



CICR Happenings News Bulletin

July 2023

Monitoring of HDPS and closure spacing demonstrations of cotton under Cotton Pilot Project in Arvi Tahsil of Wardha District

The field visit was conducted jointly by a team of experts from ICAR-CICR Nagpur and Ankur Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur for monitoring of HDPS and closer spacing demonstrations of cotton under Cotton Pilot Project in Arvi Tahsil of Wardha District. Dr. S P Gawande, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) and Nodal Officer for Wardha District along with Dr. Sameer Vadyalkar, Mr. Nitin Chaudhary and Mr. Sagar Bhende from Ankur Seeds visited six fields located in three villages: Talegaon (Raghuji), Chandni, and Bothli in the Arvi Tahsil of Wardha District on 6th July, 2023. The team



members interacted with about 25 farmers and discussed various aspects related to the crop. Farmers told that the hand operated seed drill is more efficient than the manual sowing of cotton crop in terms of cost, time and labor requirement, and uniformity in sowing depth and distance resulting in good seed germination and better crop stand.

Participation in ICAR Foundation and Technology Day at NASC, New Delhi

Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur and Dr. G. Balasubramani, Principal Scientist (Agril. Biotechnology) participated in the ICAR Foundation and Technology Day celebrated during 16-18 July, 2023 at NASC, New Delhi.



Participation in ICAR-Industry interface meet on 16 July, 2022



ICAR-CICR stall in the exhibition on "ICAR-Crop Technologies"



Dr. T. R. Sharma, DD (Crop Science) visited ICAR-CICR stall at technology exhibition

The nine different technologies developed by Scientists of ICAR-CICR from Nagpur HQ (Dr. Babasaheb B. Fand, Dr. Shailesh P. Gawande & Dr Vivek Shah) and its two regional stations at Coimbatore (Dr. K. Rameash), and Sirsa (Dr. Rishi Kumar & Dr S. K. Sain) were awarded the certificates of technology by ICAR in a 95th Foundation and Technology day celebrated during 16-18 July, 2023 at New Delhi. Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur received the certificates for award of technologies developed by the Scientists of ICAR-CICR with the hands of Dr. R. K. Singh, ADG (Commercial Crops), ICAR-New Delhi.



Release of CICR publication on "HDPS Q&A" jointly by Secretary Agriculture (DA & FW) and Secretary Textiles, Ministry of Textiles in the presence of Dr T. R. Sharma, DDG (Crop Science), Joint Secretary (Crops), Joint Secretary Fibre, Dr R.K. Singh, ADG (CC), Agriculture Commissioner, Dr D. K. Yadav ADG (Seeds) and Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.



Celebration of ICAR Foundation and Technology Day at ICAR-CICR, Nagpur

KVK and ICAR-CICR Nagpur celebrated the 95th Foundation and Technology day during 16th-18th July 2023. Dr. G. T. Behere, I/c Director, ICAR-CICR addressed the audience and briefed about the significant achievements of ICAR during last 95 years. A technical session on cotton production technology was organised for the farmers from Nagpur tehsil. About 112 male farmers and 85 female farmers were present. Guidance was provided to the farmers on nutrient and weed management, pest and disease management in cotton crop.



ICAR-CICR team won 2nd Prize in Hackathon 3.0 on Speed Breeding for Crop Improvement KRITAGYA

ICAR-CICR Team "**Cotton Accelerator**" received a **2nd Prize** in Hackathon 3.0 on Speed Breeding for Crop Improvement KRITAGYA during 95th ICAR Foundation Day **16th July, 2023** at NASC Complex, New Delhi. The team comprised of Dr. Jayant H. Meshram, Principal Scientist (Plant Physiology), Dr. Rahul Phuke, Scientist (Plant Breeding), Mrs. Shraddha Tiwari (LED A light Expert), Mr. Mahesh Sontakke (Student). The team has provided proof-of-concept in cotton speed breeding protocol in which using smart LED lights, nutrient recipes and growth hormones can get 3 generation seed to seed cycle of cotton crop in a year.



