



In this issue.....

1. Workshop on "Intensive rabi cultivation "
2. Farmers' field day organized at Adilabad
3. "Field days" and "Farmers meet" organized at Bundelkhand region
4. Visit of 84th batch of ARS Scientists
5. "Sorghum stall" at DRR during rice field day
6. Video Coverage of NRCS activities
7. New Scientist joins NRCS
8. Fellowship for Dr. SS Rao
9. World Food Day celebrated
10. Meeting with Technical staff
11. BSP monitoring team visits NRCS
12. Visitors
13. Official Tours
14. Meeting / Symposia / Workshop / Training / Conference attended

समाचार सारांश

गेट्स फाउंडेशन दल का दौरा : बिल एवं मेलिंडा गेट्स फाउंडेशन, सिट्टले, सं.रा.अ. के वैश्विक विकास कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत कृषि विकास प्रभाग से श्री जेफ्री रैड, कार्यक्रम अधिकारी तथा येल्ला केन्डे ने 31 अक्टूबर 2008 को संस्थान का दौरा किया। निदेशक, रा.ज्वा. अनु.कें. ने उनको, यहाँ कार्यान्वित गतिविधियों से अवगत कराया।

ज्वार के अंत्य-उपयोगार्थ गहन रबी खेती पर कार्यशाला : परभणी में 6 अक्टूबर 2008 को राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसंधान केंद्र तथा आई.टी.सी लिमिटेड ने ज्वार के अंत्य-उपयोगार्थ गहन रबी खेती पर शुभारंभ कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया। इसमें 450 से अधिक कृषकों ने भाग लिया।

आदिलाबाद में कृषक प्रक्षेत्र दिवस का आयोजन : राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसंधान केंद्र तथा आई.टी.सी लिमिटेड, आदिलाबाद के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में रा.कृ.न.प. की 'उत्पादन से खपत तंत्र मूल्य शृंखला के माध्यम से मोटे अनाज के खाद्य पदार्थों की माँग सृजन' नामक उप-परियोजना के अंतर्गत आदिलाबाद जिले के मन्नुर ग्राम में 18 अक्टूबर 2008 को कृषक प्रक्षेत्र दिवस मनाया गया।

बुंदेल खंड क्षेत्र में प्रक्षेत्र दिवस एवं कृषक सभा का आयोजन : कृ.वि.कें. जौनों के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में 16 अक्टूबर 2008 को जौनों में तथा कृ.वि.कें. बरारी के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में 17 अक्टूबर 2008 को झाँसी में ज्वार प्रक्षेत्र दिवस मनाया गया तथा आई जी एफ आर आई के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में 18 अक्टूबर 2008 को झाँसी में ज्वार कृषक सभा का आयोजन किया गया।

कृ.अनु.से. वैज्ञानिकों के 84वें दल का दौरा : भा.कृ.अनु.परि. में नए भर्ती हुए कृ.अनु.से. वैज्ञानिकों के 84वें फोर्कास दल ने 10 अक्टूबर 2008 को संस्थान का दौरा किया।

चा.अनु.नि. में ज्वार स्टाल : चावल अनुसंधान निदेशालय, हैदराबाद में 25 अक्टूबर 2008 को कृषक दिवस के दौरान लगाई गई प्रदर्शनी में राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसंधान केंद्र ने ज्वार स्टाल लगाया।

रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की गतिविधियों का विडियो कवरेज : भा.कृ.अनु.परि. द्वारा प्रदान किए गए कार्य के अनुसार सर्वश्री टेलीमिडिया, हैदराबाद ने 14 अक्टूबर 2008 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की गतिविधियों के विडियो कवरेज का कार्य पूर्ण कर लिया है। इसका एन ई टी वी, नई दिल्ली द्वारा प्रसारण किया जाना है।

रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में नए वैज्ञानिक द्वारा कार्यभार ग्रहण : डॉ. राजेन्द्र आर चापके ने 06 अक्टूबर 2008 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक के रूप में कार्यभार ग्रहण किया।

डॉ. एस एस राव को फेलोशिप : डॉ एस एस राव, प्रधान वैज्ञानिक (पादप शरीर क्रिया विज्ञान), रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. को फेलोशिप ऑफ इंडियन सोसाइटी फॉर प्लांट फिजियोलॉजी (एफ.आई.एस.पी.पी.)। उन्हें हार्दिक बधाई!

विश्व खाद्य दिवस का आयोजन : संस्थान में 16 अक्टूबर 2008 को विश्व खाद्य दिवस मनाया गया। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के निदेशक ने स्वास्थ्यवर्धक आहार के रूप में ज्वार के महत्व पर प्रकाश डाला।

तकनीकी स्टाफ के साथ बैठक : संस्थान के निदेशक ने विभिन्न विषयों पर चर्चा हेतु 23 अक्टूबर 2008 को तकनीकी कार्मिकों के साथ एक बैठक बुलाई।

हिंदी सारानुवाद : डॉ. महेश कुमार

Workshop on "Intensive rabi cultivation for end-uses of sorghum" at Parbhani

Launching workshop on "Intensive rabi cultivation for sorghum end-uses" was organized by NRC Sorghum and ITC Ltd at Parbhani on 6 October 2008. More than 450 farmers attended the workshop. Sh. JunJun Patil, District



Book on "Package of Practices for improved rabi sorghum cultivation" being released at NAIP launching workshop

Agriculture Officer released the brochure on "Package of Practices for improved rabi sorghum cultivation" in Marathi language. Dr. B Dayakar Rao, CPI, NAIP – Millets Value-Chain, presented an overview of the project and its importance. He sought farmers' cooperation for this unique public and private partnership (PPP) effort under the aegis of NAIP/ICAR. Innovative sorghum foods were also displayed for the benefit and knowledge of farmers. Dr. Ch Shashidhar Reddy explained the uses of sorghum foods and its processing technology. The press meet was also organized where ITC and NRCS representatives participated. Sh. Nikhil and his team covered the video recording of the event including on-farm operations. Demonstration plots for testing 4

genotypes in 2 farmer fields arranged. Dr. SS Ambekar and Prof. Dowry represented the MAU Parbhani. Dr. Nirmal Reddy from ITC and Drs. B Dayakar Rao, Ch Shashidhar Reddy and Mr. E Krishna Rao from NRCS participated in the workshop.

Farmers' field days organized at Adilabad

NRCS and ITC Ltd. Adilabad jointly organized a "Farmers' field day" at Mannur village, Adilabad District



Farmers field day at Mannur organized under NAIP

on 18 October 2008 under NAIP sub-project "Creation of demand for millet foods through PCS value chain". One hundred farmers attended the field day and provided the feedback on their experiences on cultivation of kharif sorghum CSH 16. The demonstration on dryer and thresher technology was also organized for the farmers. Drs. B Dayakar Rao, Ch Shashidhar Reddy, Mr. P Mukesh and Mrs. T. Sarada participated from NRCS in this programme. Mr. K Nirmal Reddy, ITC Ltd addressed the farmers and briefed about the company policies on Public and Private Partnership research and buy-back assurance to the farmers.

"Field days" and "Farmers meet" organized at Bundelkhand region

Jaulon (UP), October 16: The "Jowar prakshethra diwas" was organized at Jaulon village on the 16 Oct, 08 in association with KVK, Jaulon. In this meet apart from 200 farmers, Dr. RN Diwadhi, (Pri. scientist), IGFR



Farmers meet at Jaulon village

Jhansi, Dr. SP Sachan Officer in charge, AICSIP, Mauranipur, and Dr. Sushil Kumar, Programme coordinator, KVK, Jaulon also participated. The interactive session on sorghum cultivation and its importance was organized. The farmers also visited the strip plot trial in which performance of five sorghum cultivars demonstrated. Majority of the farmers showed keen interest in CSV 17 (Early type) and CSV 20 (SPV 1616 -Medium maturity type). A folder on "Jowar Bundela" written by Dr SP Sachan in Hindi language was released on this occasion.

