

Workshop on “Assessment of exotic fishes: prevalence and their impacts on indigenous fish diversity”, organised by ICAR-NBFGR

ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow, is the premier institute mandated to evaluate indigenous and exotic germplasm including risk assessment and fish health. ICAR-NBFGR has initiated comprehensive research on exotic fish species under the leadership of Dr. U. K. Sarkar, Project Coordinator & Director, ICAR-NBFGR. With due consideration of the current global biodiversity crisis and national context on aquatic invasive species, an inception workshop was organised by the ICAR-NBFGR on 6th July 2023 in hybrid mode, in which subject experts across the country participated in the workshop to provide their inputs and suggestion for assessment to understand the current status and trends of exotic fish species, their impacts, their drivers, management, and options for a policy that effectively deal with the challenges they pose.

The expert opinion with guided discussion on the subject was provided by Dr. A. G. Ponniah, Former Director ICAR-CIBA & ICAR-NBFGR; Dr. S. Raizada, Advisor to Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India for PMMSY & Former ADG (Inland Fisheries), ICAR; Dr. A. K. Singh, Former Director, ICAR-DCFR; Dr. K. D. Joshi, Former Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBFGR; Dr. S. Sandilyan, Former Consultant, National Biodiversity Authority; Dr. N. Sood, Head, Exotics & Aquatic Animal Health Division, ICAR-NBFGR. Invasive alien species are one of the five major direct drivers of biodiversity loss globally, alongside land and sea-use change, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, and pollution. Dr. T. Kumawat, Scientist & Principal Investigator and project team are looking forward to working on target 6 of the recently adopted Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is to “eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services”.



