



Happenings at NRC for Sorghum, and AICSIP news

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Sorghum as health food

M/s Alsa Agro Tech, Hyderabad is marketing the millet based food products under the brand name

"Nutrient diet" as a complete diet for diabetics in the form of biscuits and snacks. NRCS scientists Drs Chari Appaji and CV Ratnavathi visited the office of M/s Alsa Agro Tech, and met Mr.



Kedeer, Technocrat and proprietor of the industry to discuss how NRCS can further promote millets. Initiative at NRCS for the development of value-added products with Jowar, sorghum flour was also narrated to them. M/s Alsa Agro. Tech. has shown interest in liaison with NRCS, for marketing other sorghum health foods in Hyderabad.

Instant sorghum dosa: M/s. Karthik Cottage industry, Coimbatore is marketing ready mix flour of dosa as sorghum is the main ingredient. The dosa's were prepared and opinion on the quality is assessed at NRCS. Public rated "excellent" for this recipe.



Monitoring team of National Seed Project (crops) visits NRCS

The monitoring team of National Seed Project



NSP officials reviewing status of breeder seed production

समाचार सारोश

स्वास्थ्यवर्धक आहार के रूप में ज्वार : सर्वश्री एलसा एग्रो टेक, हैदराबाद मधुमेह रोगियों के लिए पूर्ण आहार के रूप में "न्यूट्रिएंट डाइट" नाम से मिलेट (ज्वार, बाजरा आदि) आधारित स्वास्थ्यवर्धक आहार बाजार में लाई है।

राष्ट्रीय बीज परियोजना (फसल) निगरानी दल द्वारा रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. का निरीक्षण : बीज अनुसंधान निदेशालय द्वारा नामित सदस्यों के राष्ट्रीय बीज परियोजना (फसल) निगरानी दल ने 7 दिसंबर 2006 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. का निरीक्षण किया। दल ने 2006-07 हेतु रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. तथा अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ.प. केंद्रों में ज्वार प्रजनक बीज उत्पादन कार्यक्रमों की समीक्षा भी की।

ए.पी.एन.एल. परियोजना की समीक्षा : ए.पी.एन.एल. जैव-प्रौद्योगिकी कार्यक्रम ने 22 दिसंबर 2006 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में "इंवेल्डेशन ऑफ ट्रांसजेनिक सॉरगम विद सुटेबल डा जीन कॉन्सट्रक्ट फॉर रेसिस्टेंस अगेंस्ट स्टेम बोरोर" परियोजना में वार्षिक प्रगति के मूल्यांकन हेतु एक दल को भेजा।

डॉ. एस.के. गुप्त द्वारा केंद्र का दौरा : डॉ. एस.के. गुप्त, निदेशक, राष्ट्रीय शर्करा संस्थान, कामपुर, मीठी ज्वार का जैव-ईंधन के रूप में उपयोगार्थ संभावनाओं पर चर्चा हेतु 27 दिसंबर 2006 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में आए। उन्होंने केंद्र के निदेशक एवं अन्य वैज्ञानिकों से इस पर संभावित अनुसंधानों तथा बाजार में इसकी स्थिति पर विचार-विमर्श किया।

डॉ. एस.पी. तिवारी - नए उप महानिदेशक (फसल विज्ञान) : डॉ. एस.पी. तिवारी ने भाऊअनुप के उच्च महानिदेशक (फसल विज्ञान) का कार्यभार ग्रहण किया है। ज्वार परिवार उनका स्वागत करता है।

संस्थान की सामान्य बैठकें : इस माह में संस्थान की निम्नलिखित सामान्य बैठकें हुईं :

- महिला सुरक्षा कक्ष की 4थी बैठक 29 दिसंबर 2006 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे संपन्न हुई।
- राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की 2री बैठक 23 दिसंबर 2006 को अपराह्न 3.00 बजे हुई। जिसमें राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन बढ़ाने संबंधी विभिन्न मुद्दों पर चर्चा हुई।
- संस्थान के संयुक्त कर्मचारी परिषद् की 7वीं बैठक 29 दिसंबर 2006 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे संपन्न हुई।
- संस्थान के शिकायत कक्ष की 6वीं बैठक 29 दिसंबर 2006 को अपराह्न 12.00 बजे संपन्न हुई।

