

University  of Mysore

Department of Studies in Botany
Manasagangotri, Mysore- 570 006, Karnataka

**Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Commemoration
National Conference
ON
Plant Diversity and Plant Health**

11th & 12th March 2010

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PROF. V.G. TALAWAR

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor
University of Mysore, Mysore

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PROF. G.R. JANARDHANA

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PROF. K.A. RAVEESHA

PROF. H.S. PRAKASH

PROF. S.R. NIRANJANA

Organizing Secretary

DR. K.N. AMRUTHESH



Aim and Scope of the Conference

Dr. Norman Ernest Borlaug (1914-2009), the father of Green Revolution, is a well-known plant pathologist, agronomist, and plant breeder. Also known for his humanitarian approach for providing food for all for which he was awarded Nobel Peace Prize. His contributions to the field of crop improvement as Director of wheat research programme, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, (CIMMYT), during 1964-79 are worth remembering. He has developed and introduced the semi-dwarf, high-yield, disease-resistant wheat varieties combined with modern agricultural techniques responsible for green revolution in the world. These new hybrids were introduced during 1960 to India and other parts of developing countries was responsible for surplus food production. This contributed at large that India became self-sufficient in food security. To commemorate the great contributions of Dr. Borlaug in ending starvation in India and around the world, the Department of Studies in Botany, University of Mysore, is organizing two-day national conference on the thrust area **"Plant Diversity and Plant Health"**.

Plant and microbial diversity form the source of food, medicine, fuel, fiber, clothing and shelter. The Indian subcontinent is endowed with rich biological diversity and is a home to many ethno medicinally important plant species, and is ranked sixth among the 7 'Mega Diversity Zones'. The Western Ghats, extending along the west coast of India, starts at the south of Tapti river near the border of Gujarat and Maharashtra and runs through a distance of 1600 KM via the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala to the southern tip of Indian Peninsula. One-third of the plant species in this region are endemic and many more are on the verge of extinction, hence are placed in the IUCN Red list category. Besides their floristic diversity, these plant species are gene pool for developing and improving crop varieties for future needs of human welfare. Plants are a repository of phytochemicals and are a treasure house of novel chemical entities widely used in human health care. It is well known that plants are an abundant source of medicinal drugs. More than 120 distinct chemical substances of plant origin are important drugs. Several other drugs currently available in market are simple semi-synthetic modifications of natural products. According to an estimate, 25% of the world's pharmaceutical products find a significant degree of origin in indigenous communities, which represent more than 2000 billion USD share in the global market. Several of these medicinal products have been discovered by 'bioprospecting plant and microbial diversity'. In the last few decades, considerable increase in the human

population and harvesting of forest products has exerted tremendous pressure on the biodiversity of medicinal plants in Western Ghats. The escalating demand for herbal drugs has resulted in the steady increase in the number of pharmaceutical companies, which derive the raw material from natural habitats. In this context, the conservation of medicinal plants and the documentation of traditional knowledge are important to curb their ruthless exploitation by illegal trade.

The relationships between crop diversity loss and at the same time the emergence of new and more, virulent disease causing organisms have posed a new threat for food security. There are evidences of many disease outbreaks in recent times on many important crop plants which have severely affected the world food tray. There is a pressing need to protect the crop plants without damaging the bio-coenotic interrelationship in the natural ecosystem. The conference also focuses on the issues related to crop diversity and management of crop diseases by adapting eco-friendly approaches.

Department of Studies in Botany

University of Mysore (Accredited by NAAC at the A⁺ level) established in 1916 is an “**Institute of Excellence**”, and has been granted Rupees One hundred crores in the Central Budget (2008-2009) for strengthening of the academic excellence on par with the International standard. The **Department of Studies in Botany**, University is one of the leading Plant Science Departments in the country dedicated to teaching and research in plant sciences. The department has a well-established '**Botanic Garden**' with separate Glass House and a Fern House with its living collections of more than 400 species of plants. The department also has '**Museum**', which is named after **N.I. Vavilov**, with a collection of over 300 specimens representing all the major groups of Plant Kingdom. The '**Herbarium**' of the department is one of the assets and many researchers have contributed for enriching the collections. It has more than 3500 plant species collections with complete descriptions and is one of the main referral centers for plant identification.

The department has strong research programs on different areas of basic and applied botany. The faculty members have successfully guided 150 Ph.D's so far, authored 16 text books and more than 1350 research papers in national and international journals, conference volumes etc. The department has been offering specialized course in the areas like Taxonomy of Angiosperms, Medicinal Botany, Plant

Biotechnology, Plant Molecular Biology, Plant Pathology, Microbiology and Environmental Biology. The faculty members have rich experience in isolation and characterization of antimicrobials from plants, plant and microbial taxonomy, molecular characterization of plant and microbial diversity, molecular diagnostics of phytopathogens, and signal transduction in relation to host-pathogen interaction. Recently the department is offering one year M.Phil course in Botany for Post M.Sc., students.

The department has been funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India under the 'FIST Program' and also by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under Non-SAP Program. The UGC has been supporting teaching and research under each plan period. In addition, the faculties have undertaken several individual and collaborative research projects from various agencies like, USDA, DST, UGC, ICAR, MOE & F, CSB, AICTE etc. The department has interdisciplinary research network with international and national research institutes such as CFTRI, CSR&TI, DFRL and other sister departments of the University.

