

Demonstration cum Farmers Training on Rugose Spiralling Whitefly Management

All India Coordinated Research Programme on Biological Control (AICRP on BC), ANGRAU centre, Anakapalle organized demonstration cum training programmes on farm level production of entomopathogenic fungi, *Isaria fumosorosea* (NBAIR Pfu-5) for the management of coconut rugose spiralling whitefly (RSW) in collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR-NBAIR), Bangalore from 4-7th February, 2020. Field survey on infestation of RSW on coconut and other crop plants was conducted in Ranasthalam mandal, Srikakulam district on 4th February, 2020. RSW infestation was reduced drastically wherever *Encarsia guadelouae* released and *I. fumosorosea* was sprayed at 2×10^8 spores/ ml (5 g/litre of water).



Interestingly, well establishment of parasitoid, *E. guadeloupa*e was observed in coconut plantation with banana as intercrop which inoculated during November, 2019. During our survey in November 2019, it was no natural parasitism was observed and subsequently the parasitoid was inoculated once during November, 2019 for augmentation. ICAR-NBAIR in collaboration with AICRP on BC- RARS conducted field demonstration with ICAR-NBAIR strain of *I. fumosorosea* (Pfu-5) for the management of RSW during



November, 2019 and during present survey it was observed that natural occurrence of this fungus *Isaria fumosorosea* on different life stages of RSW. The population of rugose spiralling whitefly was reduced significantly with two sprays of sprays of *I. fumosorosea* (NBAIR- Pfu 5) during November 2019 and December, 2019 with one inoculative release of *E. guadelouape* during November 2019.

Training on farmer level production of entomopathogenic fungi, *Isaria fumosorosea* (NBAIR- Pfu 5)

Total three training programmes were conducted under AICRP on Biological control at RARS, Anakapalle (Visakhapatnam district), Koyyam village (Etcherla mandal, Srikakulam district) and Venkatarapeta village (Ranasthalam mandal, Srikakulam district) on 5th, 6th and 7th February 2020, respectively. Miss. Poornesha, ICAR-NBAIR, Bangalore imparted hands on training on farm level production techniques of *I. fumosorosea* for farmers. Total about 200 coconut farmers, official of Dr. Reddys foundation and Department of Horticulture officials of Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts benefitted from training.



