International Webinar Series on promotion of Tissue Culture Techniques in Asia Pacific Region

An international series of four webinars was successfully organised by **Biotech** consortium India Limited (BCIL) in association with Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) based on the theme 'Popularization of tissue culture raised certified quality plants for its widespread adoption among potential countries in Asia Pacific and Africa' in the months of May to August, 2022.

BCIL and APAARI are reciprocal members and share complementary expertise for strengthening the mutual cooperation. There was a need to sensitize stakeholders on various aspects of plant tissue culture particularly quality management and best practices. In view of this, **APAARI** had entrusted **BCIL** with the responsibility of organizing a series of four webinars covering a wide range of crops aimed at popularization of tissue culture raised certified quality plants in the region, their significance, best practices and way forward.

Each webinar focussed on a specific plant variety such as Banana, Sugarcane, Date Palm, Bamboo, Ornamental plants etc. and the significance of Tissue culture in enhancing the quality and yield of the production and the economic upliftment of the farming community in the region. A wide participation from the Stakeholders as well as the Donor agencies from more than 45 countries from the Asia Pacific region and Africa was mobilized for the event to generate the initial interest and awareness regarding the benefits of Plant Tissue Culture.

The Subjects of the four webinars are listed as below:

Webinar 1: Banana, Root and Tuber Crops (Banana & Potato)

Webinar 2: Perennial fruits/cash crops (Date palm, Pomegranate & Sugarcane)

Webinar 3: Tree/Woody Plants (Bamboo & Teak)

Webinar 4: Ornamentals Plants

The webinars were chaired by highly respectable dignitaries from Ministries of Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Development, Govt. of India. Speakers and the panellists comprised esteemed experts from Industry, Academia and leading Research Institutions in India and Asia Pacific.

The Series was a great success with active participation of all stakeholders and was very well received by one and all. The webinar series generated great interest at a global level among all concerned and resulted in some very thoughtful deliberations with the industry leaders and senior experts. It provided an effective platform to the tissue culture industry globally to voice their opinions as well as concerns.



