

1. Bio Pesticides and their use

The awareness programme was organized on 27th Nov 2021 on Bio pesticides and their use. Dr. S. B. Das explained the bio pesticides include parasites, predators, and disease-causing fungi, bacteria, and viruses, which are the natural enemies of pests. These bioagents can be conserved, preserved, and multiplied under Laboratory conditions for field release. He emphasized that once these bio-agents are introduced in the field to build their population considerably, they are capable of bringing down the targeted pest' population below an economic threshold level. He also highlighted the following benefits of Bio Pesticides-

- No harmful residues
- Target specific and safe to beneficial organisms like pollinators, predators, parasites, etc.
- Growth of natural enemies of pests is not affected, thus reducing the pesticide application
- Environmentally friendly
- Cost-effective

Gender and category wise details of participants is presented in Table 3.2

Gender	Number of Participants					Percentage of participants				
	SC	ST	OBC	UR	TOTAL	SC	ST	OBC	UR	TOTAL
Male	0	2	12	10	24	0	8	50	42	71
Female	1	2	1	6	10	10	20	10	60	29
Total	1	4	13	16	34	3	12	38	47	100

