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Field Day at Solapur

Solapur station of NRCS organized a field day on February 1, 2005 at Kalman village in North Solapur



The farmers meeting in progress at Kalman village, Solapur district

district. About 160 farmers and 50 officials from State Department of Agricultural, Solapur and KVK, Solapur



Dr. Prabhakar, Sr. Scientist explaining the salient features of the newly developed cultivars to a group of farmers

participated in the programme. At the outset, the farmers visited frontline demonstrations laid out by us in the nearby villages viz. Nannaj, Vadala, Nimbgaon, Raleras and Pakani. Exhibits on rabi sorghum, including live samples of high yielding cultivars viz., CSV 216R (*Phule Yashoda*), CSH 15R, SPV 1411 (*Parbhani Moti*), RSLG 262 (*Phule Maulee*) were displayed at the gram sachivalaya conference hall at village Kalman.

Dr. AH Kirnalli, Sub-Divisional Agricultural Officer, Solapur was the Chief Guest. Dr. PM Mane, Principal Scientist and Training Organizer, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Solapur, presided over the function. The other special invitees were Dr. MD Shinde, Sorghum Breeder and Officer in Charge, ARS, MPKV, Mohol; Dr. BD Koli, Agronomist; Dr. Shete and Dr. LC Mohotkar, Zonal agricultural Research Station, Solapur; Dr. GN Dhavale, KVK, Solapur and Dr. IK Das, NRCS, Hyderabad. Dr. Prabhakar briefed the progress and activities at Centre on Rabi Sorghum (NRCS), Solapur. The dignitaries appraised farmers about the uses of high yielding rabi sorghum cultivars and production technology. Farmers also appreciated the performance of new cultivars of rabi sorghum. They also expressed the need for new and simple technologies for the cultivation of sorghum, with emphasis on alternate uses for more monetary returns.

The programme was organized in association with state department of agricultural and the village Sarpanch of the gram panchayat, Kalman under the leadership of Dr. Raut, officer-in-charge of solapur station.

Research Advisory committee meeting

The NRCS Research advisory committee met on 14 -15 February, under the chairmanship of Dr. IV Subba Rao, Former Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU, Hyderabad. Other



The newly formed RAC committee members deliberating during the meeting

distinguished members were: Dr. BN Narkhede (retd. Sorghum Breeder, MPKV, Rahuri) Dr. S. Lingappa (Director of Research, UAS, Dharwad), Dr. RV Bhat (Ex-director, NIN, Hyderabad), Sh. Govind Pawar,

Farmers representative, Mumbai) Dr. SN Shukla, ADG (FFC), ICAR, Dr. N.Seetharama, Director, NRCS, and Dr. BU Singh Member-secretary.

The progress in research and extension was appraised by the member-secretary and the director to the committee. The research area leaders presented their overviews and objectives of each projects. All scientists participated in the deliberations. The members reviewed the progress and the projects and suggestions were offered to improve them. The vision 2020 document was also deliberated by the committee at length and many suggestions to improve the document were made.

Institute Management Committee meeting

The XII Institutes Management Committee meeting was held on 15 February under the chairmanship of the Director, NRCS and other distinguished members: Dr. IV, Subba Rao, Former VC, ANGRAU, Dr. A. Padma Raju, Director of Research, ANGRAU, Dr. SN Shukla, ADG (FFC), ICAR, Sh.Govind Pawar, Farmers



The IMC committee members deliberating during the meeting

representative, Mumbai, Dr. DM Hegde, Director, DOR, Dr. B .Mishra, Director, DRR, Dr. KPR Vittal, Pr. Scientist, CRIDA, Dr. S. Audilakshmi, Pr. Scientist, NRCS, SK Pathak, FAO, NAARM, Sh. KJ Mathai, Administrative Officer, NRCS. The agenda items were discussed briefly, based on notes circulated by the Administrative Officer.

Training programme on DUS testing

A training programme on DUS Testing was organized at NRCS on 8-10 Feb 2005. Fourteen participants from public sector and four participants from private sector participated in this training course. Eight lectures were delivered on various topics related to DUS testing including, principles, protocol, sorghum origin and distribution, genetic diversity, fingerprinting for genotype identification, statistical analysis, and maintenance of seed purity. Practical demonstration on DUS traits in sorghum was also conducted at the field as a part of their training. Dr. RC Agarwal, NBPGR, New Delhi; Dr. KV Bhat from NRC-DNA FP; Dr. M. Ganesh, NSP, ANGRAU and scientists from NRCS shared their knowledge with the participants. This training programme was coordinated and conducted by Drs. S. Audilakshmi and N.Kannababu.

National-level training course on "Alternative uses of sorghum and pearl millet"

One-week training programme on "Alternative uses of sorghum and pearl millet" was held during 16-23 February 2005. Dr. IS Khairwal, project coordinator, AICRP on Pearl millet, Jodhpur was the chief guest.



