National Conference on Expanding the Horizons of Microbial Research in Agriculture

Date: June 10-11, 2024 | Venue: ICAR-NBAIM, Mau

(Second Circular)

Jointly Organized by :

ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms, Mau 275 103

and

Association for Conservation of Microbes and Application (ACMA)

Invitation

It is our great pleasure to invite the subject experts, researchers and representatives from industries to the National Conference titled "Expanding the Horizons of Microbial Research in Agriculture" scheduled from June 10-11, 2024, at the ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms (NBAIM), Mau, Uttar Pradesh.

The relevance and importance to address stresses in crop plants and enhance soil health through microbial interventions is rapidly gaining attention in response to societal demands for safe technologies. This burgeoning interest has drawn researchers from diverse fields, collaborating to advance solutions that benefit humanity. Throughout the world, use of microbial technologies are getting increasingly popular particularly in view of the growing concerns about soil health and climate change.

The primary objective of this conference is to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and information, fostering the development of innovative strategies and cutting-edge technologies. These efforts are aimed at promoting agricultural and environmental sustainability, as well as nutritional security, in alignment with the goals outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

About the Conference :

Welcome to the forefront of agricultural innovation!

In this proposed conference, we dive into the captivating world of agriculturally important microorganisms and the transformative potential they hold for the future of farming.

Microorganisms, often unseen and underappreciated, play a pivotal role in shaping the health and productivity of agricultural systems. From enhancing soil fertility and nutrient cycling to suppressing plant pathogens and improving crop resilience, their influence is profound and multifaceted.

At this conference, we aim to shed light on the latest advancements and discoveries in the field, mainly centered around the following topics-

- **Microbiome Management, Microbial Diversity and conservation**: Unraveling the hidden diversity of microorganisms inhabiting agricultural environments and understanding their unique functionalities. Exploring innovative strategies for managing the plant microbiome to optimize crop health and productivity.
- **Biotechnological Applications**: Harnessing the power of microbial biotechnology for sustainable agriculture, including biofertilizers, biopesticides, and biostimulants.
- **Ecological Interactions**: Investigating the intricate interactions between microorganisms, plants, and their environment and their implications for agroecosystem resilience.
- **Technological Innovations**: Leveraging cutting-edge technologies such as metagenomics, synthetic biology, and precision agriculture to unlock the full potential of agriculturally important microorganisms.
- **New vistas in microbial research**: Discussing the scope and opportunities to develop novel and advanced microbial products for agricultural use

Join us as we embark on a journey of discovery and collaboration, bringing together the researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and industry leaders to chart the course for a more sustainable and resilient agricultural future. Together, we can expand the horizons of agriculturally important microorganisms and pave the way for a greener, more prosperous planet.

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Dr. Appa Rao Podile, Former Vice Chancellor, UoH, Hyderabad

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Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma, Former Director, ICAR-NBAIM, Mau

Dr. D L N Rao, Former Emeritus Scientist, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal

Lead Panelists

Microbiome Management, Microbial Diversity and Conservation

- Dr. Anil K. Saxena, Former Director, ICAR-NBAIM, Mau
- Dr. K Annapurna, Former HoD, Division of Microbiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- Dr. Aundy Kumar, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Biotechnological applications

- Dr. S.N. Sushil, Director, ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru
- Prof. Piyush Kant Pandey, Vice Chancellor, Amity University, Raipur
- Dr. R. Vishwanathan, Director, ICAR-IISR, Lucknow
- Dr. Sunil Pabbi, Former HoD, Division of Microbiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Ecological interactions

- Dr. P. K. Ghosh, Director, ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur
- Dr. K Sammi Reddy, Director, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati

Technological Innovations

- Dr. Neeru Bhoosan, ADG (IPTM), ICAR
- Dr. PS Vimaladevi, Former PS, ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad
- Dr. NV Murugesan, T Stanes
- Dr. Vimala Prakash, IPL Biologicals

New Vistas in Microbial Research

- Dr. Appa Rao Podile, UoH, Hyderabad
- Prof. L.C. Rai, Distinguished Professor (Life Time), BHU, Varanasi
- Dr. Renuka Diwan, Bio Prime Agri Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Pune

Panelists

- Dr. T. K. Adhya, KIIT, Bhubaneswar
- Dr. J. P. Tamang, Sikkim University, Sikkim
- Dr. S Nakkeeran, ACRI, Pudikottai
- Dr. Radha Prasanna, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- Dr. K. K. Pal, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati
- Dr. Sanjay Singh, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune
- Dr. Puneet Singh Chouhan, CSIR-NBRI, Lucknow
- Dr. Mahesh Dharne, CSIR-NCL, Pune
- Dr. Rajeev Kaushik, ICAR-IARI, New Dlehi
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- Dr. Satyashila Singh, BHU, Varanasi
- Dr. Surrender Singh, CUH, Mahendergarh, Haryana
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- Dr. Arjun Singh, ICAR-CSSRI, Lucknow
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- Dr. D. K. Arora, Former Director, ICAR- NBAIM, Mau
- Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma, Former Director, ICAR- NBAIM, Mau
- Dr. Anil Kumar Saxena, Former Director, ICAR- NBAIM, Mau

PRESENTATION

1. **Special Lectures:**
    - Delivered by eminent scientists/expert in the subject. Each speaker will be allotted 20 minutes for presentation
2. **Oral Presentations:**
    - Two speakers per session, selected based on relevance to the theme.
    - Each speaker will be allotted 10 minutes for presentation.

