

SECOND INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON TERMITES AND WHITEGRUBS

23rd October, 2026

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Free Registration:

All registered participants will receive a certificate of participation. Registration opens at 9:00 AM on 23rd October, 2026. Outstation candidates can contact the Organising Secretary in advance at kalleshwaraswamycm@uahs.edu.in for logistical arrangements.



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Organised by:

Department of Entomology,
College of Agriculture, Navile

Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural
and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga

Sponsors

Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural
and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga

ICAR- All India network Project on
Soil Arthropod Pests, Durgapur, Rajasthan



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About the University:

The Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga (KSNUAHS) established in September, 2012 is the first integrated Agricultural University in Karnataka. The mission of the university is to achieve excellence in teaching, research and extension in the field of Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry and allied sciences. The university endeavours to keep pace with new frontiers of science and technology. The university, in addition to main campus at Iruvakk, Shivamogga District, has number of colleges, research stations and KVKs spread over 6 districts viz., Shivamogga, Chickmagalur, Dakshin Kannada, Udupi, Davanagere and Chitradurga covering both malnad and plains of Karnataka.

About Department of Entomology:

Post graduation with only Master Degree in the Department of Entomology was started in Shivamogga campus during the year 2002-2003 under erstwhile University of Agriculture Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru. After bifurcation from parent university, Ph. D., degree was included from 2013 onwards. A total of 157 M Sc graduates and 35 Ph. D's have completed their degree from the department so far. The department is DST-FIST funded in the year 2016, since then, state of art molecular insect systematics laboratory, Insecticide toxicology and biocontrol laboratories were established. Studies are being undertaken for developing IPM strategies against various crop pests. Development of Integrated Pest Management strategies for Arecanut whitegrubs, *Leucopholis lepidophora* and fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* in maize is the major contribution from the department. With the taxonomic expertise, two new species of termites and an earwig has been described and published. More than 300 barcodes of different species of insects have been submitted to NCBI so far with a major contribution from termites.

About the International seminar:

The purpose of the 'Second International Seminar on Termites and White grubs' is to bring together all the fraternity of entomologists who are engaged in research work at various organizations of National and International repute as well as eminent scientists who have contributed their best to understand these two important group of soil insects, to common forum to interact and discuss. Faculty members of the department have also contributed on these two groups of insects. Considering the importance of research on termites and white grubs and also because of expertise available, ICAR- All India Network Project on Soil Arthropod Pests (ICAR AINP-SAP) centre was established at Shivamogga in the year 2024. The seminar is being conducted with the support of Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga (KSNUAHS) under ICAR-All India Network Project on Soil Arthropod Pests.

Venue:

KVK Hall, College of Agriculture, Shivamogga, Navile Campus

About Shivamogga and site seeing places:

Shivamogga, often called 'Gate way of Malnad', is an education hub and biodiversity hotspot of Karnataka state. The major part of the district lies in the Malnad region of Western Ghats. The Malnad region is a biodiversity hotspot with a rich diversity of flora and fauna. The district consists of number of wild life sanctuaries, bird sanctuaries. World famous 'Jog Falls' is 120 km from the district place and this waterfalls will be in full flow during October. Hill station Agumbe (popularly called Cherrapunji of South India) is 80 km from Shivamogga and famous for its sunset view. Tyavarekoppa lion Safari is just 10km from the Campus. Arecanut and maize are the major crops of the district. Shivamogga is well connected by train as well as by road. Nearest airports are Bengaluru (270 km) and Mangalore (225 km).

Invited speakers



Dr. Nobuaki Mizumoto, Auburn University, USA

Nobuaki Mizumoto (Nobu) is a behavioral ecologist and Assistant Professor in Insect Ecology at the Department of Entomology & Plant Pathology at Auburn University, USA. He holds Ph.D from the University of Kyoto, Japan and Postdoctoral fellowships from Okinawa Institute of Science and technology, Japan and Arizona State University. His research primarily centers on the evolution of collective behaviour and social systems in termites. He will be delivering two talks, one on the comparative analysis of termite nesting strategy, and the other on the mate pairing processes across termite diversity.



Dr. Thomas Chouvinc, University of Florida, USA

Dr. Chouvinc research focuses on subterranean termite biology, with a particular interest in the field of evolution of insect societies, termite ecology and termite control. Using *Coptotermes* as a termite model system, Dr. Chouvinc's research on behavior, symbiosis, physiology, colony demography and control of termites provides an updated perspective on the complexity of insect societies, which further improves our understanding of these remarkable organisms. He will be delivering a virtual talk on 'Subterranean termite management'.



Dr. Kolla Sreedevi, Principal Scientist, NBAIR, Bengaluru

Dr. Kolla Sreedevi, a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society and ICAR National Fellow specialized in taxonomy of Scarabaeidae especially working on biodiversity, biogeography and biosystematics of Indian scarab fauna. With descriptions of 22 new species and several new distributional records of scarabs, she will be delivering an invited talk on 'Scarab faunal diversity – its importance and implications'.



Dr. Prakash KV, Professor (Entomology), UAS, GKVK, Bengaluru

Currently working on population biology, taxonomy and development of management strategies against major white grub species of Karnataka, he will be delivering a talk on 'Sleuthing the life strategies of *Holotrichia serrata*: From soil dwelling larvae to synchronously emerging adults'.



Dr. Sree Subha Ramaswamy, Science Lead, Dagnosis, Bengaluru

Dr. Sree Subha Ramaswamy is an animal behaviour researcher interested in how animals sense interpret and act on information in their environment. She completed her Ph. D at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS-TIFR), where she studied collective construction behaviour in mound-building termites. She is currently the Science Lead at Dagnosis, where she works on developing canine olfaction-based methods for cancer screening. She will be delivering a talk on 'How do blind termites build skyscrapers?'



Dr. Byrappa Ammagarahalli, Gaiagen Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru

Dr. Byra is an entomologist with expertise in insect olfactory neuroethology, with research experience spanning moths, flies, termites and beetles. He holds a Ph.D from the University of Lleida, Spain, with postdoctoral research at the University of Cincinnati and the Czech University of Life Sciences. Currently, his research focuses on alternatives to conventional pesticides, pheromone-based technologies and product development. He will be delivering a talk on 'Termite management in India : From chemical barriers to baiting'.



Dr. C.M. Kalleshwara swamy, Professor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga

Moving towards morphological taxonomic expertise to the Integrative taxonomy, Dr. Swamy's lab focuses on understanding ecology, behaviour and management of subterranean termites. He will be delivering a talk on 'Global status of termite taxonomy and need of integrative taxonomic research in India'.