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WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER AND IAPPS TREASURER



On behalf of the IAPPS Executive Committee it is my pleasure to introduce **Dr. Shaonpius Mondal** as our new **Governing Board member and IAPPS treasurer**. Dr. Mondal is currently an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Entomology. His research expertise includes arthropod vectors of plant viruses, vector biology, insect-plant-virus interactions, and integrated pest and disease management.

His early education was in India where he received a BSc in agriculture from Visva Bharati University and an MSc in entomology from the Punjab Agricultural University. As a senior research fellow in India his research focused on the development and dissemination of strategies for Integrated Pest Management of cotton and rice pests. Shaonpius holds a PhD in

entomology from the University of Idaho in the USA. He has had post-doctoral research experience in aphid vector of plant viruses (potyvirus), vector biology and virus-host-vector interactions at Cornell University and whitefly vectors of plant viruses (crinivirus and ipomovirus), molecular detection of plant viruses and insect species, virus-host-vector interactions and molecular breeding at the USDA-ARS.

Dr. Mondal recently joined the entomology faculty at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His lab is dedicated to understanding virus-host-vector interactions in wheat curl mite transmitted wheat viruses and understanding strain composition of barley yellow dwarf virus and contribution of aphid transmission on their prevalence. He has published his research in more than 15 refereed journal articles and authored/coauthored more than 50 invited presentations, lectures, and other presentations in national and international conferences. He is organizing a concurrent session (symposium) on “arthropod vectors of plant pathogens” for the IPPC 2024 in Athens, Greece where we will be introducing him to the IAPPS Governing Board.

During his scientific career, Shaonpius has collaborated with scientists throughout world, including Israel, Scotland, Jamaica, India etc. As a member of the IAPPS executive team, his long-term goal is to assist society and render a collaborative global research effort to mitigate insect pest and disease problems of crop plants throughout world.

Dr. Mondal replaces Dr. Tom Hunt who is resigning from University of Nebraska-Lincoln and has asked to be released from his IAPPS Treasurer duties. Tom has recommended Dr. Mondal as his replacement for which we are extremely grateful. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I want to thank Tom for his excellent and highly professional service to IAPPS as treasurer and wish him the best as he pursues new agricultural activities on his farm.

Please join me in welcoming Shaonpius to the IAPPS GB and family !

Prof. E. A. “Short” Heinrichs

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BUSINESS TRIP CONTRIBUTES CREATING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR MARKETING IPM PRODUCTS

Virginia Tech has been awarded the “Feed the Future Bangladesh Integrated Pest Management Activity” by USAID mission in Bangladesh with the objective to strengthen the capacity of Bangladesh’s agricultural sector stakeholders to control and prevent the spread of current and emerging threats to ensure more efficient, profitable, and environmentally safe agricultural production and productivity. Apart from building capacity of agricultural stakeholders, the activity is expected to contribute commercialization of IPM products. Part of the commercialization of IPM products/ technologies, IPM Activity organized an exposure trip for



Dr. M. Gorantla Briefed on R & D of ATGC

the public and private sector entities to biopesticides, pheromone lures, and micro manufacturing industries in India with the objective to exchange on potential innovations in the field of insects and diseases management in an environmentally safe way including establishment of business relationship between the private companies in two countries during 28 February to 6

March 2023. One representative from each of Russell IPM, Ispahani Agro Ltd., National Agriculture and Fertilizer Company (NAAFCO), BRAC Seeds and Agro Enterprise, Renaissance Enterprise, and Department of Agricultural extension (DAE) visited the manufacturing facilities of ATGC Bio Tech, AgriBio and Agrilife in Hyderabad and T Stanes, Vishakan Biotech Private



Meeting with the Vice Chancellor Dr. Geetalakshmi of TNAU

Limited including Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) in Coimbatore. Presentations from the manufacturing companies followed by visits to the production facilities. Discussions during visits to the production facilities contributed building confidence of the visiting team members. Further, the participants took part in an orientation on the isolation technique of *Trichoderma* from soil,

mass culture of *Trichoderma* in both solid and liquid media, and formulation of *Trichoderma viride* by the Plant Pathology Department of the Tamil Nadu agricultural University.

All the participants took part in the exposure visit, brought samples of non-biological products such as pheromone lures from the manufacturing companies and established field trials to observe effectiveness of the products. In addition, ATGC Biotech Pvt. Ltd., a leading high quality pheromone chemical synthesis company in India and Renaissance Enterprise have established Material Transfer Agreement (MTA). Now ATGC is in the process of shipping pheromone lures against two destructive insects of coconut, rhinoceros beetle and red palm weevil. Once Renaissance Enterprise received the pheromone lures, it will start the process of getting registration for marketing them in Bangladesh.

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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.

Membership Information: IAPPS has four classes of membership (individual, affiliate, associate, and corporate) which are described in the IAPPS Web Site www.plantprotection.org.

The *IAPPS Newsletter* welcomes news, letters, and other items of interest from individuals and organizations. Address correspondence and information to:

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