

INDIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEW DELHI

Proceedings of 73rd Annual General Body Meeting and National e-Conference on “Plant Health and Food Security: Challenges and Opportunities” held virtually at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi during March 25-27, 2021

Dr. Robin Gogoi, Secretary, welcomed Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, President, IPS and requested to chair the meeting. He also welcomed all the members of the Society for their keen interest in advancing the objectives and causes of the Society. He thanked all the members for their support to run the Society smoothly and also to attend 73rd Annual meeting held virtually at ICAR- Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, President, IPS also welcomed all the members and requested Dr. Robin Gogoi, Secretary to proceed with the agenda items.

Secretary’s Report

Activities of the Society

Meetings held during the year 2020-21 and action taken report

The proceedings of all the meetings held during the year 2020 have already been shared with all the Executive Council Members and also uploaded on IPS Website.

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL: INDIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGY

Secretary informed the GB members that all the four issues of the journal *Indian Phytopathology* were published timely during 2020. The March issue of 2021 is also published timely and available online on Springer portal.

IPS Newsletter - Indian Phytopath News

All four issues (2020) of IPS newsletter were published timely and are available online on IPS website.

Annual Report

IPS Annual Report (2019-20) was compiled and published, and is available on IPS website.

Performance Indicators for Assessing Scientific Societies/Journals (Funded by ICAR) was duly submitted to NAAS by the Society on 14th Aug. 2020. Based on the assessment of performance the NAAS Rating for the journal *Indian Phytopathology* was improved from 5.9 to 5.95 w.e.f. January, 2021.

Special issue for selected papers on “IPSCONF2021”

One special issue (June 2021) of the journal *Indian Phytopathology* was decided by the GB to be brought out to document and publish the research papers that were awarded and recognized by

the IPS as plenary, lead and invited lectures during the “IPSCONF2020” – Phytopathology in Achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals”.

Meeting for a qualified opinion of IPS on draft notification on Pesticide Ban published by DAC & FW

- An emergency virtual meeting was conducted on 4th June 2020 due to time bound nature of the issue. Meeting was attended by the EC members in IPS HQ, eminent scientists from Entomology and Agricultural Chemicals Divisions, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi and 4 other ICAR institutions including ICAR-NRC on Pomegranate, Solapur (MS) to discuss the decision of banning of 27 pesticides by CIB&RC, Govt. of India.
- The concerns and likely impact of the ban on pesticides were discussed by the members. Based on a scientific deliberation, a request for careful review and discussion of the Draft Notification “Banning of Insecticides Order 2020” with relevant stakeholders was recommended. The views of the IPS were sent to the Secretary, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi on June 11, 2020.
- The details of the meeting are available on IPS website.

IPS Webinar Series 2020-21

- The IPS webinar series 2020-21 was organized on the frontiers of plant health management and various other aspects of plant pathology during 14th July to 7th August, 2020.
- All 8 zones of the Society participated in the webinar series.
- A total of 15 lectures were delivered by the renowned plant pathologists of the country (14 lectures) as well as from abroad (01 lecture). Total 10,486 persons registered for these lectures. Out of these, more than 4,500 attended the lectures.
- The Society offered thanks to all the Zonal Presidents and Councilors for organizing a wonderful series of lectures from respective zones.
- The major recommendations emerged out of the webinar series have been compiled in the form of bulletin and uploaded on the IPS Website.

Stakeholders Dialogue on Current Challenges and Way Forward for Pesticides Management

The Trust for Advancement in Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), in collaboration with Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), Society of Pesticide Science (SPS) India, and Entomological Society of India (ESI) organized a dialogue through webinar on 24 July, 2020. The dialogue was attended by 78 invited participants including eminent experts, senior research managers, government officials representing diverse stakeholder groups, viz., central and state governments, scientific societies and institutions, pesticide industries and farmers. President, IPS was one of the main panelists from public sector. Based on the recommendations from the dialogue, a bulletin entitled “Road Map on Pesticides Management” was prepared and circulated by TAAS among the participants and also submitted to DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, to serve as guidance/policy documents.

IPS Zonal Symposia (Virtual) 2020-21

The symposia were successfully organized by all the zones in virtual mode (listed below). Excellent responses were received in all the zonal symposia from a large number of participants. Eminent speakers from India and abroad were the main point of attraction of the symposia.

