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**CENTRAL COFFEE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

**Coffee Research Station P.O., PIN: 577 117**

**Chikmagalur District, Karnataka**

**Date: 15th April 2016**

**FOR THE KIND ATTENTION OF COFFEE GROWERS!!**

**SCANTY BLOSSOM & BACKING SHOWERS: CONTINGENCY MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED**

The receipt of timely and adequate blossom and backing showers is most important for better crop prospects in coffee. However, during the current year many coffee growing areas of Karnataka are yet to receive blossom showers. Besides, the day temperatures are reaching a record high of 390C even in high elevations. Under these circumstances, it is very important that the blossom showers are received in adequate quantities in the next couple of weeks.

In case of Robusta, many estates were irrigated for blossom and backing during February-March period. But since then there is a dry period of more than one month and there are no water resources for further irrigations. If back up rains are not received in the next couple of weeks, there are chances of browning and drying of newly set fruits especially in estates with sparse shade. In order to protect the newly set crop and to prevent premature drying of pinheads, the following contingency measures are suggested for immediate intervention.

* In case of irrigated Robustas, take up foliar spray of Planofix @ 50 ml alongwith 1 kg Urea, 1 kg Single Super Phosphate (SSP) and 750 gram of Muriate of Potash (MOP) in 200 liters of water immediately.
* If blossom has taken place recently, take up the first spray of Planofix alongwith above mentioned nutrients 10 to 15 days after flowering.
* The second foliar application of Planofix alongwith above mentioned nutrients should be taken up one month after the first spray both in Arabica and Robusta.

**DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH**