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ICAR-CICR Newsletter

ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR COTTON RESEARCH, NAGPUR

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Director's Message

It is the start of another year and time for setting new goals and ventures. I extend New Year-2020 greetings to all the staff and wish that nothing stops us from growing, evolving and progressing. During 2019, we could establish our strong presence through valuable contributions in terms of research, technologies, extension and farmer outreach activities and implementation of official language (Hindi). Though, our intense farmer outreach programmes executed in the past have benefitted the cotton farmers to a large extent through new varieties, pest management technologies and large scale testing of spurious Ht cotton seeds, we still need to put in more efforts in taking forward our achievements further. With a view to strengthen the monitoring of unapproved GM cotton events, Institute imparted hands on training on GM testing of seeds to officials from Seed Testing Labs across cotton growing states. It is a matter of great honor that, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture during their visit to Nagpur well appreciated the sincere endeavours put in by ICAR-CICR in meeting the major needs of cotton farmers. Last crop season has been favourable for cotton with continuous good rain fall and cotton production of 375 lakh bales has been projected. Our main focus for the coming years should be on popularization of Institute developed Bt varieties and *desi* cotton varieties through programmes such as "Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav", Tribal Sub-Plan, Mega seed Project and Schedule Caste Sub-Plan. I am hopeful that together we will make a significant stride in increasing cotton production and productivity to further improve economic condition of our fellow cotton farmers.



(V. N. Waghmare)
Director



Members of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture conducting a meeting at ICAR-CICR, Nagpur during their visit to the Institute on 24th January 2020.

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Events

Seventy first Republic Day celebrated

ICAR-CICR celebrated the 71st Republic Day on 26th January 2019 at all the three stations viz. Nagpur, Coimbatore and Sirsa. Dr. V. N. Waghmare, Director, hoisted the National flag at ICAR-CICR, Nagpur. After hoisting the National Flag and reciting of National Anthem, Dr. Waghmare addressed the staff members. In his address, Director remembered freedom fighters of our nation and paid rich tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the country. He also remembered founding fathers of the constitution. He has highlighted the major achievements of the

Institute for previous year and exhorted all the staff members to work in team with much needed focus to serve Indian farming community. Different games/competitions were held for office staff as well as for their children. At the end of competitions, the winners were presented with prizes by the Director.

At Coimbatore, the National flag was hoisted by Dr. A.H. Prakash, Project Coordinator and Head Regional Station, Coimbatore. All the staff members of the station were present. During the event, prizes were distributed to all winners of Pongal Day competition held on 16th January 2020.



Study visit of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur served as the Nodal Institute for coordinating the two day study visit of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture comprising Hon'ble members of both houses of Parliament to Nagpur during 23rd-24th January 2020. The team comprised 11 Parliamentarians from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha along with five officials from Secretariat. Shri. Parvatagouda Gaddigoudar, elected member of current Lok Sabha from Karnataka was the Chairman of the committee. The other members of Loksabha were, Shri. Afzal Ansari from Uttar Pradesh, Shri. A.Ganeshamurthi from Tamil Nadu, Shri. Kanakmal Katara from Rajasthan, Shri. Bhagwanth Khuba

from Karnataka, Shri. Devji Patel from Rajasthan, Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel from Gujarat, Smt. Navneet Ravi Rana from Maharashtra and Shri. Ram Kripal Yadav from Bihar. The two Rajya Sabha members were Shri. Kailash Soni from Madhya Pradesh and Smt. Chhaya Verma from Chhattisgarh. On the first day, they interacted with farmers, State officials and officials of crop insurance companies involved in Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFY). A study visit to three ICAR Institutes including ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land use Planning, ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute and ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research was arranged on 24th



January 2020. The team had detailed discussion on major cotton research achievements and various farmers' outreach activities. Dr. R.K. Singh, Assistant Director General (CC), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. W.S. Dhillon, Assistant Director General (Horticulture) and Dr. M.S. Ladaniya, Director, ICAR-CCRI were prominently present in the interactive meet. An exhibition was arranged at the Institute showcasing the technologies, the Institute has developed for cotton farmers. The exhibits covered superior landmark cotton varieties (Bt/Non Bt and colour cotton) released from the Institute, major management strategies for insect pests, especially, Pink Boll worm, improved agronomic practices and various extension activities. A plantation programme was also arranged at the Institute premise in which each member planted a sapling in their name. In addition to the Director, Dr. D. Blaise, Dr. Nandini Gokte, Dr. S.M. Wasnik and Dr. M.V. Venugopalan, from ICAR-CICR, Nagpur were also involved as key co-ordinators.



Constitution Day

A year long nationwide activity on constitutional day was launched to mark the 70th Anniversary of the adoption of Indian Constitution by constituent Assembly, which began on the 26th November, 2019 and will continue upto 26th November, 2020.

The ICAR-CICR assigned activity for the month of January was to organise a lecture on “Important constitutional Amendments and their significance”. Dr. N.M. Khirale, Head, Department of Law, Dr. Ambedkar College, Nagpur was invited as chief guest on 20th January 2020. He addressed the staff of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur in which he mentioned about Constitutional Amendments and their importance in the society. For the month of February, the planned activity was on “Constitution and citizen duties, land legislations and reforms” was organized on 24th February 2020. Prof. Ram Ghodeswar was invited as the chief guest who presented a talk on fundamental duties of



citizens in the constitution of India. Dr S.M.Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) coordinated both the activities.

