

First Circular

National Symposium

Nematodes: The Unseen Foes and Friends of Plant and Soil Health

January 31 to February 2, 2024

Organized by



Nematological Society of India, New Delhi

&



Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

at

**Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata- 700108, West Bengal,
India**

National Symposium

Nematodes: The Unseen Foes and Friends of Plant and Soil Health

Nematodes are microscopic roundworms that inhabit almost every habitat on Earth, including the soil. Despite their small size, they play a significant role in shaping the health and balance of plant and soil ecosystems. Some nematodes are considered unseen foes as they can cause devastating plant diseases, reducing crop yields and economic losses. These pathogenic nematodes feed on plant roots, causing stunting, wilting, and even plant death. On the other hand, nematodes also have their unseen friends. Beneficial nematodes play vital roles in promoting plant and soil health. They participate in nutrient cycling, enhance soil structure, and contribute to the breakdown of organic matter. Some beneficial nematodes even prey on other soil-dwelling pests, such as insects and harmful nematodes, helping to control their populations naturally. Understanding nematode diversity, biology, and interactions is crucial for effective nematode management strategies. By identifying the specific nematode species present in a given soil ecosystem, researchers and farmers can develop targeted control measures to minimize crop damage. Integrated pest management practices, including crop rotation, biological control agents, resistant plant varieties, and soil health management, can help mitigate the impact of pathogenic nematodes while promoting the abundance and activity of beneficial nematodes. The study of nematodes, known as nematology, has made significant strides in recent years, uncovering new insights into the complex relationships between nematodes, plants, and soil. Ongoing research aims to develop sustainable and environmentally friendly solutions for nematode management, minimizing reliance on chemical pesticides and optimizing soil health.

The National Symposium on '**Nematodes, the Unseen Foes and Friends of Plant and Soil Health**' aims to bring together experts, researchers, and professionals from various disciplines to share knowledge, exchange ideas, and foster collaborations in nematology. The symposium provides a platform to explore the latest advancements in nematode research, management strategies, and sustainable agricultural practices through engaging presentations, discussions, and interactions.

About the Symposium

The National Symposium on Nematodes serves as a crucial platform for exchanging knowledge, ideas, and advancements in the field of nematology. This symposium brings together experts from various disciplines to shed light on the intricate relationships between nematodes, plants, and soil ecosystems. Through collaborative efforts and interdisciplinary approaches, we strive to unravel the mysteries surrounding these unseen organisms and uncover new insights that can revolutionize plant and soil health management practices.

Join us at the symposium as we uncover the secrets of nematodes, understand their impact on plant and soil health, and work towards harnessing their potential as allies in sustainable

agriculture. Together, we can unlock new possibilities for managing nematodes and creating healthier, more resilient ecosystems for the benefit of farmers, researchers, and the environment as a whole.

Symposium Objectives

- Foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among researchers, practitioners, and stakeholders in the field of nematology
- Explore the dual roles of nematodes as adversaries and allies in plant and soil health
- Showcase innovative approaches and advancements in nematode management strategies
- Discuss sustainable practices for nematode control and the promotion of soil health
- Provide a platform for the dissemination of cutting-edge research findings in Nematology
- Facilitate networking opportunities and professional development for attendees

Thematic Areas

- Nematode biosystematics and diversity
- Diagnostic Techniques for Nematode Identification
- Molecular Nematology
- Advancements in Nematode Biology
- Nematode interactions with other organisms
- Nematodes: The Hidden Ecosystem Engineers
- Integrated Approaches to Nematode Management
- Sustainable Strategies for Nematode Control
- Practical Nematode Management in Agriculture
- Nematodes as Indicators of Soil Health
- Entomopathogenic nematodes for insect-pest management
- Artificial Intelligence in Nematology

Symposium Agenda

The symposium will feature diverse sessions, including keynote addresses, panel discussions, research presentations, and networking opportunities. The detailed agenda will be available on our website <https://nemaIndia.org.in/> as well as on <https://abhimukh.wixsite.com/nsi2024> closer to the event date. Stay tuned for all updates!

Who Should Attend?

This symposium is tailored for researchers, scientists, agronomists, crop consultants, extension agents, educators, students, and professionals involved in agriculture, horticulture, soil science, nematology, plant pathology, entomology, zoology, environment sciences, and related fields. Whether you are an experienced nematology expert or just starting your journey, this event offers valuable insights for everyone.

Important Dates

<i>Abstract submission opens</i> : 15 September 2023	<i>Closes</i> : 30 December 2023
<i>Registration opens</i> : 15 September 2023	<i>Closes</i> : 15 January 2024
<i>Award's application opens</i> : 15 September 2023	<i>Closes</i> : 30 December 2023

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Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi

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Dr. Vishal Singh Somvanshi, Editor, IJN

Awards

NSI invites applications from the eligible candidates for:

1. Prof. D.J. Raski Academic merit award
2. Prof. H.M. Shah Memorial award
3. Dr. (Mrs.) Sudershan Ganguly Memorial Young Scientist Research Presentation Award
4. Fellow, Nematological Society of India

The applications should reach **Dr. Matiyar Rahaman Khan, General Secretary, Nematological Society of India, Division of Nematology, IARI, Pusa, New Delhi-11012** latest by **30th December 2023**.

