



e-NEWSLETTER

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Plant Protection Adviser's Desk

The Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage has been continuously contributing towards progress of country's Agriculture in the field of plant protection, conservation of biocontrol potential, sustainability & profitability. Continuous endeavor at grass root level by Central Integrated Pest Management Centers (CIPMCs) has increased the acceptance of IPM techniques amongst farming community across the country. At the same time, awareness has arisen among the farmers about the ill effects caused due to indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides such as increase in the cost of cultivation, harm to human & animal health and the environment.

During the period, CIPMC's surveyed four lakh ha. crop area for monitoring of pest build up in major crops throughout the country and issued timely advisories and forewarning thereby could avert possible pest spread in larger area. Joint efforts along with State Agriculture Dept. were made for

successful management of Cucumber mosaic virus on banana in Maharashtra state.

Directorate contributed in the 32nd session of the Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) which was held from 07.11.2022 to 11.11.2022 at Bangkok, Thailand. The participating representative unanimously decided that India would chair the IPM standing committee for the next biennium. Also the 32nd APPPC. has decided that India will host IPM Workshop on system approach for management of Mango Fruit Flies.

In one more step toward the compliance to e-governance initiative of the ministry, Directorate implemented e-office during the quarter. The objective of e-office is to develop a completely simplified, responsive, effective and transparent working system across all divisions. Along with simplifying office work, e-office provides an opportunity that the energy and time of the officials can be utilized to increase their productivity.

Use of mobile app for onsite phytosanitary inspection has implemented to ensure reliable and transparent export-import inspection which has eventually speed up the pace of phytosanitary certification.

Directorate participated in Krishi Mela and Agri Exhibition organized by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India at Morena (Madhya Pradesh) during 11th-13th November, 2022 in which thousands of farmers, extension workers and students were educated with knowledge of IPM and distributed leaflets containing information on usage of biocontrol agents/ bio pesticides.

Directorate also took part in exhibition at the India International Trade Fair (IITF) held at

Pragati Maidan, New Delhi during 14th-27th of November, 2022.

Vigilance Awareness Week was observed by the Directorate during 31st October to 6th November, 2022 and Swachhta Pakhwada was observed during 16th-31st December, 2022.

Directorate has conducted Capacity Building Training Programmes at RCIPMC Lucknow for development of knowledge and skill of technical manpower in the field of Pest Surveillance, alternate IPM techniques Cultural, Mechanical, Biological, safe & judicious use of pesticides, Plant Quarantine regulations, International & National Phytosanitary measures, Phytosanitary inspection & certification.

At last but not the least Directorate is indebted to get continuous support & encouragement through our senior officers of the Ministry in implementing various programmes/ activities. I take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to Sh. Ashish Kumar Shrivastava, Joint Secretary (PP) for visiting the Directorate & encouraging the officers and staff and also for releasing the 1st issue of Directorate's e-Newsletter on 28.12.2022.

- Dr. J.P. Singh
 Plant Protection Adviser

Catalogue:

- Highlights
- International Participations
- Foreign Visits on Bilateral issues
- Trainings and Workshops
- New Initiatives
- Publications
- Media Coverage

Integrated Pest Management (Efforts of CIPMCs):

- During the period 4 lakh ha. of crop area was surveyed and issued three advisories for the management of the critical pest incidences.
- During Rabi season 104 Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) are being conducted where 3290 farmers and State Agriculture Dept. officials are being trained on IPM technologies.
- 882.48 million biocontrol agents were released in 0.52 lakh ha. area for managing pest incidences.
- Successfully conserved the natural habitat of bio agents in over 1.93 lakh ha.
- 36 nos. of two days HRD programmes were conducted where 1927 Nos. of AEOs, NGOs, Lead Farmers, Private Entrepreneurs were trained on IPM measures.

