



First Call



International Conference on Harnessing the Potential of Finger Millet for Achieving Food and Nutritional Security: Challenges and Prospects (ICFM-2022)

January 19-22, 2022
Zonal Agricultural Research Station, V.C. Farm
Mandya, UASB, Karnataka, India

Organized by



University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

In Collaboration with



**ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research
Hyderabad**



**International Crops Research
Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics**

*International
Year of
Millets - 2023*
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Welcome Message

Greetings and best wishes from University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UASB) and the organizing committee of International Conference on “Harnessing the Potential of Finger Millet for Achieving Food and Nutritional Security: Challenges and Prospects (ICFM-2022)”.

We are honoured to invite you to participate in the above mentioned conference scheduled on January 19-22, 2022 at Zonal Agricultural Research Station, Mandya, UASB, Karnataka, India. It was in 1913-1918, Dr. Leslie Coleman initiated finger millet improvement programme at Hebbal school (present University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore), resulting in the release of first finger millet variety H22 in India. Subsequently, All India Coordinated Small Millets Improvement Project (AICSMIP) was launched in 1986 with headquarters at University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru. The main breeding objective was to develop varieties for high grain yield associated with blast tolerance suitable to both rainfed and irrigated ecosystems. A total of 135 finger millet varieties have been released till date. The pioneering work on finger millet resulted in identification of Indaf (like Indaf 7 and Indaf 9) and KMR (like KMR-301, KMR-630, KMR-316, KMR-204 & KMR-340) series varieties from ZARS, Mandya and GPU series varieties (like GPU-28, GPU-45, GPU-48 & GPU-66) from PC unit, AICRP on Small Millets, UAS, Bangalore.

Finger millet, *Eleusine coracana* (L.) Gaertn., also popularly called as Ragi, is a vital food crop in dryland agricultural system. In certain parts of the world it is used as both food and forage crop. It is grown in India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, China and Japan in Asia and Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Zaire, Eritrea and Somalia in Africa. Finger millet is the major staple food for South Karnataka population in India. It has manifold nutritional benefits, with nearly 30 times more calcium than rice. Finger millet straw is extensively used as feed in the livestock sector. Finger millet can be cultivated throughout the year, depending on the moisture availability. Due to change in climatic factors, biotic and abiotic yield limiting factors crop improvement and management strategies need renewed emphasis.

About the conference: In this background, it is highly desirable to analyse the latest developments taking place in finger millet, both at national and international level, identify the gaps and chalk out a road map for crop improvement strategies for future under changing climate. ICFM-2022 shall provide a forum to discuss the entire gamut of issues relating to advances and challenges in finger millet. The outcome of the conference would provide practical solutions for researchers, policy makers and farmers. ICFM-2022, shall provide an interdisciplinary forum for finger millet researchers across the globe to exchange their experiences and vision on developments/improvisations in finger millet genetic resources, production for its sustainability, integrated pest management strategies and biotechnological interventions. The conference shall feature technical sessions with lead/invited and contributory oral presentations.

Date and Venue: The Conference will be held at Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS), V. C. Farm, Mandya, Karnataka, India during January 19-22, 2022. Based on the convenience of the participants, the conference shall be hosted in hybrid mode (both offline and online). Mandya is a district located in Karnataka and is famous for one of the oldest research centres on Finger millet, where stalwarts such as Dr. Lesli Coleman and Dr. Ragi Lakshmanaiah have made significant contributions in the field of Finger millet improvement. Mandya is popularly known as 'Land of Sugar', came into existence on 1st of July 1939. It is located about 100 km from Bengaluru & 40 km from Mysuru with a travel duration of around 1 hour and 30 minutes by train.

Delegates visiting India for the first time can avail the facility of pre- and post- conference tours. The organizers would be pleased to facilitate the same through a reputed tour organizer.

We at Mandya await your presence and assure you of an experience like never before.

