



Society of Overseas Nepalese Entomologists (SONE)

Issue # 5: February 1, 2024

SONE NEWSLETTER 2024

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**2023
ENTOMOLOGY**
November 5-8 | National Harbor, MD



Insects and Influence:
Advancing Entomology's
Impact on People and Policy

[Editors](#)

Rekha Bhandari

Pragya Kiju

Kushal Naharki

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SONE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023-24

Welcome Message

We are excited to lead the Society of Overseas Nepalese Entomologists (SONE) 2023-2024 chapter with an incredible team along with the colleagues and seniors from the global entomology fraternity. I would like to express my gratitude to our previous committees for the strong foundation.

Our motto is to provide a space for professional enrichment, research sharing, and networking. With engaged professionals, we adapt the SONE activities to current needs focusing on creating opportunities for members to share ideas, network, and contribute to community service.

My journey with the SONE began in 2017, and the network has been instrumental in my professional growth through webinars, talk sessions, and annual meetings in Entomological Society of America. This year, our priorities include member engagement, global outreach, and fostering professional and personal development.

We invite your feedback, on proposed activities for 2024 like webinars, symposiums, poster sessions, and writing sessions. Please reach out to the committee chairs if you like to serve the SONE in any forms or send an email directly to the SONE. Your active involvement will add excitement to our voluntarily serving team. I am excited for the journey ahead in 2024 and look forward to the team's collaborative efforts translate into real accomplishments. Here is to a year of shared success, growth, and making long lasting memories together!

Thank you!

Warm wishes,
Rekha Bhandari

Rekha Bhandari

President

Pragya Kiju

President Elect

Kushal Naharki

Secretary

Anjana Duwal

Treasurer

Anju Poudel

Webmaster

Saurav Ranabhat

Executive Member

Binita Sigdel

Executive Member

Bijay Sapkota

Representative in Nepal



SONE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2022-23

We would like to congratulate the outgoing executive committee 2022 – 2023 for their successful terms. Congratulations! Let's hear about their experience working with SONE!



President: Sabita Ranabhat

President-Elect: Rekha Bhandari

Secretary: Pragya Kiju

Webmaster: Prabina Regmi

Executive members: Anjana Duwal

Executive members: Sadhana Chhetri

SONE Representative in Nepal: Bijay Sapkota

During my tenure as the president of the SONE, I had the wonderful experience of leading and working with a fantastic committee. Together, we organized a series of impactful events, including webinars, student research presentations, symposium, and many more.... Working with such an enthusiastic team was gratifying, as we seamlessly collaborated to bring these programs to fruition. Moreover, the collaboration extended beyond our organization, as we forged partnerships with various individuals and organizations. This networking not only enriched our events but also opened doors for future collaborations and opportunities. Overall, serving as the president was a truly wonderful and rewarding experience highlighting the positive outcomes of effective teamwork and leadership. - **Sabita Ranabhat**

Currently, I am the treasurer of SONE executive committee 2023-2024. I was an executive member of SONE executive committee 2022-2023. I had a great experience being on the committee. I attended all the webinars that were a great help in broadening my knowledge in the entomology field. I attended the annual committee meeting virtually. The committee also conducted a virtual poster competition and a three-minute talk. Overall the committee was active and successful. - **Anjana Duwal**

It was great platform for me to connect people and learn from them. The support and help from SONE committee was awesome and will be useful for me in upcoming future. I am glad I was part of this committee. - **Pragya Kiju**