One day “Field Day cum Farmers' Workshop and Vegetable Seeds Kit Distribution” program under DAPST scheme

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur organised “Field Day cum Farmers' Workshop and Vegetable Seeds Kit Distribution” program in village-Salaimendha, Taluka-Hingna, Dist.-Nagpur on dated 18th July, 2023 under development action plan for scheduled tribed (DAPST) scheme. On this occasion, vegetable seed kits were distributed to the 15 tribal farmers of the village for sowing in kharif season or nutri-garden as supplement to human health and nutrition. Sr. Scientist (Ag. Biotechnology), Dr. Dipak T. Nagrale, Nodal Officer, DAPST and the organising secretary of training programme explained the objectives of DAPST scheme to the ST farmers and interacted with them on integrated pests and disease management in cotton crop. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sr. Scientist (Ag. Biotechnology), delivered an interactive lecture on the role of BG-II hybrids and improved varieties in enhancing crop production and productivity in cotton. Mr. Sujit Kumbhare, Technical Assistant and Shri. Sarang Shrirame (DAPST YP-1), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur assisted in farmers' registration and coordinated in the successful organization of the event.



Farmer's Visit

An exposure visit was organised on 18 July 2023 for 45 farmers and 6 extension functionaries of Karaikal region under ATMA-Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension scheme. Dr. S. Manickam, Principal Scientist (Genetics Plant Breeding) explained the activities of the institute and latest technologies in cotton cultivation.



Training programme on 'Cotton Technologies and the Package of Practices' for Area/Territory Managers of Dhanuka Agritech. Ltd. for North Zone

An online training programme on 'Cotton Technologies and the Package of Practices' for Area/Territory Managers of Dhanuka Agritech. Ltd. for North Zone was organized by ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa on July 21, 2023. Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur in his special address as Chief Guest, emphasized on the emerging cotton issues in the North Zone. He further advised to all the stakeholders to remain vigilant during the crop window of 90 to 120 days to harness the potential yield of BG-II cotton hybrids in North Zone. Dr. Rishi Kumar, Head (I/c) and



Principal Scientist (Entomology) briefed about present scenario of cotton in North Zone and guided the participants on insect pest management. Dr. S. K. Sain, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology) delivered lecture on management of important cotton diseases; Dr. Amarpreet Singh, (Scientist, SS, Agronomy) discussed about 'Improved agronomic practices for higher cotton productivity in North Zone'. Dr. Subhash Chandra, (Scientist, SS, Plant Breeding) & Dr. Debashis Paul, Scientist (Seed Science and Technology) delivered lectures on 'Criteria for selecting suitable BG-II cotton hybrids to harness potential yield and 'How to realize the maximum yield in Desi (G. arboreum) cotton in North Zone?', respectively. About 90 participants attended the training and interacted with the scientists.

Refresher Training Course

A Refresher Training Course on 'Latest Cotton Production and Protection Technologies' for field teams of Better Cotton Initiative Project (Ambuja Cement Foundation) were organized at ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa during 24 -26 July, 2023. Total of 170 participants from various blocks of Rajasthan and Punjab adopted by Ambuja Cement Foundation participated in this training programme. During this training programme



Dr. Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist (Entomology) & Head (I/c), ICAR-CICR, RS, Sirsa presented the cotton scenario in North Zone and delivered a lecture on 'Insect-pests in cotton; their identification and management with special emphasis on Pink Bollworm'. Dr. S. K. Sain, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology) delivered a lecture on 'Identification and management of cotton diseases'. Dr. Amarpreet Singh, (Scientist, SS, Agronomy) discussed about 'Improved agronomic practices for higher cotton productivity in North Zone'. Dr. Subhash Chandra, (Scientist, SS, Plant Breeding) & Dr. Debashis Paul, Scientist (Seed Science and Technology) delivered lectures on 'Criteria for selecting suitable BG-II cotton hybrids to harness potential yield' and 'How to realize the maximum yield in Desi (*G. arboreum*) cotton in North Zone', respectively. Practical field demonstrations on installation of pheromone traps and yellow sticky traps; identification of insect-pests and diseases in cotton and identification of farmer friendly insects were also performed during these three days. Question-answer and discussions were organized during the training sessions in which the participants interacted with the scientists actively.



State Agri Expo

ICAR-CICR, Regional Station Coimbatore participated in a three days State level Mega Agricultural Exhibition - Velan Sangamam- held at CARE Engineering College, Trichy from 27th to 29th July, 2023.