Mysore, known as the city of palaces, is a great tourist attraction, located 140 Km from Bangalore and is well connected by road and rail. The places of interest are the world famous Royal Mysore Palace, Brindavan Garden, Chamundi Hill, Chamarajendra Zoological Garden, Sri Jayachamarajendra Art Gallery, St. Philomena's Cathedral, Karanji Lake, Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary, etc. The weather in March will be pleasant with the day temperature ranging between 20-28°C and night temperatures between 20-22°C.

Areas of Deliberations of the Conference

- Session-I : Crop Diversity and Food Security (Dr. Borlaug Memorial Lectures).
- Session-II : Plant and Microbial Diversity and their Conservation.
- Session-III : Ethno Botany; Bioactive Potentials of Plants and Microbes.
- Session-IV : Plant Diseases and Integrated Pest and Disease Management.

Call for Abstracts

Abstracts of research papers are invited for oral/ poster presentation on the above mentioned areas. The organizing committee of national conference **wishes to publish the accepted abstracts in the**

conference souvenir. Researchers interested in sending the abstracts are requested to send a copy of the abstract not exceeding 500 words along with title, authors, affiliation, key words typed in double space on A4 size paper in MS Word format. Hard copy should be accompanied with soft copy in a CD. Only those abstracts selected by the screening committee will be invited for oral/ poster presentation and published in the souvenir. Facilities such as desktop and LCD projection system will be provided for oral presentation. Oral presentation should be brought in CD only. For poster presentation 100 cm x 150 cm boards will be provided. Electronic version of the abstracts should be submitted through e-mail uombotborlaugnc2010@gmail.com mentioning the subject: The last date for submission of abstracts is 25th February 2010 and with late fee is 2nd March 2010. The editorial committee will scrutinize papers and will have rights to accept or reject papers based on the merit of the papers.

Awards & Recognitions for Best Research Papers

Papers are also invited for Best Oral/ Poster presentations. The interested researchers are requested to submit the papers by mentioning specifically "**Papers For Consideration Under Best Oral Presentation Award**". Based on the recommendations of the screening committee, papers will be shortlisted. A total of three candidates will be selected based on their research and performance. However, all the papers sent for poster presentations will be considered for selection under "**Best Poster Presentation Awards**". The selected best three candidates oral and poster presentations will be given a citation and award during valedictory function of the conference on 12th March 2010.

Registration

Please send the enclosed registration form along with the **Registration Fee*** and abstracts **on or before 25th February 2010** and with late fee on or before **2nd March 2010**. Payments should be made by sending crossed demand draft or bank MICR (INR) in favour of Organizing Secretary - **Dr. Borlaug National Conference on "Plant Diversity and Plant Health"** payable at State Bank of Mysore, Mysore and sent to **Dr. K.N. Amruthesh, Organizing Secretary, "Dr. Borlaug National Conference- March 2010", Department of Studies in Botany, University of Mysore, Manasagangothri, Mysore-570 006, Karnataka.**

Registration Fee

Particulars	Receipt of Abstracts/ Full length Papers On or Before 25-02-2010	Receipt of Abstracts/ Full length Papers On or before 02-03-2010
Scientists/ Faculty Members	Rs. 1000-00	Rs. 1200-00
Research Scholars/ Post Doctorate Fellows	Rs. 800-00	Rs. 1000-00
Students (PG & UG)**	Rs. 500-00	Rs. 700-00
Industrial Delegates	Rs. 2000-00	Rs. 2200-00

**subjected to terms & conditions

Accommodation

The organizers will make all efforts to make your stay at Mysore comfortable. March being a busy tourist season, it is needed to book the accommodation in advance. Limited accommodation at the University Guest House/ Hostel is available at reasonable price (approximately Rs. 350/ day). The city has several comfortable hotels offering single/ double room accommodation. Accommodation can only be guaranteed, if payment is made **on or before 25th February 2010**. The approximate tariff of some good hotels is as follows:

Hotels	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy
Southern Star	Rs. 7000-00	Rs. 5000-00
Kings Court	Rs. 4500-00	Rs. 3500-00
The Roost	Rs. 3500-00	Rs. 2500-00
Metropole	Rs. 7000-00	Rs. 5000-00
Dewans	Rs. 1500-00	Rs. 750-00
Sangeetha	Rs. 1500-00	Rs. 750-00

For accommodation, payments should be made in a separate bank draft in favor of **Organizing Secretary- "Dr. Norman Borlaug National Conference"** and sent to **Dr. K.N. Amruthesh, Organizing Secretary, Dr. Norman Borlaug National Conference, Department of Studies in Botany, University of Mysore, Manasagangothri, Mysore-570 006, Karnataka.**

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“Plant Diversity and Plant Health”
11th & 12th March, 2010

I am planning to attend Session No. I / II / III / IV

I am submitting the abstract entitled

.....

.....” for Oral/ Poster presentation.

I am enclosing a bank draft No. Dated.....

drawn on

for Rs. towards the registration fee.

Name: Prof. /Dr. /Mr./Mrs.

Address :

.....

Phone: Fax:

E-mail:

Accompanying person (s):

Accommodation required: University Guest House/ Hotel

Single room/ double room for..... night (s). Rs. is

enclosed vide draft No. dated drawn on

.....

Journey Plans

Participants are requested to send the travel plans as below well in advance so that organizers will make necessary arrangements for local transport:

Arrival at Mysore: Air/Train/ Bus

Date Time

Departure from Mysore: Air/ Train/ Bus

Date Time

Signature

(A photocopy of this form is acceptable)

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Manasagangotri, Mysore- 570 006, Karnataka

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CIRCULAR

To,

From
DR. K.N. AMRUTHESH
Organizing Secretary
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Mysore-570 006, Karnataka
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