National Research Centre on Seed Spices

Tabiji, Ajmer-305206, Rajasthan

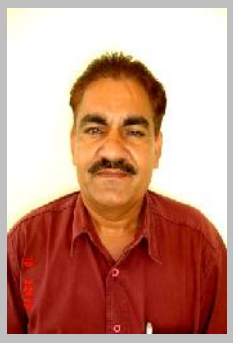
E-NEWS LETTER

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Directors' Message



Dear all

This news letter witnessed the Research Advisory Committee meeting of the NRCSS. The RAC has critically gone through the research agenda of the centre and has come up with important suggestions for improving the research programme.

. The AICRP Centres (Guntur, Kumarganj, Pantnagar, Dholi, Jobner and Ajmer for on spot evaluation of the performance of the entries in the CVTs in all the four seed spices have been visited by me during April 18 to April 23, 2012.

Mr. T. Vashishtha has completed M.Sc. thesis work at NRCSS. His topic of research was "Effect of different organic modules on growth yield and quality of coriander". I and Dr. R. S. Mehta visited the MJRP University, Jaipur on March 23, 2012 for his oral examination.

Annual Workshop of NAIP (Component-2) "Production to Consumption: A Value Chain Approach" held at NDRI, Kernal on 26-27, 2012. Dr. R. S. Mehta presented the annual progress report of the NAIP sub project "Value Chain in Major Seed Spices for Domestic and Export Promotion".

A case study on fennel and ajwain at Bhadal (Jaipur) and Jaisalmer respectively has been done by our scientists.

I attended meeting of Rajasthan Farmers Commission, Government of Rajasthan held at MPUAT, Udaipur on April 11, 2012 for the benefit of the farmers and also organized field day under NHM project on "Dissemination of seed spices production technology through trainings and front line demonstrations, workshop and seminars".

Dr O.P. Aishwath, Sr. Scientist (Soil Science) had undergone for a training on 'Predicting Soil Carbon Sequestration in view of Global Warming and Climate Change' from 24.02.2012 to 08.03.2012

National Krishi Vigyan Mela-2012 held on 1-3 March at IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. Dr. R. S. Mehta Sr. Scientist (Agronomy), Mr. M. A. Khan, Technical Officer and Sh. Pramod Agarwal, T-1 had participated and exhibited the technologies and varieties developed by NRCSS in the mela.

With best regards

Research Advisory Committee Meeting

On 14th April, 2012, X Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. A. Parthasarathy, Former Director IISR Calicut. The meeting was attended by Dr. A. K. Srivastava, Member, Dr. Gopal Lal, Member, and Dr. Rajesh Kumar Kakani, Member Secretary and three special invitees namely Dr G. R. Choudhary, Former Professor (Agronomy), ARS, Durgapur, Dr. B. R. Cheepa, Former Dean, SKN College of Agriculture, Jobner and Dr. Ashok Sharma, Head (Entomology), SKN College of Agriculture, Jobner and all the Scientists and Technical officers of NRCSS, Ajmer. All the members of RAC have taken a round of the Research Farm of NRCSS and interacted to scientists with respect to their experiments. After the farm visit, a meeting was held in the conference hall of the centre. Dr. Gopal Lal, Director (Acting), NRCSS welcomed the Chairman, members and all the participants. All the research workers of NRCSS presented the progress reports of their respective projects. Critical comments by the committee were made during presentations and general comments at the end of the meeting. The meeting ended in the evening with vote of thanks to the Chairman, members and all participants by Dr. R.K. Kakani, Member Secretary of RAC.

Visited AICRP Centres

As per suggestions of Dr. M. Anandraj, Director and Project Coordinator, Spices, Dr. G. Lal, Director (Act.) of this centre visited the AICRP Centres (Guntur, Kumarganj, Pantnagar and Dholi, Jobner and Ajmer) for on spot evaluation of the performance of the entries in the CVTs in four major seed spices (coriander, cumin, fennel and fenugreek) during April 18 to April 23, 2012. As the CVTs for major seed spices are completing three years and the conclusion are to be drawn in coming workshop of AICRPS. The visit was made to verify the performance of different entries at different places so as to draw the conclusion in a better fashion.

Attended the Annual workshop for NAIP component –II

Dr. R.S. Mehta (Senior Scientist, Agronomy) and Dr. S.F. Ali (Research Associate, NAIP-II) attended the Annual Workshop of NAIP (Component-II) "Production to Consumption : A Value Chain



Approach" at NDRI, Kernal during March 26-27, 2012. On behalf of CCPI, NRCSS, Dr. Mehta presented the annual progress report of the NAIP sub project "Value chain in Major Seed Spices for Domestic and Export Promotion". Dr. Mehta also represented the project outcome in a stall.

Completion of M.Sc. thesis work of Mr. T. Vashishtha

Mr. Vashishtha, student of MJRP University, Jaipur, completed his thesis work on "Effect of different organic modules on growth yield and quality of coriander" at National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Ajmer for requirement of M.Sc. degree in Horticulture under the guidance of Dr. G. Lal. Dr. Lal and Dr. R.S. Mehta visited the University on March 23, 2012 for his oral examination.