New Year Celebration

The joyous occasion of New Year-2020 was warmly welcomed by the staff of ICAR-CICR. A cultural programme was organized in the Training hall of the Institute in which all the staff actively participated and winners were given attractive prizes. Singing competition among the staff added colours to the occasion. Dr V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR presided over the function and extended the New Year wishes to all the

staff and to their families. Dr Blaise Desouza, I/c Head, Crop Production and Dr Nandini Narkhedkar, I/c Head, Crop Protection and Dr. S.N. Wasnik, I/c Head, KVK also graced the occasion and extended their New Year wishes. Shri G.V. Deogirkar coordinated the whole event and Dr S.P. Gawande, Secretary, Staff Welfare Club, proposed the vote of thanks.



Shivaji Jayanti

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur celebrated Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti on 19th February 2019 and offered floral tributes to him.



Nagpur addressed all the women employees of the Institute and emphasized the role of women in societal welfare, economy, agriculture and nation building. The senior most women employees from various categories were felicitated by the Director. They include Dr. (Mrs.) Nandini Gokte and Dr. (Mrs.) Sandhya Kranthi from Scientists category; Smt. Gita Gulhane from Administration category; Smt. Babybai Mandave and Smt. Saraswati Bhalavi from Skilled Support Staff. Dr. M.V. Venugopalan, Dr. G. Balasubramani, Dr. Ramakrushna and Dr. H.B. Santosh among Scientists and Mr. Ejaj Ahmad from Administrative staff expressed their gratitude towards Women and their contribution to our Society. Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist & I/c Head, KVK concluded the programme with his views on Women empowerment and thanked everyone for contributing for this programme.

International Women's Day

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur observed International Women's Day on 8th March 2020. Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR,



Meetings Held

Project Monitoring and Evaluation meet at ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore

The Project Monitoring and Evaluation Committee consisting of Chairman, Dr. V. N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR- CICR, Nagpur; members, Dr. D. Monga, Head, ICAR-CICR Regional Station Sirsa, Dr. D. Blaise, I/c Head, Division of Crop Production, Dr (Mrs) Nandini Gokte, I/c Head, Division of Crop Protection, Dr. M.V. Venugopalan, Principal Scientist & Member Secretary (PME) and Dr. K. Velmourougane, Secretary,IRC, visited ICAR - CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore during 6th - 8th January, 2020. The team reviewed ongoing research projects being under taken at Coimbatore. All the Scientists of the regional station presented their research findings of on-going research projects. The committee visited and reviewed the labs and experimental fields at main and new research farms and also interacted with the Scientists on the progress of work against the objectives outlined in the projects. The Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur also



addressed all the employees of ICAR-CICR, RS, Coimbatore.

Human Resource Development

Training on Genetically Modified (GM) Cotton Testing

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur conducted two hands on training programme on "Genetically Modified (GM) Cotton Testing" for the Seed Testing Laboratory officials during 3rd-7th, February 2020 and 2nd-7th March 2020. The training was sponsored by

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, New Delhi. The main objective of the programme was to enable the seed testing officials to detect the presence or absence of GM elements in

Cotton and thereby strengthening the monitoring of approved and unapproved GM cotton events in cotton growing States. There were lectures as well as practical sessions covering different methodologies for GM event testing in Cotton. Fifteen Agriculture Officials associated with Seed Testing Laboratory and Quality Control from Pune, Parbhani, Nagpur, Gondia, and Wardha of State Department of Agriculture, Maharashtra

participated in the first phase of training, while 16 seed testing officials from Gujarat, Punjab and Rajasthan participated in the second phase. Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur was the Course Director. The training were co-ordinated by Dr. G. Balasubramani, Dr. J. Amudha, Dr. K.P. Raghavendra and Dr. N. Chandrasekhar, Division of Crop Improvement, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.



Director and Senior Officials of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with participants from State Seed Testing Laboratory (STL) Pune, Parbhani, Nagpur, Gondia and Wardha



Director and Senior Officials of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with participants from State Seed Testing Laboratory (STL), Gujarat, Punjab and Rajasthan

Awards and Recognition

Dr. V. Chinnababu Naik, Scientist (Entomology), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur received Prof. P. Kameswara Rao award-2019-20 for best Oral Presentation on “Studies on genetic diversity of Cotton Pink bollworm *Pectinophora gossypiella* (Saunders) by using mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase-1 (CO-I) gene suggest a rapid expansion in Indian populations” in the XVII AZRA International conference on Frontier research in applied zoology and insect pest management strategies : A way forward for food and nutritional security held at UAS Raichur, Karnataka during 12-14 February 2020

Dr Rachna Pande, Scientist (Entomology), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur also got Best oral presentation award for the paper on Evaluation of different strains of *Beauveria bassiana* against Cotton aphid (*Aphis gossypii* Glover), in XVII Azra



International conference at University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka.

