



**National Seminar
and
Indian Phytopathological Society
North Eastern Zonal Conference, 2026
on**

**EMERGING TRENDS IN PLANT
HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR
AGRICULTURAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**



ORGANIZED BY:

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY,
ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JORHAT, ASSAM**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

INDIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, NEW DELHI

20th –21st November, 2026

Venue: Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam, India



ABOUT IPS

The “Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS)” is one of the most prestigious societies dedicated to the study of plant diseases and their management. With a strong network of nearly 2,700 members over India and the world, including students, teachers, researchers, extension specialists, administrators, agricultural field representatives and pest management personnel from diverse backgrounds. Despite their varied professions and areas of expertise, they are united by a shared vision to advance knowledge on plant diseases, contributing to sustainable crop health and food security. IPS has served as a dynamic platform for fostering scientific exchange, promoting excellence in plant pathology, and strengthening collaboration among scientists with the publication of the prestigious journal *Indian Phytopathology*, being one of its flagship initiatives. The Society organizes national and international conferences, symposia, workshops, training programs, and memorial lectures that promote the dissemination of cutting-edge research and emerging developments in the field of plant disease management.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

The National Seminar on “Emerging Trends in Plant Health Management for Agricultural and Environmental Sustainability” seeks to provide a dynamic forum for exploring transformative innovations for shaping next generation crop health management. In the era of climate uncertainty, emerging biotic threats, ecological degradation, and increasing demands for sustainable food production, the seminar aims to highlight and bring together diverse scientific perspectives that enhance crop resilience while preserving environmental quality. By fostering interdisciplinary knowledge exchange, the event aims to bridge fundamental research with practical applications, thereby promoting scientific paradigms that safeguard agricultural ecosystems, strengthen food security, and contribute to a more resource efficient and environmentally resilient agricultural system for future generations. The seminar will also serve as a catalyst for collaborative research and innovation by encouraging interactions among scientists, policymakers, industry stakeholders, and young researchers to provide an opportunity to deliberate on emerging global challenges for strengthening crop resilience and agricultural sustainability. Through the convergence of cutting-edge research, scientific excellence and practical insights, the seminar aspires to advance the transition toward climate-smart and environmentally responsible agricultural systems, promoting a healthy future.



Assam Agricultural University

অসম কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

A feeder University of North East India and a premier Institution of Assam

ABOUT AAU



Assam Agricultural University (AAU), established in 1969 at Jorhat, is a premier agricultural university of North-East India. Over the years, the University has emerged as a major centre of excellence for teaching, research and technology transfer. AAU has played a vital role in addressing the agricultural needs of Assam and the North-Eastern region by developing location-specific technologies, improved crop varieties, disease and pest management strategies, and sustainable farming practices suited to the region's unique agro-climatic conditions. The university has also played an important role in microbiological research and teaching, particularly in the areas of plant-microbe interactions, beneficial microorganisms, biofertilizers, biocontrol agents, soil microbiology and organic disease management. Through its colleges, research stations and extension network, AAU continues to develop region-specific technologies for improving agricultural productivity and supporting farming communities of Assam and the North-East India.

ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY, AAU

The Department of Plant Pathology at Assam Agricultural University is one of the premier centers for education, research, and extension in plant health management in Northeast India. Since its establishment, the department has been dedicated to advancing scientific knowledge on plant diseases affecting major agricultural and horticultural crops of the region. The department conducts cutting-edge research on disease etiology, epidemiology, host-pathogen interactions, integrated disease management, biological control, and emerging molecular approaches for disease diagnosis and management. Equipped with modern laboratory facilities and supported by experienced faculty members, the department offers postgraduate and doctoral programs that nurture skilled plant pathologists and researchers. Through its active involvement in research projects, farmer-oriented extension activities, and collaborations with national and international institutions, the department continues to play a vital role in promoting sustainable agriculture, ensuring crop health, and contributing to food and nutritional security in Assam and beyond.

