or gibberelic acid (GA), 100 g carbendazim 50 WP and 1 kg urea (1%) in 100 litres of water. Repeat the spray after 15 days if fruit drop continues.

- The menace of bark eating caterpillar can be checked in this month by removing the wooden frass and inject 5-10 ml of dichlorovos prepared by mixing 3-4 ml of DDVP 76 EC in one litre of water with the help of disposable syringe and close the larval tunnel with a cotton wool to cover the hole.