

Emerging pests and natural enemies

- New pests were recorded *viz.*, stem girdler, *Batocera* sp, powder post beetle, *Sinoxyston lonanale* Lesne and phyllody disease on pigeonpea (Ananthpur, AP), painted bug, *Bagrada hilaris* (Burn) (Kanpurnagar, UP), and fungal disease *Corynespora* (Kalyani, WB) on tomato and blackfly, *Aleurocanthus terminaliae* Dubey & Sundararaj (Aleyrodidae: Hemiptera) (UP and Delhi) on mango.
- *Aenasius bambawalei* Hayat (Chalcidodea: Encyrtidae), an indigenous parasitoid, was recorded for the first time by the Centre in Delhi in July 2008 parasitizing the cotton mealybug, *Phenacoccus solenopsis*. Another parasitoid, *Promuscidea unfaciativentris* Girault (Chalcidodea: Aphelinidae), was also recorded at most of the locations in smaller proportions.
- Papaya mealybug, *Paracoccus marginatus* emerged a serious pest infesting papaya near Pune in 2009 and 2010. It was recorded on brinjal, teak, papaya, tulsi, guava, *Parthenium* and Sundakkai (Turkey berry; ***Canthium inerme***) in **Coimbatore district**. Mulberry plantations were heavily infested with *P. marginatus* in bordering area of Erode district. Its parasitoid, *Acerophagus papayae* was recorded at Perambalur, Salem, Erode and Coimbatore districts of Tamil Nadu. Mirid bug (*Creontiodes biseratense*) has also been recorded as an emerging pest in cotton in Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.