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Project Directorate of Sorghum Research (PDSR)

It gives us a great pleasure to announce that the Council (ICAR) has upgraded NRCS into a Project Directorate. Henceforth, the erstwhile NRCS will be called "Project Directorate of Sorghum Research" (PDSR). At this happy juncture we also thank all those, including the past workers, students, farmers and colleagues inside and outside ICAR who have made this transformation possible. The sorghum team re-dedicates itself to the cause of sorghum improvement, value-addition and commercialization to benefit stake holders.

Work plan development meet on collaborative project on bioenergy

A meeting on 'Development of appropriate technology for bioconversion of sorghum biomass and sweet sorghum bagasse to biofuel was held on March 20, 2009. Prof. Ashok Pandey, Dy Director & Head, Biotechnology, National Institute of Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), CSIR, Thiruvananthapuram, Dr Soumitra Biswas, Adviser & Head-Bioprocess & Bioproducts Programme, and Dr Nirmala Kaushik, Principal Scientific Officer DS&T, TIFAC, GOI, New Delhi participated the meeting. Director, DSR highlighted the research, extension and commercialization efforts on sorghum. The discussion meeting was organized to finalize the scope of project networking with other institutes for shared deliverables under various work packages and discuss various IPR Issues. The project is

समाचार सारांश

ज्वार अनुसंधान परियोजना निदेशालय (ज्वार अ.प.नि.) : आप सभी को यह बताते हुए हमें अत्यंत प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद ने राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसंधान केंद्र का उन्नयन परियोजना निदेशालय के रूप में किया है। अतः यह संस्थान अब ज्वार अनुसंधान परियोजना निदेशालय के नाम से जाना जाएगा।

जैव-ऊर्जा पर इंडो-यू.एस. सहयोगी परियोजना पर कार्य-योजना विकास बैठक : ज्वार अनुसंधान परियोजना निदेशालय (पूर्व में राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसंधान केंद्र) में 20 मार्च 2009 को ज्वार/मीठी ज्वार जैव-भार/बगासे के संपरिवर्तन द्वारा जैव-ईंधन हेतु उपयुक्त प्रौद्योगिकी के विकास के लिए बैठक का आयोजन किया गया।

सस्य विज्ञान पर गहन चिंतन सत्र : हैदराबाद तथा सोलापुर में पिछले 5-8 वर्षों के दौरान सस्य विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में हुए कार्यों की समीक्षा तथा सस्य विज्ञान अनुसंधान के क्षेत्र में भावी नीतियों के निर्माणार्थ ज्वार अ.प.नि. में 7 मार्च 09 को गहन चिंतन सत्र का आयोजन किया गया।

अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ. परियोजना अनुसंधाताओं हेतु रबी ज्वार प्रक्षेत्र दिवस : ज्वार अ.प.नि. में 26 मार्च 09 को अ.भा.स.ज्वा.उ. परियोजना अनुसंधाताओं हेतु ज्वार प्रक्षेत्र दिवस तथा समीक्षा बैठक का आयोजन किया गया।

संस्थान प्रबंध समिति की बैठक : संस्थान के निदेशक की अध्यक्षता में 07 मार्च 2009 को ज्वार अ.प.नि. में संस्थान प्रबंध समिति की 18वीं बैठक का आयोजन किया गया।

संस्थान अनुसंधान परिषद की बैठकें : ज्वार अ.प.नि. में 21-31 मार्च 2009 के दौरान वैज्ञानिकों की वार्षिक प्रगति एवं उपलब्धियों की समीक्षा की गई।

आई.टी.सी अधिकारियों का दौरा तथा वीडियो कवरेज : श्री शिव कुमार, सी.ई.ओ; आई.टी.सी. लिमिटेड, श्री के निर्मल रेड्डी, महाप्रबंधक (व्यवसाय प्रचालन) आई.टी.सी. लिमिटेड तथा श्री निखिल, आई.टी.सी. लिमिटेड एवं उनके दल ने निदेशक के साथ चर्चा तथा वीडियो फिल्म बनाने हेतु 07 मार्च 2009 को ज्वार अ.प.नि. का दौरा किया।

वैज्ञानिक प्रक्षेत्र दिवस : संस्थान के सभी वैज्ञानिकों ने 13 व 16 मार्च 2009 को ज्वार अ.प.नि. में आयोजित प्रक्षेत्र दिवस एवं प्रदर्शन में सक्रिय रूप से भाग लिया।

पदोन्नति : विभागीय पदोन्नति समिति की सिफारीश पर श्रीमती विशाला ए.डी. को टी-6 से टी (7-8) में पदोन्नत किया गया है।

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में व्याख्यान : डॉ. वी आर भागवत, प्रधान वैज्ञानिक ने नार्म, हैदराबाद में 6 मार्च 2009 को *खाद्यान्न भंडार गृहों में कीट प्रबंधन* विषय पर हिंदी में अतिथि व्याख्यान दिया।

हिंदी सारानुवाद : डॉ. महेश कुमार



Prof. Ashok Pandey, Dy. Director & Head, Biotechnology, keenly observing sorghum plants along with Dr Nirmala Kaushik



Discussions in progress

net-worked under Joint Centre proposal of Indo-US Science & Technology Forum (IUSSTF), New Delhi. Dr SS Rao, who is leading the bioenergy research programme at PDSR, coordinated this meeting. Drs IK Das, Umakanth and Monika Dalal also actively participated.

Brainstorming session on agronomic research

A brainstorming session was held on March 7, 2009 at PDSR (formerly NRCS), Hyderabad to review the work done during the past 5-8 years in Agronomy at Hyderabad and Solapur, and to formulate the strategies for agronomical research in future at DSR as well as at different AICSIP centres. Following special invitees attended the meeting: Dr. J Venkateswarlu, Ex-Director, CAZRI, Jodhpur, Dr. KPR Vitthal, Director, CAZRI, Jodhpur, Dr. B Venkateswarlu, Director, CRIDA, Dr. DM Hegde, Director, DOR, Dr. Srinivas Raju, Head of Deptt. (Agronomy), ANGRAU, Dr. Vanaja, representative of NGO, and the agronomists Dr. G Ravindrachari, CRIDA, Dr. Mahendra Kumar, DRR, Hyderabad besides scientists from DSR. At the outset, Director, DSR presented the brief review of work done in agronomy at DSR including AICSIP during the past 5-8 years. Dr. MS Raut presented the salient research findings of agronomy of rabi sorghum at Solapur. Dr. Ravi Kumar discussed on the modeling, seed production for revenue generation and extension activities in collaboration with CRIDA and KVKs. Dr. H.S. Talwar discussed on the drought-

tolerance genotypes. Dr. Chari Appaji, highlighted the



Director, PDSR giving a brief overview of work done in agronomy

extension activities being done by for last 10 years. Dr. Angadi, presented the work done in sorghum agronomy at Dharwad center. The experts listed their views and recommendations. The proceedings of the meeting will be again reviewed by the IRC, RAC and new programme will be put to practice by kharif 2009..

Rabi sorghum germplasm and field day for AICSIP researchers

The "Sorghum field day and review meeting" of AICSIP researchers was conducted at PDSR (formerly NRCS) on March, 26, 2009, with a view to discuss and review



AICSIP and NBPGR scientists observing new germplasm lines



Dr. KS Varaprasad answering queries on exchange of genetic stocks

various sub-projects. Participants from AICSIP centres, and PDSR participated. The programme started with a

field visit to rabi experimental plots at PDSR and NBGR (Regional Station). Discussions were held on national crossing programme, exchange and registration of genetic stocks, and sub-projects of 5 thematic areas were reviewed.

Institute Management Committee (IMC) meeting

The 18th Institute Management Committee (IMC) meeting was held at DSR (formerly NRCS) on March 7, 2009 under the chairmanship of the Director. Other



The IMC in progress

members of IMC present were: Drs. KPR Vittal, KS Vara Prasad, MS Raut, Dr. SV Rao, Sh. NVRN Murty, AFAO and Sh. KJ Mathai, AO. Sh. Ashok Reddy (Farm In-charge) and HS Talwar (Chairman -Outsourcing) were special invitees. All the issues related to administration, finance, works, commercialization and XI plan expenditure were reviewed. The minutes were sent to the Council for approval.

Institute Research Council (IRC) meetings

The Institute Research Council meeting was held several sessions during 21 – 31 March, 2009. The annual progress of each scientist was reviewed and suggestions were made for further improvement. New research plan was discussed to reflect acquiring new staff, skills and resources. Minutes are being drafted by Dr. IK Das, secretary of IRC.

Visit of ITC officials and video coverage under NAIP

Mr. Siva Kumar, CEO, ITC Ltd., along with Mr. K Nirmal Reddy, General Manager (Business operations), ITC Ltd., & Mr. Nikhil, ITC Ltd. and his team shooting the video film visited DSR on March 7, 2009. The team interacted with the Director on public-private partnership for promoting sorghum cultivation and food products for commercialization jointly by ITC Ltd. & DSR. They visited the sorghum experimental fields and Mr. Nikhil with his crew organised the video shooting. They covered various activities of the project, including the briefing given by the Director, DSR on latest developments in sorghum research, views of the private sector given



The Director, PDSR explaining salient features of experiments being conducted under NAIP

by Mr. Siva Kumar, CEO, ITC Ltd was also captured. This programme was coordinated by Dr. Ch. Shashidhar Reddy.

Memorandum of agreements (MoA) Spectrum Renewable Energy (P) Ltd

The memorandum of agreement (MoA) was signed between PDSR (formerly NRCS) and Spectrum Renewable energy (P) Ltd, Hyderabad a private



The signing of Memorandum of Agreement with M/s Spectrum officials

sector organization for promoting the use of high energy sweet sorghums. Director, DSR and Chairman of of Spectrum Renewable energy, Mr. AV Mohan Rao signed the MoA in the presence of KP Rajan, Hi-Tech power Gen, Drs. SS Rao and Vilas A Tonapi. The initial discussions and signing of MoA were facilitated by Drs. SS Rao and Vilas A Tonapi.

Signing agreement for commercialization of sorghum products with NRDC

The memorandum of agreement (MoA) was signed between PDSR (formerly NRCS) Hyderabad and NRDC for promoting and commercializing innovative food uses of sorghum. DSR will provide the innovative knowhow and technologies for making sorghum foods and NRDC will arrange for

their commercialization with the prospective entrepreneurs. Drs. Vilas A Tonapi, CV Rathnavathi and M Elangovan facilitated the initial discussions and MoA signing.

Scientists' field day (Field IRC)

All Scientists of PDSR (formerly NRCS) actively participated in the Field day and demonstrations on



Dr. G Shamprasad explaining the salient features of his experiment



Scientists observing advanced breeding lines for specific traits

March 13 and again on March 16, 2009. All experiments on breeding, germplasm, entomology, DUS testing, agronomy, sweet sorghum and dual-purpose sorghum were visited. The director and all scientists reviewed the progress made by each discipline, and suggested measures to further improve data analysis and reporting.

6th Annual general body meeting of staff recreation club.

The 6th annual general body meeting of staff recreation club was held on March 12, 2009. The following members were present in the meeting: Dr. N Seetharama (President), Vilas A Tonapi (VP), Dr. Elangovan (Secretary), Dr. B Venkatesh Bhat (JS) Sh. B Jaya Prakash (Treasurer), Drs. AV Umakanth, Smt. A Annapurna, Sh. Ch. Suresh Kumar, Sh. J Narsimha (Executive Members) Sh. B Sudershan - Member (IJSC). The agenda for the meeting was to increase the monthly contribution

towards the club and hike in prize and gift amounts for various occasions and merit scholarships for the children of the staff.

Promotion

Based on the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) recommendations Ms. Vishala AD was promoted from grade T6 to T (7-8). *Congratulations Mrs. Vishala!!*



Hindi lecture delivered at NAARM

Dr. VR Bhagwat, Principal Scientist, PDSR delivered an invited lecture entitled "Khadyanaya Bhandar Gruhom keet Prabhandan" in Hindi to the trainees at NAARM, Hyderabad on March 6, 2009.

Institute's common meetings

Institute Joint Staff Council (IJSC)

The XVI Institute Joint Staff Council Meeting was held on March 23, 2009 in the Committee Room. 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. WS Bhat –Members and Mr. KJ Mathai – Member Secretary; Staff side: Sh. B Sudarshan – Secretary (Staff side), Sh. K Sanath Kumar – Member (CJSC), Sh. NVRN Murty – Member (AFAO), Sh. AV Rao- Member (Administration), Sh. P Prakash, Sh. G Ramulu – Members (Technical), B Sudarshan and Sh. Shankar– Members (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 of "Committee on prevention of sexual harassment at work place" was held on the March 23, 2009. The following staff members were present in the meeting: Drs. Surekha, Sr. Scientist, DRR, (External member), KBRS Visarada, PG Padmaja, (Members) and Mr. KJ Mathai (Member-Secretary).

Institute Grievance cell (IGC)

The Institute Grievance Cell Meeting was held on March 23, 2009. The following members were present in the meeting: Official side: Dr. N Seetharama - Chairman, Sh. KJ Mathai, Sh. NVRN Murty and WS Bhat - Members, – Sh. A Venkateshwara Rao, Member-Secretary; Staff side: Dr. VA Tonapi – Member (Scientific), Sh. K Sanath Kumar – Member (Admn), Sh. B Sudharshan – Member (Supporting staff). The committee has reviewed the Action Taken Report submitted by the

Member-Secretary. There was no grievance to discuss, so all discussed on proactive measures to increase work efficiency.

Meeting with Technical staff

The technical staff meeting with the Director was held on March 23, 2009, to discuss various issues including the system of periodic performance appraisals and review of work-plans. A total of 26 staff members participated during the deliberations. Dr. TGN Rao, coordinator and liaison officer also participated during the deliberations. The proceedings of the meeting are posted in the NRCS intranet.

राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की बैठक : राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन संबंधी विभिन्न विषयों पर विचार-विमर्श हेतु डॉ एन सीतारामा, निदेशक की अध्यक्षता में 23 मार्च 2009 को रा.का.स. 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 मूर्ति, सहायक वित्त एवं लेखा अधिकारी, श्री ए वी राव, सहायक प्रशासनिक अधिकारी (स्थापना), डॉ मोनिका दलाल, प्रभारी अधिकारी-पुस्तकालय (सदस्य) तथा डॉ. महेश कुमार, हिंदी अनुवादक (सदस्य सचिव) उपस्थित थे।

Visitors

Nine students from college of agriculture, MAU, Parbhani, under the leadership of Dr, Sarika

Shinde, Associate Professors visited DSR on March 17, 2009 as a part of their educational tour. Dr. Ch Sashidhar Reddy narrated the research and extension activities at NRCS. This was followed by discussion on package of practices to be followed for cultivation of sorghum. They were also briefed on the application of modern tools of biotechnology and processes for preparation of value-added products from sorghum.

Dr. David James from M/s Chlorophyll Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore, visited NRCS on March 31, 2009 to



explore the possibilities of making eco-friendly particle boards. The team interacted with the Director, and the scientists Drs SS Rao, M Elangovan. He was appraised about the modalities of signing a MoA.

Membership drive for Society for Millets Research

The "Society for Millets Research", was registered under AP Societies Regn. Act, 2001 (Act) with Registrar of societies, RR district, Andhra Pradesh (Regn. No 395/2004). The society was formed with the amalgamation of erstwhile "Sorghum Society" as per the decisions of the general body meeting held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 21 May. This society will be a common platform for researchers, farmers, teachers, policy makers, administrators, industries and students engaged in the endeavour to enhance production, productivity and utilization of millets, covering sorghum, pearl millet and all small millets.

Aims and objectives :

- ◆ To advance the cause of millets and promote research and development on millets and millet-based cropping systems
- ◆ To disseminate knowledge on millets through lectures, seminars, publications and exchanges
- ◆ To promote alternate and industrial uses of millets, and develop national, international and academia-industry collaboration

Planned activities for the near future:

- ◆ Conduct seminars and symposia
- ◆ Publication of Journals, bulletins, reports and sponsored monographs on various aspects of millets

Office bearers:

1. President : Dr. NGP Rao, Former Chairman, ASRB
2. Vice-president : Dr. IS Khairwal, PC (Pearl Millet)
3. General Secretary : Dr. N Seetharama, Director, NRCS
4. Joint Secretary : Dr. KT Krishne Gowda, PC (Small Millets)
5. Treasurer : Dr. Vilas A Tonapi, Pr. Scientist, NRCS
6. Executive members : Dr. BVS Reddy, Pr. Scientist, ICRISAT
Dr. Y Yogeshwar Rao, Ex. Director, Vikky's Agri-Sciences

Membership fees details:

We request you to become the life member of this society. Please circulate this note in your organization and beyond (to private sector) and encourage them to become members to advance the cause of millets research and development. We specially request corporate to become patrons by donating at least Rs. 15000 or more. They may also sponsor special activities, honors, or fellowships to encourage R&D and commercialisation of these crops.

To subscribe your membership kindly send a DD for requisite amount in favour of "Society for Millets Research" payable at **Hyderabad to Dr N Seetharama, Secretary, Society for Millets Research, NRCS, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030.**

Phones: 040-24015225, 040-24015349,

Fax: 040-240156378

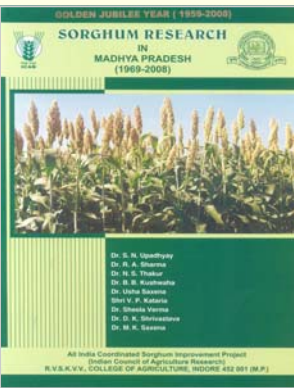
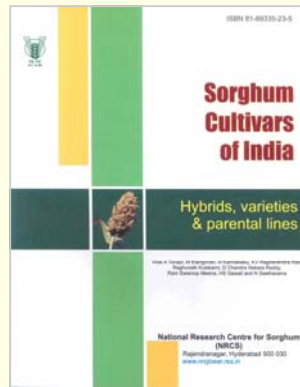
Category	Subscription fees
Corporate Membership	Rs. 5000/- (one time)
Life Membership	Rs. 2400/- (one time)
Annual Membership	Rs. 200/- (per annum)
Student Membership	Rs. 100/- (per annum)

Recent releases

Sorghum Cultivars of India

About the book: This book is compendium on Indian sorghum hybrids, varieties and Parental Lines. This provides essential information on sorghum genotypes released in the country both at central and state level

ISBN No: 81-89335-23-5 (162 pp), Sale Price: Rs. 800/- Postage: 50/-



Title: Sorghum Research in Madhya Pradesh (1969-2008)

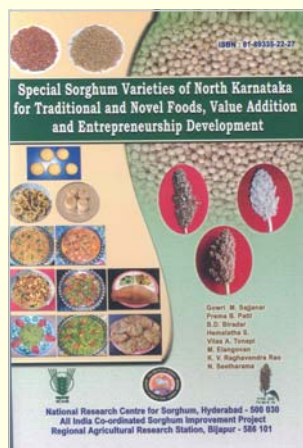
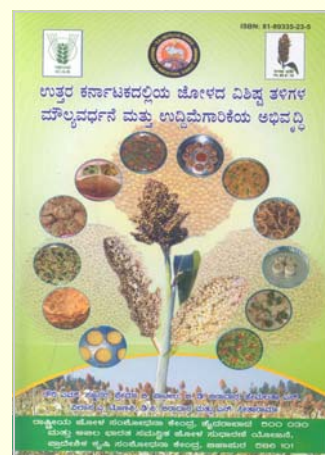
Authors: SN Upadhyay, RA sharma, NS Thakur, BB Kushwada, Usha Saxena, VP Kataria, Sheela Verma, DK Shrivasthava and MK Saxena.

About the book: This book deals with all important achievements like development of sorghum varieties and

hybrids, practices for cost effective management and plant protection measurements pertaining to Madhya Pradesh state.

Title: Special sorghum varieties of North Karnataka for traditional and novel foods, value-addition and entrepreneurship development (Both in English & Kannada)

Authors: Gauri M Sajjanar, Prema B Patil, BD Biradar, Hemalatha S, Vilas A Tnapi, M Elangovan, KV Raghavendra Rao and N Seetharama.



About the book: This book attempts to document description of three distinct special purpose sorghum landraces of northern Karnataka, and the preparations of various delicious foods and possible scope for entrepreneurship.

ISBN No: 81-89335-22-27 (69

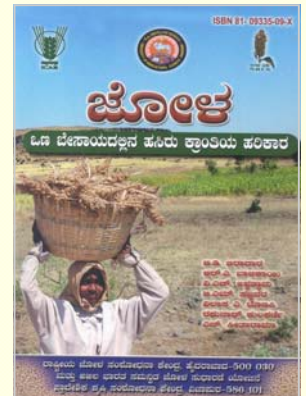
pp) Sale Price: Rs. 150/

Title: Jola: Ona besayadallina hasiru krantiya Harikara (Sorghum: An harbinger of green revolution in dry-land agriculture)

Authors: BD Biradar, RA Balikai, VS Aswathama, Gauri M Sajjanar, Vilas A Tonapi, Raghunath Kulakarni and N Seetharama.

About the book: This publication deals with the history of sorghum development in India, advances in sorghum research and development and advanced production technologies including the technologies for processing and value-additions.

ISBN No: 81-09335-09-X (210 pp) Sale Price: Rs. 150/-

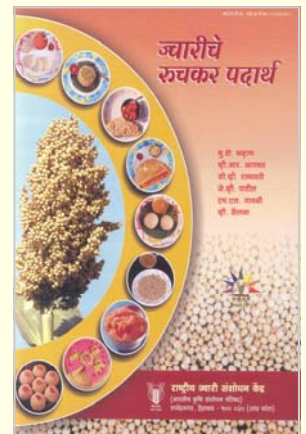


Title: Jwari che ruchikar patharth. (Delicious recipes of sorghum) in Marathi

Authors: UD Chavan, VR bhagwat, CV Ratnavathi, JV Patil, HS Gawali and V Sailaja

About the book: This book describes the preparation of various foods from sorghum flour.

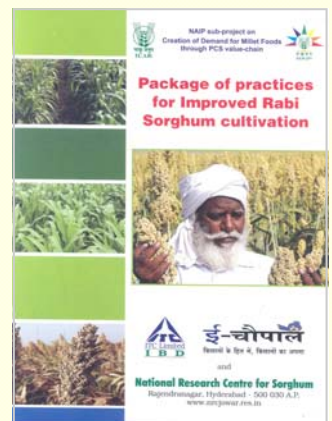
ISBN No: 89-89335-20-0



Title: Package of practives for improved rabi sorghum cultivation

Compiled and edited by : B Dayakar Rao, Ch. Sashidhar Reddy, K Nirmal Reddy, CV Ratnavathi, G Shyamprasad & N Seetharama

About the book: This book deals with various aspects of rabi sorghum cultivation including agronomic practices, popular and recommended cultivars, Major insect pests and diseases and their control, IPM modules and contingent crop management techniques. This book is published by NRCS in collaboration with ITC Limited, under NAIP subproject entitled "Creation of demand for millet foods through PCS value chain"



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	Training programme on " <i>Web-design and Content management</i> " under the ICAR Project Agroweb.	T	CRIDA, Hyderabad	24 Feb – 4 Mar, 09.
2	N Seetharama & KBRS Visarada	Review meeting of DBT projects	M	TNAU, Coimbatore	18 Mar, 09
3	N Seetharama Vilas Tonapi & M Elangovan	Seminar on " <i>Understanding WTO SPS and TBT agreements and market access on environment goods and services</i> " Organized by centre for WTO studies, FICCI, Hyderabad	S	ITC – Kakatiya Hyderabad	21 Mar. 09
4	N Seetharama	Brainstorming meeting on " <i>Strategies and methodologies for drought tolerance</i> " (ICAR-ICRISAT)	M	DMR, New Delhi	24 Mar, 09
5	N Seetharama	Consultation meeting on formulation of biosafety capacity building project- Phase II document.	M	New Delhi	27-28 Mar, 09

Official Tours

S. No	Name of the Official	Place Visited	Dates	Purpose
1	B Dayakar Rao & SS Rao	Aurangabad	7 Mar, 09	To participate in TATA Chemicals roll out meeting under NAIP-Sweet sorghum project at Aurangabad.
2	B Dayakar Rao	AICSIP centre, Indore	11-14 Mar, 09	To enquire about the status of sorghum trade in Indore, and possible chances to link sorghum utilization with industries for alternative uses.
3	N Seetharama & KBRS Visarada	UAS, Bangalore	17 Mar, 09	Review meeting of DBT projects
4	VR Bhagwat, G Shyam Prasad & AP Singh	Tandur	17 Mar, 07	To harvest the AICSIP material
5	B Subbarayudu, JS Mishra & Rajendra R Chapke	Ananthavaram, Tenali	20 Mar, 09	To record observations of field experiments in rice-fallows under zero tillage.

Publications

Tonapi VA, M Ryley, V Galea, S Bhuiyan and A. Wearing. 2009. Iterative germination and innovative techniques for the production and inoculation of secondary conidia of sorghum ergot (*Claviceps Africana*). March 2009. Archives of Phytopathology and Plant Protection. Vol. 42 (3): 248-254.

Thought for the month



The dream is not what you see in sleep.....dream is which does not let you sleep.

Dr. Abdul Kalam

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