



# CTRI News

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CENTRAL TOBACCO RESEARCH INSTITUTE, RAJAHMUNDRY-533 105, A.P.

## From the Director's Desk

World FCV tobacco production in 2012 is projected to increase marginally by 2.13% to 4596 M kg from 4500 M kg during 2011. However, Indian FCV tobacco production is projected to decrease by 6.47% from 278 M kg to 260 M kg during 2011. The 'decline' was mainly because of incessant rains that caused production of more low grade leaf in Andhra Pradesh, except in NLS region. Auctions in Karnataka concluded on 10<sup>th</sup> April with a marketed quantity of 104.29 M kg. In Andhra Pradesh, the estimated crop will be about 160 M kg with good quality leaf except in first two harvests.

The average prices realized by growers in AP during 2012, were lower in all soil regions except in NLS and SLS, than the prices during 2011.

In Andhra Pradesh, 163.29 M kg FCV tobacco was marketed, as against the authorized quantity of 161.43 M kg at an average price of ₹ 84.77 per kg. In Karnataka, FCV auctions for the season 2012-13 have commenced and as on 30.09.2012, 4.13 lakh kg tobacco marketed with an average price of ₹ 128.38.

In order to review the results of the research projects conducted during 2011-12 and finalize the technical programme for 2012-13, Institute Research Council (IRC) Meetings of CTRI were conducted during 25-27<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

After reviewing the on-going research projects, the IRC, 2012 has finalised the technical programme for 2012-13 season.

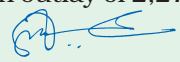


IRC also gave approval for 18 sub-projects.

During the IRC meeting, a "stake-holders meeting" was also organised on 25<sup>th</sup> July for identifying problems in tobacco cultivation. The meeting was attended by Scientists of CTRI and its Research Stations, Tobacco Board officials, representatives of industry besides tobacco growers. The participants brought various issues related to tobacco cultivation that needs further research.

The knowledge meet involving ICAR Institutes and Vice-Chancellors of Agricultural Universities was held on 21-22 August, 2012 at New Delhi. The meet deliberated upon the research needs to meet the new challenges, to envision the opportunities for harnessing the technological revolution happening globally and collectively developing a road map for long-term.

CTRI has prepared XII Plan EFC document in tune with the deliberations of the knowledge meet with the plan outlay of 2,277 lakhs.

  
(T.G.K. MURTHY)

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Hybrids, TBSH-75, TBSH-91 and TBSH-81 were found promising with standard heterosis of 29-34% for cured leaf over Siri.
- Low tar line JS-117 recorded low tar content (21 mg/cigarette) than the control, Kanchan (23 mg/cigarette)
- Tray seedlings showed significant improvement in yield with minimum gap fillings, rapid growth and good establishment compared to nursery seedlings in traditional black soils.
- Out of four DNA bar coding primers tested, one primer found to differentiate CMS lines and their fertile counter parts.
- Sequence analysis of the amplified fragments of ITS region of twenty isolates of damping-off disease causative agents isolated from infected tobacco nursery fields revealed that majority of the pathogens belong to *Pythium aphanidermatum* and a very few to *P. myriotylum*.
- Application of *Paecilomyces lilacinus* @ 30g/sq.m caused 52% reduction in RKI and 53.2% increase in healthy transplants count.
- Application of *Trichoderma viride* @ 20g/sq.m + *T.viride*(1%) drench at 25 DAS significantly reduced damping off, blight and black shank to the tune of 62.1, 66.2 and 58.5%, respectively over check. Subsequently increase in healthy transplants count was 56.1% over check.

## IRC MEETINGS

The Institute Research Committee (IRC) meetings were held at CTRI, Rajahmundry from 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> July 2012. Dr. K. Nagarajan, Director (Retd.), CTRI was the Chief Guest, who inaugurated the meeting by lighting the lamp. Dr. C. Chandrasekhara Rao, Head, Crop Production and Secretary, IRC welcomed the dignitaries and delegates. Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Acting Director and Chairman, IRC delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Murthy requested the scientists, industry and farmers to participate actively in the meetings and give suggestions to improve the research programmes which will be useful to the farmers. He advised the scientists to concentrate more on problem oriented research. While reviewing the price situation of tobacco, he requested the trade to consider giving remunerative price so as to encourage the farmers to continue the cultivation of exportable tobacco. The Chairman informed that all the research projects of the Institute were consolidated and kept



under five broad programmes. Over 100 sub-projects are on-going while 21 new projects would be presented in IRC meetings.

Dr. Nagarajan expressed deep concern over migration of youth from villages to the cities and its overall impact on agriculture. He also spoke on climate change and its effects on agriculture.

