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Millet Research Alliance among Public and Private Institutions

A meeting on "Millet Research Alliance among public and private institutions" was at NRCS during 18-19 September 2004. Twenty two sorghum and pearl millet researchers from private institutions and about thirty



Delegates deliberating about the possible linkages among public and private institutions

from public institutions have participated in the meeting. Dr I.S. Khairwal, Coordinator, AICPMIP chaired the session. Dr R.K. Chowdhury, PC, BSP was the Special Guest, gave a presentation on the "Procedures and preparedness for DUS testing under PPV & FR Act 2001". There were separate group discussions among sorghum and pearl-millet groups.

In general the group agreed that developing a market for kharif sorghum is most important. Public institutions agreed to provide essential services like insect resistance screening for the private institutions. Both groups agreed to promote alternate uses of millets. Director, NRCS announced about the DUS training to be conducted at NRCS during January 18 & 19, 2005. Finally the group felt that private and public institutions should develop confidence in each other and grow

हिन्दी सप्ताह

राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसन्धान केन्द्र में ५६वे हिन्दी दिवस के सुअवसर पर सितंबर ०३ से लेकर १० तक हिन्दी सप्ताह मनाया गया, जिसके दौरान अनुवाद, वाद-विवाद, प्रश्नावली, श्रुत लेखन, देखिए और लिखिए, और चुटकुले आदि जैसे प्रतियोगिताएँ चलाए गए। सभी कर्मचारियों ने इसमें बड़ी उत्सुकता से भाग लिये।

हिन्दी दिवस समारोह

१४ सितंबर, २००४ के दिन राष्ट्रीय ज्वार अनुसन्धान केन्द्र में हिन्दी दिवस मनाया गया। कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. हरीश कुमार जो राजभाषा सलाहकार समिति के सदस्य थे, और कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता डॉ. इन्दिराजी, (प्रधान वैज्ञानिक) ने किया था। केन्द्र में हिन्दी दिवस समारोह का आमंत्रण पत्र और प्रतियोगिताओं के विजेताओं को पुरस्कार के साथ प्रमाण पत्र देने को प्रबंध प्रप्रथम किया गया। डॉ. इन्दिराजी ने एन.आर.सी.एस. में हिन्दी विकास तथा हिन्दी कार्यान्वयन की प्रतिवेदना की प्रस्तुती की। हिन्दी सप्ताह के दौरान रखे प्रतियोगिताओं के विजेताओं को डॉ. हरीश कुमारजी द्वारा पुरस्कार और प्रमाण पत्र से सम्मानित किया गया।

together. This meeting was organized by Dr S. Audilakshmi. Minutes are already distributed.

Training on "PGR Documentation and GIS Mapping"

The training was organized during 13 – 16 September in the afternoon session with the objectives of documentation of PGR and GIS mapping of PGR. This

training was organized for Dr Augustine B. Jerard, Scientist (SS), CPCRI as a part of three months on-job training on PGR Documentation by NBPGR (RS), Hyderabad. It was also participated by Sri Mukesh, Scientist (Computer), and Mr. Ravikumar, Senior Research Fellow, NRCS.

The trainees were briefed on documentation of passport data, evaluation data, status of medium-term storage and Sorghum germplasm GIS mapping, AICSIP centres mapping, and varieties adoption mapping. They were given the exercise on this area. MS – Excel, Access, DIVA – GIS software developed by International Potato Centre, Peru for diversity mapping. The training was coordinated by Dr M. Elangovan, Scientist (SS).

Training on “Advance features of MS-Office 2003, Outlook Express, Network Security and Retrieval System”

A Training programme on “Advance features of MS-Office 2003, Outlook Express and Network Security and Retrieval System” was organized between 9 – 16 September. This training was organized for the in-house staffs of the NRCS and participated by 7 scientists, 5 technical staffs, 7 administrative staffs, one staff each from audit & accounts and supporting staff. Two special participants from NBPGR and CPCRI also got benefited. The participants acquired knowledge in advanced features including mail merge, proof-reading, protection of files in MS Word, statistics, graphs in MS Excel, designing presentations and animations in MS Powerpoint, calendar, blocking mail, working with folders and marking the mail in Outlook Express and Network Security. The training was organized by Dr B. Dayakar Rao and Dr M. Elangovan in collaboration with CMC, Hyderabad.