Date & Time	Topic of the symposium	Organizing Secretary	Co-organizing Secretary
Southern Zone Date: Dec. 1-2, 2020	Advances in Crop Health Management	Dr. P. Nallathambi Zonal President	Dr. C. Umamaheswari Zonal Councillor
North-Eastern Zone Date: Dec. 7-8, 2020	Plant disease management-experiences and aspirations	Dr.N. Tiameren Ao Zonal President	Dr. Susanta Banik Zonal Councillor
Delhi Zone Date: Dec. 16, 2020	Modern trends in systematics and bio-prospecting of fungi	Dr. T. Prameela Devi Zonal President	Dr. Deeba Kamil Zonal Councillor
Northern Zone Date: Dec. 18-19, 2020	Combating rusts and Karnal Bunt of wheat: past and future strategies	Dr. Jaspal Kaur Zonal President	Dr. Abhishek Sharma Zonal Councillor
Central Zone Date: Jan. 6-7, 2021	Advances in Phytopathology	Dr. B. Srinivasulu Zonal President	Dr. K. Sesha Kiran Zonal Councillor
Eastern Zone Date: Jan. 19-20, 2021	Role of microbes in Sustainable Plant health management	Dr. A.K. Mukherjee Zonal President	Dr. M.K. Bag Zonal Councillor
Mid-Eastern Zone Date: Jan. 27-28, 2021	Biocontrol of plant diseases under current scenario of pesticide restriction	Dr. M.R. Khan Zonal President	Dr. M.R. Siddiqui Zonal Councillor
Western Zone Date: Feb. 25-26, 2021	Probing beneficial microbes for next green revolution	Dr. R.M. Gade Zonal President	Dr. Y.V. Ingle Zonal Councillor

IPS - Bionivid Webinar

A webinar on "Next Generation Sequencing for Deciphering Host-Pathogen Interactions" was organized by the Indian Phytopathological Society in collaboration with Bionivid Technology, Bangalore, India during 4-5 February, 2021. A total of 528 delegates comprising scientists, professors, research scholars and students registered for the webinar. It was also live streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

IPS National e-Conference on "Plant Health and Food Security: Challenges and Opportunities"

The Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), New Delhi organized three days virtual National e-Conference on "Plant Health and Food Security: Challenges and Opportunities" in the Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi during March 25-27, 2021. The National Symposium and Annual Meeting marked the 74 years of service of IPS for the cause of plant pathology at national and international level under the Leadership of Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, President, IPS & Member, ASRB, New Delhi. The theme of the conference was also aimed to commemorate the International Year of Plant Health 2020-21.

A Souvenir-cum-Abstract of the research papers presented in the conference was released in the inaugural function by the Chief Guest Dr. T. Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR)

and Guest of Honours Dr. T.R. Sharma, DDG (Crop Science) and Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. A technical bulletin on “Stewardship for Safe Use and Handling of Pesticides” was also released on the occasion at the august hands of the chief guest.

The Society also conferred awards among the eminent past and present researchers in the field of plant pathology in different categories during inaugural session of the conference. More than 450 delegates from 13 countries participated in this mega-event. During the 3 days conference, 10 technical sessions on different themes on frontier areas of plant pathology and plant health management were conducted. Over all 2 plenary lectures, 43 keynote/lead lectures, 53 oral presentations and 180 posters were presented in the conference.

Special Technical session (X): Panel Discussion on “Stakeholders meet on Plant Protection Issue”

Stakeholders meet on plant protection issues and panel discussion on issues and concerns regarding use and registration of agro-chemicals and biopesticides in India was held on 26.03.2021 from 2.30 - 5.45 pm.

The virtual panel discussion session was held under the chairmanship of Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Agricultural Commissioner, Govt. of India and Dr. M.K. Naik, Vice Chancellor, UAHS, Shivamogga, Karnataka. Dr. Srinivasa N, Scientist (Scientist Sr. Scale), Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi was the rapporteur. The session event was coordinated and moderated by Dr. P. K. Chakrabarty, Member ASRB, Govt. of India; former ADG (Plant Protection) ICAR and President of Indian Phytopathological Society and one of the representatives of the industry, requested instantly. There were two sub-sessions:

In the first session, three presentations were made on Advances in Biorationals and Smart Bioformulations for Disease Management by the representatives of AG Biotech, Bayer Crop Sciences and UPL Industries.