Dr. R. Lakshminarayana, Former Project Co-ordinator, AICRP(T), Dr. K. Deo Singh, Former Director, CTRI, Dr. K. Nagarajan, Former Director, CTRI, Dr. B.V. Ramakrishnayya, Former Head, Division of Crop Chemistry and Soil Science, Dr. R. Veera Ragavaiah, Associate Dean, Agricultural College, Rajahmundry and Dr. G. Raghavaiah, Professor and Head, Department of Entomology, Agricultural College, Bapatla chaired / co-chaired different technical sessions and gave valuable suggestions for fine tuning the institute research programmes. Several retired scientists of CTRI, officials of Tobacco Board and Representatives of tobacco trade participated in the meetings.

The Scientists of CTRI and its Research Stations presented the progress of research work carried out during 2011-12 season. The technical program for the crop season 2012-13 was thoroughly discussed and finalized.

## HINDI FORTNIGHT CELEBRATIONS

Hindi Fortnight was celebrated at CTRI, Rajahmundry during 14-29 September, 2012. Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Acting Director inaugurated the celebrations. Staff of CTRI participated in

various competitions held during the Fortnight. In the valedictory function organized on 29<sup>th</sup> September, prizes were distributed to the participants and winners in various events.

## VII GROUP MEETING, AINRPT

The VII Group Meeting of AINRP(T) was held at CTRI, Rajahmundry during 8-9<sup>th</sup> July, 2012. All the scientists from CTRI, CTRI Research Stations and SAU centres participated in the meeting. Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, ADG(CC), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. R. Lakshminarayana, Former Project Co-ordinator, AICRP(T), Dr. B.V. Ramakrishnayya, Former Head, Crop Chemistry and Soil Science, CTRI, Dr. V.R. Rao, Former Head, Crop Production, CRRI, Cuttack, Dr. K.V. Ramana, Former ADG(Hort. Crops), ICAR and Sri S. Sitaramaiah, Former Head, Crop Protection, CTRI chaired different sessions of the meeting and advised the scientists on various research issues. Representatives from trade and other delegates from all over India also participated in the event. The results of the AINRP(T) experiments conducted during 2011-12 were discussed and the technical programme for 2012-13 was finalized.



A total of 134 experiments were approved for 2012-13 season. The pipeline variety FCH 222 was identified for release by the Variety Release Committee.

## STAKE-HOLDERS MEETING

A meeting of the tobacco stake-holders was held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 11.30 AM. The meeting was attended by scientists from CTRI and its sub-stations, representatives of industry, Tobacco Board officials and farmers.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Dr. T.G.K. Murthy hoisted the National Flag on the eve of 66<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on 15.08.2012. Director exhorted all the staff to rededicate themselves to the duty without any fear or favour so as to take the Institute to the greater heights. On this occasion, the Tobacco Institute Club of CTRI organized the cultural programmes. The meritorious children of the employees who secured the highest marks in SSC and Intermediate were awarded medals and certificates under the ICAR Welfare Fund Scheme and CTRI Employees Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., Rajahmundry.



### PMEC Visit

The CTRI Project Monitoring and Evaluation Committee visited CTRI Research Station, Hunsur and AINRPT Centre at Shimoga during September 21-23, 2012 to monitor the progress of research work being carried out under the Institute and AINRPT projects and also to survey the FCV tobacco growing areas in KLS.

## TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

### RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- ✱ Ramesh, K., D. Damodar Reddy, Asish Kumar Biswas and A. Subba Rao. 2011. Zeolites and their potential uses in Agriculture. *Advances in Agronomy* 113: 215-36.
- ✱ Ravisankar, H., K. Sarala and T.G.K. Murthy. 2012. Knowledge based system for rainfed natu tobacco germplasm (*Nicotiana tabacum*). *Indian J. Agrl. Sci.* 82(8):54-7.
- ✱ Sivaraju, K. and H. Ravisankar. 2012. Flue-curing technology in India tobacco. *Swarna Sedyam* 15(10):50-3.
- ✱ Suman Kalyani, K., T.G.K. Murthy and H. Ravisankar. 2012. Importance of minor millets in agriculture. *Annadata* 44(8):58-60.
- ✱ Suman Kalyani, K., T.G.K. Murthy and H. Ravisankar. 2012. Indigenous technical knowledge in tobacco. *Swarna Sedyam* 15(9):42.
- ✱ Suman Kalyani, K., S.K. Naidu, S. Nageswara Rao and N. Aruna Kumari. 2012. Changing socio-economic scenario of FCV tobacco farmers in NLS area of Andhra Pradesh. *Agric. Sci. Digest* 32(1):58-60.

### CONFERENCES/ TRAININGS/ WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- Dr. C.C.S. Rao Head, Division of Crop Production and Dr. D.D. Reddy, Head, Division of Crop Chem. & Soil Science attended the training programme on "MDP in Agriculture Research" at NAARM, Hyderabad during 2-8 July, 2012.
- Dr. U. Sreedhar, Head, Division of Crop Protection attended the training programme to deliver a guest lecture on storage pests at Rampachodavaram on 14.9.2012.
- Dr. K. Sarala, Principal Scientist and Dr. H. Ravisankar, Senior Scientist attended the

International Conference on "Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences" at Hyderabad on 15.9.2012.

