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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Nematode Management in Crops Innovative Initiative of TNAU

1. Prepared maps for the occurrence and distribution of phytonematodes in major crops grown in Tamil Nadu
2. Identified cropwise nematode hot spot areas and avoidable yield loss due to phytonematodes
3. Devised technologies for the management of economically important nematodes in major crops
4. Designed integrated nematode management strategies for the major crops grown in Tamil Nadu
5. Evolved suitable technologies for the management of nematode fungal disease complex of crops
6. Devised technology for the management of nematodes in crops grown under polyhouse conditions
7. The plant extract of Mahogeny (*Swietenia macrophylla*) was proved to be effective for the management of nematodes as botanical pesticide and the process of patenting the technology is under progress
8. Identified indigenous species/isolates of fungal, bacterial and actinomycetes effective against phytonematodes
9. Technology for mass multiplication of indigenous fungal isolate of *Entotochium arenarium* effective against potato cyst nematode has been developed and the process of patenting the technology is under progress

10. The dosage and delivery mechanism of organic amendment like pressmud is perfected for the management of nematodes
11. Base line data on the effectiveness of various uneconomic plants/weeds to use as botanical nematicide, flyash, different forms of organic amendments like oilcakes against nematodes have been documented
12. Attempts made for the green synthesis of nanoparticles to use against nematodes gave encouraging results
13. Generated information on relative susceptibility/resistance of germplasm of various crops against different nematodes
14. Technologies for the multiplication of entomopathogenic nematodes have been developed

Opportunities for students and entrepreneurs

The post graduate students in Plant Nematology are having bright opportunity to become Technical, Agricultural, Horticultural, Field officer etc in the following areas

- Banking sector
- Private Pesticide Company (R and D wing, Marketing/Development officer)
- Estate/Plantation crops (As Technical Advisor/ Farm manager)
- Plant Quarantine Organisation
- Educational Institution (As school teacher)
- Biocontrol unit (As technical expert/entrepreneur)
- State Department of Agriculture/Horticulture

The entrepreneurs can be involved to develop toxicological data for commercializing the nematode/crop specific indigenous biocontrol agents and Entomopathogenic Nematodes for the management of nematodes and insect pests.

Technical output

Evolved chemical/nonchemical based technology for the management of rice root, root knot, reniform, cyst, citrus, lesion nematodes etc in cereals, pulses, fibre, oilseed, vegetables, fruit, flower crops etc.

Asst. Public Relations Officer