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

**Meeting Minutes-** April 9, 2025

**Objective 2 (i)** Evaluate the role of seedborne inoculum and seed-to-seedling transmission of *C. orbiculare* in anthracnose epidemics.

**Personnel attended** – Dr. Bhabesh Dutta, Dr. Navjot Kaur, Dr. Blake Oakley, Dr. Ron Walcott

**Postdoc Blake** mentioned that they received a collection of 500 seedlots majority of them were from cucumbers. PD Dutta will share the watermelon seedlots this year if seedlots are recovered.

**PD Dutta** suggested Blake for incorporating dilutions (1000x) of the seed macerations to eliminate the inhibitory effects during the PCR.

**PD Dutta** will talk with Dr. Coolong about a 100-ft field plot for artificial blossom inoculation as a part of the seed pathology project and will inform Blake about the plans.

**Co-PI Walcott** updated on artificial inoculations in seeds and are currently in process of standardization of seed transmission assays. Eventually they will screen for the potential recovery of isolates from natural infested seedlots from cucurbits.