From the Director's Desk

During this quarter, CTRI was busily involved in conducting IRC, IMC and IJSC meetings along with Hindi fortnight celebrations.

During the IRC meetings, 78 research projects under different disciplines were thoroughly discussed. Also 16 new projects were thoroughly discussed and approved. Significant research achievements are: FCV breeding lines viz., TBST-2, JS-117, Tobios-2, Tobios-6, Tobios-7, NM and NLCR-10 and chewing tobacco lines HV.2011-2 and HV.2011-1 were found superior to controls for leaf yield and quality in bulk trails. A total of 1992 germplasm lines comprising 511 Flue-cured Virginia, 880 non-FCV lines and 601 elite lines were maintained. Use of tray seedlings reduced the gap fillings up to 6% and increased the yields by 3-19%. Cured leaf yield of chewing tobacco was increased by 8% with drip fertigation at 100% RDN over the furrow irrigation. Two post-emergence sprays of Quizalofop-ethyl were found to be useful in integrated weed management in irrigated alfisols. Coir waste briquettes alone or in combination with saw dust briquettes could be successfully used for curing FCV tobacco. It has a significant role in reducing cost of wood/coal for curing. Insecticide baits prepared with emamectin benzoate, novaluron and lufenuron were found to be effective and economical in controlling tobacco caterpillar. Chlorfenapyr 10 SC @ 0.01% and metaflumizone 22 SC @ 0.04% were found effective against S. littura in tobacco nurseries and planted crop. New insecticides viz., fonicamid 50 WG, pymetrozine 50 WG and spiracetramet + imidacloprid 240 SC @ 0.018% effectively controlled tobacco aphid. A GC-MS-Single quadrupole quantifier-qualifier (m/z) ions-based method has been developed for determination of multipesticide residues in tobacco. The scientist - trade interface meeting conducted during IRC thoroughly discussed different issues related to tobacco research and trade.

In the IJSC meeting conducted at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 30th July, 2013 various issues related to staff welfare were discussed. The IMC meeting conducted on 6th August, 2013 discussed about management aspects of the Institute.

The Institute staff members actively participated in various events conducted during the Hindi fortnight celebrations. In the plenary session conducted on 30.9.2013, the staff were urged to use Hindi language in the day to day official activities.

(T.G.K. MURTHY)
TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

PUBLICATIONS


Popular Articles


CONFERENCES/TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS ATTENDED


+ Dr. D.V. Subhashini, Dr. A.V.S.R. Swamy and Dr. S. Kasturi Krishna. Principal Scientists attended the training programme on Leadership Development (a pre-RMP Programme from 26 August - 6 September, 2013.

RADIO TALKS

AIR, Vijayawada

- Improving the nutritional value of everyday use materials (in Telugu) by Smt. V.V. Lakshmi Kumari, SMS on 07.07.2013.


AIR, Visakhapatnam


- Coconut fibre industry as self employment generation programme for rural women (in Telugu) by R. Sudhakar, SMS on 18.08.2013.

AIR, Madurai

- Head and Technical Officers of CTRI RS, Vedasandur participated in the AIR, Madurai recording programme on 11.09.2013 and explained about the research activities and package of practices for tobacco cultivation.

Dr. P. Venkateswarlu, Principal Scientist & Head 1/c, CTRI Research Station, Guntur attended the 77th Meeting of the Registration Committee for Growers at Tobacco Board, Guntur on 14th August, 2013.
INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Director-Acting hoisted the National Flag on the eve of 67th Independence Day on 15th August, 2013. He requested 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. 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. The Co-operative members who qualified 10th class in 2013 public examinations also felicitated on this occasion.

HINDI FORTNIGHT CELEBRATIONS

Hindi Fortnight Celebrations were organized at the Institute from 16.09.2013 to 30.09.2013. In this connection, Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Director-Acting, CTRI appealed to all the officers and staff to learn and use Hindi in day-to-day official correspondence. Officers/Staff of CTRI have participated in various events/competitions held during the Hindi Fortnight. Prizes were distributed to all the winners in the Valedictory Function organized on 30.09.2013. Sri S. Ravichandra Rao, Hindi Pradhyapak, members of the official language implementation committee and committee constituted for conducting the Hindi fortnight celebrations were actively involved in the successful conduct of the fortnight.

Training programmes

Training programmes were conducted on millet based food processing (10.07.2013), entrepreneurship development (07.8.2013), backyard poultry management (12.08.2013), improved agricultural implements (31.08.2013) and soya milk products (20.09.2013 & 21.09.2013) for SHGs of tribal villages in Rampachodavaram and Maredumilli mandals.

IMC MEETING

47th Institute Management Committee meeting was held on 6th August, 2013 at the Institute. The IMC adopted the proceedings of the previous IMC. IMC was appraised about the research highlights of CTRI, AINRPT and KVK for the year 2012-13, annual plan (BE 2013-14) and non-plan (2013-14) as communicated by ICAR and staff position. Considered the list of items to be procured during 2013-14 and recognition of superspeciality hospitals for treatment of staff members.

