

Integrating Genomics in Plant Pathology: National Symposium Concluded at ICAR-IARI

16-1-24

The National Symposium on "Integrating Genomics in Plant Pathology: New Frontiers in Disease Management," held on 15-16 January 2025 jointly organized by Indian Phytopathological Society, Delhi Zone in collaboration with Division of Plant Pathology at ICAR-IARI, New Delhi was a successful and enriching event with 133 registered participants including representatives from industries. The symposium featured, 24 invited Lectures, 40 poster presentations and three engaging technical sessions, offering valuable insights into the role of genomics in advancing disease management strategies.

The inaugural event was graced by Dr. J. K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. S. K. Singh, DDG (Horticulture), ICAR; and Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. and who provided valuable guidance and support. The prestigious MJ Narashiman Merit Medal contest saw the participation of five students, with two selected to present their work at the National Conference in Nagpur. Five flash talks were recognized with the Best Oral Presentation Award, and three best posters from each of the sessions were awarded. The academia-industry interaction provided students with a deeper understanding of potential collaborations to develop sustainable disease management solutions. Overall, the symposium effectively brought together cutting-edge genomic knowledge and practical solutions for plant pathology.

Major Recommendations

- i. **Integrate Genomics in Plant Pathology:**
Promote the integration of genomics with traditional plant pathology to improve disease management strategies.
- ii. **Promote Academia-Industry Collaboration:**
Strengthen partnerships between academia and industry to translate genomic and microbiome research into practical solutions.
- iii. **Encourage Student Involvement:**
Provide more opportunities for students to engage in genomic research through internships, contests, and projects.
- iv. **Expand Knowledge Sharing:**
Organize more sessions and workshops to share the latest advancements in genomics, inculcate genomic knowledge, and advanced disease management.
- v. **Support Policy Development:**
Advocate for policies that support the use of genomics, genome editing, and microbiome in agriculture, including funding and regulatory support.



Source: ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi