



Happenings at NRC for Sorghum, and AICSIP news

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Rabi sorghum in-house review held at CRS, Solapur

The sixth annual rabi sorghum was held on 26 July, 2008 at the Centre on Rabi Sorghum (NRCS), Solapur. The meeting was organized to review and discuss rabi sorghum research activities at various AICSIP centres and NRCS in all the



The planning meeting of rabi sorghum research is in progress

disciplines. The technical programme for rabi 2008-09 was finalized. A total of 50 Rabi sorghum scientists from Kovilpatti, Tandur, Bijapur, Dharwad, Rahuri, Parbhani, Akola, Surat and NRCS (Hyderabad & Solapur) participated in this meet. Individual rabi centres briefly described progress they made during 2007-08. The group thoroughly discussed the aspects such as documentation using new format, germplasm exchanges, calendar of activities, annual performance planning, crossing programmes, IPR issues and commercialization, and marketing strategies. Besides these, design of plant protection trials using bio-control methods and production of organic sorghum were also discussed. All the rabi centres were given specific tasks to be completed within set time frame. Due emphasis will be on development of parental lines and new breeding materials through sharing of research material among AICSIP centres, and testing at multi-locations, registration of plant materials with NBPGR and Plant Authority. Also, the calendar for various activities including monitoring of trials, disease and pest survey were also finalized.

समाचार सारांश

रबी ज्वार केंद्र सोलापुर में रबी समूह की बैठक : रबी ज्वार केंद्र (रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें.), सोलापुर में 26 जुलाई 2008 को रबी ज्वार अनुसंधान योजना की 6वीं वार्षिक बैठक संपन्न हुई। अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ.प.परि. के विभिन्न केंद्रों तथा रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में रबी ज्वार अनुसंधान गतिविधियों के सभी पहलुओं की समीक्षा तथा उन पर विचार-विमर्श हेतु इस बैठक का आयोजन किया गया।

रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. तथा हाई-टेक पॉवर जेन्स के मध्य करार-ज्ञापन : अवायवीय पावन के द्वारा बॉयोगैस उत्पादनार्थ, मीठी ज्वार किरमों तथा संकरों की उपयुक्तता हेतु परीक्षण के लिए 24 जुलाई 2008 को डॉ. एन सीतारामा निदेशक, रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. तथा श्री के पी राजन, कॉन्सल्टिंग इंजीनियर, हाई-टेक पॉवर जेन्स, हैदराबाद ने करार-ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

रबी ज्वार केंद्र सोलापुर में दक्षिण आफ्रिकन दल का दौरा : डॉ. एम सी एस बाटिलन तथा डॉ. टी एस वाल्कर (दक्षिण आफ्रिका से) के साथ डॉ. वी के चोपड़े, परिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक अधिकारी तथा श्री एच पी बिसवागर, इक्रिसेट, हैदराबाद सम्मिलित एक वैज्ञानिक दल ने 15 जुलाई 2008 को रबी ज्वार केंद्र (रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें.), सोलापुर का दौरा किया। इस दौरे का प्रमुख उद्देश्य ज्वार की खेती की आर्थिकी व उसकी लाभप्रदता का अध्ययन करना था।

"लिवरेजिंग बॉयोटेक्नोलॉजी" पर अतिथि व्याख्यान : डॉ. आर साई राम, प्रोफेसर, पर्यावरणीक अभियांत्रिकी विभाग, पेन्नसिल्वानिया स्टेट युनिवर्सिटी, स.रा.अ. ने रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में "लिवरेजिंग बॉयोटेक्नोलॉजी फॉर द प्रोडक्शन ऑफ सेल्युलसिक एथनॉल" विषय पर 04 जुलाई 2008 को अतिथि व्याख्यान दिया।

डॉ. भागवत को भा.कृ.अनु.प. पुरस्कार : तीन प्रतिनिधि सदस्य दल में शामिल डॉ. विठ्ठल राव भागवत को "आउटस्टैंडिंग इंटरडिस्टिन्शनरी टीम रिसर्च इन एग्रीकल्चर एंड एलाईड साइंसेस" हेतु संयुक्त रूप से द्विवर्षी 2005-06 हेतु भा.कृ.अनु.प. पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ। डॉ. वी आ भागवत तथा दल में शामिल अन्य सदस्यों को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की ओर से हार्दिक बधाई!

अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ.प.परि. समाचार

डॉ. बाशा को युवा वैज्ञानिक पुरस्कार : डॉ. आमीर बाशा, वैज्ञानिक (ज्वार रोग-विज्ञान) अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ.प.परि. केंद्र पालेम को विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, नई दिल्ली द्वारा वर्ष 2008-09 हेतु डीएसटी यंग साइंटिस्ट अवार्ड प्रदान किया गया। उनको रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की ओर से हार्दिक बधाई!

हिसार केंद्र का दौरा : डॉ. वी आर भागवत, (कीटविज्ञानी), रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें.; हैदराबाद ने 17 जुलाई 2008 को सी.सी.एस.एच.ए.यु; हिसार का दौरा किया।

पदोन्नति : विभागीय पदोन्नति समिति की संस्तुती के आधार पर डॉ. महेश कुमार, श्री एस नरेन्द्र, श्री जी सतय्या तथा श्री पी किष्टय्या, तकनीकी कर्मचारियों को अगली उच्च श्रेणी में पदोन्नत किया गया। हार्दिक बधाई!

व्याख्यान : डॉ. विलास ए टोणमी ने आचार्य एन जी रंगा कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, हैदराबाद में 10 जुलाई 2008 को इंपैक्ट ऑफ आईपीआर ऑन इंडियन एग्रीकल्चर तथा राष्ट्रीय बीज निगम, सिकंदराबाद द्वारा 19 जुलाई 2008 को आयोजित प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में सीड लेजिस्लेशन विज-ए-विज सीड इंडस्ट्री विषय पर व्याख्यान दिए।

आगंतुक : कॉन्फेडरेशन ऑफ वुमन इंटरप्रेन्योर, हैदराबाद से 18 जुलाई 2008 को 9 महिला प्रशिक्षणार्थी रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. आए। उन्हें संस्थान की अनुसंधान गतिविधियों तथा उपलब्धियों के संबंध में जानकारी दी गई।

संस्थान की विविध बैठकें : संस्थान के गोष्ठी कक्ष में 03 जुलाई 2008 को संयुक्त कर्मचारी परिषद्, लैंगिक दोहन रोकथाम समिति, शिकायत कक्ष तथा राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की बैठकों का आयोजन किया गया।

हिंदी सारानुवाद : डॉ. महेश कुमार

MoA between NRCS and Hi-Tech Power Gens

A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed between NRCS and Hi-Tech Power Gens, Hyderabad for testing sweet sorghum varieties and hybrids for efficiency in biogas production through anaerobic digestion. Director N Seetharama and Sh. KP Rajan, Consulting Engineer for Hi-Tech Power Gens, Hyderabad signed the agreement on 24 July, 08. NRCS will provide the seed material and scientific, intellectual inputs to



Exchange of MoA between NRCS and Hi-tech Power Gens

enable testing of sweet stalk sorghum genotypes at specific test locations. The discussions were facilitated by Drs. SS Rao and Vilas A Tonapi.

ICRISAT & South African team visits CRS, Solapur

The scientific team consisting Drs VK Chopade, senior scientific officer, and Mrs. HP Binswager, ICRISAT, Hyderabad along with Drs MCS Bantilan, and TS Walker (both from South Africa)



The visitors from ICRISAT and South-Africa with CRS staff

visited Centre on Rabi Sorghum (NRCS), Solapur on 15 July 2008. The main objective of the visit was on to study economics of sorghum cultivation and profitability. They had a brief discussion with scientific staff at CRS Solapur. Drs. Prabhakar and Ashok Gadewar briefed them about popular sorghum varieties and hybrids in and around Solapur district of Maharashtra, the research activities related to breeding and development of high yielding varieties for the area and plant protection aspects that are being researched at the centre. The team appreciated the activities at this centre.

ICAR's Awards for NRCS staff and student

Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Research Award: Dr. Vitthal R Bhagwat, Sr. Scientist (Entomology) is one of the three representative team members, who jointly received the ICAR's Award for "Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Research in Agriculture and Allied Sciences" for the biennium 2005-06. The award was conferred on them for their outstanding research contribution for "byproduct utilization in mustered seeds", under the engineering and technology category. The



Dr. VR Bhagwat (Left) and other team members with the award

team received the award and citation from Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Sh. Sharad Pawar and Minister of State for Agriculture, Sh. Kanti Lal Bhuria, during the award ceremony held at NASC, New Delhi on 16 July, 08. The other two members of award winning team are Drs. Sanjeev Kumar Tyagi and Mridula Devi from CIPHET, Ludhiana.

Jawaharlal Nehru Award: The "Jawaharlal Nehru Award for outstanding Post-graduate Agricultural Research 2007" is given to Dr. V Girija Shankar in Biotechnology.

His outstanding contribution is on the effect of promoters on Bt Transgenic expression in sorghum. Dr. Shankar carried out his work at the Centre of Biotechnology, JNTU, Hyderabad, and worked under the supervision of Dr. N Seetharama.



Sh. Kantilal Bhuria, Min. of State for Agriculture presenting the award to Dr. Girija Shankar in the presence of Sh. Sharad Pawar, Union Min. of Agriculture

NRCS family congratulates Dr. Bhagwat and other team members and Dr. Girija Shankar for the honour conferred on them.