एस. बालय्या का आकस्मिक निधन : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में पिछले 30 वर्षों से विभिन्न हैसियत से कार्य कर रहे श्री एस. बालय्या, एस.एस.जी IV का 16 दिसंबर 2006 को निधन हो गया। केंद्र के निदेशक एवं अन्य स्टाफ सदस्यों ने दिवंगत आत्मा को अर्द्धांजलि अर्पित की।

Summary in Hindi by Dr. Mahesh Kumar

(crops) comprising Dr. RR Hanchinal, Director of Research, UAS, Dharwad, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Professor, UAS, Bangalore, and Dr. Ashok Gaur, Principal Scientist, IARI, New Delhi, nominated by the Directorate of Seed Research (DSR) visited

NRCS on 7 December 2006. The team reviewed the sorghum breeder seed production programme at NRCS and AICSIP centres for the year 2006-07. Also, the team discussed on the seed research areas of sorghum to be projected in future. Drs. N Seetharama and N Kannababu explained the status of sorghum breeder seed production and seed research at NRCS.

APNL Project Reviewed

APNL biotechnology program sent a team to NRCS on 22 December 2006 to evaluate the annual progress under the project *“Evaluation of transgenic sorghum with suitable Bt gene constructs for*



Drs. Rakesh Tuli and CR Bhatia discussing transgenic plants in containment facility

resistance against stem borer”. The team consisted of Dr C R Bhatia, (Former Secretary), DBT, Dr R P Sharma, (Former Project Director, NRCPB), Dr Rakesh Tuli, (Director, NBRI) and Prof. P Balasubramanian, (Professor & Head Division of Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology, TNAU) along with the APNL staff (Dr Pakki Reddy, Coordinator and Dr MLN Rao), NRCS team members Drs KBRs Visarada, PG Padmaja and other staff members working in the project were participated in the deliberation and showed the transgenic undergoing evaluations. The team also visited the stem-borer lab, glass house, transgenic glass-house and biotechnology laboratory.

Visit of Dr SK Gupta of National Sugar institute, Kanpur

Prof SK Gupta, Director, NSI, Kanpur visited NRCS on 27 Dec 06 to discuss on the feasibility and scope of sweet sorghum as biofuel. Dr. Gupta interacted with the Director and other scientists on possible joint research to promote sweet sorghum. It was felt that sorghum has a good potential to supplement crop to sugarcane in biofuel production. However, greater commercialization needs refined package of cultivation, procurement, processing

technology, marketing, and policy matters. NRCS is currently extending technical know-how on sweet sorghum cultivation practices to the farmers. Dr. Gupta suggested conducting few experiments jointly on the extraction of sorghum cane juice, and fermentation after mixing with secondary juice of sugarcane, during the forthcoming season.

Dr. SP Tiwari – New DDG (CS)

Dr, SP Tiwari has taken over the charge of Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences) of ICAR. The sorghum family welcomes him. Dr. Tiwari was at Hyderabad recently, and the director met him and discussed matters of concerns to NRCS with him.

Institute’s common meetings

IV meeting of the Women Protection Cell held on 23 December, 2006

The IV meeting of “Women Protection Cell” was held the 23 December, 2006 at 11:00 AM. The members comprising: Drs. S Indira (Chairperson), PG Padmaja, KBRs Visarada, Ms. VSG Parvathi and Mr. KJ Mathai (Member-Secretary) participated in the meeting. There are no complaints pending with the committee as on date. However, the committee deliberated on the issues raised by the members such as celebrating “Women in Agriculture Day”

Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) Meeting

The II meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) was held on 23 December, 2006 at 03:30 PM. The committee decided to enhance the efforts to promote the use of Hindi in all the administrative correspondences, works and technical publications. Already there is a Hindi section in both our news letters.

Institute Joint Staff Council meeting

The VII Institute Joint Staff Council meeting of this centre was held on 29 December, 2006 at 11:00 AM in the Seminar Hall. The following staff members were present in the meeting: Official side: Dr. N Seetharama – Director & Chairman, NVRN Murty – Member, KJ Mathai – Member Secretary (Office side) Staff side: Sh. TJ Balakrishna – Secretary (Staff side), Sh. K Yadava Rao – Member (CJSC), Sh. AV Rao – Member (Administration), Sh. K Sanath Kumar – Member (Administration), Sh. P Yadaiah – Member (Supporting staff side), Sh. Dasaratha – Member.

