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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:

### **The Teach and taught share the Intellectual Platform Overseas**

Insect pests cause heavy loss in stored grains qualitatively and quantitatively throughout the world. Insects in grains are undesirable not only from an aesthetic point of view, but on public health. The major economic loss caused by grain infesting insect is not always the actual material they consume, but also the amount contaminated by them and their excreta which makes food undesirable for human consumption. Post harvest losses of food grains in India were estimated to be around 10 per cent of total production, of which losses during storage alone were about 6.58 per cent only which 2.5 per cent loss is due to insects.

#### **International Conference:**

The International Working Conference on Stored Product Protection (IWCSPP) is an most influential conference on stored product protection which is conducted once in every four years in various countries. The 11<sup>th</sup> IWCSPP conference has been held in Chiang Mai, an ancient beautiful cultural city in North Thailand recently between 24 to 28 November 2014. From all over the world 300 scientists, consultants, extension workers and students participated in this international forum and shared the latest innovations on safe storage of the world's durable food commodities.

Dr. S. Mohan, Professor of Agricultural Entomology, Dean (SPGS), TNAU, Coimbatore participated in the conference as a key note speaker and delivered a lecture on “Monitoring and sampling tools for stored product insects should reach endusers - an analysis” and presented TNAU gadgets, developed for stored grain pest management which

was well received by the participants. These gadgets include TNAU probe trap, TNAU pit fall trap, pulse beetle trap (two in one model), indicator device, automatic insect removal bin, UV-light trap, egg removal device and stack probe trap for warehouse. This will help in transfer of technology of TNAU gadgets across the world.

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University encourages the post graduate students to attend the International conferences. In this line Mr. R. Govindaraj, Ph.D student, Department of Agricultural Entomology also participated in the conference and presented the oral presentation on topic entitled “Biology of the sawtoothed grain beetle, *Oryzaephilus surinamensis* (L.) on different stored products and its host associated genetic variability”.

Public Relations Officer