Guest lecture and discussion on "Leveraging biotechnology"

Dr. RV Sai Ram (ex-student at NRCS) and currently Professor in the Department of Environmental Engineering, Pennsylvania State University, USA delivered a talk on "Leveraging biotechnology for the production of cellulosic ethanol" at NRCS on 04 July 2008. His lecture mainly focused on the area of genetic engineering of plants for incorporation of value-added traits. Later he also discussed major areas of research for the benefit of students, such as biofuel; genetic engineering of cereals, legumes and ornamentals for enhanced tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses and incorporation of human-interest proteins; Phytoremediation and Molecular pharming. Colleagues from the sister ICAR institutes also participated in the seminar organized by the NRCS Students Club. Guidance was provided by Dr. KBRS Visarada.

Departmental promotions

Based on the recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) the following staff was promoted to the next higher grade: Dr. Mahesh Kumar – Junior Hindi Translator (T3) to Hindi Translator (T4), Sh. S. Narender – Electrician grade (T2) to (T3), Sh. G Sattaiah and Sh P

Kistaiah – both Drivers from grade (T2) to (T-I-3).
Congratulations to all!

Visitors

Biofuel entrepreneurs comprising Dr. T D Prasada Rao, Ex. Head R & D, ITC Ltd & Director VST, G Bharadwaja, Ex. General Manager, Nizam sugars, AP, G Diwaker, Agri-business expert and G Sudheer, Software consultant (NRI-



Discussions in progress on techno-economic feasibility for bio-fuel from sweet sorghum

California based) visited NRCS on 30 July 2008 on a mission to seek technical advise and techno-economic feasibility of using sweet sorghum feedstock for biofuel production and cogeneration. The team interacted with the Director, and the scientists Drs SS Rao and AV Umakanth. All the technical queries posed by them were answered by the NRCS team.

Nine women trainees from "Confederation of Women Entrepreneurs" (COWE) Hyderabad, visited NRCS on 18 July 08. They were explained about the research activities and the information on value added products and industrial uses of sorghum were provided. The students were impressed with the role of sorghum as health food crop. The team was led by Mr. M Mallikarjun, senior project coordinator, APITCO, Hyderabad and this visit at NRCS was coordinated by Dr. CV Ratnavathi.

Institute's common meetings Institute Joint Staff Council (IJSC)

The XIII Institute Joint Staff Council Meeting was held on 3 July, 2008 in the Seminar Hall. The following staff members were present in the meeting: **Official side:** Dr. N Seetharama – Director & Chairman, Drs. SV Rao, TGN Rao, G Shyam Prasad, PG Padmaja, Mr. NVRN Murty and Mr. KJ Mathai – Member Secretary; **Staff side:** Sh. B Sudarshan – Secretary Sh. K Sanath Kumar (CJSC), Sh. AV Rao (Admn), Sh. P Prakash, Sh. G Ramulu (Technical) and Sh. Shankar (Supporting). The Member-Secretary presented the action

taken report on agenda items. The progress was discussed by the members.

Committee on prevention of sexual harassment at work place

The meeting was held on the 3 July, 2008. The following staff members were present in the meeting: Drs. Surekha from DRR, (External member), KBRS Visarada, PG Padmaja, Ms. VSG Parvathi (Members) and Mr. KJ Mathai (Member-Secretary). Since, no complaint was received, the committee deliberated on the issues raised by the members .

Institute Grievance cell (IGC)

The Institute Grievance Cell Meeting was held on 3 July, 2008. The following members were present in the meeting: **Official side:** Dr. N Seetharama - Chairman, Dr. SL Kaul, Sh. NVRN Murty – AFAO, Sh. AV Rao, Member-Secretary; **Staff side:** Dr. VA Tonapi – Member (Scientific), Sh. K Sanath Kumar (Admn), Sh. B Sudharshan (Supporting staff). The committee has reviewed the Action Taken Report submitted by the Member-Secretary. There was no grievance to discuss, so that all discussed on proactive measures to increase work efficiency.

राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की बैठक

डॉ. एन सीतारामा, निदेशक की अध्यक्षता में 03 जुलाई 2008 को संस्थान की राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की बैठक का आयोजन किया गया। बैठक में डॉ. वी आर भागवत, प्रभारी अधिकारी-हिंदी (उपाध्यक्ष), श्री के जे मथाई, प्रशासनिक अधिकारी, श्री एन वी आर एन मूर्ती, सहा. वित्त एवं लेखा अधिकारी, श्री डब्ल्यू एस मट्ट, सहा. प्रशा.अधि. (भंडार), श्री ए वी राव, सहा. प्रशा.अधि. (स्थापना), डॉ. के वी आर एस विशारदा, प्रभारी अधिकारी, पुस्तकालय, ईआर. पी. मुकेश, प्रभारी अधिकारी, कृ.अनु.सू.तं. (सदस्य) तथा डॉ. महेश कुमार, हिंदी अनुवादक (सदस्य-सचिव) उपस्थित थे।

AICSIP News

Young scientist award for Dr. Basha

Dr. S. Ameer Basha, Scientist (Sorghum Pathology) AICSIP centre Palem has been awarded with "**DST Young Scientist Award**" for the year 2007-08 by the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi. He won this award for his project entitled "Search for *Rhizobium compatible Pseudomonas spp* which produce antimicrobial compounds for the management of diseases of dry land crops". Sorghum family
 Congratulates him for this achievement.



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

S. No	Name of the Official	Participated in	Type	Venue	Dates
1	SS Rao	Southern regional workshop on "Soil testing for soil health and crop production" for state extension functionaries of AP, TN and Kerala organized by ICAR & ANGRAU	W	ANGRAU, Hyderabad	16 July, 08.
2	P Mukesh	Training programme on " Web & Networking technologies and database concepts"	T	NRC Soybean, Indore	17-29 July, 08
3	GV Rajendra Krishna, MSRS Chanadra Sekhar, V V Santosh Kumar (Res. scholars)	A seminar on "HPLC and water purification systems" conducted by Pall Life Sciences	S	Hotel Katriya, Hyderabad	25 Jul, 08
4	N Seetharama & Vilas A Tonapi	Meeting on "Licensing of high value low volume hybrids and parental lines for commercial use".	M	IIHR, Bangalore	29 July, 08

Official Tours

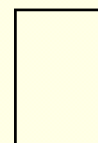
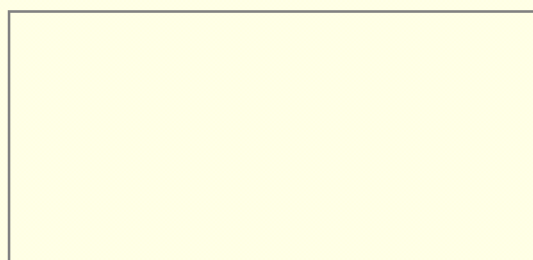
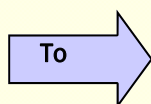
S. No	Name of the Official	Place Visited	Dates	Purpose
1	SS Rao & AV Umakanth	Medak	8 July, 08	To provide technical advice on sweet sorghum planting to the farmers of Ibrahimbad, Medak district.
2	N Seetharama	Ahmedabad	10 July, 08	To participate in the project development on village. Knowledge centres, representing DDG (CS).
3	Vilas A Tonapi	ANGRAU, Hyderabad	10 July, 08	Delivered lectures on "Impact of IPRs on Indian Agriculture".
4	VR Bhagwat	Hisar and New Delhi	13 -16 July, 08	To monitor research activities at Hisar centre, and to receive the award at ICAR.
5	Vilas A Tonapi	National Seeds Corporation, Secunderabad	19 July, 08.	Delivered lectures on "Seed legislations vis-à-vis seed industry".
6	N Seetharama	New Delhi	25 July, 08	Consultation at Headquarters and assigned work at ASRB.
7	N Seetharama, S Audilakshmi, SS Rao, Vilas A Tonapi, Chari Appaji, C Sashidhar Reddy, C Aruna, VR Bhagwat, B Subbarayudu, R Madhusudhana, IK Das, HS Talwar, G Shyam Prasad & TJ Balakrishnan	CRS, Solapur	26 July, 08	To participate in the sixth rabi sorghum group meeting.
8	B Subbarayudu	CCSHAU, Hisar	28 July - 1 Aug 08	To monitor entomology research activities at Hisar.

Thought for the month

It is not enough to do your best; you must know what to do, and THEN do your best.

- W Edwards Deming

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Compilation & lay-out by:

Dr. KV Raghavendra Rao
Sh. K Sanath Kumar & Sh. HS Gawali

Edited and published by:

Dr. N Seetharama, Director,

From:

National Research Centre for Sorghum (NRCS), ICAR

Hq. Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, 500 030 (AP)
Tel: 040-24015349, 24018651
Fax: 040-24016378
Email: nrchyd@ap.nic.in
Website: www.nrcjowar.res.in

Centre on Rabi Sorghum (NRCS), NH 9,
Bypass, Shelgi, Solapur - 413 006 (Mah.)
Tel: 0217-2373456
Telefax: 0217-2373456
E mail: raut@nrCsorghum.res.in

Off-season Nursery (NRCS),
ARS Farm, Mulugu Road,
Warangal - 506 007 (AP)
Tel: 0870-2530963
Telefax: 0870-2530963