In the second session, Issues and Concerns regarding Use and Registration of Agro-chemicals and Biopesticides in India was discussed from 3.15-5.45 pm. Participants included speakers from various agrochemical companies and their industry associations. Scientific faculty and experts from ICAR-IARI, New Delhi and SAUs and faculties also participated. Speakers from both private industry and public sector organizations actively participated to deliberate on policy, regulatory, R&D and technology related issues various issues such as introduction of new pesticides, innovations for better farming, ban on pesticides, opportunities and needs of the sector, R&D challenges, registration, quality, label expansion, MRL for crop grouping, smart formulations and challenges, biorational products, new technology (drone), bio-stimulants, biopesticides, nano-pesticides, mycoherbicides, pesticides evaluation guidelines, pesticide management bill, invasive pests and resistance development, spurious pesticides, IP issues, capacity building, global leadership, food safety etc. Detailed discussions on these topics and their way forward took place and decisions were taken in the sessions after brief panel discussions on issues with public and private stakeholders.

Chairman, Dr. S.K. Malhotra, who is also the Chairman of the Registration Committee of CIB, GOI, landed the points raised during the session. He apprised the participants about various policies of Govt. of India on the subject of the session. He also agreed to look into the rational and relevant

issues raised by the stakeholders. Recommendations were drawn out from the panel discussion which will be available in the proceedings of the National e-Conference 2021.

The session was ended with formal vote of thanks to the chairpersons, stakeholders and participants from the public and private sectors.

Office renovation

The office of the Society was renovated with modern amenities and facilities. It was inaugurated by Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, President of the Society in presence of Dean, PGS & Head, Plant Pathology, former Secretaries of the IPS alongwith present IPS office bearers on September 18, 2020.

Upgradation of IPS Website

Secretary informed the members about upgradation of the IPS website with the following facilities:

- Online payment gateway for Membership & Misc. payments (card/NEFT payment options)
- Creation of sub-domain website for all the conferences every year
- Payment of Registration fee: for all the IPS Conferences (International, National & Zonal)
- Online abstract submission : for all the IPS conferences (International, National & Zonal)
- Online election : Preliminary Nomination & Final voting
- Online access: Journal, Newsletter, e-books and all other publications etc.
- Online award application submission
- Online Archives : All proceedings, Back volumes of journals, Old Abstract books
- Online Photo & Video gallery event-wise

Award application 2021

The user friendly ONLINE portal for submission of award(s) application was developed by the Society to facilitate easy and timely submission of applications by the candidates. The portal was made LIVE from February 01, 2021 to March 07, 2021. Total 52 online applications were received for 11 awards. Evaluation of the applications will be done online by the award screening and recommendation committees. Results will be approved by the next EC and subsequently announced.

Treasurer's report

The financial report was presented by Dr. Malkhan Singh Gurjar, Treasurer, IPS. A marked improvement in collection of funds was achieved during this period and the Society is in sound financial position.

Chief Editor's report

Prof. BN Chakraborty, Chief Editor, *Indian Phytopathology* presented the report and informed that all the 4 issues of the journal *Indian Phytopathology* were published timely in 2020 and March issue (2021) is also published timely and all the issues are available online on Springer portal.

During 2020-21, total 441 manuscripts were received through online submissions for the journal. Out of these, 244 were rejected, 30 were withdrawn by the authors, 81 were evaluated and published and 86 are under review. After the journal became online, published papers in *Indian*

Phytopathology are made accessible to a very large group of scientists and academicians across the world. He also appreciated the efforts rendered by the editors, especially for their services in reviewing and timely evaluation of the manuscripts.

Special issue of the journal *Indian Phytopathology* on Phytopathology in achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals

Chief Editor informed about the publication of special issue (June 2021) of the journal *Indian Phytopathology* of selected papers presented in "IPSCONF2020" – Phytopathology in achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals". He informed that request was sent to selected speakers for their contribution of research/review articles. As on date 25 papers were received for the special issue, out of which 6 were accepted by the editorial committee and 19 are under review. The selected papers will be peer reviewed by following the editorial process.

Award lectures

This year the following award lectures were delivered in the national e-conference:

Presidential Lecture	Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty , Member ASRB and President, Indian Phytopathological Society, IARI, New Delhi Title: Plant health management for food security needs advanced research and enabling policies
S.P. Raychaudhuri Memorial Lecture	Dr. M. Anandaraj , Former Director (ICAR-IISR, Calicut) Could not deliver due to his ill health
Mundkur Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. C. Chattopadhyay , Principal Scientist & Joint Director Academic (Acting), ICAR-Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology (Deemed to be University), Garhkhatanga, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India Title: Plant pathology in the era of new education policy: challenges and opportunities
M.S. Pavgi Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. R. Viswanathan , Principal Scientist & Head, ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India Title: Impact of yellow leaf disease in sugarcane and successful disease management to sustain crop production
J.F. Dastur Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. Kajal Kumar Biswas , Principal Scientist, Plant Virology Unit, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India Title: Understanding of sleeping giant-virus in citrus and cotton: perspective to economic losses in India and a challenge to battle
Sharda Lele Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. V. Devappa , Professor & Head, Department of Plant Pathology, College of Horticulture, UHS Campus, GKVK, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