Farmers' Trainings / Workshops

Warora, Chandrapur

One day 'Farmers Mela' was organized by ICAR-CICR, Nagpur at Warora, District Chandrapur on 28th January 2019 under “IRM-PBW Insecticide Resistance Management–Dissemination of Pink Bollworm Management Strategies”. A total of 1000 farmers from 20 villages participated. Exhibition of various farm inputs was displayed by different stakeholders in



12 stalls. One street play on 'Safe use of insecticides' was played before the farmers. Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR Nagpur was the Chief Guest. Scientists who attended the mela, were Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist and I/c. Head, KVK, Dr. Vinita Gotmare, and Dr. V. S. Nagrare, Principal Scientists; Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Dr. Babasaheb Fand and Dr. Dipak Nagrale, Scientists from ICAR-CICR Nagpur; Mr. Sujit



Kumbhare, Technical Assistant and Mr. Mohan K. Narode, Project SRF, Mr. Bhushan Munjekar (YP) assisted in organizing the event. Dr. Waghmare in his address spoke on various research and extension activities being carried out by ICAR-CICR Nagpur. He advocated use of latest technology to cope up with various issues in cotton production. Dr. Wasnik explained various activities on e-kapas, MGMG and SC sub plan Scheme. Dr. V.S. Nagrare spoke about implementation of "Insecticide Resistance Management – Dissemination of Pink Bollworm Management Strategies 2019-20" in 7 states of central and south India and current status of pink bollworm. Dr Vinita Gotmare gave detail information about varieties developed by the Institute and activities under Tribal Sub-Plan scheme. Dr V. Chinna Babu Naik guided farmers on use of bio control agents

Gadchiroli

One day workshop was conducted by ICAR-CICR, Nagpur for tribal farmers at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadchiroli on "Improved Cotton Production Techniques and tribal women empowerment" on the occasion of "International Women's Day" 8th March, 2020. The program was organized under centrally sponsored scheme under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). Large number of women farmers and entrepreneurs including SHG's, agro based cottage industry workers and farming aspirants participated in the workshop. Dr Vinita Gotmare, Principal Scientist (Genetics) and Nodal officer of TSP, chaired the workshop. Dr Sandip Karhale, Programme co-ordinator (KVK); Dr Ramkrushna G.I., Dr R.S. Waghmare, Dr Dipak Nagrale and Dr Vikram Kadam were the dignitaries and subject experts present on this event.

Dr Vinita Gotmare guided the participants on selection of quality seeds, good and recommended agricultural practices, women empowerment through SHG's etc. Dr Sandip Karhale explained the role of KVK in adoption of improved agro-technologies and experts guidance to farmers in the district. Dr. Ramkrushna G. I. discussed the role of nitrogenous fertilizers, their precise applications and micronutrients in sustainable crop production. Dr Waghmare highlighted the major role of women in agriculture and nation building. Dr Vikram Kadam suggested that dairy based cottage industries through SHG's, a vital

Ghatpendhri, Parseoni (Tehsil)

A training programme for farmers was organized by ICAR-CICR, Nagpur on 3rd March, 2020 at Ghatpendhri, Parshioni cluster. Dr. Vijaya Kumari, Principal Scientist and Dr. Vivek Shah, Scientist from ICAR-CICR, Nagpur conducted the program. State government officials, village sarpanch, retired army officials, progressive farmers, gram panchayat samiti members and bachat ghat leaders actively participated. About 350 farmers including 100 women farmers were benefitted by the programme. Team of scientists from ICAR-CICR along with subject matter specialists from KVK, Nagpur delivered lectures on various aspects of cotton cultivation. Dr. Suman Bala Singh spoke on Bt- cotton varieties developed by ICAR-CICR and elaborated on seed production and conservation of these varieties for next sowing season. Dr. Sandhya Kranthi emphasized on pest management in cotton and stage specific pests along with role of beneficial insects in their management. She also spoke on issue of fall armyworm one of the recently introduced pest in India infesting maize. Dr. Rachna Pande gave

and their possible use for pink bollworm management. Dr Dipak Nagrale gave awareness about the disease management in cotton. Dr. Uday Patil, DSAO. Chandrapur gave information about State government schemes for pink bollworm management. Dr. Palarpawar, Former Principal, Anand Niketan Agriculture College, Warora and Shri Santosh Vishvajawar, Ambuja Cement Foundation were also present in this program to address the farmers.

Five IRM farmers were awarded with certificate for their best performance under IRM-PBW project. Eleven other farmers were felicitated as outstanding farmers in cotton production. Cotton storage bags were distributed to farmers under TSP Scheme.

combination for women empowerment and rural economy. Dr. Dipak Nagrale outlined integrated crop pest management and guided the participants about how to minimize use of synthetic pesticides in agriculture through eco-friendly sources. Many women entrepreneurs and SHG members shared their experience in agriculture and agro based entrepreneurship and took guidance for their improvement through scientist-farmers interface. More than 450 tribal women farmers were present in the program.