SONE ANNUAL MEETING 2023

Meeting Agenda

7:00 PM – 7:05 PM ET

Welcome remarks: President, Sabita Ranabhat

7:05 PM – 7:15 PM ET

Introductory remarks: Advisor, Dr. Megha Parajulee

7:15 PM – 7:35 PM ET

SONE member's introduction

7:35 PM – 7:50 PM ET

Break

7:50 PM – 8:05 PM ET

Three minutes thesis competition

8:05 PM – 8:25 PM ET

Student award ceremony

8:30-8:40 PM ET

SONE business meeting

8:45 PM – 8:50 PM ET

Open discussion

8:50 PM – 9:00 PM ET

Committee recognition



2023 SONE Organized Meeting

The annual meeting was organised in National Harbor, MD at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention center on 5th Nov - 8th Nov. SONE members came together in a common platform of ESA to present their research. This year the meeting was held in person format. There were 24 total participants and one member attended virtually. We were honoured to have our advisor Dr. Megha Parajulee present at this meeting. He shared his experience and provided valuable insights for future SONE committee and participants.

Thank you all for you active participation.

This year, we were able to organise 3MT competition which as SONE tradition. There were total 5 participants for 3MT. This meeting was focused on all activities organised by SONE. The SONE 2023 committee was recognised for organising activities like poster competition, webinar. We would to thank 2023 SONE committee member for sharing their thoughts, ideas. We are looking forward to have active participation in 2024 ESA.

SONE AWARDS

Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence



Kushal Naharki

Graduate Research Assistant
West Virginia University
SONE Secretary (2023/24)



Each year SONE presents **Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence** to one graduate student to recognize students who have distinguished him/herself through contributions to entomology. This year, the award was presented to **Mr. Kushal Naharki** for his academic achievements and contributions to the society.

We would like to thank the 2023 SONE Award selection committee: Chair Dr. Sudip Gairhe and members Dr. Babu Panthi, Dr. Binita Shrestha and Dr. Buddhi Bdr Achhami.



SONE AWARDS

Outstanding Leadership Award



Sabita Ranabhat
Graduate Research Assistant
Kansas State University
SONE President (2022/23)



Each year SONE presents the **Outstanding Leadership Award** to outgoing SONE President, in recognition of his/her distinguished service and leadership to the society. This year the award was presented to **Ms. Sabita Ranabhat** for her service and leadership as a President of SONE in 2022-2023.

2023 ESA Award Winners

SONE members proved their excellence by winning the 2023 ESA award as listed below.

Kushal Naharki: ESA Larry Larson Graduate Student Award

Sonu Koirala BK: PBT Graduate Student Travel Award

Sabita Ranabhat: 1st Place in Poster Presentation (On-Demand: P-IE)

Bijay Subedi: 1st Place in Oral Presentation (P-IE: Biocontrol and IPM 1)

Congratulations to all the winners!



SONE Webinar Series

SONE started a webinar series since 2020 and it has been a great success. Invited speakers will be given 40-45 minutes to present their work on entomology or related science. The lists of presenters for the year 2023 are listed below.

April 30, 2023

Dr. Govinda Shrestha

Hemp Extension Specialist;

Oregon State University Southern Oregon Research & Extension Center, OR



Title: Developing Applied Hemp Research and Extension Education Program at Oregon State University

July 30, 2023

Jhalendra Rijal, Ph.D.

Extension Entomologist and IPM Advisor University of California Cooperative Extension & Statewide IPM Program



Title: Impacts of Climate Change and Drought on Pests and Their Management

October 30, 2023

Sundar Tiwari, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal



Title: Agroecological Pest Management for Sustainable Agriculture

If you want to present your work in this webinar series, please contact us and we will send you an official invitation.

SONE Symposium

USING BEHAVIOR AS A CENTRAL ORGANIZING CONCEPT IN STORED PRODUCTS: TOWARDS BEHAVIORALLY-BASED IPM



"Knowledge of stored product insect pest behavior enables development of improved technology for their detection and management"
Dr. Richard Mankin



"Understanding the behavioral ecology of stored product insects in response to integrated pest management tactics"
Sabita Ranabhat



"The role of desensitization in disruption of *Cadra cautella*"
Dr. Chuck Burks



"Using behavioral traits to evaluate resistance to phosphine of stored product insects; shifting from simple observations to commercial indicators"
Dr. Christos Athanassiou

