

## Round Table Discussion on Cotton Whitefly and Mealybug

During Sixth Open Session: Technical seminar on “Emerging Pests in Cotton and Their Control”, it was realized that most of the African countries have Mealybug problem and the farmers are facing difficulties in managing this menace.

A Round Table discussion was arranged under the chairmanship of Dr Muhammad Naveed, Cotton Entomologist, Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC), Pakistan to have the detailed discussion and share experiences and come up with feasible solution.

Delegates from Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique and cotton entomologist of PCCC participated in the Session. Dr. Naveed shared in detail the management strategy for both these pests and shared experiences especially on using indigenous predators and parasitoids, informed that more than 13 predators belonging to order, Coleoptera, Diptera, Neuroptera, and Hemiptera were identified and their efficacy were tested under the laboratory conditions. Most voracious parasitoids called *Aenasius bambawalei* also came under discussion. Detail of mass rearing techniques of these natural enemies were provided and offered were extended to provide technical supports to the countries having this problem. It was agreed to have a collaborative project for better management of Mealybug and whitefly in small farming systems.