

# **INSTITUTE OF FOREST PRODUCTIVITY, RANCHI**

## **REPORT ON MONTHLY SEMINAR**

**24.05.2019**

**THEME – INSECTS FOR FOOD SECURITY**

**TOPIC – INSECTS AS FOOD**

### **Speakers :**

1. Dr. Sailesh Chattopadhyaya, Professor of Entomology, Dept. of Forestry, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Scientist – G and Director, Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi (Jharkhand)

The Monthly Seminar started with the introduction of both the speakers by Dr. Yogeshwar Mishra, Scientist – F & Group Coordinator (Research), IFP, Ranchi.

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni and Dr. Chattopadhyaya, in their presentations, spoke on Insects as food for Food Security and highlighted various associated factors. The presentation started with the general introduction of the insects and its ubiquitous presence all over the world and in varied climatic conditions. Various other harmful and positive factors associated with the insects were discussed but with more emphasis on insects known to be consumed as food in various parts of the world. The various factors and justifications of feeding insects. entomophagy were discussed by both the presenters. The examples were enlisted from the available literature on entomophagy.

Both the presenters presented existing status of knowledge on the subject and stated that a lot work is yet to be done on the subject. The future action plans for the above works and other aspects have been presented here.

### **The way forward**

The roadmap drawn up during the expert consultation meeting on assessing the potential of Insects as food and feed in assuring food security in Rome in Jan., 2012 summarized following main tasks (FAO, 2013) –

- Document the nutritional values of insects to promote insects as healthy food source.

- Investigate sustainability and quantify the environmental impacts of harvesting and farming insects, compared with traditional farming and livestock-raising practices.
- Clarify and augment the socio-economic benefits of insect farming, focusing food security for the society.
- Develop a clear and comprehensive legal framework at the (inter) national level that can pave the way for more investment, leading towards the full development (from the household scale to the industrial scale) of production and trade in insect products for food and feed internationally.

### **Expected outcome of the seminar**

#### **i) Identification of research needs:**

1. Compilation of data on existing status of practice in different regions.
2. Exploring market potential for the activity.
3. Documentation insects species as food in the region.
4. Research on domestication of wild species.

#### **ii) Formulation of future strategies/road map**

1. Work to be initiated on market survey for exploring market potential.
2. Research to be initiated on mass –multiplication technique on different insects as food.
3. Summary to be carried out on socioeconomically aspects to enlist comment status .

#### **iii) Networking research options & opportunities**

1. The networking with the academic and agricultural universities /institutions to be promoted for inter institution collaboration as inter- disciplinary aspects.

Photographs of Seminars.