Time: 9-11am, Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Venue: Potomac 1-2, Gaylord National Resort & Conference Center



"Use of specialized packaging, alternative tools, and digital technologies to protect global food facilities against cosmopolitan pests"
Dr. Georgina Bingham



"Determining the behavioral mechanisms behind mating disruption efficacy against *Plodia interpunctella* in food facilities"
Dr. James F. Campbell



"Emerging tools for improving management strategies of post-harvest pests in the face of climate change"
Dr. Erin Scully



"Cold tolerance of the bean weevil, *Acanthosceides obtectus*"
Dr. Vincent Hervet

Organizer: Dr. Rob Morrison & Sabita Ranabhat

Sponsored by: Society of Overseas Nepalese Entomologists

Moderator: Dr. Hannah Quellhorst



2023
ENTOMOLOGY
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Section symposium was organized by Dr. Rob Morrison, Sabita Ranabhat and Society of Overseas Nepalese Entomologist during Entomological Society meeting on November 7th 2023 in National Harbor, MD at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center on "Using Behavior as a Central Organizing Concept in Stored Products: Towards Behaviorally-based IPM".

Virtual Poster Competition

Congratulations to all the award winners & presenters of the first virtual poster competition organized by SONE (co-led by Rekha Bhandari and Bijay Sapkota). We received altogether seven abstracts for the competition.

Bhawana Regmi - 1st place (Title: “Laboratory Rearing of *Corcyra cephalonica* (Stainton, 1866) for Mass Production of *Trichogramma chilonis* Ishii for Fall Armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (J.E. Smith, 1797) Management in Chitwan, Nepal.”)



Aradhana Shrestha - 2nd place (Title: “Perception and Adoption of Area-Wide Control Program of Chinese Citrus Fly, *Bactrocera minax* (Enderlein) in Sindhuli, Nepal.”)



Anita Bhusal - 3rd place (Title: “Efficacy of different insecticides against *Tuta absoluta* (Meyrick 1917), Tomato Leaf Miner in Arghakhanchi, Nepal.”)



We extend our sincere gratitude to the judging panels (Drs. Subodh Adhikari, Arjun Khadka and Sujan Dawadi) for evaluating all the posters and the discussion (through ZOOM or recordings).



3-Minute Research Talk Competition

Congratulations to all the award winners & presenters of the 3-Minute Research Talk Competition that took place during the SONE-organized annual meeting at the 2023 ESA in National Harbor, Maryland.



Kushal Naharki - 1st Place (Title: Monitoring and risk assessment of *Lycorma delicatula* in West Virginia)

Binita Sigdel - 2nd Place (Title: Using insectary plants to attract natural enemies in vegetable production)

Saurav Ranabhat - 3rd Place (Title: Use of sprayer drones in IPM settings)

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the judges: Drs. Sandipa Gautam, Chet P. Bhatta & Sanjeev Kumar Dhungana to evaluate the research talks of all the participants!

SONE Events in 2024

Writing Together Session



SONE invites you to participate in the "Writing Together Session" on Zoom during weekends (Saturday) from 3-5 PM EST from this week until April. This is a voluntary gathering where you can devote time to your writing projects (in an easy-going space and people) with accountable partners on your own or in a group in ZOOM. Please send an email to SONE if you want to get a calendar invite.

2024 Events

Stay connected to SONE email (ento.sone@gmail.com) and social media accounts for the following events:

- ❖ Virtual Poster Competition
- ❖ 3 minute lightning talk (Competition)
- ❖ SONE Annual Meeting and Symposium
- ❖ SONE Webinar Series
- ❖ SONE Awards
- ❖ Writing together session

Publications

Here is a list of research and extension articles published by SONE members in 2023-2024.