	Title: Status of pomegranate wilt (<i>Ceratocystis fimbriata</i>) in Karnataka and it's management strategies
J.P. Verma Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. Dhruva Kumar Jha , Professor, Microbial Ecology Laboratory, Department of Botany, Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam, India Title: Problems and prospects of utilization of bacterial endophytes for the management of plant diseases
S. Sinha Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. Pramod Gupta , Scientist (Plant Pathology), Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, India Title: Current status of Cercosporoid fungi in India, effective management strategies and future directions

During the inauguration session, the renowned plant pathologists were conferred with the following awards:

A.P. Misra Lifetime Achievement Award	Prof. B.L. Jalali , Ex-Director of Research, HAU, Hisar, Haryana
IPS Recognition Award	Dr. Basant Ram , Former Vice Chancellor, NDU&T, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh
	Dr. H. Shekar Shetty , Lifetime Distinguished Professor, Department of Studies in Applied Botany & Biotechnology, University of Mysore, Mysore, Karnataka
	Dr. R.P. Thakur , Former Principal Plant Pathologist & Head PQL, ICRISAT, Patancheru, Hyderabad, Telangana
	Dr. Srikant Kulkarni , Former Professor & University Head, Department of Plant Pathology, UAS, Dharwad, Karnataka
B.N. Chakraborty and Usha Chakraborty IPS Best Teacher Award	Dr. Robin Gogoi , Secretary, IPS and Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
M.K. Patel Memorial Young Scientist Award	Dr. G. Prakash , Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi Title: Understanding Pathotypic diversity and Genomics of <i>Magnaporthe</i> for management of blast disease

Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award 2019-20

Total 16 candidates from 8 zones contested in the Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award 2020-21. The judging committee recommended following two names as winner of the award as both of them secured equal marks. As per the screening norms, 14 candidates will be awarded commendation certificates.

- 1. Dr. Scindiya Mohandoss**, ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India (Title: Molecular characterization and functional analysis of pathogenicity related genes in *Colletotrichum falcatum* causing red rot in sugarcane).

2. **Ms. Mehulee Sarkar**, Department of Plant Pathology, BCKV, Kalyani, WB (Title: Suppressor activity analysis of Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus gene(s) and development of RNAi construct to evaluate their efficacy in inhibiting the virus).

APS-IPS Travel Sponsorship 2018-19

The Secretary informed that out of 8 zones, only 5 students were nominated from their respective zones to contest in the National e-Conference. Out of 5, only 4 students participated in the national level contest. As per the provisions of American Phytopathological Society (APS) to forward all the candidates for considerations, and accordingly 4 students were recommended for APS Travel Sponsorship. The final winner will be selected by the APS, USA. The recommended students with their affiliations and titles of the presentations are given below:

1. **Mr. Jagmohan Singh**, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India (Title: Deciphering the *Chaetomium globosum* induced signaling network in tomato against early bight).
2. **Mr. Gowtham Kumar Routhu**, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam, India (Title: Post transcriptional gene silencing using coat protein gene specific dsRNA molecules against cognate Cucumber mosaic virus (CMV) infecting Bhut jolokia crop of Assam).
3. **Sumaih Wani**, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Srinagar J&K (Title: Status and molecular characterization of potato virus Y strains in Kashmir valley)
4. **Ms. Sabiha Sayeed**, Department of Plant Protection, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh (Title: Efficacy of plant extracts against *Mungbean Yellow Mosaic India Virus* (MYMIV) in urd bean (*Vigna mungo* L.)

Awards of oral presentation and poster presentation declared in the e-conference

Best Oral Presentation Award

The following papers were recommended for the best oral presentation award:

S.No.	Name	Title of the presentation	Rank
Session 1: Plant disease resistance			
1.	Dr. J. Nanjundan , ICAR-IARI, Regional Station, Wellington, Tamil Nadu, India	Identification and characterization of Indian mustard accessions with novel resistance against multiple isolates of <i>Albugo candida</i> occurring at Wellington	First
2.	Mrs. Ashajyothi Mushineni , ICAR-CARI, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India	Black pepper endophytic <i>Pseudomonas putida</i> BP25 modulates defense elicitation in rice against fungal blast	Second
Session 2A: Eco-friendly management			
1.	Dr. Bishnu Maya Bashyal , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Molecular programming of drought challenged <i>Trichoderma harzianum</i> bioprimered rice (<i>Oryza sativa</i> L.)	First
2.	Dr. Veena S.S. , Division of Crop Protection, ICAR-CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India	Eco-conscious approaches to manage fungal diseases of aroids	Second
3.	Dr. Mehi Lal , ICAR-CPRI, Regional Station, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India	Antagonistic and phosphorus solubilizing activities of native <i>Pseudomonas</i> spp. against soil and tuber-borne diseases of potato (<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> L.)	Third

