

## OBITUARY NOTE



**Dr. Agha Ikram Mohyuddin**  
(1932 – 2016)



*Dr. Mohyuddin's research group. He is sitting in the centre.*

We are very grieved on the sad demise of Dr. Agha Ikram Mohyuddin, an eminent entomologist, former Scientist In-Charge, International Institute of Biological Control (IIBC)/CAB International, a senior Fellow of Pakistan Academy of Sciences and one of the founders of Eco-Conservation Initiatives (ECI) who breathed his last on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 after a prolonged illness. Dr. Mohyuddin's areas of research and development were biological control and integrated pest management (IPM). His services to the agriculture sector in Pakistan for elimination of chemical pesticides by replacing with environment friendly approaches will be long remembered. He made landmark achievements in

biological control based IPM of sugarcane pests in collaboration with the sugar industry and helped about 30 sugar mills to establish biological based IPM labs in the most sustainable way. The bio-labs established at Faran Sugar Mills Limited in Sindh is the pioneer to create ripple effect of his efforts to promote and propagate biological control based IPM technologies throughout Pakistan benefiting millions of rupees of profit both to the sugar industry as well as sugarcane growers.

Dr. A.I. Mohyuddin had several years of experience in development projects with emphasis on integrated crop management (ICM) and transfer of technology to the target groups at the national and international level. He had worked on a large number of projects in various parts of the world including East Africa, Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Sultanate of Oman and Pakistan. During 1990-92, he was Consultant to USAID Project on IPM of high value horticultural crops in Sri Lanka as staff of Oregon State University/Development Alternatives Inc. MD, USA. He achieved number of successes in ICM in Pakistan and other countries such as New Zealand, Madagascar, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. As a result of his intervention New Zealand saved more than US \$ 10 million annually since 1974. He was on the panel of experts of FAO/UNEP on IPM for a number of years. He was member of the committee appointed by International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Nairobi, Kenya to review ICM programmes under PESTNET programme being carried out in Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Zambia. He had been involved in transfer of technology to the farmers through training of trainers (TOT) and training of farmers through farmer field schools (FFS). He was elected fellow of Pakistan Academy of Sciences. In recognition of his services in the field of agriculture, a number of awards such as President's Award for Pride of Performance, Dr. Borlaug Gold Medal by the Government of Pakistan, Open Gold Medal by Pakistan Academy of Sciences; Ghulam Muhammad A. Fecto Gold Medals (1983, 1986) and Ismail Zakria Gold Medal by Pakistan Society of Sugarcane Technologists (PSST) were conferred on him. He published some books and a monograph and more than 100 scientific papers in national and international journals. His work has been praised in the media including International Pest Control London, IPM Working for Development UK, CAB International News UK, Queen's Alumni Review Canada; Commonwealth Currents London etc.

Dr. Ikram Mohyuddin possessed a pleasing personality; he was very kind and humble person. In his death, Pakistan in general and the Pakistan's plant protection community in particular have lost a committed and accomplished research leader. May Almighty Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and give fortitude to his family to bear this irreparable loss ! Ameen.