

ICAR-NBAIR Celebrates 33rd Foundation Day and Hosts 3rdBiocontrol Expo 2025 in Bengaluru

Bengaluru, October 19, 2025. The ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR-NBAIR), Bengaluru, marked its 33rd Foundation Day with the successful organization of 3rdBiocontrol Expo 2025 at its Yelahanka campus. As the central agency for biological control research in India, ICAR-NBAIR convened this event for the third consecutive year.

The celebration was inaugurated by Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy, Hon'ble Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Steel, Govt. of India as Chief Guest in presence of Guest of Honours, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for MSME and Labour & Employment, Govt. of India and Padma Shri Dr. C. N. Manjunath, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Bengaluru Rural Constituency. The event was presided over by Dr. S. N. Sushil, Director, ICAR-NBAIR.

Dr. S.N. Sushil highlighted achievements, latest technologies and activities of the Bureau and stressed the urgency of transitioning to biological pest management. Farmers must adopt innovative biocontrol technologies to manage destructive insect pests in an environmentally sound manner. Reducing the indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides is crucial for the health of our ecosystems. He reaffirmed ICAR-NBAIR's commitment to transferring cutting-edge, farmer-friendly technologies for sustainable agriculture.

In the foundation day lecture, Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy motivated farmers to follow biocontrol methods to reduce the pesticide load in various crops like coconut, maize, grapes, pomegranate etc. He also emphasised the role of various biocontrol strategies for the management of pests and thereby increasing the overall profit of farmers. Sushri Shobha Karandlaje advocated Krishi Vignana Kendra (KVK) to join hands with ICAR-NBAIR for helping farmers especially to differentiate harmful and beneficial insects apart from training and spread of research results from lab to land. Dr. C. N. Manjunath outlined the harmful effects of chemical pesticides on human and environment and advocated farmers to adopt biological control methods. The foundation day message by Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot about the role of NBAIR for promoting biocontrol methods among farmers, was also recited in the function.

The event featured the felicitation of progressive farmers from both Karnataka and Maharashtra states and the distribution of agricultural inputs to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe farmers under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) programme. The Biocontrol Expo recorded a footfall of over 4000 people including farmers, students, scientists, general public and 34 stalls showcasing innovative bio-control based technologies and agricultural products from ICAR-NBAIR, various ICAR institutes, industries and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation of farmers from various villages of Hassan, Mandya, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Bengaluru Rural, Tumkur, Ramanagara districts of Karnataka and Latur, Solapur districts of Maharashtra.























