

ICAR - NBAIR organized Town Talk Series - 001

Webinar on

‘Paradigm shift in plant disease management for the millennium’

ICAR NBAIR has created a platform titled Town Talk Series to hear and discuss wide ranging topics from Scientists / Research managers / Policymakers / research scholars and farmers. On this line, the first Town Talk Series 001 was organized as a webinar on ‘Paradigm shift in plant disease management for the millennium’ on 24 July 2020. The programme started with the introductory remarks by Dr N. Bakthavatsalam, Director, ICAR-NBAIR Bengaluru. He elaborated on the need to exchange ideas across the disciplines to generate novel ideas that could lead to innovations and initiatives like Town Talk Series would address it. The webinar on ‘Paradigm shift in plant disease management for the millennium’ had three invited talks. The first talk was by Dr. Ramanujam, Pr. Scientist and HD, GCU on ‘My memoirs on crop protection research’. He shared his experience from Phyto Pathological research in plantation crops to invertebrate pathology initiatives using entomofungal pathogens at ICAR-NBAIR Bengaluru. In his talk, he discussed on topics ranging from isolation, multiplication, bio efficacy and need for registering the EPF to benefit the farmers. This was followed by a talk on ‘Plant disease diagnostics and certification’ by Dr R. Selvarajan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NRC for Banana, Tiruchirappalli. The diagnostic techniques developed in his laboratory to benefit the farmers were briefed by him. Implementation of the diagnostics and certification program in increasing the banana production in the country was discussed. The third speaker was Dr Aundy Kumar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. His talk was on ‘New insights on rice phyllobiome’. The role of microbes on phylloplane, their diversity and the economic benefits that could be exploited for disease management in rice was delivered by him. Former Directors of the bureau, Dr Abraham Verghese and Dr Chandish R Ballal lauded the efforts by ICAR – NBAIR on such new initiatives. A total of 63 participants from ICAR institutes, AICRP BC centers, State Agricultural University and Industry participated in the webinar. The programme was chaired by Dr.N.Bakthavatsalam, Director, ICAR – NBAIR and organized by Dr Kesavan Subaharan, Dr. Amala.Udaya Kumar, Dr. M.Mohan and Dr.M.Pratheepa.

