National Symposium

and

State Plant Pathologists Meet

(IPS South Zone Meet-2026)

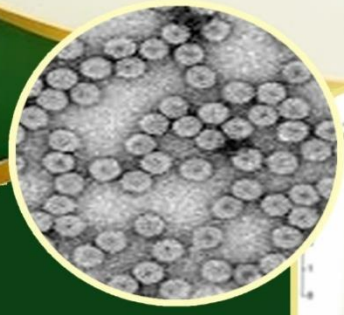
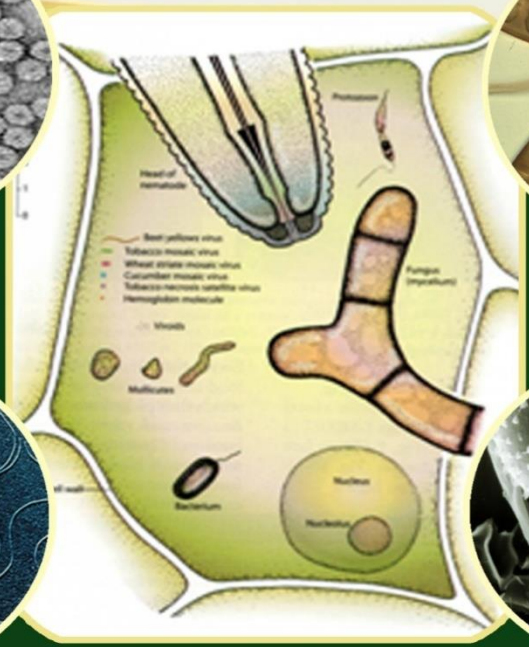
Plant Health for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Agriculture

DATE
25th-26th November 2026

VENUE
Shri Jagajyoti Basaveshwar Auditorium
UAS, Raichur

Organized by

University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur
and
Indian Phytopathological Society, New Delhi




UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR & INDIAN PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, NEW DELHI

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Plant Health for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Agriculture

State Plant Pathologists and South Zone Meet-2026

25th-26th November 2026

Shri Jagajyoti Basaveshwar Auditorium, UAS, Raichur

INVITATION

Dear scientists, academicians, farmers, students and stakeholders,

It gives us immense pleasure to invite you to participate in the IPS (South Zone Meet) National Symposium on "**Plant Health for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Agriculture**" and **StatePlant Pathologists Meet''** being jointly organized by University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka and Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), New Delhi from **25-26th November 2026** at **University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka.**

The Symposium along with IPS South Zone Meet and State Plant Pathologists Meet aims to bring together eminent plant pathologists, academicians, researchers, policy makers, industry professionals, extension personnel andthe students to exchange knowledge, showcase recent research and foster interdisciplinary collaborations. The technical sessions will include Panel Discussion, Lead Lectures, Oral and Poster presentations. The deliberations are expected to generate science-based recommendations, promote innovative disease management strategies, strengthen research and extension networks and contribute to develop technologies and policies for sustainable climate resilient Indian Agriculture.

The major themes of the symposium include host plant resistance; biotechnological approaches for plant disease management; recent advances in the detection, diagnosis, and integrated management of plant diseases for improved plant health; biological control and plant growth-promoting microorganisms (PGPMs) for enhanced plant growth and health; emerging diseases and pests under changing climatic scenarios; and advances in epidemiology, disease forecasting, artificial intelligence (AI), and Internet of Things (IoT) based solutions for sustainable and effective crop protection.

We wholeheartedly welcome you for the National Symposium and State Plant Pathologists Meet.

Organizing Secretary

Dr. Gururaj Sunkad
Director of Education and President
IPS-South Zone

Co-Organizing Secretary

Dr. Mallikarjun Kenganal
Senior Scientist and Councilor
IPS-South Zone

Organized by

University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur

Indian Phytological Society (IPS) New Delhi

About the National Symposium and State Plant Pathologists Meet

The University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Raichur, in collaboration with the Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), New Delhi, is organizing the **National Symposium onPlant Health for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Agriculture and State Plant Pathologists Meet** from **25th to 26th November 2026** to provide a national platform for addressing the emerging challenges in plant health under changing climatic conditions. The symposium also holds the annual meet of pathologists from across the South Zone.

