

Inauguration of a one-day seminar on "Termites & White Grubs" organised at Krishi Vijnana Kendra hall in Shivamogga on 13-10-2022

'Beneficial nature in termites must be used'

SHIVAMOGGA, DHNS

ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects Director Satya Nand Sushil opined that termites are both beneficial and harmful. The beneficial nature needs to be exploited for human well-being, and harmful termite species need to be managed in an eco-friendly manner.

Inaugurating a one-day international seminar on 'Termites & White Grubs', jointly organised by the College of Agriculture, and Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agriculture & Horticultural Sciences (UAHS) at Krishi Vijnana Kendra hall here on Thursday, he suggested the farmers to reduce dependency on insecticides, and use biological control agents.

He said, various aspects of termites, their beneficial nature, chemical communication, evolution, and management would be discussed in the seminar.

Delivering the presidential address, UAHS Vice-Chancellor R C Jagadeesh said, the Western Ghats region is rich in biodiversity, and the univer-



ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects Director Satya Nand Sushil lights a lamp to mark the inauguration of a one-day seminar on 'Termites & White Grubs' organised at the at Krishi Vijnana Kendra hall in Shivamogga on Thursday. DH PHOTO

sity is supporting biodiversity research of the faculty members.

The university scientists have developed integrated management strategies for one of the serious pests of arecanut white grub called '*beruhulu*'.

Farmers can make use these for efficient management of white grubs in arecanut, he advised.

Entomology Associate Professor CM Kaleshwaraswamy said, "we are collaborating with national and international organisations for studying more about termites which

would prove highly beneficial for students of agriculture and farmers as well."

Resource persons from India and Japan spoke about taxonomy, biology, ecology, and management of termites and white grubs. Director of Education Dr M Hanumanthappa, Director of Extension B Hemla Naik, Registrar R Lokesha and Dean of Agriculture Dushyanth Kumar B M were present.

During the technical sessions later, resource persons from different institutes delivered lectures on different topics.

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