Barari (UP), October 17: Second "Jowar prakshethra diwas" was organized in association with KVK Barari in Jhansi district on 17 October, 08. Dr. HP Khushawah, Joint Director (Research) CAUA&T, Kanpur, Dr. BN



Dr. Chari Appaji addressing the delegates at Barari village

Singh, ADR, NARP center, Jhansi, Dr. SP Sachan, Mauranipur, Dr. RN Diwadhi, IGFR, Jhansi, Dr. YK Singh, Mauranipur and scientific staff of KVK Barari participated in the field day. Field visit to strip plot trial in farmers field in Bhojla village was organized by Mr. Kalicharan. A folder in Hindi "Jowar ki Vigyanik khet" published jointly by KVK, Barari, Jhansi and NRC for Sorghum, Hyderabad was released on the occasion.

Jaman (UP), October 18: "Jowar farmers meet" was organized by NRCS in association with IGFR, Jhansi on the 18 October, 08 in which 60 farmers participated. They also visited Mr. Sharma's field where performance of SPV 1616 was demonstrated. Dr. Chari Appaji from NRCS coordinated above programmes in the Bundelkhand region.

Visit of 84th batch of ARS Scientists

Newly recruited ARS scientists of ICAR belonging to 84th batch of the FOCARS visited NRCS on 10 October 2008. The 28 participants were briefed on the profile of the Institute and other project activities including AICSIP. A film on "Sorghum production technology" and "Sweet sorghum for ethanol production" were also screened for them. The discussions centered on many questions in the area of sweet sorghum utilization and entrepreneurship development to promote millet foods, and biotechnology. Later, they discussed with thematic area leaders and other NRCS scientists. They also visited marker-assisted selection (MAS), and sorghum food laboratories. The visit was facilitated by Dr RVS



The ARS trainees being motivated by Director, NRCS

Rao (NAARM). Drs. C Aruna Reddy, Hariprasanna and Ch. Sashidhar Reddy of NRCS shouldered the responsibility of organizing this event.

“Sorghum stall” at DRR during rice field day

NRC Sorghum set up a stall in the exhibition organized during “Farmers’ day”, which was held at Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad on 25 October, 08. More



Visitors flocking NRCS’s sorghum stall at DRR rice field day

than 700 farmers and other scientists from public and private sector visited the sorghum stall. The importance of sorghum as health and nutritious food was explained to them and the relevant literature was distributed. They were explained about the acceptability of sorghum foods as health food in urban areas, and how these products are becoming popular for diabetic and obese persons. The visitors are showed keen interest in sorghum food products and commercial operation of *roti* making machine. Dr. Ch Sashidhar Reddy, Mr. P Mukesh and Mr. D Gopala Krishna from NRCS managed this stall and event.

Video Coverage of NRCS activities

M/s Telemedia, Hyderabad completed the video coverage of NRCS activities on 14 October 08 as a part of their assignment with the ICAR to shoot one documentary entitled “Drivers of Change” encompassing recent developments on Indian agriculture systems. This feature film is to be telecasted by the NETV of New Delhi. Mr. Sridhar Dharmasanam, executive manager,

Telemedia with his crew organised the video shooting. The team covered various research activities of the institute at laboratory and in field level. They covered activities at pathology, alternate uses, MAS and,



Video coverage of NRCS activities

transgenic laboratories and in germplasm, breeding and hybrid seed production plots. This programme at NRCS was coordinated and directed by Dr. SV Rao.

One more video film was also shot on the aspects covering package of practices for improved sorghum cultivation in the farmers’ field located at Gajulaguda village, Shankarpally Mandal, R.R. District on 13 October 2008. This coverage was organized by ITC Ltd., under NAIP – Millets Value chain project with the guidance of Dr. Ch Sashidhar Reddy, Senior Scientist, NRCS. The team captured the demonstration of dryer, threshing and solarization practices in farmers’ field.

Dr Chapke! Welcome to join NRCS



Dr. **Rajendra R Chapke**, previously working as Scientist (Sr.Scale) at Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibers (CRIJAF), Barrackpore, joined as Senior Scientist (Agri Extension) on 6 October 08. His e-mail id is: rajendrachapke@nrcoresorghum.res.in.

Fellowship for Dr. SS Rao



Dr. SS Rao, Principal Scientist (Plant Physiology) at NRC Sorghum has been awarded Fellowship of Indian Society for Plant Physiology (FISPP). He will be receiving this prestigious fellowship award in person at New Delhi, on the venue of national conference of the Indian Society for Plant Physiology during 12-14 November, 2008. *Congratulations to Dr. Rao for this honour.*

World Food Day celebrated

The World food day was celebrated at the institute on 16 October, 08. The Director in his address briefed about the significance of sorghum as a health food and the research activities being carried out towards the



Director, NRCS addresses the staff on the eve of world food day

improvement of grain quality and digestibility.

Meeting with Technical staff

The meeting of technical staff with the Director was held on 23 October, 08 to discuss on the issues relating to judicious use of funds, minimizing utility bills, revenue generation, medical claims, half-yearly assessment, job rotation, inter-disciplinary works and the overall improvement in work standards and efficiencies. The proceedings are posted in the NRCS intranet.

BSP monitoring team visits NRCS

A four-member breeder seed monitoring team under the leadership of Dr. M Ganesh, Head, STRP, ANGRAU,



Director, NRCS making a point on seed marketing issue

visited NRCS on 18 October, 2008 and reviewed the progress on seed production under BSP and Mega seed project programmes. The team expressed satisfaction on sorghum seed production related issues. Director, NRCS, Dr. VA Tonapi and N Kanna Babu participated in the discussions.

Important Visitors

Visit of Gates Foundation team

Dr. Jeffrey Ried, Programme Officer and Mr. Yilma Kebede from Agriculture Development division under Global Development Programme of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, USA visited NRCS on 31 October, 08. The purpose of the visit was to learn how the Indian national sorghum research is benefitting farmers and consumers. Director, NRCS explained the visitors about

the new initiatives, monitoring and motivational techniques being practiced at NRCS to increase the scientific and intellectual output to enhance social relevance and higher economic benefit to rural livelihood on sustainable basis. Dr. Jeffrey explained the agriculture development strategy of the foundation with special reference to the sorghum and sought views from



Dr. Jeffrey Ried and Mr. Yilma Kebede, being apprised about institute activities by the Director

scientists on how envisaged activities of the foundation can be made more relevant. Various taskforce leaders at NRCS briefly explained on their area of activities and participated in the deliberations. Dr. B Dayakar Rao facilitated the programme.

Entrepreneurs

Ram Mohan G, Project Manager, Arrow-point technologies Pvt. Ltd, Chennai visited on 3, October 08. 2008. Drs SS Rao and AV Umakanth apprised him on the ongoing research on grain, sweet, forage and dual-purpose sorghums. He sought the technology assistance from NRCS in the areas of sorghum grain for industrial uses, forage sorghum and sweet sorghum for biofuel production.

Mr. Scots Gibson, Global Manager (Biofuel) and Dr., Prabhakar Babu, Crop Manager, Advanta Ltd., visited NRCS on 21 October, 08 to exchange views on



Discussion on sustainable biofuel production from sweet sorghum

sorghum R&D. In particular, they evinced keen interest in growing sweet-sorghum to produce bio-ethanol. Mr.

Gibson had a detailed discussion with the Director and Dr. SS Rao, Principal Scientist. He was appraised about the new developments in ICAR pertaining to collaborative projects with private sector. He expressed his keen interest to sign an MoU with NRCS for Scientific and technical support for R&D on sweet sorghum.

Trainees

Ms. M Gauthami, Probationary District Collector, Chittoor Dist, Andhra Pradesh visited NRCS on 14 October, 2008. Drs. Vilas A Tonapi, N Kannababu, and Mrs. A Annapurna appraised her about the recent



Discussion on enhancing profitability to the rural livelihoods with Ms. Gauthami (second from left)

advances in sorghum, biotechnology techniques, food products and other alternate uses of sorghum and sweet sorghum. She was provided with the latest information, books and brochures.

Participants of the model training course sponsored by the Department of Education, Ministry of Agriculture on

"Integrated Nutrient, Pest and Disease Management in Dryland Crops" conducted by the CRIDA visited Biotechnology Unit at NRCS on 21 October, 08 to acquaint with the latest developments in transgenics



Dr. SV Rao answering queries on Bt transgenic sorghum

research in dryland crops. Dr. SV Rao delivered a lecture on the *"Development of Bt transgenic sorghum at NRCS"* and accompanied the visitors through the laboratories and glasshouses and explained the process of developing transgenic plants.