- Dr. C. Chandrasekhara Rao, Head, Division of Crop Production attended the 74<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Registration Committee for Growers at Tobacco Board, Guntur on 13.9.2012.
- Dr. D.D. Reddy, Head, Division of Crop Chem. & Soil Science attended the "Meeting of Technical Specification Committee, Min. of Health & Family Welfare" at New Delhi on 17.09.2012.
- Dr. K. Prabhakara Rao, Scientist attended the Workshop cum training on "Computational Genome Analysis Techniques in discovery of Agronomically Important Crop Genes" at New Delhi during 24-29 September, 2012.
- Dr. R.K. Ghosh, Scientist attended the training workshop on "Scientific Report Writing and Presentation" at NAARM, Hyderabad during 25-28 September, 2012.
- Dr. C. Chandrasekhara Rao, Head, Division of Crop Production attended the International Workshop on "Understanding Water-Energy-GHG Nexus for Future Water and Food Security" at New Delhi during 27-28 September, 2012.

## PERSONALIA

### RETIREMENT

- Sri S.K. Naidu, Principal Scientist, CTRI, Rajahmundry retired from the Council's service on 31.08.2012.
- Sri M. Sankara Rao, SSS, CTRI, Rajahmundry retired from the Council's service on 30.09.2012.
- Sri Sukumar Sarkar, SSS, CTRI RS, Dinhatata retired from the Council's service on 30.09.2012.

## KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

### Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting (SAC 2012 – Rabi)

SAC-KVK meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 under the chairmanship of Dr.T.G.K.Murthy. Dr. M. Bharatha Lakshmi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Maruteru, Dr. P.Praveena, Coordinator, DAATT Centre, Kakinada, Sri A.Durgesh, Assistant Director of Horticulture, Rajahmundry, Dr.Ramakoteswara Rao, Assistant Director (Animal Husbandry), Heads of Divisions, CTRI, progressive farmers, NGOs and other officials from line departments participated in the meeting. The SAC reviewed the work done during Rabi 2011-12, activities going on during Kharif 2012 and action plan for Rabi 2012-13. Dr.V.S.G.R. Naidu, Programme Coordinator, KVK and Member-Secretary highlighted the activities of KVK. Discipline-wise activities were presented by the Subject Matter Specialists. Several suggestions were given by experts for effective implementation of the mandate.

### DLCC Meeting

Programme Coordinator participated in District level Coordination meeting at DAATT Centre, Kakinada on 09.08.2012 and reviewed the activities of DAATT Centre.

### Mass Rodent Management Programme

Mass Rodent Management Programme was conducted in two villages viz., Kalavacharla and East Gonagudem on 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 in collaboration with State Department of Agriculture, Rajahmundry. Rodent control bait (Bromodiolin + broken rice + oil) was distributed to farmers and

application was demonstrated in 600 ha.

### ZREAC (Rabi) 2012

Programme Coordinator and SMSs participated in ZREAC (Rabi) 2012 held during 21-22 Aug., 2012 at Zilla Parishad, Kakinada. Programme Coordinator presented the activities of KVK.

### ATMA Programme

SMS (Plant Protection) and SMS (Home Science) participated in 'Plant Protection and Value Addition to Rice' programme organised by ATMA, East Godavari on 25.08.2012 at Pasupalli Village, Ambajipet Mandal. About 50 farm women and 70 farmers participated in the programme.

### Farm Activities

- Rice sowing methods viz., seeding with 5 drum seeder and 4 drum seeder, direct seeding and SRI Transplanting method demonstration plots were maintained at KVK instructional farm, Kalavacharla.
- Demonstration of improved rice varieties viz., 7029, 5204, Improved Samba, JGL-11470, JGL-17004 and Mugad Siri was completed.
- Seed of MTU-3626 and MTU-1010 varieties was produced at KVK farm.
- Crop cafeteria with Ragi, black gram, green gram, red gram and groundnut was maintained.
- Tapioca varieties, H-165, C.I.649 and M-4 were transplanted for seed production purpose.
- Vegetable cafeteria with okra, Dolichos beans, cowpea and leafy vegetables has been maintained.

- Banana block with KC Keli, TC Keli, Amritpani, Yangambi, Dwarf Cavandish and Kovvur Bontha has been maintained.
- Cashew and mango nursery has been developed for undertaking grafting work with improved varieties.
- A cashew demonstration block with High Density Planting system has been maintained.
- Protray vegetable seedlings (brinjal, tomato and chillies) were produced and sold to the needy farmers.
- Improved Samba rice variety was distributed for 100 acres.

### EXHIBITION

KVK exhibits were displayed in the exhibition arranged at Gandhinagar Gujarat during 3-4 September, 2012. Two women entrepreneurs identified by CTRI KVK who established Coir and Leaf Cup making units were awarded by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat State.



KVK beneficiaries Awarded by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat



KVK exhibition stall at Gandhinagar, Gujarat

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