



# Happenings at NRC for Sorghum, and AICSIP news

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### Annual Sorghum Group meeting at Udaipur

The 37th annual sorghum group meeting of All-India Coordinated Sorghum Improvement Project (AICSIP) was conducted at the Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur during 5 -7 April, 2007. Dr SL Mehta, the Vice Chancellor of the University inaugurated the meeting. He emphasized on alternate use of sorghum with value-addition. A total of 210 participants from NRCS, IARI, IGRI, CRIDA, ICRISAT, private seed industry, and non-governmental organizations apart from those from AICSIP centres enthusiastically participated. Dr SN Shukla, ADG (FFC), ICAR advised on marketability of sorghum products. Director of



The sorghum group meeting in progress

NRCS and PC of AICSIP appraised the audience on the progress of AICSIP and stressed the need for dedicated efforts with qualitative research. Dr RT Patil, Director, CIPHET emphasized the need for collaboration on commercially-viable projects on post-harvest technologies. Progress in various disciplines were presented by the concerned leaders of each team. Centre-wise progress reports were thoroughly discussed. Dr ND Jambhale, ADG (Seeds), spoke on needs of seeds and quality for the farmers during plenary session. Dr Vithal Sharma, Sorghum Breeder, MPAUT, Udaipur coordinated the meeting. Dr. VR Bhagwat served as the nodal officer from NRCS. Soon copies of complete proceedings of this annual group meeting are being dispatched separately and e-copy will be placed at our website [www.nrcjowar.res.in](http://www.nrcjowar.res.in).

### Research projects coordination Committee (RMC) meeting

The Institutes Research Management Committee of NRCS was held on 11 April 07. The main agenda item was to discuss the plan

### समाचार सारांश

उदयपुर में वार्षिक ज्वार सामूहिक सभा : कृषि एवं प्रौद्योगिकी महाराणा प्रताप विश्वविद्यालय, उदयपुर में 5-7 अप्रैल 2007 के दौरान अखिल भारतीय समन्वित ज्वार उन्नयन परियोजना (एएसआईपी) की 37वीं वार्षिक ज्वार समूहिक सभा का आयोजन किया गया। इसका उद्घाटन विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति डॉ. एल.एस. मेहता ने किया। इस सभा में एएसआईपी के संस्थापक एच.आर.सी.एस. आई.ए.आर.आई. आई.सी.ए.आर. आई. क्रिडा, इण्डियन, निजी वीथल शर्मा तथा वीर-सर्वकार संगठनों से कुल 210 प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया।

अनुसंधान परियोजना समन्वय समिति (आर.एम.सी.) की बैठक : राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसंधान केंद्र की संस्थान अनुसंधान समिति की बैठक 31 अप्रैल 2007 को संभल गई।

वैज्ञानिक वार्षिक समीक्षा बैठक : संस्थान में कार्यरत प्रत्येक वैज्ञानिक द्वारा 2006-07 के दौरान अनुसंधान प्रगति की समीक्षा तथा वर्ष 2007-08 हेतु अस्थाई कार्य-योजना पर चर्चा हेतु 19-20 अप्रैल, 2007 के दौरान सभी वैज्ञानिकों की एक बैठक संभल गई।

वार्षिक सामूहिक सभा के दौरान महासम्मेलन का विभाजन : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की तीन पुस्तकें (1. पोषा फसलों अतिक उत्पत्ति बोझदार संवेष्टिता परिधान मरियु अन्नपु विशुक्त (सिद्ध) 2. नेशनल ग्राइड स्ट्रॉन फॉर द कंडक्ट ऑफ टेस्ट्स फॉर डिविडिंगनेस, बुनिफोरमिटी एंड स्टैबिलिटी ऑफ सोरघम तथा 3. फलनल टेक्नीकल रिपोर्ट ऑफ डी.एच.आई.सी. कंडेड इंडो - यू.के. फोसेसरेटिव प्रजेक्ट ऑन फलनल पार्तिफिनेट्री वेराइएटल सोसेसुन इन एबी सोरगम) का 5-7 अप्रैल 2007 के दौरान उदयपुर में आयोजित 37वीं वार्षिक ज्वार सामूहिक सभा में विभाजन किया गया।

