Tomato pinworm (*Tuta absoluta*) Monitoring and Management Field day at Kadagammadoddi village, Raichur, Karnataka

Director, ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru, deputed scientists of NBAIR for arranging a farmer's field day cum training programme on monitoring and management of tomato pinworm, *Tuta absoluta*. It was organized in collaboration with UAS, Raichur, at Kadamagadoddi village, Raichur, Karnataka on 29.1.2016. Seventy five farmers from Kadagammadoddi, Kapur, Katlekur, Singandoddi and Hosur villages of Chandrabande hobli of Raichur district participated in the training programme.

Dr. Chitapor, Director of Research, UAS, Raichur inaugurated the training. Dr. Bheemanna, Head, Division of Entomology, Dr A. Hosamane, Associate Professor UAS, Raichur, Dr. B. Ramanujam, Dr A.N. Shylesha and Dr. M. Mohan from ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru participated and explained to the farmers about the monitoring and management of *Tuta absoluta* on tomato. Before the training, field visit was made and the farmers were shown about the pinworm damage on leaves and fruits. The tomato fields suffered 60 to 70 per cent damage due to pinworm. Dr. Nagana Gowda, President, HOPCOM Raichur, and the local Panchayat Head also attended the meeting and briefed about the damage caused by *T. absoluta* on tomato and economic loss incurred by the farmers.

The farmers were made aware of the importance of clean cultivation, destruction of crop residues and infested fruits, use of pest free seedlings, treating of infested crates, monitoring the adult moths by pheromone traps and use of recommended insecticides and botanicals for the management of *T. absoluta*. The farmers were supplied *T. absoluta* pheromone traps for monitoring and mass trapping.

Dr. Shylesha A.N. Principal Scientist highlighted the mode of invasion and biology of this pest to the farmers. Dr. M. Mohan briefed about the pinworm management options. Dr. Ramanujam explained the famers about importance of biological control and advised farmers not to rely on pesticides alone. Dr. Hosamane demonstrated the use of pheromone traps in the field.

Tomato pinworm moth and damage on fruit