ICAR-CICR technologies such as recently released cotton varieties, fibres of various traits, poly mulch technologies, HDPS, seed coating technologies and colour cotton were exhibited in a stall. About 2000 cotton-growing farmers visited ICAR-CICR stall and received a guidance on advanced cotton production technologies.



Development Action plan for Scheduled Caste (DAPSC)

ICAR-CICR showed a live telecast of Hon. Prime Minister's on the occasion of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Sammelan at ICAR-CICR, Nagpur on 27 July 2023. More than 80 beneficiary farmers of Development Action Plan for Scheduled Caste (SCSP) from 4 villages (Amti, Sawarkheda, Khobna & Bodakhipeth) of Kuhi Taluka in Nagpur district participated in this programme. Hon. Prime Minister interacted with farmers live from Sikar, Rajasthan. The programme was presided over by Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director CICR, Nagpur in the presence of all head of the Divisions and

Nodal officer, DAPSC (SCSP). Tricocash (Tricoderma) was distributed as input to all Scheduled Caste beneficiaries. After the webcasting, a technical session on improved cotton production practices was organised wherein the institute scientists interacted with the farmers and guided them on nutrient, pest and disease management in cotton.



Pre-season Consultation Workshop for Cotton Stakeholders under CCI-CICR Extension Pilot Project

A Pre-Season consultation workshop for cotton stakeholders under CCI-CICR Extension Pilot Project was organized at Vadaputhur, Coimbatore on 31.07.2023 by ICAR-CICR, Regional Station and Cotton Corporation of India, Coimbatore. The meeting was presided by Shri. Pradeep Kumar Agarwal, Advisor (Sustainability), CCI, Mumbai. Scientists from ICAR-CICR, Assistant General Manager, CCI, Coimbatore and Officers from Tamil Nadu State Department of Agriculture, local village leaders and Extra Long Staple Cotton growers have participated in the meeting. Technical lectures by the Scientists and interactive session among the stakeholders were held in the meeting. Thereafter, Shri. Pradeep Kumar Agarwal, Advisory (Sustainability), CCI and Shri. Neeraj Kumar Bhatt, Assistant General Manager, CCI, Coimbatore had discussion with Dr. A. H. Prakash, Head, ICAR- -CICR at Regional Station, Coimbatore



Students' visits

Seventy four students of III year B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture from RVS Padmavathy College of Horticulture visited ICAR-CICR, Regional Station on 13 July, 2023 to learn about the manure, fertilizer and soil fertility management practices in the cotton field. Dr. D. Kanchana, Senior Scientist (Soil Science) explained the research activity pertaining to the



Crop Production Division of the station. The students visited the soil science lab and permanent manure trial at the station.

Ninety-one BSc (Hons.) Agri students from TNAU, Madurai, visited the Regional Station of ICAR, CICR, Coimbatore on July 21, 2023 as a part of their study tour programme. The students interacted with Dr A. Sampathkumar, Senior Scientist (Pathology), and got exposure to the institute activities and ongoing research programmes of the station.



One hundred and four students of II B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture from IIAT, Kannanur, Thuraiyur, Trichy visited CICR RS on 21 July 2023 as a part of their AGR 202 Education of Tour (0+1) course. They interacted with Dr. D. Kanchana, Senior Scientist (Soil Science) and Dr. K. Baghyalakshmi, Scientist (Genetics and Plant Breeding). They were given brief note on the research activities of the institute.

As 100 BSc Agri students from AC and RI, Kudumiyamalai, Pudukottai visited CICR Regional Station on 24 July 2023 and interacted with Dr K Shankarganesh who briefed on the inception of our institute, cotton improvement, production, and Cotton plant protection aspects to the students.



Twenty one diploma students from Department of textile technology, PSG Polytechnic collage, Coimbatore visited CICR, Regional Station on 28 July 2023. They interacted with Dr. K. Baghyalakshmi for gathering information on cultivated species of cotton and visited CIRCOT regional Station for learning the fiber testing procedures.

PERSONNEL

Appointment:

Dr. Arjun S. Tayde, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati has joined as Head, Division of Crop Production, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, on 19.07.2023.





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