

**T.P. Rajendran**

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*To Whomsoever it may Concern*

Dr Amalendu Ghosh, Scientist Senior Scale (Entomology), Advanced Centre for Plant Virology, IARI is personally known to me since he joined the ARS (ICAR) in 2010. I am quite familiar with the Entomology research in the field of plant virus-vector biology of Dr Ghosh. He has significantly contributed towards the insect vector and plant virus relationships including reporting of new vector species, influence of plant viruses on the biology and behaviour of insect vectors, host and vector resistance to viruses, crop screening techniques, genetic diversity of thrips and whitefly, and rapid assay for diagnosis of important insect species. He has described the interaction and dissemination route of tospoviruses in thrips vector. Besides, he has successfully developed cell cultures of thrips, *Frankliniella occidentalis* and *Thrips palmi* which are of immense importance for the study of tospoviruses in vitro. Recently, he has identified the key genes of thrips and whitefly responsive to tospo- and begomovirus transmission aiming to interrupt the mechanism of virus transmission using RNAi. His report on transovarial transmission of a bipartite begomovirus by whitefly is an exception to the classical concept of whitefly-begomovirus relationships.

As far as scientific leadership is concerned, he has already led six significant projects as PI sponsored by Department of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Department of Agriculture Research & Education - ICAR. In recognition of his significant work, he has been awarded **Endeavour Research Fellowship by the Australian Government**.

I have great pleasure in introducing him to Entomological Society of India and strongly recommend Dr Amalendu Ghosh for ESI Young Scientist Award.

Wishing him a successful professional research career.



(TP Rajendran)

04<sup>th</sup> November, 2021