



KAHKASHAN WALI

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ENTOMOLOGY, ANAND
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND, GUJARAT, INDIA

Kahkashan Wali is currently pursuing her M. Sc. (Ag.) from the Department of Agricultural Entomology at B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat. She is currently working on Biology, seasonal incidence and evaluation of different sex pheromone trap designs (like delta trap, water trap, sleeve trap, bottle with sleeve trap and bottle trap) against shoot and fruit borer, *Leucinodes orbonalis* in Brinjal under the guidance of Dr. C. B. Varma, Assistant Professor. She studied the life cycle of *Leucinodes orbonalis*, under laboratory conditions. She is also working on seasonal incidence of shoot and fruit borer to comprehensively understand the influence of weather parameters on its abundance. Her experiment also aimed to work on mass trapping of brinjal shoot and fruit borer through different sex pheromone trap designs. She believes that her research work will help the farmers by adopting mass trapping technology as prophylactic measures, it will also impart better knowledge regarding the relative benefit of mass trapping technology to the stakeholders, which is immensely lacking in the farming community. In future, she intends to research on the pollination efficiency of honeybees, which might be useful in doubling farmer's income.

SANJAY KUMAR PRADHAN

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ENTOMOLOGY,
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Sanjay Kumar Pradhan is currently pursuing his Ph.D. from the Department of Agricultural Entomology, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru, Karnataka. He is currently working on CRISPR/Cas9 mediated editing of target genes in melon fruitfly, *Zeugodacus cucurbitae* (Coquillett) at ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru under the guidance of Dr. B. Shivanna (Associate Professor, UAS, GKVK, Bengaluru) and Dr. R. Asokan (Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru).

To overcome the disadvantages of SIT techniques used for area wide pest management programme, he is using CRISPR/Cas9 system based site specific mutation of the target genes without affecting the fitness of the insect, which attributes in the management of the pest. So, the goal of management of the fruit flies can be achieved by non-chemical based control method. In future, he is interested to extend his work on CRISPR/Cas9 based genome editing in other agriculturally important insect pests to target important genes, which can be an asset in pest management.

STUDENT CORNER



NIDHI SHARMA

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY, DR YASHWANT SINGH PARMAR UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURE AND FORESTRY, NAUNI, SOLAN (H.P.)

Nidhi Sharma is pursuing her Ph.D. from Department of Entomology at Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan (H.P.) under the guidance of Dr. P.L. Sharma (Principal Scientist). She is working on ‘Effect of host plants and pesticides on the performance of *Neoseiulus longispinosus* (Evans) against *Tetranychus urticae* Koch.’ Under this she has conducted experiments to screen pesticides for safety/toxicity to *N. longispinosus* on five different crops viz., bean, tomato, brinjal, okra and cucumber which were sprayed with different pesticides recommended by CIBRC. She had studied the demographic parameters as well as functional response of *N. longispinosus* against *T. urticae* on above mentioned crops. In addition, she is working on standardization of release rate of *N. longispinosus* on different hosts under poly house conditions and host plant for mass production of *N. longispinosus*.

G. R. HITHESH

DIVISION OF ENTOMOLOGY, ICAR-INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, PUSA, NEW DELHI, INDIA

Hithesh G R is currently pursuing his Ph.D. from the Division of Entomology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi. He is working on conservation of natural enemies in cabbage crop ecosystem under the supervision of Dr. Sachin S. Suroshe, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. The indiscriminate use of harmful pesticides for the management of insect pests has already led to development of insecticide resistance, residues, secondary pest outbreaks and pest resurgence issues. The conservation of natural enemies in the cabbage ecosystem plays a vital role in minimizing all these issue. In this context, they are working on the effect of different companion crops viz., calendula, sweet alyssum, marigold, cineraria, etc., on the insect pests and their natural enemies and also estimating their impact on the biodiversity indices in the cabbage ecosystem. They are also working on tri-trophic interactions influenced by HIPV'S involving natural enemies, cabbage crop and insect pests.



Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo, Miss. Akshatha and Mr. Sanath R.M., Student Associate Editors of IE compiled the information for this section.