Two-days Training On “Plant Genetic Resources Management”

This training was organized during 20-21st September 2004 on the occasion of “Year of Scientific Awareness – 2004”. It was conducted with the objectives on orientation on Plant Genetic Resources activities in India, the importance of collection, conservation,



Dr. K S Varapasad , Officer- in-charge, NBPGR, Hyderabad Regional Station, speaking on wealth of PGR in south coastal zone

evaluation, documentation and utilization of PGR, the

new technology and tools for the PGR Management and visit to the National and International institutes working on different crops. The training also covered the topics on, latest development on biotechnology, PGR in South Coastal Zone, Intellectual Property Rights in relation to PGR, Plant Microbial Resource Management, Plant quarantine, and Indian plant biodiversity. Total 29 participants, including 2 lecturers, and 18 Post-Graduate students from Madurai Kamaraj University, 1 scientist from ANGRAU, 2 PhD Scholars from SV College, Tirupati, 2 PhD scholars from ANGRAU, Hyderabad 2 Research associates, and 2 technical assistants from NRCS participated. Total 12 resource persons-6 are from NRCS, 4 from NBPGR and one each from DRR and ICRISAT were actively involved. This training programme was organized by Dr M. Elangovan, Scientist (SS).

Welcome: New Institute Management Committee:

The Institute Management Committee for NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad has been reconstituted for a period of three years effect from 5.8.03 to 04.08.07 (vide letter -F. No.16-1/04-IA.IV dt. 31.08.04) with the following members:

Dr. P. Narayana Choudhary, Addl. Director of Agriculture, Commissionerate of Agriculture, Hyderabad ; Dr. I.V. Subba Rao, Former VC, ANGRAU, Hyderabad; Dr. A. Padmaraju, Director of Research, ANGRAU, Hyderabad, Sh. Govind Pawar, Krishi Bhavan, Umargaon, Maharashtra; V.Mohan Rao, Yacharam village, RR Dist, AP ; FAO – NAARM, Hyderabad – as members and Administrative Officer, NRCS as Member Secretary, Director, NRC sorghum – as Chairman.

Field day at NRCS

All Scientists of NRCS actively participated in the field day and demonstrations during 25 and 27 September 2004 at GTC and New area farms of NRCS involving



Scientists keenly observing the shootbug infested plant .

Agronomy, Breeding, Germplasm, Pathology, Sweet sorghum trials. Director and all colleagues reviewed the progress made by each discipline, and suggested measures to improve research and data analysis.

Travel

S.No	Name of the Scientist	Place visited	Dates	Purpose
1	PK Biswas CV Ratnavathi, S Ravi kumar	Godavari Sugars Limited, Sakarwadi, Maharashtra	8-10 Sept 04	To visit large scale staggered plantings of sweet sorghum varieties at Sakarwadi and to discuss about the performance of the crop and further processing.
2	S Audilakshmi	Parbhani	20 - 24 Sept 04	To observe trial run of large scale community drier
		Dharwad	26-28 Sept 04	AICSIP Monitoring team visit
3	Vilas Tonapi	TNAU, Coimbatore	21-23 Sept 04	To conduct Viva-voce of PhD student
4	S Ravi kumar, Chari Appaji	Karkalpahad,	21 Sept 04	To create scientific awareness on sorghum cultivation a Field day was organized at Karkalpahad Mahaboobnagar District to the students of Govt. High School, Muchcherla, Ranaga Reddy Dist.
5	N Seetharama	Mauranipur	15 Sept 04	Visited all field trails and discussed important aspects of organization of AICSIP work
		Puna and Dharwad	23 Sept 04	To monitor the activity of the Centre
		New Delhi	28 Sept 04	DUS Project
6	Chari Appaji Ashok Reddy	Warangal	24 Sept 04	Visit to farmers field under FLD programme
7	Chari Appaji	Kalvakurthi	21 Sept 04	To Identify farmers for seed production
		Nalgonda	25 Sept 04	To identify farmers for seed production of CSV 15.
8	Ch. Sashidhar Reddy	Adilabad	25 – 29 Sept 04	To conduct farmers field day at Bhoruj village.

