

National workshop on foodomics under National Agricultural Science Fund April 21, 2023

(Celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav)

ICAR-NRCG organized a National Workshop on Foodomics under ICAR's National Agricultural Science Fund on April 21, 2023. It was chaired by Dr. Kaushik Banerjee, Director, ICAR-NRCG. In his introductory remarks, Dr. Banerjee explained the genesis of this project and principles used for identification, profiling and quantification of bioactive metabolites. He also explained how ICAR-NRCG and ICAR-CIFT have implemented extensive analytical quality control guidelines for accurate identification and quantification of markers metabolites.

Dr. K.V. Prasad, Director, ICAR-DFR, Pune and Dr. Sujay Rakshit, Director, ICAR-IIAB, Ranchi enlightened the participants about the importance of exploring the bioactive metabolites in flowers and food commodities.

Dr. Niladri Chatterjee, Sr. Scientist, ICAR-CIFT, Kochi and the Co-PI of the project entitled 'A detailed foodomics study for food authentication and exploration of nutraceutical potential' presented a detailed update of the achievements so far. The results established the efforts of ICAR-NRCG and ICAR-CIFT in establishing techniques for economically motivated mis-labelling and adulteration.

Dr. Mahesh Kulkarni, Sr. Principal Scientist from CSIR-NCL, Pune and Dr. Srikanth Rapole, Scientist 'E' from NCCS, Pune guided the project scientists by sharing their experiences in their specialized field, especially in relation to the use of marker metabolites for disease diagnosis. They explained how food intake influences the metabolome and expressed in tissues as up-regulated or down-regulated compounds.

Dr. D.G. Naik, a member of the expert committee of ICAR-NASF presented a talk on quality and production of reference materials of medicinal plants. Dr. Naik further mentioned about the limitations of the R&D institutions suffer in relation to industry connect. Industries often show reluctance in adopting authentication techniques for economically motivated business interest.

Scientists representatives from ICAR-DFR, Pune; and ICAR-DOGR, Pune; also actively participated in the panel discussion. At the end the possibilities of developing a collaborative project between ICAR-NRCG and CSIR-NCL was discussed.