VISITORS

Seven Executive trainees and fifteen Managerial trainees from ITC Ltd.-ABD-ILTD, Rajahmundry visited CTRI on 01.07.2013 and 27.08.2013, respectively. The trainees were briefed about CTRI activities & programmes.

SCIENTIST – TRADE INTERFACE

A Scientist – Trade Interface was organised on 1st August, 2013 at CTRI, Rajahmundry. Scientists of CTRI and its research stations, trade representatives participated in the interface. Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Director-Acting emphasised the need to reorient research priorities in view of changing international preferences, product integrity and pesticide residue issues. Dr. M. Mani, Chief Scientist, M/s. ITC Ltd – ABD- ILTD emphasised on specific action plan to bring down pesticide residues in tobacco, conditions of storage of burley tobacco to bring down the TSNA levels, evolving varieties with low levels of harmful and high proportion of good grades. Micro-zone specific agronomic recommendations, shortening of procedure for variety release, etc.

Dr. M. Prabhakara Rao of GPI shared his views on the global tobacco scenario. He said with the downward trend in production in countries like Brazil, Zimbabwe and Tanzania, tobacco appears to be a choice crop ensuring good net returns. He said there is a good demand for NLS and KLS tobacco and there is a good scope for burley of Vinukonda area. He felt the need for a high yielding variety to improve productivity of SLS. He said the customers demand a Nicotine level of around 3% in light soil burley.

Mr. P. Guravaiah, Agronomist, Alliance One Tobacco Ltd., Guntur felt the need to enhance the productivity, reduce cost of cultivation and address environmental issues and also residues of CPAs. This was followed by the address of Mr. Suresh from VST, Guntur.
KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

Village Adoption Programme by NIFTEM students

Nine students of National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship (NIFTEM), Delhi visited KVK along with their Course Co-ordinator to conduct village adoption programme as a part of their course work from 01-07-2013 to 10-07-2013.

Capacity Building training programme

Two capacity building programmes on water use efficiency were conducted to the members of water users association at Dhawaleswaram.

 Participation in the activities of KVK, Kandukur

A team of KVK, Kalavacharla visited KVK, Kandukur on 11-07-13 & 12-07-13. The team visited and interacted with the farmers of three villages i.e., Mahadevapuram, Oguru, Machavaram. They also conducted awareness programmes on improved fodder technologies, milch animal management, improved backyard poultry, production technologies for higher yields in Mango, Cashew and vegetables. A total of 250 farmers and farm women participated in the programme.

Agri. Tech refinement programme by ATMA, E.G.Dist.

Under Agri. Tech refinement programme funded by ATMA, E.G.Dist. two Palmyrah fibre extraction machines were supplied to SHG group (10 ST women) in Tatiwada village on 19-09-2013. Dist. Collector, Smt. Neethu Prasad, IAS, Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Director-Acting, CTRI, P. Nagarani, PO, ITDA and other officials were graced the occasion. A total of 150 tribal farmers, farm women participated in the programme.

Vocational Training Programmes

+ Five weeks duration on-campus training programme on Sisal fibre production and its value addition by different decorative articles was conducted for 10 rural youth of Kalavacharla during 29.7.2013 to 03.03.2013.

+ Two months duration vocational training programme on Garment making at Kandikoppa village of Katranikona mandal is in progress. Fifty five rural girls in two batches are under going the skill training during 04.09.2013 to 03.11.2013.

Best ICAR publication Award

Dr. V.S.G.R. Naidu, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK has been conferred with the Rajendra Prasad Puraskar award for the technical publication in Hindi on “Medicinal Importance of Weeds” for the year 2012 by ICAR during its 85th Foundation Day Celebrations held at New Delhi on 16th July 2013.

INTER-INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFERS

- Dr. Satyajit Roy, Pr. Scientist, CTRI Research Station, Dinhata was transferred to CPRI Research Station, Gwallor on 22.7.2013.

- Dr. K. Suryanarayana, SSS, CTRI, Rajahmundry retired from the Council’s service on 31.07.2013.

PERSONALIA

RETIREMENT

- Smt. Uthipalli Kondamma, SSS, CTRI Research Station, Kandukur took voluntary retirement from Council’s Service on 01.07.2013.


INTER-INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFERS

- Dr. (Smt.) Anita Kumari, Scientist, CTRI, Rajahmundry was transferred to IGFRI, Jhansi on 24.08.2013.

IJSC MEETING

The 3rd meeting of 12th Institute Joint Staff Council was conducted at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 30.07.2013. Various issues related to staff welfare were discussed in the meeting.

FIELD DAY on rice transplantation

Rice transplantation with mechanical rice transplanter was demonstrated in the farmers field at Gandepalli village on 7.8.2013, JDA, East Godavari and Co-ordinator, DAAT Centre also participated in the meeting.