4.	Dr. Mahender Singh Yadav , ICAR-NCIPM, New Delhi, India	Bio-intensive strategy for sustainable management of diseases in <i>Brassica juncea</i>	Third
Session 2B: Eco-friendly management			
1.	Dr. Amalendu Ghosh , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Controlling the transmission of chilli leaf curl virus by exogenous application of dsRNA targeting hsp70 gene of its vector, <i>Bemisia tabaci</i>	First
2.	Dr. R. Thava Prakasa Pandian , ICAR-CPCRI, Regional Station, Vittal, Karnataka, India	Identification of an effective isolate of <i>Trichoderma asperellum</i> AT172 for the management of arecanut basal stem rot disease	Second
3.	Dr. Sumit Kumar Aggarwal , ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana, Punjab, India	Adoption of modules for management of banded leaf and sheath blight of maize in India	Third
Session 3: Next generation pesticides and application			
1.	Dr. Vinod Singh Mehra , Corteva Agriscience, The V- Ascendas, Hyderabad, Telangana, India	Zorvec® Active (Oxathiapiprolin) - A new generation chemistry for the management of grape downy mildew	First
2.	Dr. Sudha M. , Division of Plant Pathology, CB-CCRI, Chikkamagaluru Dist, Karnataka, India	Bio-efficacy of promising fungicides for management of coffee leaf rust disease caused by <i>Hemileia vastatrix</i> B. & Br.	Second
3.	Dr. V. Prakasam , ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad, Telangana, India	Potentiality of new fungicide Mefentrifluconazole 400 g/l SC to curtail sheath blight and grain discoloration of paddy	Third
Session 4: Host-pathogen interaction and genomics of plant pathogens			
1.	Dr. Sumit Jangra , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Localization of tospovirus nucleocapsid protein (N) in cells of Thrips palmi <i>in-vitro</i>	First
2.	Dr. Susheel Kumar Sharma , ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Manipur Centre, Imphal, Manipur, India	Emerging virus and virus-like pathogens prevalent in north east region of India: characterization and simplified diagnostics	First
3.	Dr. Rahul L. Chavhan , V.D. College of Agricultural Biotechnology, VNMKV, Latur, Maharashtra, India	Candidate flowering genes expression during the battle of pigeonpea sterility mosaic virus in pigeonpea (<i>Cajanus cajan</i> (L) Millsp.)	Second
4.	Ms. Thungri Ghoshal , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Characterization of pseudoTALEs of Indian strain of <i>Xanthomonas oryzae</i> pv. <i>oryzae</i> race 4, the bacterial blight pathogen of rice	Third
Session 5: Genetic variability and diagnostics			
1.	Dr. Malkhan Singh Gurjar , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Multilocus sequence typing and simple sequence repeats analysis in <i>Tilletia indica</i> isolates inciting Karnal bunt of wheat	First
2.	Dr. Ravinder Kumar , ICAR-CPRI, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India	Development of one step reverse transcriptase-recombinase polymerase amplification method for the detection of potato virus S in potato leaves and tubers	Second
Session 7: Microbial biodiversity			
1.	Dr. Manas Kumar Bag , Crop Protection Division, ICAR-NRRI, Cuttack, Odisha, India	Cultural variability, genetic diversity and population analysis of <i>Ustilaginoidea virens</i> in India	First
2.	Dr. Deebea Kamil , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Evolutionary relationship among spatiotemporally diverse heterothallic <i>Alternaria alternata</i> isolates	Second

3.	Dr. Satish Kumar Sain , ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa, Haryana, India	Diversity of the rhizosphere fungal community edifice of upland cotton in North India	Third
Session 8: Climate change impact on pests and diseases			
1.	Dr. Mallikarjun Kenganal , AICRP on Chickpea and Pigeonpea, ZARS, Kalaburagi, Karnataka, India	Emerging threat of chickpea rust caused by <i>Uromyces ciceri</i> due to climate change	First
2.	Dr. P. Nallathambi , ICAR-IARI, Regional Station Wellington, Tamil Nadu, India	Virulence screening of wheat powdery mildew (<i>Blumeria graminis</i> f.sp. <i>tritici</i>) pathogenic isolates from different agro-climatic regions of India	First

