

World Bee Day Celebrated at ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi 20th May, 2021

ICAR–CAFRI, Jhansi organized a Web-Talk by Dr. V. V. Belavadi (Emeritus Scientist), University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru today, the 20th May, 2021 to celebrate the occasion of World Bee Day. The program was conducted virtually considering the role of bees in agroforestry and for ecosystem restoration with UN-FAO theme ‘Bee engaged: Build back better for bees’.



World Bee Day, 2021



Date: May 20th, 2021

Time: 11: 00 AM

Title: "How Agroforestry can Help in Conserving Bees"?

Theme: "Bee engaged- Build Back Better for Bees" (FAO)



The program began with an ICAR song.

Mr. Venkatesh YN, Scientist (Agricultural Entomology), ICAR–CAFRI, Jhansi gave the welcome address and also gave a brief background of timeline of World Bee Day and also the role of agroforestry systems in conservation and utilization of bee diversity.

Dr. V. V. Belavadi gave lecture on ‘How agroforestry can help in conserving bees’. In his Bee Day Address, he highlighted the ecological services provided by the bees in the Planet Earth whereby ensuring the sustenance of humankind. With his 35 years of experience, he articulated the pollination ecology, solitary bee taxonomy and substantiated the importance of bees and need for its conservation. In his talk, he highlighted that more than 20,000 species of bees potentially pollinate crop plants and synthesize honey. In particular, he took examples of cardamom and coffee plantations as better habitats for honeybees. He further underlined the need for more studies on stingless bees for the benefit of integration in farm fields and at households.



Dr. A. Arunachalam, Director, ICAR–CAFRI, in his Presidential Address gave an account of bee population and their services. He further added the initiatives of the Government of India for promoting apiary and apiculture through National Beekeeping and Honey Mission and Khadi and Village Industries Commission. He underlined, that we need to learn to live from these bees that survive and become useful to the larger mankind. He also endorsed the view of Dr. Belavadi that agroforestry can be a better opportunity for bee conservation and integration of Apiary will benefit the rural community in terms of economic upliftment, while also ensuring nutrition.



The participants were scientists, faculty, and students from ICAR and State Agricultural Universities.



The program concluded with the vote of thanks as proposed by Dr. A K Handa, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi.