

## Happenings at DSR, and AICSIP news

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Hyderabad ▣ Solapur ▣ Jalna

February, 2010

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### DDG (CS) inaugurates "Biotechnology building"

Dr. SK Datta, Hon'ble Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences), ICAR, visited DSR on February 25, 2010. He inaugurated the newly



Dr. SK Datta, DDG (CS) speaking after the inauguration of the Biotechnology building of DSR

constructed biotechnology building and the facilities in the presence of Dr N Seetharama, Director, DSR. He addressed the DSR staff and appreciated the excellent efforts put by the scientific fraternity in the recent past. He also formally launched the sorghum stall at DSR. The stall is organized in a demonstration kiosk for exhibiting the various recipes made of sorghum. Dr Datta tasted the sorghum recipes and appreciated the efforts of DSR in developing, popularizing and marketing of sorghum products under NAIP-Millets value-chain program.

### 40<sup>th</sup> Annual sorghum group meeting at Coimbatore

The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Group Meeting of the All India Coordinated Sorghum Improvement Project was held at College of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore from 27 February to 1 March 2010. The group meeting was chaired by Dr. SN Shukla, former ADG (FFC). The Registrar of TNAU, Dr P. Subbian was the Chief Guest. A total of 200 participants from AICSIP centres, DSR,

### समाचार सारांश

**उप महानिदेशक (फसल विज्ञान) के द्वारा जैवप्रौद्योगिकी भवन का उद्घाटन:** डॉ. एस के दत्ता, उप महानिदेशक (फसल विज्ञान), भा.कृ.अनु.प. ने 25 फरवरी 2010 को ज्वार अनुसंधान निदेशालय का दौरा किया। इस अवसर पर उन्होंने निदेशालय में नव-निर्मित जैवप्रौद्योगिकी भवन का उद्घाटन किया।

**कोयंबतूर में ज्वार समूह की 40<sup>वीं</sup> वार्षिक बैठक:** तमिलनाडु कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, कोयंबतूर में 27 फरवरी से 01 मार्च 2010 को दौरान अखिल भारतीय समन्वित ज्वार उन्नयन परियोजना के ज्वार समूह की 40<sup>वीं</sup> वार्षिक बैठक का आयोजन किया गया। इस बैठक में विभिन्न राज्य कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों, निजी बीज कंपनियों तथा इक्रिसेट से लगभग 200 सहभागियों ने भाग लिया। डॉ. पी सुब्बय्या, कुलसचिव, त.ना.कृ.वि.; कोयंबतूर तथा डॉ. एस एन शुक्ल, भूतपूर्व सहायक महानिदेशक (खाद्य एवं चारा फसल), भा.कृ.अनु.प. ने उक्त बैठक का औपचारिक रूप से उद्घाटन किया।

**लोकार्पण:** तमिलनाडु कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, कोयंबतूर में 27 फरवरी से 01 मार्च 2010 को दौरान आयोजित अखिल भारतीय समन्वित ज्वार उन्नयन परियोजना के ज्वार समूह की 40<sup>वीं</sup> वार्षिक बैठक में (1) सोरघम शूटफ्लाई, (2) वीडस ऑफ सोरघम तथा (3) ज्वार के स्वादिष्ट व्यंजन नामक तीन पुस्तकों का तथा 'ज्वार की भू-प्रजातियाँ' नामक विवरणिका एवं 'बायोएथनॉल प्रोडक्शन फ्राम स्वीट सोरघम' नामक फिल्म का लोकार्पण किया गया।

**ज्वा.अनु.नि. तथा भाग्यनगर फुड्स, हैदराबाद के बीच सहमति-पत्र:** उद्यमिता विकास तथा ज्वार उत्पादों के व्यावसायीकरण हेतु ज्वार अनुसंधान निदेशालय ने 25 फरवरी 2010 को सर्वश्री भाग्यनगर फुड्स, हैदराबाद के साथ सहमति-पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

**राज्य कृषि मंत्री के द्वारा ज्वार स्टाल का उद्घाटन** जिनोमिक एंड क्रॉप इंफ्रामेंट : रेलवेस एंड रिजर्वेशंस पर 25-27 फरवरी 2010 के दौरान आ.एन.जी.रंगा कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, हैदराबाद में आयोजित राष्ट्रीय परिसंवाद के अवसर पर लगाई गई प्रदर्शनी में ज्वा.अनु.नि. ने ज्वार स्टाल लगाया। उक्त परिसंवाद के मुख्य अतिथि श्री एन. रघुवीरा रेड्डी, माननीय कृषि मंत्री ने ज्वार स्टाल का उद्घाटन किया।

**उत्तम स्टाल पुरस्कार:** विभिन्न सार्वजनिक तथा निजी संस्थानों के द्वारा लगाए गए स्टालों में ज्वार स्टाल को उत्तम स्टाल घोषित किया गया। समापन सत्र में ज्वा.अनु.नि. की ओर से डॉ. के बी आर एस विशारदा ने स्मृति-चिह्न ग्रहण किया। ज्वा.अनु.नि. स्टाफ को हार्दिक बधाई !

**डॉ. एन सीतारामा सेवानिवृत्त:** निदेशालय में वर्ष 2002 से निदेशक पद पर कार्यरत डॉ. एन सीतारामा को अधिवर्षिता पर 28 फरवरी 2010 को परिषद की सेवाओं से मुक्त किया गया। निदेशालय का स्टाफ उनके खुशहाल, स्वस्थ एवं सक्रिय जीवन की कामना करता है।

**पदोन्नति:** डॉ. बी सुब्बारायडु, वैज्ञानिक (वरिष्ठ वेतनमान) कृषि कीट विज्ञान तथा श्री पी मुकेश, वैज्ञानिक (कंप्यूटर) को क्रमशः 19 जुलाई 2008 तथा 17 दिसंबर, 2008 से अगली उच्च श्रेणी में पदोन्नत किया गया। दोनों को हार्दिक बधाई !

**प्रकाशन:** संस्थान के अधिकारियों द्वारा जिनोटाइपिक वेरिफेशन फॉर एथनॉल प्रोडक्शन फ्राम स्वीट सोरघम ज्यूस नामक लेख प्रकाशन हेतु स्वीकार किया गया है।

### अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ.प. समाचार

**एम.पी.के.वी. राहुरी में रबी इस परीक्षाओं की निगरानी :** ज्वा.अनु.नि.; हैदराबाद से डॉ. एम एलंगोवन, श्री पी. सुभाकर, श्री रघुनाथ कुलकर्णी तथा श्री वी सुभाकर तथा राहुरी से डॉ वी आर शेलार तथा श्री खार्जुरे सम्मिलित निगरानी दल ने 14-15 फरवरी 2010 के दौरान एम.पी.के.वी. राहुरी में इस विशेषताओं के परीक्षण का निरीक्षण किया।

हिंदी सारानुवाद : डॉ. महेश कुमार





Dr. Subbian, Registrar, TNAU, delivering the inaugural address

ICRISAT, private seed industry, and NGOs participated in this annual group meeting. In his inaugural address Dr. P Subbian stated that for realizing the increasing demand for fodder and feed, there is an urgent need for initiating research to improve quality and yield of sorghum for forage. The sustainability of sorghum yield is constrained due to frequent drought spells. There is immense scope for commercial ethanol production from sweet sorghum. Dr. SN Shukla, suggested that to arrest the declining demand for sorghum in the country; it is necessary to create a viable market for sorghum through technologies enhancing its alternative uses. In his address he applauded the sorghum researchers for delivering excellent hybrids, varieties and the technologies for the sorghum growing resource-poor farmers in the dryland regions of the country through the technology developed by the All-India program sponsored by the ICAR. N. Seetharama, Director, DSR, Hyderabad, M. Paramathma, Director of Research, and K. Thiyagarajan, Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, of TNAU, also addressed the sorghum researchers. Three books and one short film on Bio ethanol from sweet sorghum were released on this occasion. The TNAU team led by Dr K



Dr. SN Shukla, Ex ADG, (F&FC) releasing the book on sorghum shootfly

Ganesamurthy, Sorghum Breeder, TNAU and made all arrangements for the meeting. Dr. AV Umakanth served as the nodal officer from DSR. The copies of complete proceedings of this annual group meeting are being dispatched separately, and the e-copy will be placed at our website after the proceedings are approved by the Council.