Best Poster Presentation Award

The following posters were recommended for the best poster presentation award:

S.No.	Name	Title of the poster	Rank
Session 1: Plant disease resistance			
3.	Dr. Partha Saha , Division of Vegetable Science, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Genetic analysis and identification of molecular marker linked to downy mildew resistance gene Ppa207 in cauliflower (<i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. <i>botrytis</i>)	First
4.	Ms. Preeti Ubale , Division of Vegetable Science, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Identification of tolerant landrace genotypes against rice false smut through artificial screening	First
5.	Dr. Aditya Kulshreshtha , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Functional validation of rice proteins that associate with <i>Xanthomonas oryzae</i> pv. <i>oryzae</i> XopF effector in the development of bacterial blight disease in rice	Second
6.	Mr. Tej Pratap Jitendra Kumar , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Introgression of rust resistance gene <i>Lr37</i> and soft grain <i>pinaD1a</i> gene in wheat through marker assisted backcross breeding	Third
Session 2A: Eco-friendly management			
7.	Ms. Shenaz Sultana Ahmed , AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	Bioformulation of organophosphate degrading bacteria and plant growth promoting microbes for pesticide degradation <i>vis-à-vis</i> management of bacterial wilt pathogen <i>R. solanacearum</i>	First
8.	Ms. Natasha Kashyap , Department of Plant Pathology, Dr. YSPUHF, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, India	Eco-friendly disease management of Southern blight (<i>Sclerotium rolfsii</i>) of China aster by incorporation of various soil amendment tactics	Second
9.	Mr. Irfan Ahmad , AMU, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India	Biocontrol of fungus-nematode disease complex in mungbean	Third
Session 2B: Eco-friendly management			
10.	Dr. Manjunatha N.N. , ICAR-NRC on Pomegranate, Solapur, Maharashtra, India	Harnessing endophytes as biological control agents for bacterial blight disease (<i>Xanthomonas axonopodis</i> pv. <i>punicae</i>) in pomegranate	First
11.	Dr. Abhishek Sharma , Amity University Uttar Pradesh, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India	Formulating microbes for sustainable plant disease management	First
12.	Ms. Mehjebin Rahman , Department of Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	Effect of commercially available microbial biopesticides on rice pathogens, seed germination and seed vigour index of rice	Second

13.	Mrs. Pinagari Arunasri, S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India	A novel technique to screen <i>in vitro</i> efficacy of <i>Trichoderma asperellum</i> in interaction with new combi molecules on the growth of <i>Sclerotium rolfsii</i> Sacc. inciting stem rot of groundnut	Third
Session 3: Next generation pesticides and application			
14.	Dr. Yogesh Ingle , AICRP on Fruits, Dr. PDKV, Akola, Maharashtra, India	Management of citrus root rot by using non conventional chemicals under nursery conditions	First
15.	Mr. Sahil Mehta , Crop Improvement Group, ICGEB, New Delhi, India	Potassium phosphite: A novel blasticide enhances blast disease resistance in <i>ptxD</i> -OE transgenic rice	Second
16.	Mr. Dhiraj Wasule , VNCAB, Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India	Management of pod blight complex of soybean	Third
Session 4: Host-pathogen interaction and genomics of plant pathogens			
17.	Ms. Haritha M. , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Identification and validation of germination-related genes in teliospores of <i>Tilletia indica</i> causing karnal bunt of wheat using RNA Seq approach	First
18.	Dr. Shweta Agarwal , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Complete genome sequence analysis of <i>Bipolaris sorokiniana</i> causing spot blotch of wheat to understand host pathogen interaction	Second
19.	Ms. Aradhna Sagwal , Department of Plant Pathology, CCS HAU, Hisar, Haryana, India	Dynamic role of studies on Interaction between <i>Meloidogyne javanica</i> and <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i> on tomato	Second
20.	Ms. Malavika M. , School of Life Sciences, JNU, New Delhi, India	Viral suppressors of RNA silencing – the protagonists of plant viral synergisms	Second
21.	Dr. Prashant R. Shingote , V.N. College of Agricultural Biotech. (Dr PDKV, Akola), Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India	Characterization of chili leaf curl virus complex infecting chili in Maharashtra	Third
Technical Session 5: Genetic variability and diagnostics			
22.	Ms. Hemavati Ranebennur , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Transmission efficiency of a peanut witches' broom phytoplasma strain associated with sesame phyllody by dodder, grafting and leafhoppers	First
23.	Ms. Bishakha Deb , Department of Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	Molecular detection of cow pea mild mottle virus infecting soybean crop in Assam, North East India	First
24.	Mr. Manish R. , Department of Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	Identification and characterisation of Peanut witches' broom Phytoplasma Associated with Witches' Broom Disease of Bamboo	Second
25.	Ms. Kulumanali Gogoi , Department of Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	Molecular detection of cucumber mosaic virus in a monocrop pumpkin (<i>Cucurbita moschata</i>) from Assam	Second
26.	Ms. Dibya Sree Dutta , Department of Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	<i>Candidatus</i> phytoplasma trifolii: A 16Sr VI group of phytoplasma posing threat to brinjal cultivation in Assam	Third
Technical Session 7: Microbial biodiversity			