With the increasing incidence of emerging and re-emerging diseases and pests, changing pathogen dynamics, frequent weather extremes and the need for environmentally sustainable crop protection, the symposium is both timely and significant. India, as one of the world's leading agricultural prosperous nations, faces growing challenges in ensuring plant health due to climate change, intensive cultivation, globalization of trade, and concerns over excess pesticide use. Safeguarding plant health is therefore essential for achieving food and nutritional security, environmental sustainability and climate-resilient agriculture. The symposium will provide an opportunity to deliberate on recent advances in genomics, biotechnology, biological control, artificial intelligence, disease forecasting, precision crop protection and integrated disease management, while strengthening collaboration among researchers, extension agencies, industry and policymakers.

The symposium aims to bring together eminent scientists, academicians, researchers, policymakers, industry professionals, extension personnel and students from across the country to exchange knowledge, showcase recent research and foster interdisciplinary collaborations. The Organizing Committee cordially invites scientists, faculty members, research scholars, postgraduate and undergraduate students and professionals in plant protection and allied agricultural sciences to actively participate through oral and poster presentations. The deliberations are expected to generate science-based recommendations, promote innovative disease management strategies, strengthen research and extension networks and contribute to developing technologies and policies for sustainable, productive and climate-resilient Indian agriculture.

About University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur Karnataka, established on 22 November 2008, is one of Karnataka's leading Agricultural Universities committed to excellence in agricultural education, research and extension. Serving the Kalyana Karnataka region, the University caters to the agricultural needs of seven districts namely Raichur, Yadgir, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Ballari, Koppal and Vijayanagar through its robust three-fold mandate of teaching, research and outreach. Recognized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the University Grants Commission (UGC), the University is accredited by NAAC and has been placed in the 151-200 band in the NIRF 2025 Rankings, reflecting its growing academic and research excellence. The University offers undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes in Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering and allied sciences, with a strong emphasis on quality education, innovation and capacity building. Its research network spans 13 Agricultural Research Stations, 17 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and a dedicated Biofuel Park, addressing region-specific agricultural challenges across three distinct agro-climatic zones. Through a code network of extensive extension system, UAS Raichur empowers farming communities by

disseminating improved technologies, producing and supplying quality seeds, organizing farmer training programmes and promoting sustainable agricultural practices, Seven Krishi Vignan Kendras of UAS Raichur have established strategic collaborations with 23 national and 11 international institutions, including globally renowned organizations such as ICRISAT, ICARDA and IRRI, fostering excellence in research, innovation and technology development. With its unwavering commitment to scientific advancement, climate-resilient agriculture and farmer-centric development, the University continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening agricultural productivity, enhancing rural livelihoods and contributing to sustainable food and nutritional security.

About Indian Phytopathological Society

The Indian Phytopathological Society is the premier professional organization in India dedicated to the advancement of Plant Pathology and Plant Health Sciences. Established on 28 February 1947 at the Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology (now the Division of Plant Pathology), Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi, the Society has been promoting scientific excellence, research and innovation in plant pathology for nearly eight decades. Today, IPS is recognized as the third-largest society of plant pathologists in the world, reflecting its scientific stature and global outreach. With a vibrant membership of over 2,700 Scientists and professionals from more than 50 countries, IPS provides a dynamic platform for researchers, academicians, extension specialists, students and plant health practitioners working in diverse disciplines, including Mycology, Plant Pathology, Bacteriology, Virology, Phytoplasmology, Nematology and allied fields. Through its internationally reputed journal Indian Phytopathology, as well as national and international conferences, symposia, workshops and training programmes.

Committed to addressing emerging challenges in plant health, sustainable crop protection and climate-resilient agriculture, IPS continues to play a pivotal role in advancing research, fostering innovation and strengthening national and international partnerships. Through its enduring legacy of scientific excellence and service, the Society remains a leading force in supporting sustainable agriculture, environmental resilience and global food and nutritional security.