### आगन्तुक :

80वें फोकार्ट ए.आर.एस. वैज्ञानिकों का दौरा : फोकार्ट के 80वें वर्ष के मा.कृ.अनु.प. में गए नहीं हुए 78 वैज्ञानिकों ने 30 अप्रैल 2007 को केंद्र का दौरा किया।

तकनीकी जानकारी हेतु फलनलरकों का दौरा : बायोप्रोसेसिंग तकनगर्य मोदी ज्वार के उपयोग की संभावनाओं पर विलुत चर्चा हेतु श्री जलिल अहमदसिया, एच.सी. नाइटेरिक डिविडररीय वि. तथा श्री जलिल मंडेक, फ्रान इंडस्ट्रियल वि. 12 अप्रैल 2007 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. आए।

कुचकों का दौरा : क्रिडा, संतोषनगर के दो मदधिकारियों के साथ रंघरेडों डिजे के संपेल्ल ग्राम के 12 कुचक 5 अप्रैल 07 को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. आए।

राष्ट्रीय स्तर की कृषि प्रदर्शनी में रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की सहभागिता : पंहरपुर में 11-15 अप्रैल 2007 के दौरान आयोजित राष्ट्रीय स्तर की प्रदर्शनी में रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें.के सोलापुर केंद्र से ज्वार वैज्ञानिकों ने इनने स्टाल के माध्यम से ज्वार क्रिस्कों के विकास, संसाधित आहार एवं औद्योगिक प्रदाओं का प्रदर्शन किया। संभव किसानों को सी.एस.पी. 20, एच.पी.वी.1616 (द्विचरेटिव क्रिस्) तथा सी.एच.एच.10(ग्रोन संकर)के बीज प्रतिदर्शों का वितरण किया गया।

दो ज्वार क्रिस्कों को मुक्त करने हेतु महामान : उदयपुर में वार्षिक ज्वार समूहिक सभा के दौरान 6 अप्रैल 2007 को क्रिस्म महामान समिति ने विभिन्न क्षेत्रों से संवेष्टित आठ क्रिस्कों पर विवेचनात्मक परीक्षा के परधान एच.पी.वी. 1826 (सी.एस.पी. 22) तथा एच.पी.वी. 1714 (सी.एस.पी. 23) को मुक्त करने हेतु उपसूचीका पाया।

तकनीकी स्टाफ की बैठक : संस्थान के तकनीकी स्टाफ की निदेशक के साथ एक बैठक 28 अप्रैल 2007 को संभल हुई।

डॉ.एस.इंदिरा को विदाई : संस्थान में विगत 39 वर्षों से कार्यरत डॉ.एस.इंदिरा, प्रधान के आिनक 30 अप्रैल 2007 को अतिथिगति पर सोलापुर गई।

स्वामिनरम : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. के सोलापुर स्थित एबी ज्वार केंद्र में तकनीकी अधिकारियों (टी-4) के रूप में कार्यरत श्री टी.जे. बालकृष्ण तथा श्री अरुण प्रताप सिंह का रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. के मुख्यलय, हैदराबाद में स्थानांतर किया गया।

पदोन्नति : श्री सी.नरसिमा, एच.एस.पी.-III, श्री श्रीराम.नरसिमा, एच.एस. पी.-II तथा श्री आई.एस.वीरसवार, एच.एस.पी.-I को अगले उच्च वेतनमान (एच.एस.पी.-IV, एच.एस.पी.-III तथा एच.एस.पी.-II) में पदोन्नत किया गया।

हिंदी सारासूत्र : डॉ. नरेंद्र कुमार

of action for XI plan, NRCS core projects and allocation of current budget for various activities. Director, NRCS, chaired this meeting and the committee members Dr S Audilakshmi, KBRS Visarada, B Dayakar Rao, VR Bhagwat, B Venkatesh Bhat, and M Elangovan participated in the deliberations. The minutes of group meeting will be posted at NRCS intranet. Minutes are already sent to Council.

### Scientists annual review meetings

All the institute staff met during 19-20 April 2007 to review the progress of the research for the period 2006-07 by each scientist



and the tentative work plan for the year 2007-08. Feedback received by each is expected to improve performance and the team work. Proceedings were sent to Council.

### Entrepreneurs visit for technical know-how

Mr Anil K Ahluwalia, MD, *Nigeria Distilleries Ltd.*, and Mr Anil Mandke, *Praj industries Ltd.*, visited NRCS on 12 April 07 to



*NRIs from Nigeria discussing about bio-ethanol production from sweet sorghum*

discuss in detail the prospects of using sweet sorghum for bioethanol production as the former is planning to set up ethanol distillery based on technology provided by M/s Praj industries, Pune. Mr. Ahluwalia requested the Director, NRCS to provide consultancy for preparing techno-economic feasibility of sweet sorghum for bioethanol production in India. Dr. CV Ratnavathi also participated in the deliberations and explained other alternate uses of sorghum. Dr B Dayakar Rao coordinated the meeting and is looking after the follow-up.

### NRCS at National Level Agriculture Exhibition

Sorghum scientists from Solapur campus of NRCS show cased cultivar development, and processed food and industrial products of Sorghum through our stall at the recently organized 'National-Level Agriculture Exhibition' at Pandharpur during 11-15 April, 2007 . The



*Farmers showing keen interest in newly developed high yielding sorghum hybrids and varieties*

objective of advertising the availability of certified hybrid seed (CSH 16) at CRS Solapur or NRCS Hyderabad was fulfilled through display of banners across certain vantage points in the Exhibition. Seed samples of CSV 20 SPV 1616 (dual purpose variety) and that of CSH 16 (grain hybrid) were distributed to the Interested farmers and web told about the advantages of ICAR bred cultivars. Names of farmers were recorded in a register including address & telephone numbers who wished to purchase sorghum seed for the forthcoming kharif and as well for rabi season in near future. There were few queries regarding sweet sorghum and polishing of grain which were addressed by the concerned staff at NRCS through mails as a follow-up action.

In future, such opportunities should be utilized to advertise what is practically feasible in terms of industrial products and processes related to popularization of sorghum. Free distribution of useful articles (calendar, desk top stationary) to advertise and spread of our contact numbers will be fruitful in the long run, if we want to compete to sell our seeds.

### Visitors

#### Farmers

Twelve farmers from Chevella village of Ranga Reddy District of AP, led by two officials of CRIDA, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad visited NRCS on 5 April 2007 as a part of their farmers training course. Dr. Ch. Sashidhar Reddy explained them about suitable improved kharif & Rabi sorghum and sweet sorghum cultivars seed availability & time of sowing along with their quality & yield parameters including cultivation practices by taking around NRCS experimental fields in new area.

#### 80th FOCARS ARS Scientists Visit

Seventy Eight newly recruited ARS scientists of ICAR belonging to 80<sup>th</sup> batch of the FOCARS visited NRCS on 30th April 2007. At the outset, Dr. N Seetharama, Director, gave a brief note on the profile of Institute and other projects including All-India Coordinated Sorghum Improvement Project. The scientists from various disciplines (agriculture, veterinary, engineering and social sciences) discussed with NRCS scientists and visited various laboratories. They were exposed to current activities and future plan of sorghum research at NRCS and to the inter dependence of all ICAR institutions. This visit was sponsored by the NAARM, Hyderabad. Dr. M Elangovan, Scientist (SS), coordinated this visit to NRCS.

