

## **Open Day at ICAR-NBAIR Yelahanka campus on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

An Open Day was organized at the ICAR-NBAIR Yelahanka campus on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Students from Grade IX and X (59 students along with three teachers) of Vishwa Vidyapeeth, CBSE School Yelahanka. Visited the campus. The programme started with the welcome address by Dr. K. Subaharan, Principal Scientist, he emphasized that such programs ignite young minds towards the fascinating world of insects. In his opening remarks Dr. T. M. Shivalingaswamy, Principal Scientist & Director-in charge introduced to the students 'World of Insects' in which he highlighted the role played by insects of economic importance. A video clipping on the 'Bee Pollinators' was projected to benefit the students. This session was followed by a quick view of the displayed insect specimens. The students were exposed to black soldier fly mass rearing facility and Dr. Mahesh Yandigeri, Principal Scientist explained the role of detritivorous insects in the degradation of organic wastes into nutrient-rich compost. Dr. K. Selvaraj, Senior Scientist displayed the whitefly rearing facility and explained the pestiferous nature of whiteflies and parasitoids for its management. The students visited the 'Bee Home' located at the campus and Dr. U. Amala, Senior Scientist displayed the colony nature of stingless bees. Dr. K. Subaharan, Principal Scientist explained the methods adopted to exploit the pheromone loaded in nanomaterials for insect pest management. The electroantennogram setup was demonstrated to the students.

. A wrap-up session cum Scientists, student interaction was held at the auditorium. The questions raised by a dozen of students clearly showed the scientific tempo seeded in their minds during their visit and interactions with scientists at ICAR NBAIR Yelahanka campus. The programme ended with a formal vote of thanks.



Students being briefed on the importance of insects



Students being briefed in inset diversity





Walk the talk with Dr. T. M. Shivalingaswamy



A demonstration of Black Soldier Fly rearing by Dr. Mahesh Yandigeri





Rearing of whiteflies and its parasitoids demonstrated by Dr. K. Selvaraj



Dr. Amala interacting with students at "Bee Home"





Students visiting the chemical ecology unit at ICAR NBAIR Yelahanka campus





Q & A and wrap up session



Group photo of students, staff of Vishwa Vidyapeeth, CBSE School Yelahanka with team ICAR NBAIR Yelahanka campus.