



Dr. B. VASANTHARAJ DAVID FOUNDATION



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is pleased to confer

Biodiversity Conservation Award – 2020

upon

Dr. Alfred Daniel J

Research Associate
Centre for Ecological Sciences
Indian Institute of Science
Bengaluru 560012

for his

Contribution to Biodiversity Studies in Agricultural

Citation

Biodiversity of parasitic hymenopterans was his doctoral research, in which 174 species of parasitoids from rice ecosystems of Tamil Nadu were documented. Out of these, 43 species were recorded for the first time in Tamil Nadu including certain rare occurring families viz, Figitidae, Gasteruptiidae, Megaspilidae etc. He suggested some best practices for the conservation of beneficial insect diversity in rice ecosystem. Later, he joined the TNLU Museum as a SRF and worked there for two years in the documentation of biodiversity from different parts including North Eastern and Himalayan states of the country. He reported *Saturnia cidosa*, a Saturniid moth for the first time in India. Reported a bee mimicking hover fly Genus *Volucella* and a potter wasp mimicking genus *Monoceromyia* for the first time from South India. He documented and published 77 species of butterflies and 54 species of avi fauna from TNLU Campus itself. He joined Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru as Research Associate and worked in the diversity of fig-wasps and mud wasps. He published 25 articles mainly on the biodiversity and conservation aspects in peer reviewed Journals and video-graphed **an insect biodiversity documentary** and has photographed more than 18,000 insects.

Presently he is a Post Doctoral Fellow in Ben Gurion University, Israel and currently working on the biodiversity of desert Arthropods.

Chennai : 05.12.2020

Dr. B. VASANTHARAJ DAVID
Trustee and Secretary cum Treasurer