About Raichur

Raichur, located in north-eastern Karnataka between the Krishna and Tungabhadra rivers, is a historically significant district and an important agricultural hub known for the fertile Raichur Doab. The district is a major producer of paddy, pulses, cotton, chilli and oilseeds and is home to the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Raichur, a premier institution for agricultural education and research. Participants may also visit nearby attractions such as the historicRaichur Fort, Ek Minar ki Masjid, theUNESCO World Heritage Site of Hampi, the ancient town of Anegundi and the renowned pilgrimage centre of Mantralayam. The district's unique blend of history, culture and agricultural heritage makes Raichur an ideal venue for the National Symposium.

Weather

October offers pleasant post-monsoon weather in Raichur, with daytime temperatures of 31–34°C and nighttime temperatures of 20–23°C. The weather is generally warm with comfortable mornings and evenings.

How to reach Raichur

Raichur is well connected by rail and road to major cities such as New Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Chennai, Trivandrum, Tiruvananthapuram, Coimbatore etc. by railway. The nearest airports are Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Kalaburagi and Vijyanagar (Jindal Vijaynagar Airport, Toranagallu), making travel convenient for delegates from across the country. VENUE: Auditorium, University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka.

Major Themes

1. **Disease epidemiology, forecasting, host plant resistance and biotechnological approaches for Plant disease management**
2. **Recent advances in detection, diagnosis and integrated management of discase for plant health.**
3. **Biological control and PGPMs for plant health management in organic farming**
4. **Emerging diseases and pests under climate change and their management**
5. **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and IoT solutions for crop protection**

Call for Abstracts

The symposium welcomes all the scientists, faculties, academicians, students, entrepreneurs and industry partners for participation. Abstracts on the above thematic areas are invited from original researches by participants for oral and poster presentation. The abstracts shouldn't exceed 250 words, including the title, authors name, institute of affiliation and email-id (presenting author). Abstracts should be prepared in MS word, with Times New Roman font size 12 and single space leaving 1`` margin on the left and right side of the page. Serial number and name of them should be mentioned on top left corner of the page. The abstracts should be submitted0n or before **31st October, 2026** through online mode only at conference website: **https://conference.ipsdis.org/southern/raichur**

Abstracts should be formatted strictly as per above following the style of the journal **Indian Phytopthology**. Acceptance notification will be sent within two weeks of submission. Registration of presenting author is compulsory for including in souvenir. A maximum of two abstracts per first author will be considered for publication and presentation. Abstracts with registration fees paid will only be accepted for the symposium and the decision for oral and poster presentation will be taken by Scientific Committee designated. Full length of papers are also welcomed following the guidelines of Indian Phytopthology format for including in the symposium

Guidelines for Oral and Poster Presentation

The accepted abstracts/papers for oral presentation should prepare the PPT presentation (Not exceeding

8–10 minutes time with maximum of 20 slides). The abstracts selected for poster presentation should prepare theposters of 90 x 120 cm (width and height) to fit on the panel. The poster should include Title, name of authors, affiliation, brief introduction, material and methods, results & discussion with 1 or 2 references. For posters use font size for title: 72 pt, section headers: 36 pt body text: 24 pt captions: 18 pt, Use a consistent, professional color scheme. Ensure that there is enough contrast between the text and background for readability. Use high-resolution images (minimum 300 dpi). Charts and graphs should be clearly labeled with legends and axes. Avoid overcrowding the poster with text; use bullet points and visuals to convey information succinctly. Emphasis should be given to major findings. The top left corner should have number assigned in the acceptance letter.

Registration Fees

Sl. No.	Description	Amount (Rs)
1.	Faculties / Scientists	4000
2.	RA/SRFs	2500
3.	Students	1000
4.	Corporate members	5000

Registration

Registration for the symposium is mandatory and will be confirmed only upon receipt of the full registration fee. The registration fee is non-refundable and non-transferable under any circumstances. Registered delegates will receive a conference kit, name badge, souvenir/book ofabstracts, participation in all technical sessions, breakfast, lunch, dinner and a certificate of participation and/or presentation.**TheParticipants for the Symposium are requested to complete the registration through online only at conference website:https://conference.ipsdis.org/southern/raichur**

Before filling out the registration form, participants must complete the fee payment through UPI or Internet Banking using the following bank details and upload the payment transaction details/proof in the registration form. The details for payment of registration fees are as follows.