1. Elmquist, D.E., **S. Adhikari**, I. Popova, and S. D. Eigenbrode. 2024. Soil arthropod communities collected from agricultural soils influence wheat growth and modify phytohormone responses to aboveground herbivory in a microcosm experiment. *Appl. Soil Ecol.* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsoil.2023.105197>
2. **Naharki, K.**, C.D. Hubner. Y-L. Park. 2024. Detection of Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) Using Drones and Multiple Optical Sensors: Implications for Management of Invasive Plants and Insects. *Drones* 8(1):1. <https://doi.org/10.3390/drones8010001>
3. Mainali, K., S. Adhikari, S. Shrestha, M. C. Singer, J. White, and C. Parmesan 2023. Reciprocal transplants reveal asymmetric local adaptation of Himalayan Rhododendron approaching elevational range limit. *Ecosphere*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.4563>
4. Eigenbrode, S. D. and **S. Adhikari**. 2023. Climate change and managing insect pests and beneficials in agricultural systems. *J. Agron.* <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21399>
5. Eigenbrode, S. D., **S. Adhikari**, A. Rashed. 2023. Fescue aphid (*Metopolophium festucae*). In S. D. Eigenbrode and A. Rashed. (eds.) *Advances in understanding insect pests affecting wheat and other small grains*. Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing Limited. Cambridge, UK.
6. **Kiju, Pragma**, K. W. Wanner, K. McPhee, and G. V. P. Reddy. 2023. Pea leaf weevil, *Sitona lineatus* (L.) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), Adult Feeding Preference and Larval Development on Field Pea Varieties in Montana. *Journal of Pest Management Science*. DOI:10.1002/ps.7970.
7. Park, Y-L., **K. Naharki**, R. Karimzadeh, B.Y. Seo. 2023. Rapid Assessment of Insect Pest Outbreak Using Drones: A Case Study with *Spodoptera exigua* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) in Bean Fields. *Insects*. 14 (6). 555. <https://doi.org/10.3390/insects14060555>

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8. **Ranabhat, S.**, M.J. Domingue, L. Lebar, G.V. Bingham, K.Y. Zhu, and W.R. Morrison III. 2023. Disruption of semiochemical-mediated movement by the immature *Trogoderma variabile* Baillon and *Trogoderma inclusum* Le Conte (Coleoptera: Dermestidae) after exposure to long-lasting insecticide netting. *Pest Management Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ps.7903>
 9. Harman R.R, W.R Morrison III, A. Bruce, **S. Ranabhat**, H.E. Quellhorst, R.V. Wilkins, J.F. Campbell, and A.R. Gerken. 2023. The behavioral response to the putative necromones from dead *Tribolium castaneum* (Herbst) (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) in traps by conspecifics as a function of density and time since capture. *Environmental Entomology*, nvad098. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ee/nvad098>
 10. Yu, J.J. †, **S. Ranabhat** †, and C. Wang. 2023. Insecticide Resistance of *Cimex lectularius* L. Populations and the Performance of Selected Neonicotinoid-Pyrethroid Mixture Sprays and an Inorganic Dust. *Insects*, 14(2), p.133. († Equally contributed authors). <https://doi.org/10.3390/insects14020133>
 11. Wang C., S. Abbar, X. Pan, **S. Ranabhat**, and R. Cooper. 2023. Diversity and prevalence of nuisance arthropods detected by sticky traps in apartments in New Jersey. *Journal of Economic Entomology*, toad114. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toad114>

You can find more of their work in their professional profiles.

Follow [2023-24 Publications](#) link to view and update your publications.

Presentations and Talks

Adhikari, S. and S. D. Eigenbrode. 2023. Twelve Years of Monitoring a Newly Invasive Aphid in the Pacific Northwest: What Have we Learned? Pacific Branch of Entomological Society of America Meeting (Apr 2-5).

Adhikari, S. 2023. Climate Smart Integrated Pest and Pollinator Management. Pollinator Summit (Invited talk). (March 1-2, 2023).

