

**International Training cum Workshop on
“*Phytophthora* and Other Viruses Diseases Management in Black Pepper”**

Diseases and insect pests are major production constraints and cause extensive crop losses. *Phytophthora* foot rot, slow decline continue to be the major threats of the crop and the virus diseases viz., Cucumber Mosaic Virus (CMV) and Pepper Yellow Mottle Mosaic Virus (PYMV) are on increase in all pepper producing countries. The losses on account of foot rot and slow decline would be around US\$ 450 million considering the current price at crop loss of 20%.

The knowledge base of the farmers on various aspects of black pepper is poor and there is a need to appraise the farming community about the nature of the disease & pest, their symptoms/nature of damage and the effective Integrated Disease and Pest Management. The immediate short term strategy would be to focus on effective control of *Phytophthora* Diseases & its management, for reducing production losses and increase production. Hence there is a need for an International Training cum Workshop on “*Phytophthora* Diseases Management in Black Pepper”. The objectives of the training cum workshop are an Interface between Scientist, Farmers and Extension workers specifically on

1. The correct identification of the diseases and recommending appropriate the diseases control measures / practices
2. Demonstration and diagnostics for virus diseases and their management.
3. Interaction with the farmers, scientists and extensional workers right in the farm holdings to ensure a better appraisal on the technologies of IDM/IPM.

It is desirable to conduct this training cum workshop during the specific crop season which differs from country to country. If it is proposed to be conducted in Vietnam, it may be during August or September, since the real problems can be seen by all the concerned right at the farmer’s holdings.

The target participants of the International Training cum Workshop are the pepper farmers, farmers groups / associations, agricultural officers, extension workers, research scientists in the IPC member countries. Regarding the selection of the participants the IPC is requesting the member countries to depute only the people concerned with black pepper. This is to ensure continuity of the training programme. It is estimated that around 50 participants are expected to take part in the program. Further details on the conduct of the training cum workshop will be worked out in consultation with the host country. Experts on the subjects will be invited from the member countries for presenting papers and training. The programme will be supported from the IPC fund not exceeding US\$ 8,000.00 from the saving of 2011 budget.

IPC member country may nominate any number of participants to the training cum workshop. However, the cost of airfare and out of pocket allowance will be borne by the respective government / sponsoring agencies / the participants. For participants from non member countries US\$ 200.00 per person shall be collected as registration fee. The IPC secretariat will fund for the food and lodging accommodation of the participants, the honorarium of resources speakers, training suppliers, local transport and other expenses.

For endorsement by the Session