Name of the Account	**Plant Pathology Club, Department of Plant Pathology University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur**
Account Number	**10408088106**
IFSC Code	**SBIN0010870**
Bank Name	**State Bank of India, Raichur**
Branch	**UAS Campus, Raichur**

Participants after their registration are requested to send the receipt of registration fees paid along with a copy of your abstract file and itinerary to conference email
ipssouthzoneuasr@gmail.com

Important Dates to Remember

ConferenceDates	**25th-26thNovember2026**
Lastdateforregistration	**31stOctober2026**
Lastdateforsubmissionofabstracts	**31stOctober2026**
Lastdateforsubmissionoffull-lengthpapers	**31stOctober2026**
Dateofacceptancecommunication	**5thNovember2026**

Awards

APS Travel Sponsorship for Ph.D. Students (USA)

The American Phytopathological Society (APS), USA in collaboration with the Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), offers a prestigious travel sponsorship to encourage outstanding Ph.D. students in Plant Pathology from India to participate in the APS Annual Meeting or other APS-approved scientific events. Supported by Indian-origin plant pathologists, the award is presented to the best student presenter selected through the IPS zonal competitions. The award includes reimbursement for international airfare, accommodation and incidentals, while the registration fee must be borne by the awardees.

Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award

The Prof. M.J. Narsimhan Academic Merit Award is open to all IPS members below 35 years of age. Applicants must provide proof of age and a certificate from their guide or supervisor. It is certified that the paper entitled…….....presented for Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award contest for the year 2026 pertain to the major work done by the candidate Mr/Ms…… 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 and member of the Indian Phytopathological Society.

Signature of Student **Signature of Guide**

Interested candidates should submit an abstract of their original research work (not exceeding 200 words) to National Symposium IPS SZ website**: https://conference.ipsdis.org/southern/raichur**

Best oral and Poster presentation awards will be given for each session participants

Accommodation: Limited accommodations are available in the guest houses of the University on payment basis. The delegates can also book their accommodation in hotels directly. Hotels in Raichur offer accommodation ranging from ₹ 2000/- to ₹ 5,000 per day. The details of hotels will be shared in **WhatsApp group** of registered participants. University will provide accommodation to students in hostels at nominal charges. The delegates are advised to make their own travel arrangements up to Raichur. Local travel assistance from Railway station or Bus station will be provided. Email your travel plans to **ipssouthzoneuasr@gmail.com**

National Symposium IPS SZ website: https://conference.ipsdis.org/southern/raichur

Sponsorship

A Souvenir-cum-Abstract Book containing lead papers and abstracts will be published during the symposium. We cordially invite universities, research organizations, industries, and other stakeholders to support this national event by placing your sponsorships and advertisements in the publication. This offers an excellent opportunity to showcase your organization to a distinguished gathering of scientists, academicians, students and professionals from across the country. The advertisement tariff is as follows:

Type	Amount(Rs.)	Souvenir Content	Amount (Rs.)
Platinum	100000	Abstract back cover	75000
Diamond	75000	Abstract front cover inside	60000
Gold	50000	Abstract back cover inside	50000
Silver	25000	Full page color	30000
		Full page black and white	20000

The event sponsor names and their institute logos will be highlighted in banners, print and electronic media of the symposium and also in the souvenir book based on their choice of sponsorship.

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IN CASE OF DIFFICULTY IN ONLINE REGISTRATION, THIS FORM MAY BE USED AND SENT TO ipssouthzoneuasr@gmail.com

REGISTRATION FORM

Particulars	Information
Name (Mr.Mrs/Dr./Miss)	
Designation	
Abstract title	
Institute affiliation	
Mailing address Email & Phone No	
Type of registration (Member/non member/RA/SRF/Student/Corporate member	
Registration fees paid & its details	
Accommodation required (Yes/No) **Hotel /Guest house**	
Date & time of arrival and **Date & time of departure**	
Signature	

Place: Date:

The filled in registration form, soft copy of abstract, proof of registration fees paid and itinerary details may please be sent to **ipssouthzoneuasr@gmail.com**