

## Report of 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

The Plant Breeding and Genetics Society of Nepal (PBaGSoN), established in 2076 BS at the district administrative office in Lalitpur, Nepal, has been advancing its mission with renewed vigor, led by a newly elected executive committee formed during its 4th Annual General Meeting in 2023. This committee successfully grew the organization's life membership to over 50 members. In this spirit, PBaGSoN held its 5th Annual General Meeting on 28 Magh, 2080. Key agenda items included:

- A ceremony honoring senior breeders who have made significant contributions to plant breeding and genetics in Nepal.
- Approval of a female member nomination to the executive committee by the general assembly.
- Discussions on the society's future direction and roadmap.

The meeting began at 10:30 AM in the seminar hall of the National Plant Pathology Research Centre (NPPRC). Dr. Ujjawal Kumar Singh Kushwaha served as the master of ceremonies, with PBaGSoN President Dr. Bal Krishna Joshi presiding. Special guest Dr. Tika Bahadur Karki, Director of Crop and Horticulture, attended alongside approximately 60 plant breeders from the Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), universities, and other professional organizations.

The program opened with a moment of silence in memory of recently passed breeders, followed by the chairperson and guests symbolically inaugurating the event by watering a flower pot. A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of honorary member awards to senior breeders for their lifetime contributions to plant breeding and genetics in Nepal.

The event featured a keynote address by Dr. Dilip Raj Panthee, Associate Professor from North Carolina State University, USA, who spoke on modern plant breeding techniques for vegetable crops. Additionally, Dr. Resham Babu Amgai and Dr. Bimal Raj Baniya conducted a joint session exploring the present, past, and future of plant breeding.

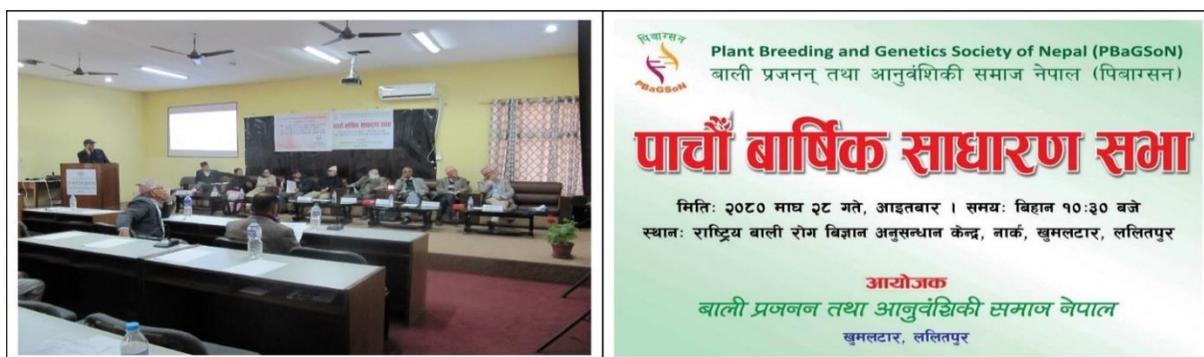


Figure 1: Official opening ceremony of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting of the society. Crop director, chiefs of national centers, and dignitaries participated in the opening ceremony.



Figure 2: Glimpses of different activities happened in the occasion of 5<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting.



Figure 3: Felicitation to the expired breeders (Top), banner of interaction presentation session (bottom left), and Snapshot of generations of breeders (bottom right)

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