Plant Quarantine (Efforts made by PQ stations):

- Facilitated export of agricultural commodities and issued 1,26,054 numbers of Phytosanitary Certificates for 112.14 lakh MTs.
- Issued 30,029 numbers of Import clearance for Agricultural consignments of 38.82 lakh MTs.
- 338 numbers of quarantine pests were detected/intercepted in import consignment and succeeded in preventing the entry of exotic pests through an effective PQ inspection system.

Locust Warning Organization (Efforts by LWO/ LCOs/ FSIL):

- Conducted Desert Locust Survey in 33.480 lakh ha. and participated in 03 Indo-Pak Border meetings.
- Published and circulated 06 locust information bulletins during the quarter highlighting current locust situation in India and neighbouring countries.
- PPA and JD (PP) participated in virtual meeting held on 02.12.2022 between SENASA, Argentina and DA&FW, India to discuss about the Preventive Locust Management, Locust Control Tools, Computerized Pest Surveillance System and Survey, Forewarning and Locust Alert System used in India and Argentina.
- Mock-drill of spray equipment's and other resources were carried out by all Locust Circle Offices (LCOs) to ensure functionality of ULVA Mast, ULVA +, Micronair, vehicles and other resources required for locust emergency control.



Mock drill of Spray equipment's and vehicles

Central Insecticide Laboratory, Regional PTLs and Techno Legal Cell:

- The CIL received 490 samples for testing out of which 99 were found misbranded.
- The Central Insecticides Laboratory has obtained the renewal Certificate of Accreditation by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories(NABL)
- RPTL's received 200 numbers of samples for testing out of which 04 were declared misbranded.

Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee:

- The Registration Committee has issued 7750 Certificate of Registration for pesticides out of which 219 were issued for new molecules.

Planning and Coordination Unit:

- 24 newly recruited officials of the Directorate were given induction training at National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad.
- A total of 56 nos. of RTI requests and 39 of grievance requests were resolved during the quarter.



Induction training of newly recruited officials at NIPHM, Hyderabad

Rajbhasha Hindi:



Reviewed implementation of Hindi in technical and administrative work during the meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee under the chair of Dr. J.P. Singh, PPA on 19.10.2022.

New Appointments:

34 incumbent joined as Assistant Plant Protection Officers, Scientific Assistant, Technical Assistant and Multi-Tasking Staff in the Directorate during the quarter October to December, 2022.



32nd session of the Asia & Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) at Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. J.P Singh, Plant Protection Adviser participated in the 32nd session of the Asia & Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) held at Bangkok, Thailand from 7th to 11th November 2022. The session was held in hybrid mode. A total of 75 participants from 19 countries in Asia and the Pacific, FAO, IPPC Secretariat, Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, APPPC Secretariat, Asian Development Bank (ADB), German Society for International

International Participations



Cooperation (GIZ) and World Bank attended the session. Participants discussed on various issues such as significant changes and developments since 2019, report on Plant quarantine and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and pesticide management in the Asia and Pacific region, trade

facilitation and stakeholder engagement on phytosanitary issues, implementation of e-phyto solution etc. During session of the APPPC it was decided that India will host IPM Workshop on System Approach for Management Mango fruit fly. India was also elected to chair the IPM standing committee for the next biennium. Dr. J.P. Singh, PPA proposed formation of Technical Working Group (TWG) on IPM to have a regular communication and technical discussion on major plant protection issues among member countries.

Regional Workshop on Implementation of Global Action (GA) for FAW control in Asia and the Pacific at Manila, Philippines.



Dr. D. K. Nagaraju, DD (E), participated in the Regional Workshop on Implementation of Global Action (GA) for Fall Army Worm (FAW) control in Asia and the Pacific held on 11th & 12th October, 2022 at Manila, Philippines. He presented on current status of FAW in India and implementation of FAO Global Action Plan for control of FAW. Concurrent group discussions were held on different aspects such as Policy and farmers, IPM package validation and demonstration and Communication (including outreach and training) and Partnership.