Case study of fennel crop at Bhadal (Jaipur)

In frontline demonstration given by NRCSS under NHM project Mr. Bheru Ram Yadav and Mr. Ram Lal Yadav s/o Mohan Lal Yadav, farmer's at Bhadal (Jaipur), grown fennel in their fields (0.5 ha each) and have taken good crop of fennel in non conventional area as diversification of agriculture through seed spices. The yield of fennel was recorded 7.5 to 8.0 q/ha (Gross Return Rs. 52500.00 to Rs. 56000.00). The returns were 46 to 55% higher over the average return of wheat crop per hectare.



Case study of ajwain crop at Jaisalmer

Mr. Mool Singh, a farmer at Kudi road (Jaisalmer), has grown ajwain crop (AA-1) in his land during the cropping season of 2011-12. He has taken 630.00 kg/ha yield (Gross Return Rs. 75600.00). He has used scientific technologies which were provided by NRCSS, Ajmer under the FLD of NHM project.

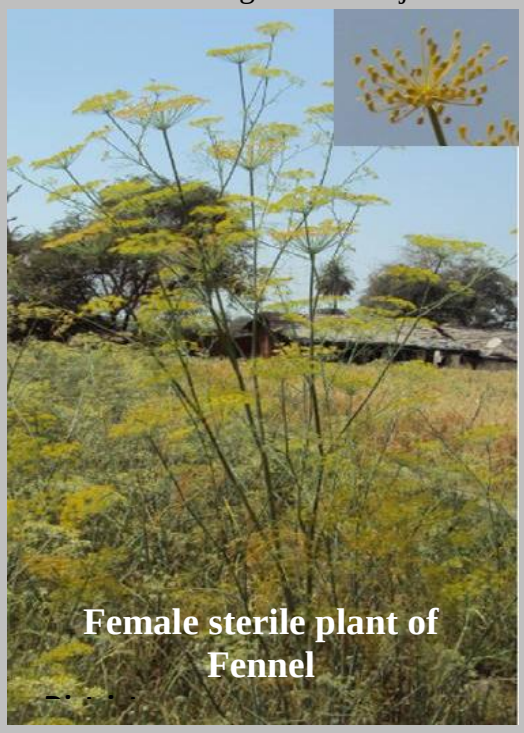
Attended 3rd meeting of Rajasthan Farmers Commission at Udaipur

Dr. G. Lal, Director (Act.), NRCSS attended the third meeting of Rajasthan Farmers' Commission held at MPUAT, Udaipur on April 11, 2012 under the chairmanship of Sh. Narayan Singh. All the members of commission, officers of Government Departments, MPAUT and different stakeholders including farmers of Udaipur Division were present in the meeting. An interface with the farmers, stakeholders and officers of GOR was organized and valuable suggestions for the improvement of agriculture in Rajasthan State including constraints were recorded by the commission.

Conducted Survey of Hadoti Region

Dr. B.K. Mishra and Dr. R.K. Solanki of NRCSS, Ajmer made intensive survey of spice growing area in Hadoti region of Rajasthan.





Ajmer, Bundi, Kota, Baran and Jhalawad districts were covered in the survey. In these districts cumin, coriander and fennel were found to be predominant seed spice crops. Soil samples from the various fields of coriander and fennel were collected for microbial analysis. In coriander, in spite of improved high yielding varieties, farmers prefer local land races having small seed size with high oil content. One interesting operation was seen that farmers are using combine harvester for threshing of manually harvested coriander to save time labour and money without

deteriorating the desired threshing quality. Some female sterile plants were seen in the survey area.

Attended Training on "Predicting Soil Carbon Sequestration in view of Global Warming and Climate Change"

Dr O.P. Aishwath Sr. Scientist (Soil Science) of this centre had undergone training on



'Predicting Soil Carbon Sequestration in view of Global Warming and Climate Change' from 24.02.2012 to 08.03.2012. The training was structured with lectures followed by practical exercise on modeling for prediction of carbon sequestration and climate change. There were four models were focused as a course curriculum of training along with the overview carbon sequestration and climate change. These models were 'Century', 'Roth C', 'Info crop' and 'DNDC'. These models are good tools for the prediction of carbon emission and sequestration including other radioactive forcing grasses. The Info crop model deals with crop performance in relation to future scenario with climate change. These models applicability depend on the quality data with long-term experiments. Overall training was informative and we can use these models after having sufficient database on seed spice crops and the soil.



Exhibition at PUSA KISAN MELA

National Kisan Mela has been organized during 1-3 March, 2012 at IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. NRCSS participated in this mela and an exhibition was made in which different types of technologies and varieties on seed spices were displayed. The NRCSS stall was visited by thousands of different stakeholders like farmers and farm women, students, traders and exporters of the country.





Dr. R.S. Mehta, Sr. Scientist and Mr. M. A. Khan, Technical Officer advised farmers to take up seed spices for the diversification of cropping system for getting higher returns under low input situations.

Field day Organized Under NHM

A field day on fennel crop was organized by NRCSS under NHM project on March 21, 2012 at Bhadal, Jaipur, Dr. G. Lala, Director (Act.), Dr. Ravindra Singh, Dr. R.S. Meena and Er. S.P. Maheria of NRCSS and Dr. S.S. Rathore, Programme Coordinator, Dr. Phool Chand, Dr. N.K. Gupta of KVK, Chomu (Jaipur) were present on the occasion. They interacted with the farmers about recent technologies with its economics and constraints of fennel cultivation. They also advised the farmers to adopt the fennel and other seed spices for the diversification of conventional cropping system and to have better economic returns.





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