information on bee keeping and honey production since the village is a forest area where in, farmer may fetch good price for organic honey production. Dr. Sunita Chauhan, Subject Matter Specialist (Home Science) from KVK spoke on Nutrition Sustainability and suggested that farmers should have seasonal fruit plants along with locally grown green leafy vegetables,



roots & tubers, cucurbitaceous & other vegetables at their back yard. She encouraged them to start low cost enterprise of making juice from citrus fruits by Self Help Groups. Dr. Vivek Shah, spoke on the proper and economic use of pesticides. He emphasized that the time of application as the window number of days wherein pests emerge is very important. He advocated the optimum spray with required precise concentration of pesticides. Dr. Vijaya Kumari explained about the facilities available under TSP and how they can undertake seed production of the varieties. Mr. Ajit Meshram and Mr. Ritesh

assisted for smooth conduct of the programme. The members from state government, sarpanch, progressive farmers, gram panchayat samiti members and bachat gat leaders explained on the subsidy and schemes available to tribal farmers. They also expressed their gratitude & views on organizing this kind of training for the first time in the remote areas like Ghatpendhri. The programme was concluded by vote of thanks expressed by the youth of the village. The literatures on pink bollworm management, Bt-cotton varieties, safe handling of pesticides and vegetable-fruit processing were distributed to farmers.

Nagpur

One day training cum farmers meet was organized by ICAR – CICR in collaboration with Dr. Ambedkar College, Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur on 1st February 2020 at Dr. Ambedkar College premises under Scheduled Caste Sub-plan (SCSP) during the Inter-disciplinary National Conference on “Recent innovations in Agri-biosciences in strengthening Indian Economy”. Dr. Nitin Patil, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBSS & LUP and Shri Vilas Gajgate, Member, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Smarak Samiti, Nagpur inaugurated the programme. Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director ICAR – CICR, Nagpur, Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) & Nodal Officer, SCSP and Dr. V.S. Nagrare, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CICR addressed the farmers. Dr. Waghmare briefed about ICAR-CICR technologies and its role in cotton farming and asked farmers to adopt appropriate location specific technologies for getting higher

yields and income. Dr. Wasnik discussed about various micro entrepreneurial activities for rural youths initiated by KVK, ICAR–CICR. He also briefed about the ICAR-CICR outreach programme such as MGMG, e-Kapas/e- Communication, SCSP, TSP, IRM and FLDs. Dr. Nagrare spoke on management of bollworms and other pests in cotton. Dr. Nitin Patil, Principal scientist, NBSS&LUP, Nagpur, Shri. Dinesh kumar Mendhe, Satpuda Mahila Reshim Utpadak Co. Dr. B. S. Rahile, Professor, Science College, Bhandara, Dr. Arti Shanware, Director, Rajiv Gandhi Biotechnology Centre, RTMNU, Nagpur, Dr. N.M. Khirale, HOD, Dept of Law Dr. Ambedkar College, Shri Hemant Singh Chauhan also addressed the gathering. More than 200 farmers, farm women and rural youths from Yavatmal, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara and Chandrapur districts of Vidarbha attended the day long programme.

Agribusiness Entrepreneurship workshop at Umred, Nagpur

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur organized a workshop on 3rd March 2020 for farmers on “Empowering Scheduled Caste Unemployed Rural Youth for Developing Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship” at Godhani Village, Tah. Umred, Dist. Nagpur under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) scheme. Dr. SM Wasnik, Principal Scientist & I/c Head, KVK & Nodal Officer SCSP Scheme, chaired the workshop and outlined various micro-entrepreneurial activities for rural youths and, different farmers outreach programmes implemented by KVK and ICAR-CICR. Dr. Sunil Mahajan, Principal Scientist, Dr. Ramkrushna G.I., Dr. Shailesh Gawande, Dr. Pooja Verma, Dr. Pundalik Deulkar and Dr. Harish Kumbhalkar gave presentations on various aspects of cotton production and protection. Mr. Rajhans Mandavkar (Upsarpanch, Gondhani



Village) and Mr. Raghav Kale were also present for the workshop. More than 300 farmers from Umred taluka participated in this workshop.

Farmers Mela at ICAR-CICR RS, Sirsa

A Farmers Mela was organized at ICAR-CICR RS, Sirsa on 7th



March 2020 under “Insecticide Resistance Management:



Dissemination of Pink Bollworm Management Strategies” of centrally sponsored scheme on “NFSM: Commercial Crops” 2019-20. The mela was organized to create awareness among cotton farmers of north zone for effective management of Pink Bollworm. About 300 farmers from Haryana, Punjab, and Rajasthan were benefitted through this programme. Dr. D. Monga, Ex-Head, ICAR-CICR Regional Station, Sirsa presented the latest cotton scenario and current situation of Pink Bollworm incidence in India with special emphasis on North Zone. Dr. O.P Tuteja, Head I/c, explained the cotton research and extension activities being undertaken by ICAR-CICR, RS Sirsa. Dr. S.K Verma delivered a lecture on cultivation of *arboreum* cotton. Dr. Rishi Kumar spoke on awareness and dissemination

of pink bollworm management strategies and IPM in cotton of north zone. Dr. Satish Kumar Sain delivered a lecture on identification of disease and their management. Dr. Amarpreet Singh discussed in detail about novel cotton production techniques. Exhibition stall depicting life cycle of PBW was also displayed. Mr. Deepak, Senior Research Fellow and Mr. Dharamveer, Young Professional-I explained to farmers about the life cycle of PBW, sampling procedure through green boll dissections to the farmers and also demonstrated the installation of Pheromone traps. Pamphlet on “Integrated management of Pink Bollworm in North India” (both Hindi and English version) was released on this occasion. A question-answer session was also conducted for the benefit of farmers.