27.	Ms. Chaithra M. , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Morpho-molecular characterization of different isolates of <i>Beauveria bassiana</i> (Bals.) Vuill. as assessed using Internal Transcribed Spacer (ITS) region	First
28.	Ms. Haritha J. Kumar , Department of Plant Pathology, KAU, Vellayani, Kerala, India	Macroscopic and microscopic vegetative reactions in <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i> Kuhn isolates associated with rice, cowpea and amaranth in Southern Kerala	Second
29.	Mr. Boopathi N. , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	First report of <i>Ganoderma orbiforme</i> on Arecanut from India	Third
Session 8: Climate change impact on pests and diseases			
30.	Dr. Munmi Borah , Department of Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat, Assam, India	Prevalence of soybean diseases in north eastern state, Assam	First
31.	Dr. Pooja Parmar , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India	Isolation, identification and molecular characterization of <i>Ustilagoidea virens</i> isolates collected from India	Second
32.	Dr. Kushal Raj , Department of Plant Pathology, CCS HAU, Hisar, Haryana, India	Reconnoiter of fenugreek (<i>Trigonella foenum-graecum</i>) powdery mildew development vis-à-vis weather parameters	Third

IPS Online Election: Composition of new Executive Council 2021

It was informed by the Secretary that the Society has developed OTP based online voting system for preliminary nomination and final voting for election to the official executive positions of IPS from 2020. For the last time, the offline voting system was also adopted partially for the members whose email IDs and mobile numbers are not available in IPS members' database. The Society compliments all the members for making online voting a grand success. Based on the results of the IPS Election, the new Executive Council 2021 is constituted with the following members:

President	Prof. Pratibha Sharma ICAR- Emeritus Scientist Division of Plant Pathology SKN Agricultural University Jobner-Jaipur - 303328, Rajasthan Mob.: 9810119397 Email: psharma032003@yahoo.co.in	President-Elect	Dr. Rakesh Pandey Emeritus Scientist Crop Protection & Production Division Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Lucknow – 226015, Uttar Pradesh Mob.: 9453023391 Email: rakeshpandey66@gmail.com
Secretary	Dr. Robin Gogoi Principal Scientist Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi - 110012 Mob.: 9871842028 Email: r.gogoi@rediffmail.com; r.gogoiari@gmail.com	Joint Secretary	Dr. Kalyan K. Mondal Principal Scientist Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi - 110012 Mob.: 9873313265, 9868153461 Email: kalyanmondal@yahoo.com; mondal_kk@rediffmail.com
Treasurer	Dr. M.S. Gurjar Scientist (Senior Scale) Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Chief Editor	Prof. B.N. Chakraborty Department of Biological Science Aliah University New Town, Kolkata - 700160 West Bengal

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Ex-officio	Dr. Rashmi Aggarwal Head Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi - 110012 Mob: 09999675782 Email: rashmi.aggarwal2@gmail.com		
Zonal President (Central Zone)	Dr. Ritu Mawar Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology) Division of Plant Improvement and Pest Management ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute CAZRI Road, Jodhpur - 342003, Rajasthan Mob.: 9664157098 Email: ritumawar1976@gmail.com	Zonal Councillor (Central Zone)	Dr. Dama Ram Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology) College of Agriculture, Agriculture University, Mandor Jodhpur - 342304, Rajasthan Mob.: 9109759182 Email: damaram.choudhary@gmail.com
Zonal President (Delhi Zone)	Dr. Tusar Kanti Bag Principal Scientist Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi - 110012 Mob.: 7085951827 Email: tusar.bag@gmail.com	Zonal Councillor (Delhi Zone)	Dr. Amrita Das Scientist Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi - 110012 Delhi Mob.: 9212281285 Email: amritapatho@gmail.com
Zonal President (Eastern Zone)	Dr. Jayanta Tarafdar Professor Department of Plant Pathology Faculty of Agriculture Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya Dist. - Nadia, Mohanpur -741252 West Bengal Mob.: 9830342320 Email: jayanta94bckv@gmail.com	Zonal Councillor (Eastern Zone)	Dr. Goutam Mondal Associate Professor (Plant Pathology) AICRP on MAP & Betelvine Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya Kalyani (Nadia) - 741235, West Bengal Mob.: 9433391247 Email: gmbckv@gmail.com

