

ICAR-National Research Centre for Integrated Pest Management
LBS Building, Pusa Campus, New Delhi

**Farmers' Field School on 'Integrated Pest Management in Mustard' at Sirmor ka Pura,
Morena, Madhya Pradesh**

A team of scientists, Dr. Subhash Chander, Director, ICAR-NCIPM, Dr. M.S. Yadav, Principal Scientist and Dr. Rekha Balodi, Scientist from ICAR-NCIPM visited RVSQVV-KVK, Morena, Madhya Pradesh for monitoring of IPM in Mustard on 25/02/2023. The team along with the collaborators from KVK Morena, Dr. R.P.S. Tomar, Senior Scientist-cum-Head, and Dr. A.S. Yadav, Scientist Selection grade, organized a Farmers' Field School (FFS) on IPM mustard at village Sirmor Ka Pura, Morena. More than 200 farmers attended this FFS, in which farmers were appraised about the oilseed requirements of the country with emphasis on increasing production by reducing the losses due to biotic stresses. Also, lectures were delivered on different aspects i.e. biological control, identification of insect, diseases and weeds, their casual agents, agronomical practices and on integrated pest management in mustard. The team emphasized on use of bioagents (*Trichoderma* spp.) and botanical (garlic clove extract) for management of major mustard pests. Farmers were appraised about the use of bio-control agents like *Trichoderma* spp. and *Pseudomonas fluorescens* for seed as well as soil application for managing the mustard diseases and reducing the use of chemical pesticides. Dr. Subhash Chander, Director, ICAR-NCIPM, New Delhi reiterated for adoption of good agricultural practices (GAP), bio-control agents, bio-pesticides and judicious use of water, nutrients and chemical pesticides for sustainable plant protection. The significance of International Year of Millets -2023 and millets food / products was highlighted during the discussion with the farmers and they were appraised about the health benefits of millets in the diet. The farmers actively participated in the discussion and concerns raised by farmers about important pests (*Scelrotinitia* rot and aphid infestation) were duly attended by the team of scientists.

