

Bio-pesticides - contemporary issues in Agriculture and Horticulture in India

M. S. Rao

Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, India

Bio-pesticides have become an integral component of Integrated Pest and Disease Management Programmes in the world. In India, researchers made concerted efforts in the area of research on bio-pesticides during last two decades which resulted in the development of mass production technologies and commercial / large scale production of bio-pesticides such as bio-fungicides, bio-bactericides and bio-nematicides. As such the bio-pesticide industry is in its stage of infancy and a lot has to be done for producing quality bio-pesticides with long shelf life. Various data are available from several government institutions for the production of talc based formulations of bio-fungicides, bio-bactericides and bio-nematicides. Research efforts are being made at various government institutions for the development of mass production technologies of liquid formulations of all these bio-pesticides specially at Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore – 89, India. Shortly, toxicological data, bio-efficacy data and other relevant data required for the commercial production and registration of liquid formulations of these bio-pesticides are going to be available to the industry. Contemporary issues such as quality bio-pesticides production and maintenance of the quality by the industry, shelf-life, bio-efficacy, mechanisms of action, augmentation of the bio-agents in horticulture and agricultural eco-systems, dissemination of the technologies and information on the delivery systems, bottlenecks in the large scale production of bio-pesticides and registration of bio-pesticides by the Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee, Ministry of Agriculture, India will be deliberated during the presentation in the conference.

msrao@iihr.ernet.in