SEMINAR SUB-THEMES

The seminar will focus on:

1. Impact of climate change on epidemiology and disease dynamics
(Climate change, soil health, plant nutrition, plant diseases and crop yields)
2. Emerging tools in crop health monitoring and disease management
(Serological and molecular approaches, remote sensing, sensor network etc.)
3. Advances in microbial diversity and plant-microbe interactions
(Characterization of microbes, phytopathogens, variability, resistance etc.)
4. Innovative approaches for integrated disease management
(Nano-phytopathology, traditional, conventional methods, and ITKs etc.)
5. Natural farming and bio-resources for organic farming
(Natural and bio rational products, biopesticides, certification issues etc.)
6. Utilization of crop genetic resources for biotic and abiotic stress tolerance
(Crop biodiversity, resistant breeding, conventional and molecular approaches etc.)
7. Innovative strategies for post-harvest disease management
(Bio-priming, natural extracts, essential oil, edible coating etc.)
8. Microbes for food, medicine, industrial application and bioremediation
(Medicinal, edible and wild mushrooms, bioremediation of pollutants etc.)
9. Recent advances in extension-plant pathology, entrepreneurship and policy framework
(AI, ICT tools, advisory services, entrepreneurial roles, policy, education, plant health awareness etc.)

MODE OF PARTICIPATION: Physical participation

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Abstract submission & Early-Bird Registration (opening date) : 1st August , 2026
- Abstract submission & Early-Bird Registration (closing date) : 30th September, 2026
- Last date for communication of acceptance of abstract : 15th October, 2026

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The abstracts must be submitted online through the link provided below. The abstract must be within 250 to 300 words and should be typed in MS-Word (as per the format provided in the link below). Abstracts will be accepted only after receiving the registration fee. Please underline the name of the presenter and mention the email ID of the presenting author. Each participant should indicate their preference as oral or poster presentation in the registration link.

Visit website: https://www.aau.ac.in/ips_nez/

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Vice Chancellor,
Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

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AAU, Jorhat



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EMINENT SPEAKERS



Dr. R. Viswanathan
Former Director, ICAR-Indian
Institute of Sugarcane
Research, Lucknow, UP



Dr. R.M. Gade
Former Director of Extension
Education & Associate Dean, Dr.
PDKV, Akola



Dr. Dilip Kumar Ghosh
Director, ICAR-Central
Citrus Research Institute,
Nagpur



Dr. Kalyan K. Mandal, Joint
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Dr. Kajal K. Biswas
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**Dr. Channakeshavaiah
Chikkaputtaiah**
Senior Principal Scientist &
Professor (AcSIR), Biological
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CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat, Assam



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Dr. Niraj Agarwala
Assistant Professor, Dept.
of Botany, Gauhati
University, Assam

AWARDS

ORAL AND POSTER CONTESTS

Best oral and poster presentation awards will be given under each theme.

Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award (IPS) - Zone level contest for selection to National level contest

A contest among the NE Zonal members will be held for selection of contestants for national competition. Only two names will be recommended by Zonal President for the final contest at the annual meeting of IPS. The age limit for the participants of this contest is 35 years. The Society will publish the paper of awardees in the journal Indian Phytopathology. The award recipient must submit a full-length paper (as per IPS guidelines) for publication in the journal Indian Phytopathology. There is no restriction on the age of co-author.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

It is to be certified that the paper entitled “.....” presented for Prof. M. J. Narasimhan merit Academic Award Contest for the year 2026 pertains to the major work done by the candidate (Name of the candidate). It is further certified that the work has not been published and presented for any other award till date and contestant is below the age of 35 years and is a member of the society.

