

Press Release from Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Gangtok (Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GoI)

Progressive farmers and state officials attended 2 days Human Resource Development Programme on IPM organized by CIPMC at Village-Samdong, Block- Rakdong Tintek, Dist-Gangtok

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques are of utter importance to promote non-chemical pest management of crop insect pests, diseases, weeds and nematodes and only pathway towards sustainable organic farming. More than fifty-five progressive farmers and state dept. officials participated in a two days Human Resource Development programme on Integrated Pest Management at Village-Samdong, Block- Rakdong Tintek, Dist-Gangtok on 25th and 26th February, 2026.

Pest management under organic cultivation is always a challenge as non-chemical practices often found less effective if not used properly and timely. This technical programme organized by Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Govt. of India was focused on awareness development among marginal farmers on Integrated Pest Management practices for field crops in Sikkim.

Sh. Roman Lepcha, Assistant Director, CIPMC, Gangtok discussed concepts and implementation approaches of IPM in Sikkim focusing pest management of field crops under organic cultivation. Dr. T. N. Deka, Scientist-C from Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Spices Board delivered useful lecture on pest management of Large Cardamom. Smt. Pavitra Tamang, PPO discussed use of major IPM techniques like seed treatment, bio-pesticides, pheromone traps and sticky traps for important field crops. Sh. Kausar Ahamed, APPO delivered lecture on Natural Enemies and its importance in managing pests of field crops.

On the second day, field level hands on training on pest surveillance, pest identification through National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) mobile app, seed treatment to combat pest and diseases were conducted for better understating of IPM techniques for vegetables under organic cultivation. Participants from local villages and state officials were encouraged to adopt cultural, mechanical and biological techniques and strategies to manage harmful pests with a responsibility of further dissemination of IPM concepts among farming community. Related literatures with pictorial references were also distributed among participants as ready-reckoner.