Training for State Agriculture Department Officials at ICAR-CICR, RS, Sirsa

ICAR-CICR RS Sirsa organized a training program for officials of Haryana State Agriculture Department under NFSM (CC) during 13-14th Feb 2020. Dr. D Monga, Head, ICAR-CICR, RS, Sirsa, Dr. Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist, Dr. Satish Kumar

Sain, Senior Scientist and Dr. Amarpreet Singh, Scientist delivered lectures on various aspects of cotton production and protection technologies. The training was attended by 40 ADO, SMS, ATM, BTM of the State Agriculture Department.

Exposure visit of farmers at ICAR-CICR RS, Sirsa

ICAR-CICR RS, Sirsa organized one day exposure visit for a group of 30 farmers from Nagaur, Rajasthan on 6th Feb 2020. Scientists delivered lectures on various topics of their expertise. Dr. Amarpreet, Scientist (Agronomy) gave a talk on agronomic practices for better cotton production. Dr. Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist (Entomology) spoke on integrated pest management in cotton with respect to sucking pest and Dr S.K. Sain, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) discussed in detail about integrated disease management in cotton.



Farmers' Training at Thirupattur, TamilNadu



ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore organized one day awareness cum training programme on cotton cultivation and seed production at Jolarpettai, Thirupattur, Near Elagiri Hills, Vellore District, Tamil Nadu under National Seed Project (Crops) Tribal Sub Plan on 11th February 2020. Dr. K. Rathinavel was the organizer of the training programme and a team of seven scientists addressed the farmers by providing insightful lectures. Technological interventions from seed production to harvest were provided to the farmers through hands on training. The topics covered include importance of quality seed usage, yield maximization through ICAR-CICR released varieties and hybrids suitable for the district, soil health management practices, profitable cotton cultivation, cotton pest management, application of gadgets in

modern agriculture, impact of drip irrigation and FLDs being implemented. After the technical sessions, scientists - farmers interface was also organised. The critical inputs were distributed to the farmers. About 150 farmers participated in a day long training programme

Dr. C. Karpagam, Scientist (Extension), ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore delivered a keynote address in a meet attended by 150 farmers as part of a one-day awareness programme on “Biodiversity conservation of Western Ghats” organized under Tribal Sub Plan of ICAR-NBFGP on 28th February 2020.



Meetings/Workshops/Conferences attended

Dr V. N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR, as DDG (Agrl. Edn.) nominee attended the Selection Committee Meeting of ICAR Best Teacher Award for the year 2018-19 held at the office of V.C., Dr. PDKV Akola on 16th January 2020.

Dr V. N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR attended the meeting on Price Policy for *Kharif* Crops 2020-21 season held at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi on 12th February 2020

Dr V. N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR and Dr. S M Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) and I/c KVK, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur attended the Interdisciplinary National Conference on Recent Innovations in Agri- Biosciences in strengthening the Indian Economy. Challenges & Prospects & Farmers meet (RIABSIECP-2020) held at Dr Ambedkar College, Deekshabhumi Nagpur on 1st February, 2020

Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) and I/c KVK, Nagpur attended ATMA Governing Body meeting held at Collectorate Office, Nagpur on 11th February, 2020

Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) and I/c KVK, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur attended the Manav Vikas Yojana meeting held at Collectorate Office Nagpur on 24th February 2020

Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) and I/c KVK, Nagpur attended the Quarterly Meeting of All India Radio held at Akashwani Nagpur on 26th February, 2020

Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) and I/c KVK, Nagpur attended XIth Annual National Conference of KVKs organised by DDG Extension held at NASC complex ICAR New Delhi during 27th February to 1st March 2020

Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik Scientist (Entomology), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur attended the Review meeting of DST-SERB-EEQ Animal Science on 28th February 2020 at Indian Institute of

Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu and presented the project Status report.

Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Scientist (Entomology), Nagpur attended the Review meeting of DST-SERB EMR Animal on 20th January 2020 at Indian Science Academy (INSA), Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, ITO cross, Delhi and presented the project Status report.

Dr. C. Karpagam, Scientist (Extension) ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore attended the workshop for ICAR AICE-JRF/SRF EXAM by National Testing Agency at Goa during 01 to 03, February, 2020 as subject expert.

Dr. D Monga, Head, ICAR-CICR, RS, Sirsa delivered a lead lecture on cotton leaf curl virus disease, Dr. Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist, Dr. Satish Kumar Sain, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) along with Dr. Amarpreet Singh, Scientist from ICAR-CICR RS, Sirsa made oral presentations in the National symposium on Cotton Production Technologies in the Next Decade: Problems & Perspectives, at OUAT, Bhubaneswar from 22-24th January, 2020.

Dr Vishlesh Nagrare, Principal Scientist (Entomology), Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Dr. Rachna Pande and Dr Vivek Shah Scientists (Entomology), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur participated in the XVII Azra International conference on "Frontier research and insect pest management strategies: A way forward for food and nutritional security" during 12th -14th February 2020 at University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka.