### MoU between DSR and M/s Bhagyanagar Foods, Hyderabad

As a part of entrepreneurship development and commercialization of sorghum products DSR has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with M/s Bhagyanagar foods, Hyderabad on February 25, 2010. The agreement was signed in the presence of Dr Swapan Kumar Datta, DDG (CS), ICAR. Dr N Seetharama, Director, DSR, Mr Praveen (Representative of Bhagyanagar foods) and Mr Srinivas (Chartered Accountant and Legal Advisor) and Dr. B Dayakar Rao were present during the occasion. The DDG (CS) congratulated DSR for the steps taken for successful implementation of commercialization of sorghum technologies. Dr B Dayakar Rao and his team organized this programme.

### Institute Bio-safety Committee (IBSC) meeting

The Institute Biosafety Committee (IBSC) meeting was held on February 10, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Director, DSR to discuss the implementation of the biosafety issues at the institute. The other members of the committee were, Dr. V Dashawanth Reddy, Director, CPMB, Osmania University (DBT-Nominee), Dr SV Rao Principal Scientist, DSR (Member-secretary). Drs. KBRS Visarada, PG Padmaja, D Blakrishna, BV Bhat, R Madhusudhana, IK Das, G Shyam Prasad and Sujay Rakshit (DSR Scientists). The committee reviewed the bio-safety measures implemented in the ongoing biotechnology research projects under by the institute.

### Women entrepreneurship development programme on sorghum processing

One-day training-cum-entrepreneurship development programme was conducted at DSR on February 10, 2010 for 11 women SHGs of Chevella Mandal, Mahbubnagar district on sorghum processing technologies. The purpose of the training was to expose them to sorghum processing products and entrepreneurship development. The technologies such as primary processing through dehulling, semi-processed products such as semolina, flakes, pasta and vermicelli and large-scale preparation of multigrain roti, were demonstrated to women at the lab. Dr Seetharama addressed the gathering. Dr. B Dayakar Rao, CPI, Millets value-chain project and his team members explained our approach to entrepreneurship development. The project staff demonstrated recipes and processing technologies. Directory containing information for purchase of machinery was also provided to participants. Dr. Padma, Scientist (Textile & Clothing), AICRP- Home Science organized this visit.

### ED programme on sorghum processing for the KVK staff

Twenty Subject Matter Specialists (SMS) led by Dr. M Usha Rani, ANGRAU, Hyderabad visited the processing lab at DSR on February 16, 2010. This visit was a part of the Micro-nutritional Security under IEC programs in KVKs of Andhra Pradesh on promoting micro nutrient rich foods. The team had a brief discussion with the sorghum scientists on promotion of sorghum flour for preparation of various sorghum foods and exploring the possibility of large-scale commercial production. Dr. B Dayakar Rao briefed the activities of the research & development on sorghum semi-processed products. Sorghum products were demonstrated by Ms. Kiranmai and Ms. Shailaja of the NAIP project. Dr. M. Usha Rani, Unit Coordinator of AICRP Home Science organized the visit. The above two training programs were coordinated by Dr. B Dayakar Rao.

### State Agri. Minister inaugurates sorghum stall

DSR set up a sorghum stall in the exhibition organized on the eve of National Symposium on 'Genomics and Crop Improvement: Relevance and Reservations' held at ANGRAU, Hyderabad during February 25-27 2010. The exhibition was inaugurated by Honorable Agriculture Minister, N. Raghuvveera Reddy, the Chief Guest of National Symposium. Dr. Raghava Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of ANGRAU, Dr. Lakshmi Kantha Reddy, Director of Research, ANGRAU also visited the stall. A large number of participants such as researchers, policy makers, scientists, private sector delegates, students and farmers visited the exhibition. The exhibition was organized by the team led by Dr B Dayakar Rao, CPI, DSR-NAIP-Millets Value Chain project.

**"Best stall" award :** The sorghum stall put up by DSR was declared as the best among the stalls put by different public and private institutes, including ICRISAT. Dr. KBRS Visarada received the memento on behalf of DSR during the concluding session. *Congratulations to the DSR team who had put up the stall and managed it throughout in spite of very hot and humid weather!*



## Road shows to popularize sorghum foods

As a part of continual promotional activity of sorghum products under NAIP sub-project road-shows were organized at Spencers, Food Bazaar Super markets, and Malls. They were also held in public places like Indira Park and KBR Park. These nutritional awareness camps clarified many doubts of customers about nutrition. Majority of the customers sought regular supply of these products on-shelves of the malls. DSR has provided various jowar products to the customers along with mineral water bottles free of cost to collect feedback. These Road-shows were organized by Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, and the event managers M/s S8 Medeas who were outsourced specifically for the purpose. Mr. Raghu, Chief of M/s VSR foods and DSR's NAIP team members Kiranmai, Sriharsha, Rajeshwari, Shailaja, Pavan kumar and others actively participated in these road shows.

## Visit of 89<sup>th</sup> batch of ARS Scientists to DSR

Newly recruited 64 ARS scientists of ICAR belonging to 88<sup>th</sup> batch of the FOCARS visited DSR on February 03, 2010. The Director briefed them about the profile of the Institute and other projects at DSR and other project activities including AICSIP. Two films, one on "Sorghum production technology" and the other on "Sweet sorghum for ethanol production" were also screened for them. The discussions centered on sweet sorghum utilization and entrepreneurship development, strategies to promote millet foods, and use of biotechnology for crop improvement. Later, the trainee scientists discussed various issues with thematic area leaders and other DSR scientists. They also visited the food processing activity unit at DSR, and saw operation of automatic roti making machine. The team was led by Mr. D Babu, Scientist, NAARM. The visit was facilitated by Dr. Chari Appaji and Pramod Kumar.

## ICAR's Sports meet

The ICAR south zone sports meet was held from February 23 -27, 2010 at Cochin. Contingent from DSR numbering 15 players actively participated in many events. This meet was organized by Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Cochin.

## Promotions

On the recommendations of the DPC, the following scientists have been promoted to their next higher grade. Dr. B Subbarayudu, Scientist (Senior Scale) (Agriculture Entomology) has been promoted as Senior Scientist. Shri. P Mukesh, Scientist (Computer Sciences) promoted as Scientist (Sr. Scale).

## Doctorate awarded

Mr. V Ravi Kumar, Technical Assistant, was awarded Doctorate in Environmental Science and Technology in the month of February, 2010 by JNTUH, Hyderabad. His doctoral work is on "Characterization of Rabi sorghum environment and real time information system for forecasting rabi sorghum productivity on a regional scale". He was guided by Dr. S Ravi Kumar, Sr. Agronomist at DSR. *Congratulations to Dr. Ravi.*



## Visitors

### Research Associates

Two research associates Mr. Vineet and Mr. Ameet from Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, CIFT, Cochin visited DSR on February 4, 2010 to study about the IP protection, technologies for commercialization & IP documentation initiatives at DSR, Hyderabad. They had a discussion with the nodal officer of Institute's Technology Management Unit (ITMU) at DSR, Dr. Vilas A Tonapi. They were provided with the relevant literature on IPR and latest research developments at DSR.

### Students

A group of 85 students of final year B. Sc. (Ag.) from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore visited DSR on February 1, 2010 along with their teachers to get exposure about the sorghum

research and developments, as a part of their curriculum. They were exposed with sweet sorghum cultivation and the latest production technologies developed including the institute's extension activities through video show. This visit was coordinated by Dr. Rajendra R. Chapke and Sh. Pramod Kumar of Agricultural Extension Unit.

## Lectures delivered

Dr. Vilas A Tonapi delivered five invited lectures on "Seed industry today and tomorrow, IPR vis- a- vis Indian agriculture, Maintenance breeding of crop plants, seed dormancy, seed longevity and deterioration" at Barwale Foundation, Jalna for the benefit of seed industry personnel on February 16, 2010.