Ranabhat, S., G.V. Bingham, K.Y. Zhu, and W.R. Morrison III. 2023. Understanding the behavioral ecology of stored product insects in response to integrated pest management tactics. 71st Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America, National Harbor, MD. *(Invited)*.

Ranabhat, S. 2023. Using novel tactics, long-lasting insecticide netting, with other existing common pest management programs for food facilities. University Distinguished Professor (UDP) Meeting. Kansas State University. Manhattan, KS. *(Invited)*.

Ranabhat, S., A.R. Gerken, D.S. Scheff, K.Y. Zhu, and W.R. Morrison III. 2023. Modeling long-term, stage-structured dynamics of *Tribolium castaneum* at food facilities with and without long-lasting insecticide netting. 71st Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America, National Harbor, MD.

Ranabhat, S., D. Brabec, I. Stoll, G. Bingham, K.Y. Zhu, and W.R. Morrison III. 2023. Long-lasting insecticide-incorporated netting helps to improve fumigation efficacy in bulk storage at food facilities. USDA Agricultural Research Service, Center for Grain and Animal Health Research Stored Product Insect and Engineering Research Unit, KS

Ranabhat, S., D. Brabec, I. Stoll, G. Bingham, K.Y. Zhu, and W.R. Morrison III. 2023. Insecticide-treated netting deployment helps to improve fumigation efficacy in bulk storage at food facilities. 78th Annual Joint Meeting of the North-Central Branch and Southwestern

Branch of the Entomological Society of America, Oklahoma City, OK.

Ranabhat, S., K. Mongeau, T. McKay, L. Starkus, K.Y. Zhu, and W.R. Morrison III. 2023. Food dust does not decrease the efficacy of insecticide netting against stored product insects. K-State Graduate, Arts, and Discovery (GRAD) Forum, Manhattan, KS.

Naharki, K., E. Rowen, Y-L. Park. 2023. The Use of Social Media Platform to Increase the Awareness of Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) in West Virginia. Entomological Society of America, Eastern Branch Entoquest Summer Meeting. 15-17 September. Camp Arrowhead, Lewes, Delaware

Naharki, K., Y-L. Park. 2023. Spotted Lanternfly and Tree of Heaven: Monitoring Using Drones. WVU Organic Farm Field Day Program 2023. 19, August. Morgantown, West Virginia

Naharki, K., R. Karimzadeh, Y-L. Park. 2023. Can drones and spatial analyses help detect the tree of heaven, a major host of spotted lanternflies, new invasive insects to WV?. Davis College Research and Creative Scholarship Day 2023. 22, March, Morgantown, West Virginia

Naharki, K., Y-L. Park. 2023. How can drones be used to detect tree of heaven to monitor and manage spotted lanternflies?. Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting 2023. 6 November. Maryland

SONE Membership

Currently, there are about 80 active SONE members from all over the world (based on email-addresses). We have altogether 11 life members.

Dr. Megha Parajulee, Dr. Raju Pandey, Dr. Govinda Shrestha, Dr. Sandipa Ghimire Gautam, Dr. Ram Shrestha, Dr. Sudip Gaire, Dr. Buddhi Bahadur Achhami, Dr. Sudan Gyawaly, Dr. Jhlendra Rijal, Dr. Babu Panthi and Dr. Subodh Adhikari

If you haven't renewed your membership, please consider doing so and be a part of an active professional organization. Please contact our SONE Treasurer **Anjana Duwal** (duwal.anjana20@gmail.com) or SONE email for more information.

Membership Fee	
Overseas Students	\$10 USD
Overseas Professionals	\$20 USD
Students in Nepal	\$2 USD
Professionals in Nepal	\$5 USD
Lifetime Member	\$100 USD

Here is the [SONE Member Directory 2024](#) link with the updated list of SONE members. Please update your profiles using the provided link.

Thank you all for your help and support!

See most of you in ESA 2024 at Phoenix, Arizona!!

**Our motto: Connecting Nepalese Entomologists
Around the Globe**