Visits on Bilateral issues



Dr. P.K. Meherda, Joint Secretary (PP), Dr. Sanjay Arya, JD (PP) & Ms. Kamini Tandekar, DD (PP), attended India - Australia Plant Health Bilateral Technical Meeting held in Australia during 31st October to 4th November, 2022.

Indo-Pak Border meeting on Locust Monitoring & control held on 03.11.2022 at Khokhrapor border point in which the 5-membered Indian team was led by Dr. N. Sathynarayana, JD (PP).



Australian delegation visit for onsite verification of system approach followed for Okra export from India from 12-16 December, 2022 in MSAMB Pack house, Kay Bee Pack house & Okra farms in Maharashtra and Gujarat.



Dr. Vasudha Gautam, DD (E), visited Japan for on-site audit of Japan's Apple pack houses and Orchards for import of fresh apple fruit to India.



Dignitary Visits and Meetings



Visit of Sh. Ashish Kumar Shrivastava, Joint Secretary (PP) to the Directorate of PPQ&S and interaction with officers and officials of different units on 28.12.2022.



Krishi Mela and Agri- Exhibition held at Morena:

The DPPQ&S participated in Krishi Mela organized at Morena, M.P from 11-13 November 2022. During the event DPPQ&S have various activities including Plant Quarantine, Locust Control & Research, IPM practices, biocontrol efforts, judicious use of pesticides, etc. The farmers were explained about importance of pest management with major emphasis on IPM practices. Farmers were distributed literature and bio-pesticides free of cost for seed treatment, and management of important pest of different crops.



Sh. Narendra Singh Tomar, Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Sh. Kailash Choudhary, Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GOI, Sh. Kamal Patel, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh and other prominent dignitaries and more than 25000 farmers, students, agri input dealers visited DPPQ&S stall.



Trainings and Workshops

Exposure cum Training Programme for Pesticide dealers

CIPMC, Bhubaneswar has organized Exposure cum Training Programme for Pesticide dealers with coordination with KVK Puri on 25th November 2022 in which 30 pesticide dealers were trained about IPM practices mainly safe and judicious use of pesticides.



AFAS India training:



Five days AFAS training conducted by Directorate at RPQS Chennai wherein 15 officers from DPPQ&S and 14 Pest control operators from accredited pest control agencies were qualified for carrying out fumigation under AFAS India programme.



Dr. Manish Mondhe, AD(PP), delivered a lecture on Export Promotion, safe and judicious use of pesticides to boost the export of Rice on 23.11.2022 at the Office of Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), Nagpur for Market Supervisors, APMC. The information on Role of system approach on case study of Grape export was also given to participants.



Two days Capacity Building Training programme on IPM organized at RCIPMC, Lucknow on 10th & 11th of December 2022 in hybrid mode, wherein 30 technical officers from Lucknow region participated physically and 40 from other regions attended virtually.

Horticulture Value Chain Function:



Dr. Manish Mondhe, AD (PP) has delivered lecture on Pest Free Area and its impact to boost Export of Fresh fruits and vegetables in Horticulture Value

Chain Function held on 01.11.2022 at Pune. The programme was attended by respected Sh. Narendra Singh Tomar, Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI, Shri Manoj Ahuja, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi.

Visit of FAO representative to DPPQS:

Ms. Anne-Sophie Poisot, Agricultural Officer, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO along with Dr. Konda Reddy Chavva Officer-in-Charge FAO Representation in India visited




DPPQ&S on 1st December, 2022 and discussed on Global Action for Fall Armyworm activities.





Beware of Karnal Bunt





PEST FACTS


 Oh No! What is this black powdery masses on the wheat grains?


Don't worry!! We call this **Karnal Bunt** caused by a fungus *Tilletia indica* ... 


 How can we identify Karnal Bunt?

It has blackened and sooty appearance, gives off a fishy smell & when crushed in hand produces a greasy black powder. 

