**SCRI-SAM: Sustainable Anthracnose Management for Watermelon and Cucumber Growers in the Eastern U.S.**

**Meeting Minutes-** March 24, 2025

**Objective 2 ii:** Role of crop debris and field sanitation practices in reducing cucurbit anthracnose outbreaks.

**Personnel attended:** Dr. Bhabesh Dutta, Navjot Kaur and Dr. Henry Sintim

**PD Dutta** suggested to collect the soil samples before planting from each treatment to evaluate the presence of the pathogen in soil (Navjot will coordinate with **Co-PI Sintim** and his graduate student for collecting soil samples).

**PD Dutta** and **Co-PI Sintim** discussed about rating crop debris management trials for disease severity at the onset of disease (first symptom appearance in the plants, 10 days after transplanting). And rate trials weekly after the onset of disease subsequently (4-5 disease severity ratings) with his graduate student and train her with disease ratings.

**Navjot** will collect a few disease samples from symptomatic plants and will confirm the pathogen presence.