For details, please visit the NSI website- <https://nemaindia.org.in/>
or <https://abhimukh.wixsite.com/nsi2024>

Call for paper

Abstracts of papers are invited not exceeding 250 words for lead/invited talk and competition award papers. For poster presentations, abstracts have a word limit of 150 words. Abstract typed in 12-point font size of MS-Word may be submitted online (<https://nemaindia.org.in/>) or to the NSI email nematologicalsociety@gmail.com by **30-12-2023**.

The size of the poster for the display should be 75x100cm briefly showing the Title, Methodology, Results, and Conclusion with three tables and good-quality photographs. It should be clearly readable from a distance of at least one meter. The oral/poster presentations will be evaluated by a panel of judges for the best oral as well as poster presentation award.

Registration Fee

Category	Till 15 th January 2023
NSI Members	Rs.5000/-
Non-NSI Member	Rs. 5500/-
Students	Rs.3000/-
JRF/SRF/RA	Rs. 4000/-

A pre-registration fee of **Rs. 1500 per abstract** (adjustable in the registration fee) is to be paid at the time of submission of the abstract. **The abstract acceptance will be given only after receiving the full registration fee.** Payments must be made online to:
Nematological Society of India, Canara Bank Account No.9029 2010 0052 58,
IFSC code: CNRB0019029, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012.

Contact

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(All correspondence should be made at nematologicalsociety@gmail.com)

Venue

Indian Statistical Institute (ISI); BT Road, Baranagar (Dunlop), Kolkata-700108, West Bengal

About ISI

The Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in Kolkata is a renowned academic institution dedicated to the fields of statistics, mathematics, and computer science. Established in

1931, it holds a prestigious status as one of the oldest and most esteemed statistical institutions in the world. ISI Kolkata has played a pivotal role in advancing research and education in various disciplines, offering undergraduate and doctoral programs. The institute's contributions span theoretical and applied statistics, data analysis, machine learning, and computer science as well as different aspects of natural and social sciences including the promotion of sustainable agriculture, making it a hub for cutting-edge research and innovation. Besides the core areas, ISI also excels in the domains of Theoretical and applied ecology, agriculture, and natural resource management, and with its rich history and exceptional academic environment, ISI Kolkata continues to shape the landscape of statistical and mathematical studies not only in India but globally.

The Agricultural and Ecological Research Unit at ISI is a distinguished research entity focused on advancing knowledge and understanding in the fields of agriculture, ecology, and their interplay.

How to reach

If you are coming from the airport, drive towards Dunlop Bridge. If you are coming from one of the railway stations (Sealdah and Howrah), you will have to drive five kilometers north of Shyambazar's five-point crossing, towards the Dunlop Bridge. As you approach Dunlop Bridge, the boundary wall of the ISI campus will be visible on your left.

Bus routes

The residential campus is at the Bus Stop called Bon Hooghly (Gate number:205) and the office campus is at the Bus Stop called ISI or Statistical (Gate number:203). The Bus Stop further to the Statistical Bus Stop is Dunlop Bridge, which is an important landmark. Dunlop Bridge is also a useful way of describing the general destination when you are asking for directions.

Taxi routes

We suggest that you should hire a taxi from the prepaid taxi booth, located outside the station and airport premises. The prepaid taxi fare is marginally higher than normal (approximately Rs. 220 from the airport, Rs. 180 from Howrah, and Rs. 120 from Sealdah) but it is a surer and safer mode of transport. While hiring a prepaid taxi, mention Dunlop Bridge as your destination.

Places of Interest

Every visitor can enjoy an individual experience at one of the many sightseeing places in Kolkata. The city offers a wide variety of interesting attractions to keep visitors delighted. There are numerous attractions to visit in Kolkata, including ancient temples and churches, peaceful lakes, historical structures, museums, and libraries. If you have a day or two to roam around the city, you will be delighted to explore the City of Joy. ISI is conveniently located and connected to all the major attractions of the city. Please visit <https://kolkatatourism.travel/places-to-visit-in-kolkata> for further information. The specialty of Bengali food lies in the perfect blend of sweet and spicy flavors. If you want to taste traditional Bengali dishes you can try the following: the [best restaurants in Kolkata](#), [Street foods](#), [Sweets and Desserts](#)

Accommodation

The registration fee for the participants or accompanying persons DOES NOT INCLUDE ACCOMMODATION CHARGES. The participants are encouraged to make their own arrangements for their stay. However, participants requiring accommodation may forward the request in advance to

Dr. Abhishek Mukherjee (Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata); Email: abhi.mukh@yahoo.com; Mobile No. +91 8902686646

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Registration Form

Name

For accompanying person/spouse: No.

Name of the person/spouse

Designation

Organization

Postal Address

Mobile No.

WhatsApp No.

E-Mail

I am interested in participating in the National Symposium. I would like to present my research as an oral presentation/poster on

1.

2.

Registration Category (additional Rs. 2000/- per head for the accompanying person)

Member Non-Member Student RA/JRF

Duration of stay: days Date : From..... to.....

Arrival and Departure details

Registration Fee

Payment details:

[attach the copy proofreading online transfer money made in favour of the Nematological Society of India]

Payments must be made online to:

Nematological Society of India, Canara Bank Account No.90292010005258, IFSC code: CNRB0019029, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012

Date

Place

Signature

Fill up this form and send the pdf or scanned copy to nematologicalsociety@gmail.com