Signature of the student

Guide/Advisor of the student

APS-IPS TRAVELS SPONSORSHIP FOR PH.D. STUDENTS

The American Phytopathological Society (APS) will offer the travel grant to a Ph.D. student to participate in the APS annual meeting. Competition will be held among the Ph.D. students in the IPS-NE Zonal conference for nomination in national level contest. Ph.D. students are invited to participate in this contest in single or joint authorship. The purpose of the award is to encourage plant pathology students pursuing a doctoral degree in India and who are members of IPS to attend the APS annual meeting or APS sanctioned meeting if deemed appropriate by the Indian Phytopathological Society and APS Foundation Board.

GUIDELINES FOR APS-IPS AWARD

- The contestants will have to give a brief Bio-data, the certificate furnishing the age proof, and proof of pursuing a Ph.D. degree at the time of IPS-NEZ contest.
- In-service candidates are not eligible for the APS travel award.

REGISTRATION FEE STRUCTURE

The details of the registration fee are given below. The registration fee can be paid through net banking or UPI as per the bank details given below.

Delegate Type	Offline Participants	
	Early Bird Registration	Late Registration
Scientist / Faculty /Govt. officials	INR 5000.00	INR 6000.00
Research Scholar	INR 2500.00	INR 3000.00
Student	INR 2000.00	INR 2500.00
Corporate	INR 8000.00	INR 10000.00

BANK DETAILS

Name of the Account	: IPS NE ZONE SYMPOSIUM AAU
Name of the Bank	: STATE BANK OF INDIA
Branch Name	: AAU BRANCH
Account Number	: 41350571377
IFSC Code	: SBIN0002003

Transaction details must be submitted at the time of registration in the following link:

Registration Open From: 1st August, 2026

Visit website: https://www.aau.ac.in/ips_nez/

ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation for the participants will be arranged in the Guest House of AAU as per university rate on first cum first basis. Accommodation will also be booked in the nearby hotels on payment basis on prior request.

For further details, please contact:

Dr. Anurag Kashyap, Organizing Secretary, IPS-NEZ, 2026

Email: ipsnez.2026@aau.ac.in

SPONSORSHIP

Platinum Sponsor

Above ₹3 Lakh

Benefits

- Official Industry Partner
- Logo on all Promotional Material
- 15-minute Product showcase Talk Session
- Access to 5 delegates
- Exhibition desk/ display space
- Standee display at conference venue
- Opportunity to distribute promotional materials in delegate kits
- Dedicated sponsor page in abstract book

Gold Sponsor

₹1.5 Lakh - ₹3 lakh

Benefits

- Industry Collaboration Partner
- Logo on all Promotional Material
- 10-minute Industry Talk Session
- Access to 3 delegates
- Exhibition desk/ display space
- Promotional inserts in delegate kits
- Half page advertisement in abstract book

Silver Sponsor

₹1 Lakh - ₹1.5 Lakh

Benefits

- Supporting Industry Partner
- Logo on all Promotional Material
- Access to 2 delegates
- Standee display at conference venue
- Promotional material display at registration desk
- Quarter page advertisement in abstract book

Bronze Sponsor

₹50,000 - ₹1 Lakh

Benefits

- Associate Sponsor
- Logo on all Promotional Material
- Access to 1 delegate
- Promotional material display at registration desk

HOW TO REACH JORHAT

Jorhat is well connected by air, rail, and road, offering convenient access for participants. Assam Agricultural University is situated approximately 3.1 km from Rowrah Airport Jorhat, 6 km from Jorhat Railway Station, and 5 km from the Inter-State Bus Terminus. Participants from across the country can access several direct and express train services to reach Jorhat via Mariani Junction. Direct flights are available from New Delhi & Kolkata to Rowrah Airport, Jorhat, also participants can visit via LGBI Airport, Guwahati & Mohanbari Airport, Dibrugarh. Taxi, bus and other transport services are available from the airport, railway stations, and bus terminus to the University, hotels, and guest houses in Jorhat

Explore "The land of the Red river and blue hills"





ON
EMERGING TRENDS IN PLANT HEALTH MANAGEMENT
FOR AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

..... ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