 How can we differentiate between Karnal Bunt and Common Bunt?

Karnal bunt is partial bunt infects few grains only while common bunt is complete bunt infects all grains of the head. 

 Will it cause any economic loss to me?

It will not affect your crop yield but has great negative impact on export. 

15th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission:

Dr. (Mrs.) Vandana Seth, JD (Chem.), Dr. Shivaji Haridas Wavare, DD (PP), Dr. R. P. Sharma, AD (E), Sh. Avinash Jha (Accounts officer), Ms. Mrinal, SO, Surjeet Kumar, SO and Ms. Suman Jakhar, SO attended 15th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission Organized by Central Information Commission on 9th November, 2022 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.



Online PFMS Training:

Sh. Avinash Jha (Accounts officer), Sh. OM Prakash, PPO, Smt. Rajneesh Malhotra and Sh. Sudeep Singh attended Online PFMS training organized by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance conducted by INGAF through online mode on 01/12/2022, 05/12/2022, 13/12/2022 & 21/12/2022.



Induction Training Programme:

Induction Training Programme was conducted at National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad from 10.11.2022 to 09.12.2022. Twenty-four newly recruited officials of the Dte were trained on integrated

pest management, plant quarantine, regulation of pesticides, locust warning & control and Administrative Procedures through various lectures, field activities, and hands on practical sessions.

India International Trade Fair:



The Directorate took part in the India International Trade Fair held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi between 14th-27th of November, 2022 in which IPM practices were demonstrated.



The First edition of the e-newsletter of the Directorate of PPQS & S was released by the esteemed Joint Secretary (Plant protection), Sh. Ashish Kumar Srivastava on 28.12.2022.



Training programme on implementation of e-Office in the Directorate of PPQS&S was organized through hybrid mode. The e-office module was officially in the Directorate implemented on 18.10.2022



Directorate's Archive

1943

Bengal Famine

The famine was caused due to wide spread of Brown spot of Rice in Bengal region which led to death of more than 3 million people.

1944

Wood Head Commission

The Famine Inquiry Commission was appointed by the Government of British India in 1944 to investigate the Bengal famine.

1945

Recommendations which lead to establishment of Directorate

"The control of pests of the staple crops such as rice, wheat, jowar, cotton and sugarcane can only be achieved by organized efforts over wide areas. The staff available for such control measures is very limited and it is proposed that a special plant protection staff should be employed in every province."

1946

Establishment

Based on the recommendations of the commission, The Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage was established.

First PPA



Dr. Hem Singh Pruthi, an Eminent Entomologist, held the position from 1946 to 1953.

To be continued.....

Special Achievements & Events

Insect Environmentalist award and A certificate of fellowship was awarded to Dr. J.P. Singh, PPA, in appreciation and recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of Biological Control of crop pests and diseases.



As a part of the Silver Jubilee celebration of Insect Environment, Dr. Abraham Verghese, Former Director ICAR-NBAIR & Editor-in-chief, Insect Environment handed over a special outstanding achiever award was conferred to Dr. J.P Singh, PPA on 17th Dec 2022 at Bengaluru, Karnataka. Dr. S. N. Sushil, the Director, ICAR-NBAIR & Chairman Society of Biocontrol Advancement handed over the



certificate of fellowship to Dr. J.P Singh in appreciation and recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of Biological Control. The contestants participated from diverse geographical regions of the country.



Participation in NBAIR, Bengaluru funded Tribal sub-plan project implemented by KVK Idukki at Plamalakudy village in Kerala

Dr. S N Sushil, Director ICAR – NBAIR, Bengaluru inaugurated the project launch of the scheme at Plamalakudy on 18.11.2022 for tribal farmers and distributed inputs like Black Soldier Fly (BSF) Larvae preparation set, EPN, Bee boxes, IISR- PGPR capsule, IISR - ginger special and VAM biofertilizer as the NBAIR technological products, to 100 tribal farmers of Plamalakudy. In this programmes, CIPMC Ernakulam organized IPM Exhibition in which various products of the institute were showcased to the farmers.

