

National Dialogue on Threats of Invasive Insect Pests on 20 October 2023

A National Dialogue on **Threats of Invasive Insect Pests in India: Challenges and Way forward** was organised by ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru to discuss the ways and means to prevent the entry of alien invasive insect pests and their mitigation strategies. Dr. P. K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Government of India chaired the meeting. The prominent dignitaries who participated in the deliberations were Dr. S. C. Dubey, ADG (PP&BS), ICAR, New Delhi, Mr. Kunal Satyarthi, Joint Secretary (Policy & Plan), NDMA, GOI, Dr. J. P. Singh, Plant Protection Adviser, GOI, DDPQ&S, Faridabad, Dr. R. K. Murali Bhaskaran, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur, Dr. D. K. Nagaraju, Joint Director, RPQS, Bengaluru, Mr. P.V. Bhyrappa, Deputy Director, NACIN, Bengaluru and Dr. S. N. Sushil, Director, ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru. Dr. B. Balaji, IFS, Secretary, NBA, Chennai, Dr. Subhash Chander, Director, ICAR-NCIPM, Bengaluru, Dr. Alok K. Srivastava, Director, ICAR-NBAIM, Mau attended the meeting online. The meeting was also attended by the scientists from ICAR - NBAIR.

Dr. S. N. Sushil, Director, ICAR-NBAIR made a presentation on the status of invasive insect pests and their management in India. This was followed by panel discussion. The issues related to invasive pest and the strategies to be adopted to contain them were discussed. The deliberation led to the following actionable points.

Stringent implementation of plant quarantine regulatory measures to curb the entry of transboundary pests in view of increased travel, trade, commerce and climate change.

Development of SOPs and action plan for early warning, prevention, mitigation and management of invasive insect pests to be developed at National level.

Strengthening of regional cooperation in exchange of information on the likely entry of new alien invasive pests.

Capacity building and preparedness in dealing invasive pest entry to be prepared.

The meeting was organized by ICAR- National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources in association with Society for Biocontrol Advancement (SBA).