CALL FOR ABSTRACT AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

Abstracts are invited from stakeholders: students, research scholars, faculties, and industrialists.

Guidelines for Abstract Preparation:

- Abstract in English, themed around the conference topics.
- Length: 250 words (max).
- Font: Times New Roman, size 12, line spacing 1.5.
- Title: Running and bold.
- Author(s) name and affiliation with full address.
- Presenting author underlined.
- Some abstracts will be chosen for oral presentation, others for posters.

Online Submission:

- Visit the website https://conference.nbaim.org.in follow "Guidelines for Submission of Abstract & Registration," then proceed to the registration link.

POSTER SESSION

- A session for all conference themes.
- Best posters in each session will be awarded.

Award by Society

Empowering Excellence: Women in Microbial Science - Breaking Barriers, Cultivating Change

A dedicated session aimed at recognizing and celebrating the significant contributions of women scientists in the field of microbial research. This session will provide a platform for women researchers to showcase their groundbreaking work, share insights, and discuss challenges and opportunities in microbial science. By highlighting the achievements of women in this dynamic field, the session seeks to inspire and empower future generations of scientists while fostering inclusivity and diversity in agricultural microbiology, plant pathology and allied disciplines. The women participants (upper age limit: 50 years) are encouraged to apply with their biodata and full length research paper through the mail to: conference.nbaim@gmail.com latest by May 10, 2024. The screened applicants will be allowed to make a 10 minutes presentation during the conference to throw insights into their groundbreaking research. Two awards named '**ACMA Women Leadership Award for Excellence in Microbial Science'** will be presented to the winners, further encouraging excellence and innovation in the field.

Empowering Excellence: Young Innovators in Microbial Science

A dedicated session aimed at recognizing and celebrating the remarkable contributions of young microbiologists under the age of 35. This session will provide a platform for emerging researchers to present their pioneering work, exchange insights, and address the challenges and opportunities in microbial science. By highlighting the achievements of young scientists in this dynamic field, the session aims to inspire and empower the next generation of microbial researchers while fostering a culture of innovation and inclusivity in agricultural microbiology, plant pathology and allied disciplines. The participants are encouraged to apply with their biodata, age proof and full length research paper through the mail to: conference.nbaim@gmail.com latest by May 10, 2024. The screened applicants will be allowed to make a 10 minutes presentation during the conference to throw insights into their groundbreaking research. Two awards named '**ACMA Award for Young Researchers'** will be presented to winners, further encouraging excellence and innovation in the field.

REGISTRATION FEE AND IMPORTANT DATES

Key Dates:

- Abstract submission deadline: May 10, 2024.
- Accepted abstracts communicated by May 15, 2024.
- Early bird registration by May 15, 2024.

Registration Fees:

- Faculty/Scientist: Rs. 3000.
- Student/Research Fellow: Rs. 1000.
- Industry/Corporate: Rs. 5000.

(Note : ACMA Life members get 50% waiver on the registration fees, for ACMA Membership information, write to acma.micro@gmail.com.)

Registration Fee Includes:

- Registration kits.
- Lunch, high tea, and dinner for June 10, 2024.
- Lunch and high tea for June 11, 2024.

Account details

Account name :
Association for Conservation of Microbes and Application
Account number : **42346614835**
Bank : **State Bank of India**
Add. : Sahadatpura, Maunath Bhanjan, UP
IFSC : **SBIN0001671**

You can use this QR for Fees Payment

Accommodation :

Accommodation will be provided on payment basis in Hostel / Guest House / Hotels, for details about accommodation, please contact conference secretariat or visit the website.

Sponsorship categories

Level of Sponsorship	Amount (Rs.)	Offers / benefits	Complementary registration for person(s)
Special Programme sponsors (co-sponsor)	3.0 Lakh	Logo, One page advertisement and 10 minutes presentation slot	03
Platinum	2.0 Lakh	Logo, One page advertisement and 5 minutes presentation slot	02
Gold	1.0 Lakh	Logo, half page advertisement and 5 minutes presentation slot	01
Silver	0.5 Lakh	Logo, 1 / 4 page advertisement	01
Bronze	0.4 Lakh	Logo	01

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About Mau

Mau, a well-known and industrially advanced district of eastern Uttar Pradesh, is quite old. Cultural and archaeological remains of Ramayana and Mahabharata are found everywhere in this area. Although scientific research and excavation efforts have not been done in this direction, but it is confirmed on the basis of geographical and historical evidences and legends. It is said that during the reign of Maharaja Dasharatha in Tretayuga, this place was the penance of the sages. On this Tamasa bank was the ashram of the Adi poet Maharishi Valmiki. It is indisputable that Shri Ramchandra ji had rested on the banks of Tamasa on the first night during the forest journey. The known archival history of Mau is about 1500 years old, when the entire area was a dense forest. The wild and tribal castes used to live around the river flowing here. The oldest inhabitants of this place are considered to be nuts.