Participation in 7th National Conference on Biological Control at Bengaluru

Dr. K. L. Gurjar, JD (PP) participated in 7th National Conference on Biological Control jointly organized by ICAR- National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bengaluru & Society for Biocontrol Advancement on 15.12.2022 at Bengaluru.



Participation in workshop of Biopesticides in India & Future Prospects at Goa

Dr. K. L. Gurjar, JD (PP) participated in workshop of Biopesticides in India & Future Prospects organized by Agriculture Microorganism Manufacturers & Farmers Association, Nashik and Arifim International Pvt. Ltd. Delhi on 13.11.2022 at Goa.



Swachhata Pakhwada was observed in Directorate from 16.12.2022 to 31.12.2022, staffs took pledge for cleanliness and devote time for it and marched to create awareness on cleanliness.

Vigilance awareness week:

Vigilance awareness Week was observed in the Directorate from 31.10.2022 to 06.11.2022 and the officers in the Directorate took the Integrity Pledge.



Acrid fact;

Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) also known as the “Terror of Bengal” in India, “German weed” in Bangladesh, the “Florida Devil” in South Africa, and the “Japanese Trouble” in Sri Lanka was a noxious weed introduced in India from England. It was brought from Britain to India as an ornamental plant which is now a most problematic weed of economically important water bodies.

⚠️ Be cautious of Plant gifts



Dr. J.P. Singh, PPA has delivered a talk in DD Kisan on, “Efforts needed to enhance the export of Agri. Commodities in India by handling Phytosanitary Issues.”



Sh. Gyaneshwer Banchhor, DD (E) has delivered a talk in DD Kisan on, “Plant Quarantine System in India.”

Media Coverage



Dr. Sunita Pandey, DD (E) has delivered a talk in DD Kisan on, “Information on HRD programme under IPM, Biological Control in Rabi Crops & Export of fresh fruits and vegetables.”

Dr. G.P. Singh, DD (E) has delivered a talk in DD (Uttar Pradesh) on, “IPM approaches in vegetables and Safe and Judicious use of pesticides for export oriented quality produce in India.”



Visit of Dr. S. K. Singh, Adviser National Food Security Mission, Dr. Anitha Singh, Adviser, ATMA and Dr. Ashok Kumar, Adviser NFSM Oilseed Yojana, Department of Agriculture, Government of Uttar Pradesh to RCIPMC, Lucknow Bio-control laboratories.



Miss. Kamini Tandekar, DD, DA&FW, Govt. of India, New Delhi visited & Participated in the different activities conducted by RCIPMC, Lucknow held on 7th & 8th October, 2022.



Dignitary Visits

Supervising of testing methods by NABL auditor Dr. M. Srinivasan during NABL assessment at Bio-assay division.

Publications

- IPM Package of Practices for Mango (For Producing Quality Fruits for Export).
 - IPM Package of Practices for Apple (For Producing Quality Fruits for Export).
- <https://ppqs.gov.in/ipm-packages/export-purpose>

Timmanna H, C Prashantha, P R Shashank, V D Nigam and Narendra Birla (2022): Occurrence and spread of invasive thrips *Thrips parvispinus* (Karny) in North India. *Indian Journal of Entomology online published Ref. No. e22965.*

Management of shoot and fruit borer in Brinjal by adopting IPM practices.

Success Story

Sh. Raj Kumar progressive farmer from Indhauliya village (Block-Masauli) of Barabanki District (UP) has successfully managed shoot and fruit borer in Brinjal by adopting IPM practices i.e. mechanical destruction of larvae, light & pheromones traps along with use of Tricho-cards at regular intervals supplied by RCIPMC, Lucknow.



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