

XXXV ANNUAL GROUP MEETING OF AICRP ON BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF CROP PESTS

The ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bengaluru organized the XXXV Annual Group Meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Biological Control of Crop Pests on June 10&11, 2026.

Inaugural Session:

Dr.T.Venkatesan, Director, ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru welcomed the dignitaries and participants. He also briefly presented the highlights of the project for the period 2025-26

Dr. Poonam Jasrotia, Assistant Director General (Plant Protection & Biosafety), ICAR, New Delhi congratulated the AICRP on Biological Control for its excellent work in developing biological control modules for managing insect pests, including invasive species. She emphasized the key aspects of biological control of crop pests including natural and organic farming.

Chief guest **Dr. D. K. Yadava**, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi appreciated the progress made under the project. He emphasized the need to explore and identify bioagents from extreme environments, which could be pivotal in developing climate-resilient pest management strategies. He also stressed the importance of integrating biocontrol agents with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) technologies to enhance overall plant health. He highlighted the necessity of conducting large-scale field demonstrations using various biocontrol agents and of documenting the area covered under biocontrol-based pest management programs. He urged the centres to incorporate the validated technologies into POP recommendations of the university.

Programme Advisory and Monitoring Committee members, **Dr T P Rajendran**, Former Assistant Director General (Plant Protection and Bioafety), ICAR, New Delhi, **Dr U Sreedhar**, Former Head Crop Protection, ICAR- NIRCA participated in the meeting. Around 105 scientists and 4 company representatives from different parts of the country participated in the XXXV Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Biological Control of Crop Pests. **Dr G Sivakumar**, Officer In charge, PC Cell, AICRP on Biological Control proposed the vote of thanks.