The delegates of the training program being explained the process of making ethanol from sweet sorghum stalk at the alternate uses lab

Total 16 participants from various SAUs actively participated in this training programme. A total of 25 lectures were delivered on diverse topics related to sorghum and pearl millet production and protection technologies, IPR, Sweet sorghum for ethanol production, DUS testing, alternative uses of sorghum and pearl millet and Internet technologies. Trainees also visited various farmers-fields at Lingareddyguda (Mehboobnagar district) Kollur and Pulgutta (Medak district), labs at ICRISAT, NIN, Home Science college and Rural park at NIRD, as part of their training programme. Drs. Ch. Sashidhar Reddy and CV Ratnavathi coordinated this training program.

New IJSC Committee

The following members have been elected for the Institute Joint staff council for a period of 3 years effect from 27.01.05.

Staff side:

Technical category: Sri. K. Yadava Rao, T5, Sri TJ Balakrishnan, T4.

Administrative category: Sri. A. Venkateshwar Rao, AAO; Sri. K. Sanath Kumar, PA.

Supporting category: Sri. . C. Dasharatha; Sri. P. Yadaiah

Official Staff: Dr. S. Indira, Pr. Scientist; Dr. S. Ravikumar, Sr. Scientist; Sri. T. Sridharan, AFAO.

Sri. KJ Mathai, Admn. Officer will be the IJSC Secretary (Official side) and the Director, NRCS, will be the Chairman.

Radio Talk

Dr. AV Umakanth, Scientist Sr. Scale, delivered a radio talk on "Jonnalo adhika digubadulu" (High yields in sorghum) through All India Radio on 12 Feb 05.

AICSIP news

The 35th Annual group meeting of the All India Coordinated Sorghum Improvement Project is scheduled to be held from **21 to 23 April, 2005** at ANGRAU auditorium , Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad 500 030.

Please visit our website www.nrcsorghum.res.in for updated information

Meetings / Symposia / Conference/ Training attended

	Name of the official	Participated in	Venue	Date
1	Drs. KBRs Visarada & PG Padmaja	Workshop on " <i>Biosafety issues related to transgenic crops with a focus on Bt cotton</i> " organized by Biotech consortium India Ltd, New Delhi and sponsored by Min. of Environment and Forests. Govt. of India	Hyderabad	4 Feb, 2005
2	Dr. N Kannababu	Annual Breeder Seed Review meeting	NBPGR, New Delhi	11 Feb, 2005
3	Dr. M Elangovan	International " <i>Symposium on Plant introduction achievements and opportunities in South India</i> "	NBPGR, New Delhi	13-19 Feb, 2005
4	Dr. N Kannababu	20th " <i>Annual Group Meeting</i> " of National Seed Project (Crops).	Coimbatore	17 – 19 Feb , 2005
5	Sh. AJ Mathai, AO	Training programme on " <i>Team building and conflict management</i> "	Administrative staff college, Hyderabad	7 – 11, Feb 2005
6	Dr. CV Ratnavathi	Review meeting on " <i>Mycotoxin net work project</i> "	NRCG, Junagadh	27 Feb – 2 Mar, 2005

Tours of NRCS scientists

	Name of the Scientist	Place visited	Dates	Purpose
1	Dr. N Seetharama	New Delhi	8-9, Feb 2005	Meetings at ICAR to discuss vision 2020 document & meeting at DBT.
2	Drs. N Seetharama & B Dayakar Rao	Mumbai	10 Feb, 05	Meeting with NCDEX officials for promoting market of sorghum commercially.
3	Dr. IK Das	Solapur.	26 Jan – 1 Feb, 2005	Recording observations in rabi trials, harvesting and threshing. To participate in a Field Day at Kalman village, organized by NRCS Solapur.
4	Dr. SS Rao	Vanapamula village, Krishna Dist. AP	Feb 5-6, 2005	To monitor and evaluate sweet sorghum seed production fields at Vanapamula village, Krishna dist. & advice the farmers for raising successful crop.
5	Dr. AV Umakanth	OSN Warangal	Feb 25-26, 2005.	For making selections from F2 lines of dual purpose crosses.
6	Drs. S. Audilakshmi & C. Aruna	Lingareddyguda & Shadnagar	Feb 28, 2005	To monitor harvesting at the farmers field.

First executive council meeting of Society for Millets Research

The first executive council meeting of **Society of Millets Research** was held under the chairmanship of Dr. NGP Rao on 16 February, 2005. It was decided to organize official inaugural function of the Society immediately following the 35th annual group meeting of AICSIP to be held at Hyderabad on 24 April 2005. The Constitution and bye-laws and logo of the Society are being finalized and circulated for comments and approval of the executive council. On the eve of society's inauguration, a souvenir containing various aspects on Millets development and utilization is planned to be published and released. The next meeting of the executive council of the society is scheduled to be held on 20 March, 2005.

Thought for the month

If you want to get the best out of a man, you must look for the best that is in him.

Bernard Haldane

NRCS Happenings

Printed matter / Book post

To



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