#### Release of Publications during AGM 07

Three books from NRCS were released at the 37th annual sorghum group meeting, Udaipur during 5 -7 April; 2007. The books were released by the following dignitaries:



**1. Jonna pantalo adhika utpathiki thodpade sanketika parigananam mariyu adanapu viluvalu (Telugu)**  
(Production Technology for high yielding of sorghum crop and its alternative uses)

**Authors:** Drs. S Indira, SV Rao, SR Kumar, B Dayakar Rao, C Aruna, CV Ratnavathi, B Subbarayudu, N Kannababu & AV Umakanth.

**Released by:** Dr. IS Khairwal, Project Coordinator (Pearl Millet), AICPMIP, Jodhpur

**2. National guidelines for the conduct of tests for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability of sorghum**

**Authors:** Drs. N Kannababu, S Audilakshmi, M Elangovan, Vilas A Tonapi and N Seetharama

**Released by:** Dr SL Mehta, the Vice Chancellor, MPUA&T, Udaipur



**3. Final Technical Report of DFID funded Indo - UK collaborative project on farmer's participatory varietal selection in rabi sorghum**

**Authors:** Drs. Prabhakar, S Indira & N Seetharama

**Released by:** Dr. SN Shukla, Assistant Director General (FFC), ICAR, New Delhi.

## AICSIP NEWS

### Two sorghums identified for release

The Varietal Identification Committee meeting was held in the Department of Plant Breeding & Genetic Seminar Hall at Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur on 6th April, 2007 during the 37th Annual Sorghum Group Meeting. The members present were: Dr. SN Shukla, Assistant Director General (FFC), ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi; Dr. IS Khairwal, Project Coordinator (Pearl Millet), AICPMIP, Jodhpur; Dr. SR Maloo, Head, Dept. of Plant Breeding, MPUA&T; Dr. P Narayan Choudhary, Director, R&D, Vikkys Agri Sciences, Hyderabad (representing private sector); Dr. GC Batra, Area Manager, NSC, Jaipur; and Dr. N Seetharama, Director, NRCS, Hyderabad. The committee critically examined 8 proposals for different zones consisting of: Varieties: 2-rabi and 2 kharif; Hybrids: 1-rabi and 1 kharif; Forage sorghum-1; and Sweet sorghum – 1. The VIC after considerable deliberations identified following varieties:



**SPV 1626 (CSV 22):** Rabi variety developed at Rahuri (for sorghum growing areas of Maharashtra, Karnataka, AP and Gujarat) has distinct superiority in yield. It has good grain luster and also has grain quality on par with M 35-1

**SPV 1714 (CSV 23):** (A dual-purpose kharif hybrid Developed at Udaipur): The variety is superior for dry fodder yield which is more important for Zone-III. It also has distinct superiority for diseases like anthracnose and leaf spot and is superior in total digestible dry matter.



### Meeting with Technical staff

The meeting of technical staff with the Director was held on 28 April 2007, to discuss various issues including in-house training programmes for technical staff on basic computer skills, interdisciplinary cooperation, and principle for transfers across different campuses. Improvement of work standards and timeliness were also discussed. A total of 19 staff members participated during the deliberations. Dr. TGN Rao, coordinator, for work planning by technical staff, and Dr. Chari Appaji, organizer of computer training course also participated during the deliberations. The proceedings

### Announcement

A learning work shop cum training on the "Theory and practice of plant variety protection in India" is scheduled to be organized from 4-7 July, 2007 at NRCS. **Course fee:** 10,000/- (inclusive of training material, accommodation and food) payable by demand draft favouring ICAR Unit- NRCS.

**Last date for nomination:** 15 June, 2007.

**For further details contact:** Dr. VA Tonapi(tonapi@nrсорghum.res.in) / Dr. M Elangovan(elangovan@nrсорghum.res.in) or call: 9490036584 / 984871175

### Official tours

S. No	Name of the Official	Place visited	Dates	Purpose
1	N Seetharama	New Delhi	9 Apr, 07	Review of network project on biotechnology of forages.

of the meeting are posted at the NRCS intranet.