Dr. V. N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR participated in the Directors' Conference on 19th March, 2020 through video conferencing. Dr.T. Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, New Delhi chaired the meeting.

Hindi Corner

Review meeting of Official Language

A review meeting of implementation of official language (Hindi) was held at ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore on 8th January 2020 under the chairmanship of Dr V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR Nagpur. The meeting was conducted to ensure the proper implementation of official language as per G.O.I. policies and related constitutional provisions at RS, Coimbatore by Hindi Committee, ICAR-CICR Nagpur. Dr. A.H. Prakash, Project



Hindi Workshop

One day Hindi workshop for administrative/technical staff was organized at ICAR-CICR, RS Coimbatore under the

Coordinator and Head I/c., ICAR-CICR, RS, Coimbatore represented the centre. Detailed discussion on different programmes was made for the active implementation of official language Hindi in 'C' region. Major suggestions to be followed were given by Hindi Committee, ICAR-CICR Nagpur which include, preparation of a roster by the centre to nominate remaining officers/employees for Hindi training, providing facility to work in Hindi in each computer at the institute, making all possible efforts to achieve the targets related to correspondence at 'C' region, issuing orders, notifications, Press notes, agreements, license permit, Notice and tender forms, parliament related papers (reports etc) bilingually, organizing Hindi workshops regularly in every quarter, providing incentive in the form of Cash award for employees performing official work in Hindi, making it mandatory to reply in Hindi for any letters received and also the address on envelopes shall be written in Hindi for A and B regions, purchase of all the manuals/codes for official work in two languages including Hindi, giving all the advertisements by the institute/office in two or three languages including Hindi.

chairmanship of Dr. A.H. Prakash, Project Coordinator and Head, ICAR-CICR, RS Coimbatore. Dr. Mahendra Kumar

Sahoo was the guest speaker for the session. In his opening address, Dr. A.H. Prakash emphasized on the importance of Hindi language for its contribution in nation's development. Dr. Sahoo made the audience aware about "Challenges in implementation of official language" in a very interesting

manner. Shri A.A. Goswami, Senior Administrative officer, ICAR-CICR Nagpur was also present on the occasion. Mrs. K. S. Shubashri, Senior technical officer, ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore conducted the workshop. Twenty-eight administrative and technical staff participated in the workshop.

KVK Round Up

Diploma course for input dealers

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR-CICR has accepted the responsibility of teaching and training of Input dealers, a year long programme of Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input dealers (DAESI). The launch-cum inaugural programme of diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) was held at ICAR-CICR, Nagpur on 20th February 2020. The programme was sponsored by MANAGE, Hyderabad and supported by VANAMATI & ATMA, Nagpur. Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR, Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist/ I/c Head, KVK & Nodal Officer, DAESI programme and Dr. Nalini Bhojar, Project Director, ATMA, Nagpur were the dignitaries present during the launch-cum-inaugural function.

In his inaugural address, Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR asked input dealers to interact with the scientists for technological innovations thoroughly and get knowledge regarding production technologies of various crops of Nagpur district. He also highlighted the ICAR-CICR technologies and urged the participants to get advice on suitable insecticides, proper handling and spraying of the insecticides to avoid any casualties as happened in some districts earlier.

Dr. S.M. Wasnik, in his introductory remarks pointed out that input dealers are to be trained as extension workers since they are the main link and source of transferring agriculture information to the farmers at village level. Dr. Nalini Bhojar spoke on the details of the training programmes, schedule, registration and maintaining regular attendance for their skill and knowledge development. Around forty input dealers from different places of Nagpur District participated. Sh. Nema, Facilitator of the programme welcomed the guests and participants, while Dr. P.B. Deulkar proposed the vote of thanks.



Women's Day event for Anganwadi supervisors of Nagpur District

KVK, ICAR-CICR and Anganwadi workers of Nagpur district collectively organized International Women Day on 8th March-2020 at Abasaheb Khedkar Sabhagruha, Zilla Prishad, Nagpur. Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist & I/c Head, KVK, Smt. Sunita Chuahan, SMS, Home science of KVK, Zilla Parishad Chairman- Smt. Rashmi Barve, ZP CEO - Sh. Sanjay Yadav, Women Child Development Secretary - Smt. Ujwala Dodhare, District Programme Officer of Women & Child welfare (Rural) - Sh. B.G. Tambe, District Programme Officer of Women & Child welfare (Urban) - Sh. Jadhav & 80 Anganwadi workers of Nagpur district were present. Dr. S.M. Wasnik emphasized on economic empowerment of women as one of the important factors to provide them equality in the society. Anganwadi

women worker are praise worthy, they are involved in organizing pre-school activities, provide health and nutritional education to families especially to pregnant women, improve the nutritional and health status of children below the age of six years etc. He also urged them to visit KVK and get the benefits from trainings provided by the KVK. Smt. Sunita Chuahan, SMS (Home science), KVK, ICAR-CICR congratulated all the women and emphasized on establishment of nutrition garden and its importance at house hold level to the anganwadi supervisors. Smt. Rashmi Barve in her address mentioned that women need to be self-reliant and independent to make their own identity. Fifteen anganwadi supervisors of Nagpur district were felicitated for their immense working proficiency.