Theme areas:

I. Genetic resources, genomics and crop improvement

- Conservation and utilization
- Trait discovery and pre-breeding
- Conventional improvement
- Genomics, molecular breeding and new vistas

II. Production systems and crop management

- Good agricultural practices for sustainability
- Diversification of cropping systems
- Biotic and abiotic stress management
- Seed systems and quality seed management

III. Nutrition, processing, value addition and markets

- Nutritional and health benefits
- Processing and value addition
- Traditional foods
- Market linkages and entrepreneurship development

- International market and export

IV. Government policies and support systems

- Building sustainable Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs)
- Central and State government initiatives for mainstreaming millets
- Public Distribution System and Social welfare schemes
- Role of NGOs in millets promotion

Steering committee

- **Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra**, Secretary (DARE), Director General (ICAR), New Delhi
- **Dr. S. Rajendra Prasad**, Vice-Chancellor, UAS, Bangalore
- **Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes**, Director General, ICRISAT, Patancheru, Hyderabad, India

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Patrons

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UAS, Bangalore



ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad



University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UASB) established in 1964, is a premier institute distinguished for its excellence in agricultural education, research and outreach activities. The fundamental mission of UASB is to serve the farming community by providing technologies for the wellbeing and socio-economic enhancement of the farmers. It is the first ever Biodiversity Heritage site campus in the country. UASB has four colleges and 21 research stations spread across six agro climatic zones to cater to the regional requirements. In recognition of the overall contributions of UASB, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) conferred the “Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institutional Award in 2001 and 2012”. The accreditation board of the ICAR has accredited UASB in 2004 and 2016.

About ZARS, Mandya, Karnataka: Zonal Agricultural Research Station, Mandya, a premier research centre, under the canopy of University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore is constantly striving towards excellence in agricultural research and extension. The station is making persistent efforts in research and development and has released numerous high yielding and disease resistant varieties in sugarcane, paddy, maize, small millets and forage crops. Since its inception in 1931, the centre has been the hub for finger millet research and has actively involved in imparting education and creating awareness among farmers through field demonstrations and other extension activities. The station is spread across 255.5ha, next to Vishweshwaraiah canal, in Mandya district, about 11 km from Bengaluru-Mysuru highway, en route to Pilgrim place Melukote. Geographically the centre is placed between 12° 45'to13° 57' North latitude and 76° 45'to78° 24' East longitude and at an altitude of 695 m above MSL.

If wheat is synonymous to Norman E Borlaug, then Finger millet to C. H. Lakshmanaiah, a Junior Botanist at V. C. Farm, Mandya, where he was in charge of the crop museum. It was here that he decided to take up finger millet breeding. This poor man's crop was popularized in the late 1950s and early 1960s with varieties such as Poorna, Sampurna, Annapoorna, Udaya, Shakti and Aruna. Later, Dr. C.H. Lakshmanaiah initiated hybridization to generate genetic variability, by crossing Indian varieties with African ecotypes during 1964 that resulted in identification of 16 Indo-African varieties, designated as Indaf varieties. As a result of this pioneering development, finger millet spread across Karnataka and is now recognized as an important source of food security.

About ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad: ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research is a premier agricultural research institute engaged in basic and strategic research on Sorghum and Millets under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. IIMR's vision is transforming millets cultivation from subsistence farming to globally competitive enterprise through cost-effective and environment friendly production, processing and value addition technologies and supply chain networks. IIMR currently focuses on millets genetic resource management, crop improvement for increased productivity, genetic enhancement for high biomass per unit time, mitigating adverse effects of climate change, development of crop production technologies for increased input-use efficiency, biotic and abiotic stress management, seed science and technology, value addition, commercialization and value-chain development, functional foods and basic studies.

About ICRISAT, Hyderabad: The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is a non-profit, non-political organization that conducts agricultural research for development in the drylands of Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. It is actively involved in identification of crop wild relatives and use of multi-omics approaches to understand the mechanisms of complex traits to develop superior finger millet varieties.

Target participants: Researchers, Industrialists, Professionals, Nutritionists, Entrepreneurs, Policy makers, other stakeholders of Finger millet and students.