Students

Ninety six undergraduate students of B. Sc (Ag) and five staff members led by Dr. C Babu, Assistant Professor from Shakti Agricultural College, Kalavai, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, visited NRCS on 10 October, 08. The purpose of the visit was to expose them to new technological innovations, farm management, and other issues in agriculture. The team was appraised about the recent advances in sorghum breeding and biotechnology research, and latest facilities at NRCS. Dr. S Ravi Kumar coordinated this visit.

Official Tours

S. No	Name of the Official	Place Visited	Dates	Purpose
1	N Seetharama	MAU, Parbhani	1-2 Oct, 08	To monitor AICSIP activities
2	M Elangovan	CRS, Solapur	16 Oct, 08	Rabi sowings of germplasm land races
3	B Dayakar Rao & E Kiranmai	ITC Ltd. (Foods), Bangalore	16 -17 Oct, 08	Discussion with ITC Ltd. (Foods) on exploring possible collaboration with them on sorghum (millet foods) & Collection of Secondary data on APY of sorghum in Karnataka
4	Chari Appaji	IGFRI, Jhansi	16 -18 Oct, 08	To organize field days in Bundelkhand region of UP
5	Vilas A Tonapi	NIRJC&FT Kolkata	17 Oct, 08	To deliver an invited lecture on data books management for IP in ICAR organized workshop.
6	B Dayakar Rao, Ch. Shashidhar Reddy, P Mukesh & T Sarada	Adilabad	18 -20 Oct, 08	To coordinate and conduct farmers day in collaboration with ITC Ltd. and Demonstration of artificial drying and threshing at physiological maturity.
7	N Seetharama	New Delhi	19 -20 Oct, 08	ICAR assigned jobs at ASRB and meeting with NAIP PCs.
8	VR Bhagwat, HS Talwar & AP Singh	CRS, Solapur	23-24 Oct, 08	To monitor shootfly incidence in AICSIP trials and sow abiotic / biotic trials
9	M Elangovan	Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh	30 Oct, - 7 Nov, 08	Germplasm collection
10	Vilas A Tonapi	CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram	31 Oct – 1 Nov, 08	To deliver an invited lecture on Importance of data management for IP protection in ICAR organized workshop.

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

S. No	Name of the Official	Participated in	Type	Venue	Dates
1	N Seetharama, B Venkatesh Bhat & HS Talwar	Review meeting of project on " <i>Biotechnological approach towards forage crop improvement</i> " Sponsored by DBT	M	IGFRI, Jhansi	3 - 4 Oct, 08
2	B Dayakar Rao, Ch Shashidhar Reddy & E Krishna Rao	Farmers' workshop on "Intensive rabi cultivation for sorghum for end uses".	W	MAU, Parbhani	5 - 7 Oct, 08
3	N Seetharama	18 th EFC meeting on XI Plan	M	ICAR, New Delhi	13 -15 Oct, 08
4	VA Tonapi & M Elangovan	Projects selection committee meeting	M	DRR, Hyderabad	17-18 Oct, 08
5	OV Ramana & V Ravi Kumar	Training program on " <i>Agri-bioinformatics -Tools and Applications</i> "	T	IISR, Calicut	20-24 Oct,08
6	Mahesh Kumar	Town Official Language Implementation Committee Meeting	M	Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad	31 Oct, 08

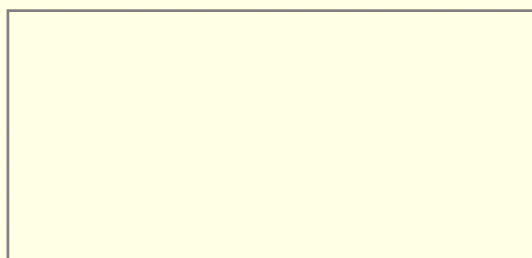
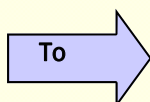


Thought for the month

It seems to me that people who admit they are wrong go a lot further than people who prove they are right.

– Mahatma Gandhi

Printed Matter / Book Post



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@nrcoresorghum.res.in

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