## Publication

Ratnavathi, C.V., Suresh, K., Vijay Kumar, B.S., Pallavi, M. and Seetharama, N. 2010. Study on genotypic variation for ethanol production from sweet sorghum juice. *Biomass and Bioenergy* (Accepted) (IF - 8.3).

## AICSIP News

### Sorghum workers felicitate Dr. N Seetharama

On the eve of 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Group Meetings of sorghum held at



*Dr. SN Shukla, Ex ADG, (F&FC) felicitating Dr. N Seetharama, Director, DSR on the eve of his superannuation at TNAU, Coimbatore.*

TNAU, Dr. N Seetharama, Director, DSR was felicitated on the eve of his superannuation on February 28, 2010 by Dr. SN Shukla and Dr. RP Thakur on behalf of all the sorghum workers of the country working at DSR and SAUs, including ICRISAT. The speakers on this occasion recalled his contributions for making sorghum group more dynamic in terms of performance and contribution. His services in providing a long time vision, visibility and scientific leadership were applauded by the sorghum community. The sorghum workers wish him an active and fruitful career ahead.

## Monitoring of Rabi DUS trial at MPKV. Rahuri

The monitoring team comprising of Dr. M Elangovan, Mr. P Subhakar Rao(TO), Raghunadh Kulakarni (RA) & V Subhakar (SRF) from DSR, and Dr. VR Shelar and Mr. Kharjure from Rahuri visited the DUS characterization trial at MPKV Rahuri on February 14-15, 2010. The observations were recorded for important characteristics as per DUS test guidelines prepared by DSR and published by PPV&FRA. The crop condition was good with uniform plant stand.

## Sad demise

DSR regrets to record the sad demise of Dr. K Achuta Rao, Ex-Principal Scientist of this institute on 2 March, 2010. The DSR family joins the bereaved family in condoling the sad and sudden demise of Dr. Achuta Rao. May his soul rest in peace!

## Meeting (M)/ Symposia (S)/ Workshop (W)/ Training (T) / Conference (C) attended

S. No	Name of the Official	Participated in	Type	Venue	Dates
1	P Mukesh, OV Ramana, K Revati & V Ravi Kumar	Workshop on "Networking and Web hosting"	W	NAARM, Hyderabad	02-03 Feb,10
2	A Venkateswar Rao	Training programme on "Establishment Rules"	T	ISTM, New Delhi	08 -12 Feb,10
3	N Seetharama	Meeting called by DG with ICAR Directors and VCs	M	ICAR, New Delhi	15 -17 Feb,10
4	HS Talwar & V Ravi Kumar	APSIM training at ICRISAT	T	ICRISAT, Patancheru	19 -23 Feb, 10
5	Vilas A Tonapi	Training of Vigilance Officers of ICAR institutes	T	IISR, Calicut	21-24 Feb, 10

## Official Tours

S. No	Name of the Official	Place Visited	Dates	Purpose
1	Pramod Kumar	Parbhani	11-15 Feb, 10	Collection of data on rabi sorghum cultivation and identification of Field days venues.
2	M Elangovan P Subhakar Rao, Raghunath Kulakarni & V Subhakar	MPKV, Rahuri	14-15 Feb, 10	Monitoring of DUS Trials at Rahuri
3	Vilas A Tonapi	Jalna	15-17 Feb, 10	To deliver invited lectures at Barwale foundation.
4	BS Rayudu	CRS, Solapur	22-24 Feb, 10	Monitoring of entomology Trials at Solapur

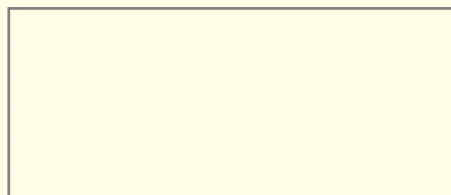
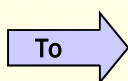
### Thought for the month

*The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction and the will to carry on.*

**Walter Lippmann**

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