Preparation of abstract

Original research contributions related to any of the theme areas listed above are invited for presentations in the conference. Abstracts, not exceeding 500 words, in MS word format with single space (font size 12 Times New Roman) should include title, author(s) name and affiliation. All the abstracts may be sent to icfm2022@gmail.com on or before November 15, 2021. The conference papers submitted will be screened by an expert committee and published in the proceedings of the conference. Abstract book of the conference and certificate of presentation will be distributed to the registered participants. For more details please visit the website uasb-icfm2022.in

All the oral presentations will be delivered by identified speakers. Authors of selected abstracts will be requested to submit full length papers. Full length papers must be submitted before December 15, 2021. Accepted full length papers for publication will be published in the proceedings of International Conference on Harnessing the potential of Finger millet for achieving food and nutritional security: Challenges and Prospects (ICFM-2022).

Poster presentation

The poster session for each thematic area will be conducted. The participants should prepare the poster (4'x3') including short title, authors name and address, brief introduction, material methods, results and discussion including tables and graphs followed by conclusion and relevant references.

Award: The posters will be evaluated by a panel of eminent judges and selected for award, which will be given at the end of the conference.

Conference fee registration details (Registration shall be open on 20.09.2021 and continues till the start of the conference)

Category	Upto 30 th November, 2021	From 1 st December, 2021
Foreign delegates	US \$ 200	US \$ 250
Foreign students	US \$ 120	US \$ 150
Accompanying person (Foreign)	US \$ 120	US \$ 120
Indian Delegates/Scientists	INR 6000	INR 7000
Students/ RA/ SRF	INR 1000	INR 1200
Accompanying person (Indian)	INR 3000	INR 3500
Corporate		
Bronze (One individual)	INR 10000	INR 10000
Silver (Two Individual)	INR 15000	INR 15000
Gold (Three individual)	INR 25000	INR 25000
Diamond (Five individual)	INR 40000	INR 40000

Registration fee includes: Registration and conference kit; Refreshments during session breaks; Conference lunches on all 4 days; Guided tour to Mysuru city. Fees for accompanying person includes-Refreshments during session; Conference lunches on all 4 days; Guided tour to Mysuru city.

Note: Please be advised that your registration fee does not include travel, insurance and accommodation. Please ensure that you have your own insurance policy before travelling.

Weather: Mandya has pleasant weather throughout the year and the visit is enjoyable irrespective of the season. During January, Mandya has cooler atmosphere with temperature ranging between 16°C and 29°C.

How to reach: Mandya is about 100 km from Bengaluru & 40 km from Mysuru. Flights can be taken to either Bengaluru or Mysuru depending on your convenience. It is well connected to all cities in the country. There are several buses and trains linking Bengaluru and Mandya. Buses are also available from Bengaluru International Airport to Mysuru, with a request drop at Mandya. For more information on buses logon to <http://www.kstrtc.in/> and for train timings and information to <http://erail.in/>.

Dates to Remember

Call for Abstract submission and Early Registration : 20 th September, 2021	End of Abstract -submissions: 15 th November, 2021
Deadline for early registration 30 th November, 2021	Intimation of Acceptance of Abstracts 15 th December, 2021

International Conference on
**Harnessing the Potential of Finger Millet for Achieving Food and Nutritional Security:
Challenges and Prospects (ICFM-2022)**

January 19-22, 2022

Registration Form

Name:

Designation:.....

Institution:.....

Address:.....

Mobile:

Telephone:

Email:.....

Gender: [] Female; [] Male

Abstract enclosed: [] Yes; [] No

Accompanying person (s) name:.....

Accommodation required: [] Yes; [] No (Accommodation charges are payable upon arrival on the date of accommodation)

Interested in free guided tour of Mysore city: [] Yes; [] No

Other requests (If any):

Category of participants: [] Overseas [] Indian; [] Student [] RA

Accompanying person: [] Overseas [] Indian

Signature

Payment through bank transfer- Particulars

Payment Details

Bank Name: Canara Bank

Name of the Branch: GKVK, Bengaluru

Account Number: 110012782887

Account Name : International Conference on Finger Millet

IFSC code: CNRB0002737

Swift code : CNRBINBBLFD

MICR-560015126

Date of transfer:.....

Unique reference number:.....

Place:.....

Please mail the completed registration form to:

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Please Retain a copy of this for your Records



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