Innovative Farmers Meet

Smt. Sunita Chauhan, SMS, KVK, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur deputed as Liaisoning Officer for the meet organized at KVK, Kaneri, Kolhapur on National level Organic Farmers during 30th January to 01st February, 2020. The two best organic farmers, entrepreneur registered with KVK, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur were also nominated to participate in the farmers meet. Sh. Jitendra Bhakane presented decorative cow dung products for income generation and Sh. Sandip Kubade presented his organic horticulture products.

Smt. Sunita Chauhan acted as Rapporteur in the technical session of commercial agriculture for Entrepreneurship



development and promotion of secondary agriculture enterprises at KVK, Kaneri, Kolhapur.

Trainings imparted by KVK, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur

S.N.	Training	Location	Date	Officials attended
1	Training to DEASI trainees from Pipri Wardha	KVK, ICAR-CICR Nagpur	29.01.2020	Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Dr. D. Nagrale, Dr Deulkar
2	Training to cotton farmers on IPM & goat farming	Meta Umari, Hingna	12.02.2020	Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Dr S.S. Patil, Dr U.V. Galkate, E. Shreedhar, Akshay Kamble
3	Training to cotton farmers on IPM	Nildoh, Hingna	15.02.2020	Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Dr B.B. Fand, Akshay Kamble
4	Training to farmers on kitchen gardening	Nildoh, Hingna	18.02.2020	Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Dr S. Chavan, Akshay Kamble
5	Training to farmers on ARYA Activities, Agrometerology	Paradsinga, Katol	04.03.2020	Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Dr S.S. Patil, Jaishri Khobragade, Prashant Gaikwad

Doordarshan/ Radio Talk / Guest Lecture / Member to inspect scheme

Dr. P.B. Deulkar delivered a radio talk on "Cultivation of hybrid Napier for nutritious fodder" on 22nd January 2020 which was broadcasted on 03rd February 2020 at 7.30 pm on "Maze Ghar Maze Vavar" Programm.

Dr. S.M. Wasnik delivered a TV talk on "Micro Enterprises Programme" for Farmers on 11th March, 2020 through Sahyadri Vahini of Doordarshan Kendra, Mumbai.

Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) & I/c KVK ICAR-CICR visited Fruit & Vegetable industries M/S Nakoda Group of Industries, Bidgaon and M/S MRG Food Naturals Pvt Ltd Wagholi, Tah Parsheoni in Nagpur district as a Member of Committee along with other committee members of State Agril Dept to inspect Mukhyamantri Krishi & Food Processing schemes for distribution of subsidy to the firms.

Publications

V.Chinna Babu Naik, Pusadkar PP, Waghmare ST, Raghavendra KP, Kranthi S, Kumbhare S, Nagrare VS, Rishi Kumar, Prabhulinga T, Narkhedkar N, Waghmare VN. (2020). Evidence for population expansion of Cotton pink bollworm *Pectinophora gossypiella* (Saunders) (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae) in India. *Scientific reports* 10, 4740. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-61389-1>

Shah Vivek, Chitra Srivastava, S. Subramanian, N. C. Naveen (2020). Host associated variations in esterase and glutathione-S-transferase in *Bemisia tabaci*. *Indian Journal of Entomology* 82(1): 56-60.

Sunil Kumar, Budheswar Dehury, Gitanjali Tandon, Sarika

Jaiswal, Mir Asif Iquebal, Khurshid Ahmad, Dipak T Nagrale, Udai B Singh (2020). An insight into molecular interaction of PGIP with PG for banana cultivar. *Frontiers in bioscience* (Landmark edition) 25: 335-362.

Abstract

Sunita Chauhan; S.M. Wasnik (2020) Farm women empowerment through use of Drudgery reduction tools, Interdisciplinary National Conference on Recent Innovation in Agri-Bioscience in strengthening the Indian economy: Challenges and prospects and farmers meet (RIABSCIECP-2020) pp-72. Feb 2020.

Media coverage

सीआयसीआरने महिलांना दिले प्रगत शेतीचे धडे

महिलेकेंद्री (प्रतिनिधी) : केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था नागपूरच्या वतीने महिला शेतकरी प्रशिक्षण व मार्गदर्शन कार्यक्रम केंद्रीके सोनारपूर येथे पार पडला. सीआयसीआरच्या प्रमुख शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. विनिता गौतमारे यांनी या वेळी मार्गदर्शन म्हणून उपस्थित होत्या.