Zonal President (Mid-Eastern Zone)	Dr. Krishna Kant Mishra Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology) Crop Protection Section ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan Almora - 263601 Uttarakhand Mob.: 9997887519 Email: mishrakkpatho@gmail.com	Zonal Councillor (Mid-Eastern Zone)	Dr. H. Rajashekara Scientist (Plant Pathology) Crop Protection Section ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan Almora - 263601 Uttarakhand Mob.: 8791578163, 9690021985 Email: rajaiaripath@gmail.com
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Zonal President (Northern Zone)	Dr. Kushal Raj Plant Pathologist House No. 314/3, Kathuria Bhawan, Subhash Nagar Hisar – 125001, Haryana Mob.: 9416263020 Email: kushalraj2008@gmail.com	Zonal Councillor (Northern Zone)	Dr. Rakesh Kumar Chugh Scientist (Plant Pathology) H.No. 706, Sector: 15A Hisar - 125001, Haryana Mob.: 9466728844 Email: drrakeshchugh@rediffmail.com
Zonal President (North-Eastern Zone)	Dr. R.K. Tombisana Devi Head School of Crop Protection College of Post-Graduate Studies in Agricultural Sciences Central Agricultural University Umiam – 793103, Meghalaya Mob.: 9862282383 Email: totonene2011@gmail.com	Zonal Councillor (North-Eastern Zone)	Dr. Pranab Dutta Associate Professor (Plant Pathology) School of Crop Protection College of Post-Graduate Studies in Agricultural Sciences Central Agricultural University Umiam – 793103, Meghalaya Mob.: 9678906650 Email: pranabdutta74@gmail.com

The following decisions were taken and approved by the General Body

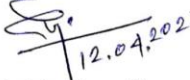
- Proposal for institution of new award - proposed by Prof. B.L. Jalali, former President, IPS
- GB deliberated and agreed on the proposal. Prof. Jalali will be informed formally and detailed guidelines will be developed by the Society in consultation with Prof. Jalali.
- Proposal of institution of "Pravasi Fellow" – proposed by Dr. C.D. Mayee, former President, IPS for honoring foreign based Indian plant pathologists.

- GB deliberated and agreed on the proposal. The detailed guidelines will be developed by a committee for this award.
- 3. Platinum Jubilee Celebration of IPS - 2022 (Hybrid mode)
- GB deliberated and agreed for Platinum Jubilee Celebration of IPS on dated 28th February 2022. The topic and venue will be decided in the next EC meeting.
- 4. New Journal: A proposal for initiation of new journal by the Society was discussed in the GB. After discussion GB suggested that proposal may be deferred till the impact factor of the journal *Indian Phytopathology* is issued and NAAS rating is increased above 6.0.


Acknowledgements

The Society extended thanks and expressed sincere gratitude to Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, President-IPS for his all around guidance, advice, encouragement and support in day to day functioning of the Society. The Society expressed gratefulness to all the Executive Council members for their cooperation, active support and suggestions in various activities of the Society. Profuse thanks were given to Dr. Pratibha Sharma, President-elect and Co-chairperson, Organizing Committee, Dr. Rashmi Aggarwal, Chairperson, Technical Committee; Dr. Kalyan K. Mondal, Co-organizing; Dr. Malkhan Singh Gurjar, Convener; Chairpersons and rapporteurs of various technical sessions, members of organizing sub-committees for their continuous whole-hearted support in making the 73rd Annual Meeting and first National e-Conference a grand success. Last but not the least, heartfelt thanks were extended to the staff of the headquarter of IPS for their unstinted support, without which it would not have been possible to meet all responsibilities of the Society, throughout the year.

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 12.04.2021
(Robin Gogoi)
 Secretary, IPS

Approved by President, IPS


(P.K. Chakrabarty)
 President, IPS

Dated: April 12, 2021



डॉ. रोबिन गोगोई
Dr. Robin Gogoi
 सचिव / Secretary
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