The foundation of the present form of the city was laid during the reign of Jahanara. In the beginning of the eighteenth century, this land was given to Raja Azamshah of Azamgarh after separating it from the rule of Jaunpur. Azam Shah and Azmat Shah were both real brothers. Azamshah built Azamgarh and Azmat Shah built Azmatgarh.

In 1801, Azamgarh and Maunath Bhanjan were acquired by the East India Company and this area was included in Gorakhpur district. In the year 1932, Azamgarh was made an independent district and Mau was part of it, which lasted till 1988 after independence and finally on November 19, 1988, Mau became a separate district in the map of the state.

Tourist attraction around Mau

Vandevi Mandir

Driving Distance 15 Minutes

Situated 12 km in the southwest direction from the district headquarters, in the captivating beauty of nature is Jagat Janani Sita Mata's temple, Vandevi. Today, this temple is the center of attraction for followers. Along with its natural beauty, Vandevi temple also stands for its historical and cultural importance. On the basis of public opinion and geographical evidence, this place is famous for being the place for meditative contemplation of maharishi Valmiki. Accommodation of the rishi must have been nearby. It is said that mother Sita, following her unshakable marital duties towards her husband, gave birth to her two sons, Love and Kush at this place. This place is related to the literary great, Valmiki, as well as, a symbol of the entire Bharat, Lord Ram and mother Sita.

Varanasi and Sarnath

Driving Distance 2.30 hrs.

Sarnath is a place located 10 kilometres north-east of Varanasi near the confluence of the Ganges and the Varuna rivers in Uttar Pradesh, India. The deer park inSarnath is where Gautama Buddha first taught the Dhamma, and where the Buddhist Sangha came into existence through the enlightenment of Kondanna. The most celebrated pillar is the one at Sarnath. The national emblem of India, featuring four lions and a dharma chakra (the wheel representing the Buddhist teachings), is derived from it. The chakra also appears on the Indian flag.

Varanasi is a city in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh dating to the 11th century B.C. Regarded as the spiritual capital of India, the city draws Hindu pilgrims who bathe in the Ganges River's sacred waters and perform funeral rites. Along the city's winding streets are some 2,000 temples, including Kashi Vishwanath, the "Golden Temple," dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva

Varanasi has been a cultural centre of North India for several thousand years, and is closely associated with the Ganges. Hindus believe that death in the city will bring salvation, making it a major centre for pilgrimage. The city is known worldwide for its many ghats, embankments made in steps of stone slabs along the river bank where pilgrims perform ritual ablutions. Of particular note are the Dashashwamedh Ghat, the Panchganga Ghat, the Manikarnika Ghat and the Harishchandra Ghat, the last two being where Hindus cremate their dead and the Hindu genealogy registers at Varanasi are kept here.

Ayodhya Dham

Driving Distance 3.30 hrs.

Ayodhya is believed to be the birthplace of Lord Rama. It holds immense significance for millions of devotees. The ancient city witnessed the unfolding of the epic Ramayana, a timeless narrative that transcends generations. As you stand before the Ayodhya Ram Temple, you can't help but feel the echoes of the past as the bricks and stones seem to whisper the age-old stories of devotion and righteousness. Ayodhya is one of the top holy sites in India. It is known for some of the most famous Ayodhya temples that attract tourists from all across the country.

Kushi Nagar

Driving Distance 2.00 hrs.

Ancient town of Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh gets its name from Kusha the son of the Legendary God king Ram who founded and ruled the city. The archeological findings in the town date back to the 3rd century BC and belong to the Mauryan Emperor Ashoka. Kushinagar today is a major pilgrimage center for the Buddhists in India and also finds mention in the writings of the Chinese traveler and pilgrim Hieun Tsang. It was at Kushinagar that Gautama Buddha attained the Mahaparinirvana.

Lumbini

Driving Distance 5.00 hrs.

Lumbini is the Buddha's birthplace, located at Rupandehi, Nepal, is one of the world's most important spiritual sites and attracts Buddhist pilgrims from around the world. Today you can visit over twenty-five Buddhist monasteries built by diverse countries from Vietnam to France, study Buddhism, meditate and visit the birthplace within the sacred Mayadevi Gardens.

Mayadevi Temple is the most sacred site in the Lumbini Garden where archaeologists have identified the exact spot where Lord Buddha was born. Inscriptions on the Ashoka Pillar nearby also refer to the spot as his birthplace. It is said that the newly born Prince Siddhartha (later became the Buddha) took his first seven steps and delivered his peace message to humanity here.