The Member Secretary (Official Side) appraised the house on the Action Taken Report of 6th IJSC meeting held on 24 June, 2006. There were no specific new agenda items for this meeting.

However, next meeting may be held at Solapur station of NRCS.

Grievance cell meeting

The V Institute Grievance Cell Meeting was held on 29 December, 2006 at 12:00 AM at NRCS Seminar Hall. The following members were present in the meeting: Official side: Dr. N Seetharama - Chairman, Sh. A Venkateshwara Rao – Member, KJ Mathai – Member-Secretary; Staff side: NVRN Murty (AFAO), Sh. Pramod Kumar – Member (Tech), and Sh. K Sanath Kumar – Member (Admn). The committee reviewed the Action Taken Report submitted by the Member-Secretary.

Complete proceedings of all the above meetings are available on NRCS intranet.

SCJP 5 - examination passed



Mr. V Ravikumar, RA (DBT- Project) successfully passed the Sun certified programme for the Java 2 Platform, Standard Edition 5.0, conducted by the Sun Microsystems with a score of 81 %.

Sudden demise of S Balaiah



Sri S. Balaiah, SSG-IV who has put his 30 years service at various capacities at NRCS passed away on 16 December 2006. Director and all other staff members paid their tributes to the departed soul.

Official tours

S. No	Name of the Official	Place visited	Dates	Purpose
1	S Audilakshmi and C Aruna	Nandyal	4-6 Dec, 06	To monitor CSH 16 Seed production plots
2	VR Bhagwat, R Madhusudhana and M Venketshwarlu	CRS, Solapur	6-8 Dec, 06	To monitor AICSIP entomology trials, aphid/shoot bug nursery trial, IPM trials and seed multiplication plots.
3	HS Talwar	CRS, Solapur	12-14 Dec, 06	To Perform Growth analysis and record other observation on Physiology experiment
4	C Aruna	CRS, Solapur	12 Dec, 06	To monitor the pre breeding material in the shoot pest nursery.
5	N Seetharama	Indore	13-15 Dec, 06	To review sorghum research at Indore and to discuss on possible collaboration with NRC Soybean on inter-cropping and control of root and stalk rots.
6	KJ Mathai, NVRN Murty and AV Rao	OSN, Warangal	16 Dec, 06	To finalize the work orders , to monitor other administrative records and issues
7	IK Das	CRS, Solapur	19-20 Dec, 06	Recording observations on Rabi experiments at CRS Solapur
8	Vilas Tonapi	Mahabaleshwar	28 -31 Dec, 06	To monitor Cold tolerance screening of sorghum genotypes

Seasons greetings for a happy and prosperous new year

Meeting (M)/ Workshop (W)/ Training (T) attended

S. No	Name of the official	Participated in	Type	Venue	Date
1	Chari Appaji	National seminar on "Extension strategies for fostering knowledge centric agricultural growth" organized by Society of Extension Education, TNAU, Coimbatore.	S	Pondicherry	2-3 Dec, 06
2	Sh. V Anjaneyulu and Smt. VSG Parvathi	Training programme on "Financial matters in Government Organizations" conducted by Sankalp	T	MANAGE, Hyderabad	11-14 Dec, 06
3	SV Rao & KBRS Visarada	Workshop on "Biosafety aspects of GM crops" organized by Andhra Pradesh - Netherlands Biotechnology Programme and Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi	W	Teachers Home, Secunderabad	19 Dec, 06
4	KBRS Visarada, PG Padmaja & E Pashupatinath	Review meeting on APNL research project "Evolving transgenic sorghum resistant to stemborer with suitable Bt gene constructs".	M	DOR, Hyderabad	22 Dec, 06
5	S Ravikumar	Workshop on "Deserts and desertification" organized by AMR AP Academy of rural development.	W	NAARM, Hyderabad	29-30 Dec, 06

Thought for the month

"There are two kinds of men who can never be counted: those who cannot do what they are told, and those who can do nothing else."

-- Cyrus H. Curtis

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