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**PLANT PROTECTION SCIENCES**

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## **TRAINING ON *TRICHODERMA* AND PLANT GROWTH PROMOTING RHIZOBACTERIA**

A training workshop on “**Production and Use of Bio-control agents, *Trichoderma* and Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria**” was organized in Addis Ababa, September 17-21, 2018, by the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*)-Ethiopia, in collaboration with the Integrated Pest Management Innovation Lab (IPM-IL) at Virginia Tech and the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR).

The five-day event brought together about 17 participants, including 2 resource officers from India and 15 additional experts in plant pathology, from three African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania). The training was both theoretical and practical, covering topics such as collection of soil samples, isolation of biocontrol agents, purification, mass production, and more.



The main objective of the workshop was to review current research on the selection, mode of action, mass production of and delivery system of bio-control agents, and to discuss the establishment of biopesticide labs. With this context, the training was conducted under the project Rice, Maize and Chickpea IPM for East Africa, funded by the USAID Feed the Future, IPM Innovation Lab, Virginia Tech.

The reflections delivered during the feedback session offered a wide range of insights on how to boost initiatives combating soilborne plant pathogens, and how to improve the national capacity, scaling out, and mass production of environmentally friendly bio-control organisms like *Trichoderma* to be used by farmers as effective pest management methods.



The participants expressed that they found the training unique and were fascinated that *Trichoderma* and Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria could be produced in a simple way with locally available materials. The training met all expectations explored at the beginning of the session. Furthermore, participants said that this training created an excellent opportunity to network with people for developing joint proposals

and potential presentations to policymakers to consider and formulate appropriate policy to produce biological agents. They also applauded the organizers for initiating such an outstanding new approach to produce the bio-agents at large scale in the three countries.

**Dr. Tadele Tefera**

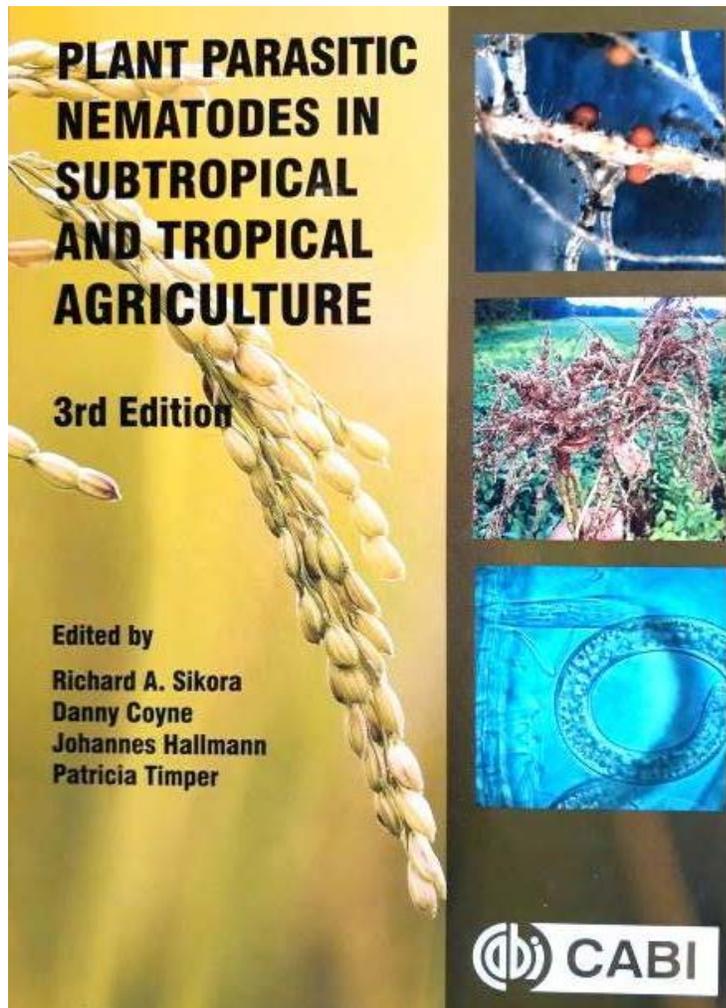
IAPPS Coordinator Region V: East Africa

E-mail: [t.tefera@icipe.org](mailto:t.tefera@icipe.org)

