DR HARI SHARMA ELECTED AS FELLOW OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Dr Hari C Sharma, Principal Scientist – Entomology - at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru, India, has been elected as Fellow of the Entomological Society of America (ESA). Dr Sharma has been bestowed this honour in recognition of his contributions in the areas insect bio-ecology, natural plant products, host-plant resistance, biosafety of genetically modified crops to non-target organisms and IPM.

His research findings have been published in over 250 research papers, 150 book chapters, 10 research/information bulletins and six books. His work has earlier been recognized by various national and international organizations, including the HariOm Trust Award of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Excellence in Science Award of Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and International Plant Protection Award of Distinction of the International Association of Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS), to name a few. He is a fellow of six academic societies, including the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

In addition to his scientific contributions, Dr Sharma has also played an exemplary leadership role as Governing Board Member of IAPPS, Co-chair of the program on ‘Biological Consequences of Global Change’ of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS), and as President of the Council of International Congresses of Entomology (ICE).

On behalf of the entire IAPPS family, I would like to congratulate Hari for this well-deserved honour.

Prof. E. A. “Short” Heinrichs
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BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF PEARL MILLET HEAD MINER, 
HELIOCHEILUS ALBIPUNCTELLA IN NIGER AND SENEGAL

The Sorghum and Millet Innovation Lab (SMIL) has been granted a four and a half years project on the biological control of millet head miner (MHM), *Heliocheilus albipunctella* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) a pest of Pearl millet in Niger and Senegal. In some years it causes up to 80% crop damage. Resource poor farmers in the Sahelian region are left with no options on management of this pest except for spraying insecticides. Recently, their prayers have been answered by the approval of a biological control project by the SMIL. In this project, IPM IL scientists Dr. R. Muniappan and Dr. G. Norton at Virginia Tech will be collaborating with Nigerien scientists Dr. Malick Ba, ICRISAT, Dr. Ibrahim Baoua, University of Maradi, and Laouali Amadou, INRAN and Senegalese scientist Dr. Ibrahima Sarr, ISRA, Senegal. We expect to graduate two PhD students in Entomology, one each from Niger and Senegal and two MS students in Agricultural Economics, one each from Niger and the U.S.A. before the end of project.

The main objectives of this project are mass rearing of the larval parasitoid, *Habrobracon hebetor* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) in the laboratory on *Corcyra cephalonica* (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) larvae and augmentative release in the field for control of MHM and to develop a sustainable supply chain of this parasitoid to the farmers. Additionally, we will also mass rear the egg parasitoid, *Trichogramma* sp. (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) on *C. cephalonica* eggs and augmentative release it in the field for control of both MHM and millet stem borer (MSB) *Coniesta ingnifusalis* (Lepidoptera: Crambidae). Even though biological control of MSB is not a part of this SMIL project, we are trying to extend our resources an extra mile by including MSB at no additional cost to the project.

We are also developing a public/private partnership business model for producing, parasitoids, predators, fungal biocontrol agents (*Trichoderma, Beauveria and Metarhizium*), neem products and pheromones in Niger and Senegal in association with other institutes and donor funded projects in the Sahelian region.

Prof. R. Muniappan  
IAPPS Coordinator Region XI: North America  
Director, IPM Innovation Lab  
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4TH WORKSHOP ON MICROBIAL CONTROL AGENTS

The 4th Workshop on Microbial Control Agents will be held on October 31 2014 in Montevideo, Uruguay. The Workshop will bring together scientists and students working in biological control of plant diseases and pests from the Southern Cone countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay). Presentations will be made by regional experts covering the academic, industry, government, and grower perspectives. Dr. Trevor Jackson (IAPPS Coordinator Region XII, Oceania) will participate as guest speaker. The event is supported by the Microbial Genetic Resources Working Group of the Cooperative Program for Technological Development in Agrifood and Agroindustry in the Southern Cone (PROCISUR).

For further information visit the website http://www.inia.uy/Paginas/4%C2%B0-Taller-de-Agentes-Microbianos-de-Control-Biologico.aspx

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VII INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT OF THE DIAMONDBACK MOTH AND OTHER CRUCIFER INSECT PESTS

The University of Agricultural Sciences - Bangalore, India in association with AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center (Taiwan) and Cornell University (USA) will be organizing the Seventh International Workshop on Management of the Diamondback Moth and Other Crucifer Insect Pests during March 23-27, 2015 in Bangalore, India. The Meeting will take place in the Movenpick Hotel and Spa, Bangalore situated between Airport and center of the city.

This meeting provides a platform for researchers, students, and agencies involved in the study of insect pests of crucifers from around the world, to network, share and discuss their experiences and scientific findings on every facet of insect pests of crucifers with special reference to the cosmopolitan pest, Diamondback Moth. The workshop is planned to cover various aspects of the biology, behavior, distribution, ecology, host plant interactions, chemical ecology, chemical and non-chemical methods of management and biotechnological tools relevant to diamondback moth and other insect pests of crucifers.

Registration & Abstract Submission (online) at http://www.dbmworkshopindia.org/

Opens on:
1 September, 2014
Closes on:
31 December, 2014 (for Indian participants)
31 October, 2014 (for Overseas participants, see below)

The issue of Visa from Indian Embassies is subject to regulations that are in force from time to time and is subject to clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division), Government of India. A mandatory 60 day period is generally required to get the clearance from the Indian Government for participants from some countries. The clearance is provided on the basis of individual delegates and the same would be intimated by the Ministry to respective embassies for issue of VISA. Please visit http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/ForeigD-FAQs-on-ConferenceVisa.pdf for more information:
The overseas participants are therefore requested to complete their registration and submission of abstracts before 31 October, 2014.

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