केंद्रीकेचे कार्यक्रम समन्वयक डॉ. संदीप कऱ्हाळे, सहयोगी प्राध्यापक डॉ. आर. एस. वासमारे, डॉ. रामकृष्ण, डॉ. दीपक नाराजे, डॉ. विक्रम कदम यांची या वेळी उपस्थित होती. आदिवासी उपयोजनेतर्गत राबविण्यात येणाऱ्या विविध योजनांची माहिती या वेळी डॉ. गौतमारे यांनी दिली. कापसाची अपेक्षित उत्पादकता मिळविण्यासाठी घनी, पाण्याची उपलब्धता आणि लागवडीसाठी निवडण्यात येणारे वाण हे महत्त्वाचे घटक असल्याचे त्यांनी सांगितले. महिलांचा शेतीत राबता अधिक आहे. त्यामुळे महिलांनी



महिलेकेंद्री : केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने आयोजित महिला शेतकरी मेळाव्यात मार्गदर्शन करताना डॉ. विनिता गौतमारे बाजूला डॉ. संदीप कऱ्हाळे, डॉ. रामकृष्ण

निरीक्षणार्थी सहायी त्याकरीता आवश्यक ते तांत्रिक ज्ञान मिळविण्यासाठी केंद्रीके तसेच तत्सम येथेच्या संपर्कात सातत्य राखण्याची गरज आहे, असा सल्लाही डॉ. गौतमारे यांनी दिला. डॉ. संदीप कऱ्हाळे यांनी केंद्रीके मार्फत उपलब्ध करून देण्यात

आलेल्या प्रगत तंत्रज्ञानाविषयी माहिती दिली. डॉ. रामकृष्ण यांनी खतांचा नियंत्रित वापर याविषयी मार्गदर्शन केले. रसायनांचा शेतीत कमीत कमी वापर करण्याचे आवाहन डॉ. दीपक नाराजे यांनी केले. सूत्रसंचालन डॉ. तायोजे यांनी केले.

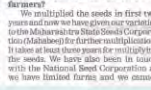
'We should definitely adopt new technology ... Higher or lower yield depends on how we manage our crops'

The Indian is approval of newer genetically modified (GM) cotton seeds has created a stir among cotton growers. The farmers who are growing Bt cotton are not growing any other cotton variety. Since it is not approved, there is a legal situation in farms. Farmers must go only for the approved variety as that liability can be paid for any crop failure.

ICAR has been monitoring the use of unapproved variety of GM cotton seeds by farmers. ICAR has been regularly collecting samples since 2017 from farmers' fields in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Telangana. We tested those samples in our Bt cotton lab and found 15.7% of Bt cotton seeds were found to be positive in 2018. Nearly 13.1% of the samples were found to be positive in 2019. In these states, the percentage, however, reduced to 5.7% in current year (2019-20). We had analyzed more than 100 samples. Though I cannot say how much of the cotton acres are under Bt cotton, it is certainly not 25-30% as claimed by many growers. ICAR has legal on sending its reports to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

ICAR has a mandate to develop new varieties of seeds. Can't you grow farmers with alternatives as global seed companies seem reluctant to bring in new GM technology? Of course, we can. Besides developing 30 new GM varieties over the years, ICAR had in 2017 developed seven Bt varieties which are approved for commercial cultivation. Significant point is that the

I would suggest farmers not to go for this. It's illegal. Besides, there are chances that the farmers may get cheated by the persons who may be supplying seeds to them. They may not be growing any Bt cotton variety. Since it is not approved, there is a legal situation in farms. Farmers must go only for the approved variety as that liability can be paid for any crop failure.



farmers can retain and reuse our seeds for two-three years unlike the currently used Bt variety (developed by a multinational company) where farmers have to buy seeds every year. Besides, our seeds will be cheaper than the current Bt variety as the farmers need not pay any royalty.

Personnel

Superannuation

1	Smt. Panchasheela Nanote	Skilled Support Staff, ICAR, CICR, Nagpur	January 2020
2	Dr. Dilip Monga	Head, ICAR-CICR RS, Sirsa	February 2020
3	Dr. T. R. Loknathan	Principal Scientist, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur	February, 2020
4	Dr. (Mrs.) Sandhya Kranthi	Head I/c, Division of Crop Protection, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur	Voluntarily retired on 26.03.2020
5	Smt. Sundaravalli M. Kumar	AAO, ICAR-CICR RS, Coimbatore	March 2020

Promotion

1	Sh. R. K. Gaikwad	T-2 (Driver)	ICAR, CICR, Nagpur	w.e.f. 29.06.2018
2	Sh. A. K. Sherkar	T-4 (Driver)	ICAR, CICR, Nagpur	w.e.f. 10.02.2019
3	Sh. Bhumeshwar Fande	T-1 promoted to T-2	ICAR, CICR, Nagpur	w.e.f. 07.02.2019
4	Sh. Sanjeev Kumar	T-1 promoted to T-2	ICAR, CICR, RS, Sirsa	w.e.f. 23.07.2019
5	Sh. Sujit Kumbhare	T-1 promoted to T-2	ICAR, CICR, Nagpur	w.e.f. 21.03.2019
6	Sh. Shiopal Mandpe	T-1 promoted to T-2	ICAR, CICR, RS, Coimbatore	w.e.f. 28.04.2019
7	Sh. R. Sabarinathan	T-1 promoted to T-2	ICAR, CICR, RS, Sirsa	w.e.f. 28.04.2019

Regularization of TSL to Skilled Support Staff

1	Sh. Chandan Taksande	ICAR-CICR, Nagpur	Joining date: 24.01.2020
2	Sh. Naresh Gorgate	ICAR-CICR, Nagpur	Joining date: 24.01.2020
3	Sh. Moreshwar Wagde	ICAR-CICR, Nagpur	Joining date: 10.02.2020



Dr. T. R. Loknathan



Dr. Dilip Monga



Smt. Panchsheela Bai

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