## **NEW BOOK ON PLANT PARASITIC NEMATODES IN SUBTROPICAL AND TROPICAL AGRICULTURE**

Plant parasitic nematodes - overlooked, neglected, little known and mostly out of sight; surprising then that they cause billions of dollars' worth of damage to global crop production annually. In the tropics and subtropics they persistently undermine production, result in massive waste of disfigured and unmarketable produce, and literally plague some crops.

The latest updated edition of '**Plant parasitic nematodes in subtropical and tropical agriculture**' edited by Richard A. Sikora, Danny Coyne, Johannes Hallmann and Patricia Timper, and released in August, provides all that there really is to know about these pests on all major crops and crop products in the subtropics and topics. The new edition remains a truly practical book for use by agriculturists, researchers, teachers, students, extension workers and also administrators.



The 888 page book harnesses knowledge, experience and know-how from the leading authorities from across the world and is truly an encyclopedia of tropical nematology. The book contains over 250 high quality coloured photographs of damage symptoms and as in the earlier editions, the arrangement of each chapter remains practical and easy to use for both in chapter and between chapter analyses of specific topics of interest. The text has been completely updated and revised taking into consideration the new observations, records and results published since 1990.

The book has been expanded, for example, to include an important chapter on nematode ecology that reflects the importance of nematodes in soil biodiversity and as indicators of soil health. The chapter on management has been expanded to include practical data concerning the various elements for efficient management of plant parasitic

nematodes as covered in the all the 18 crop chapters.

The editors reflect on the challenges and issues facing agriculture and nematology in the near and distant future and make suggestions for change, by attempting to anticipate how agriculture and nematology will look in the subtropics and tropics in the years 2050 and 2100. CABI has decided to make the book available both in hardcover and as an e-Book. Conceived in this way, we hope that this new edition will again be a truly useful and practical book for anyone dealing with plant parasitic nematodes and working in subtropical and tropical agriculture. We wish you success in your work to improve crop yields.

On behalf of the editors:

**Prof. em. Richard A. Sikora**  
University of Bonn, Germany  
E-Mail: [ulp40c@uni-bonn.de](mailto:ulp40c@uni-bonn.de)

## **ASIAN CONFERENCE ON PLANT PATHOLOGY 2020 FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

This is the first announcement of the 7th meeting of the Asian Conference on Plant Pathology 2020 (ACPP 2020) which will be held in Tsukuba Science City, Japan, from September 15 to 18, 2020. The theme of the conference will be 'Importance and Impact of Global Plant Health'. The meeting promises to be an exciting venue to update you on the most current topics of plant pathology, from molecular to farming. ACPP has been a forum to foster collaboration among scientists around the world, and especially in Asia. It is anticipated that over 1,000 participants will attend the conference, providing a unique opportunity to promote scientific collaboration. Further information for the meeting will be posted on the ACPP 2020 website, which will be opened soon.

**Prof. Tsutomu Arie**

IAPPS Coordinator Region X: Northeast Asia

E-mail: [arie@cc.tuat.ac.jp](mailto:arie@cc.tuat.ac.jp)

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**IAPPS Mission: to provide a global forum for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, integrating, and promoting plant protection concepts, technologies, and policies that are economically, environmentally, and socially acceptable.**

**It seeks to provide a global umbrella for the plant protection sciences to facilitate and promote the application of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to the world's crop and forest ecosystems.**

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**Manuele Tamò  
Editor, IAPPS Newsletter  
IITA-Benin  
08 B.P. 0932 Tri Postal, Cotonou, Republic of Benin  
E-mail: [m.tamo@cgiar.org](mailto:m.tamo@cgiar.org)**