### Transfers

Sh. TJ Balakrishnan and Sh Arun Pratap Singh, both working as technical officers (T4) at Centre on Rabi Sorghum of NRCS at Solapur have been transferred to NRCS headquarters, Hyderabad.

### Promotions

Mr. C Narasimha, SSG III, Mr. Ch. Narasimha, SSG II and Mr. YS Kshirsagar SSG I have been promoted to the next higher scales (SSG IV, SSG III, and SSG II).

### Farewell to Dr Indira

Dr. S Indira, Principal Scientist, who has served for 39 years, superannuated on 30 April 07. During the farewell ceremony,



*Dr. S Indira being felicitated on her superannuation*

Director and staff recollected her dedicated services to the organization in various capacities. A memento from Staff Recreation Club was also presented by the Director. The staff wished her a happy and healthy retired life.

### Family News



Master **Harkirat Talwar**, son of Dr. HS Talwar, secured 432 /440 (state 2<sup>nd</sup> rank with 98.2 %) marks in the first year Intermediate examinations in Bi P C group, conducted by the AP Intermediate Board in March 2007. *Congratulations Harkirat !*

Master **Surya Tej**, son of Dr. CV Ratnavathi secured 458 / 470 (97.5 %) marks in the first year Intermediate examinations (MPC group) conducted by the AP Intermediate Board in March 2007. *Congratulations Surya Tej !*



**Dr. Aparna**, d/o Dr. N Seetharama obtained her medical practitioners license on April 18, 2007 for Karnataka Medical College, after completing internship at the South-Central Railway hospital, Secunderabad. *Congratulations Dr. Aparna!*



## Meeting (M)/ Workshop (W)/ Training (T) attended

S. No	Name of the official	Participated in	Type	Venue	Date
1	P. Mukesh & W Srinivasa Bhat	Training on " <i>E-procurement</i> "	T	ASCI, Hyderabad	9 -13 April, 07
2	N Seetharama, S Indira, S Audilashmi, TGN Rao, SS Rao, VR Bhagwat, Chari Appaji, V A Tonapi, B Dayakar Rao, CV Ratnavathi, M Elangovan, A Ashok Reddy, RS Raut, Prabhakar, A V Gadewar, D Gopala Krishna, KV Raghavendra Rao, OV Ramana, K Sanath Kumar & AV Rao	37 <sup>th</sup> Annual Sorghum Group meetings of AICSIP, Udaipur	W	MPUA&T, Udaipur	5 - 7 April, 07
3	A Annapurna	Learning programme on " <i>Isolation techniques and re-research attributes of PGPR</i> "	T	ICRISAT, Patancheru	9- 20 April, 07
4	N Seetharama	Central Varietal Recommendation Committee Meeting	M	NAARM, Hyderabad	16 April, 07
5	N Seetharama & CV Ratnavathi	DBT- NIN Brainstorming session on fortified foods	S	NIN, Hyderabad	17-18 April, 07
6	N Kannababu	The XXII Annual Group Meeting of National Seed Project (crops).	W	UAS. Dharwad	23-27 April, 07
7	S Indira, KV Raghavendra Rao, K Sanath Kumar & Mahesh Kumar	Training programme on " <i>Hindi administrative terminology</i> " organized by the Commission for Scientific Technical Terminology, New Delhi	T	NPPTI, Hyderabad	25-26 April, 07
8	N Seetharama, B Venkatesh Bhat, & D Balakrishna	BCIL- DBT sponsored workshop on " <i>Management of intellectual property rights in biotechnology</i> "	T	Begumpet, Hyderabad	26-27 April, 07

### Thought for the month

*"Abilities wither under fault-finding, blossom with encouragement."*

-- Donald A. Laird

**Printed Matter / Book Post**

To 



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