Meetings/ Symposia/ Conference/Trainings attended

S.No	Name of the Official	Participated in	Venue	Date
1	N Seetharama	IMC meeting	IGFRI, Jhansi	14 Sept. 2004
2	CV Rathnavathi, B Dayakar Rao, PK Biswas and N Seetharama	'International conference on Bio-fuels – Perspectives & Prospects' to co-organize a session on use of sweet sorghums	Winrock International Ltd., New Delhi	16-17 Sept. 2004.
3	SS Rao	Refresher course on INFOCROP Crop Model and validated INFOCROP sorghum module using crop data sets generated at NRCS.	Division of Environmental Sciences, IARI, New Delhi.	6 -10 Sept 2004.
3	K Sanath Kumar	Training programme on " Behavioral skills"	ISTM, New Delhi	27 Sept -1 Oct 2004.

Scientific awareness day at Karkalpad

NRCS in collaboration with CRIDA, Hyderabad conducted a scientific awareness camp for the school students of Class IX of Government Upper Primary School and showed sorghum field at Karkalpad, Mahoobnagar Dist. They were given a lecture on (i) Concepts of experimentation; (ii) Hands on training on sample and record observations (iii) Crop improvement, tissue culture biotechnology; (iv) Computers and IT related applications. This programme was undertaken to mark the occasion of "Year of Scientific Awareness". Despite the rural background, the children reflected good zeal and interest in the programme. Dr. S Ravi Kumar (Senior Scientist) organized this programme and Mr. P Prakash (TA) and SRFs Sh. V Ravi Kumar and Sh. Pashupathinath assisted him.

Meeting with Advanta Group

A meeting was held on 28 September, between NRCS scientists and officials from Advanta India Ltd,



Discussions with delegates from Advanta group

Bangalore. The team members from Advanta, including Mr. Niel Muller from Australia discussed about the sorghum production scenario, on going experiments on genetic enhancement and gaining importance of alternate uses of sorghum as bio-fuel and poultry feed. Director briefed them about the recent developments at research front. The team also visited the various experimental fields. The visitors narrated the priorities for sorghum research and development in Asian Pacific as perceived by them.

Publication

P. Mukesh: A research article entitled "Online query and retrieval information system (QRINFOS) for All India Coordinated Sorghum Research Improvement Project (AICSIP) database" has been published in the ARIS News letter, Volume 7. No.1, Jan-Jun, 2004, ICAR, New Delhi.

Promotion

Based on the recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee, Shri. D. Balakrishna, Scientist has been promoted to Scientist Sr. Scale grade.

Visitors

15 Sept 2004: About 40 Farmers and Para extension trainees from Shri Arbindo KVK, Gaddipalli village of Nalgonda dist. Visited NRCS.

A total of 30 Farmers from Chennur Mandal of Adilabad district visited NRCS. This team led by the Agricultural Development Officer, Adilabad District.

22 Sept 2004: A total of 40 Farmers and Members of Water users association from Yacharam village of RR dist. Visited NRCS.

Family News

Smt. K Lakshamma, SSG II, performed the marriage of her daughter Ms. Hanna Subhashini with Mr. John on 30 Sept. Many staff members attended the marriage and blessed the couple for a happy married life.

AICSIP News

Sorghum situation in the region

Deesa: Crop is suffering due to shortage of moisture. Irrigation started wherever facilities are available.

Udaipur: Dry spell is prevailing. However crop is satisfactory.

Surat: Sorghum cultivation during kharif was badly affected by heavy and continuous rainfall. Rabi area is less; however, sowings will be done in Sept. and October.

Pest situation

Deesa: Stemborer infested in Entomology experiments.

Udaipur: Infestation of kharif grass hopper (Phadka) and stemborer were observed.

Dharwad: Heavy shootfly infestation, out break of stemborer – *Chilo partellus*, moderate incidence of aphids, slight incidence of shootbug – a vector of stripe virus. Armyworm and stemborer damage in breeding trials was controlled after application of poison bait and carbofuran. Pathology trials have been affected by severe shootfly attack.

Surat: Moderate to heavy shootfly incidence was observed. Aphid and mite infestation is also started in early sown breeding trials.

Thought for the month

Nobody on this earth can teach anybody anything, but can help create an environment, where learning starts taking place.

Galileo

Compilation & lay-out by:

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

Edited and published by:

Dr. N Seetharama
Director, National Research Centre for Sorghum (NRCS),
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad 500 030 (AP).
Website: www.nrcsorghum.res.in