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ICAR-DGR started seed production unit at ARC (CSWRI), Bikaner

o enhance seed production activity and to meet the breeder seed demand of ICAR-DGR groundnut varieties, an MOU was signed between ICAR-DGR, Junagadh and Arid Regional Campus (ARC), ICAR-CSWRI, Bikaner to provide 10 hectare land for establishing experimental seed production unit. In *kharif* 2015, ICAR-DGR has initially started breeder seed production of Girnar 2 and Girnar 3 varieties and couple of experiments relevant to Bikaner condition in about 5.0 hectare of land.



Seed production and experimental trials at Bikaner

Inputs: Narendra Kumar

An advanced breeding line 'PBS 29146' identified for confectionery traits in groundnut

Confectionery type groundnut possesses low oil content, high protein content, high O/L ratio, high sugar content, low free amino acids, etc. and importantly large seed-size. An advanced breeding line 'PBS 29146' of Virginia bunch habit group has been identified as a source of confectionery traits. Its kernels have low oil content (44.3%) and high protein content (35.9%). Other biochemical constituents observed are sugar content (5.6%), free amino acids (1.4 mg/g) and phenols (2.4 mg/g) with bigger kernels (58 g per hundred kernel weight and length and width of kernel is 17.5 and 10.0 mm, respectively). The yield of this genotype was 1136 kg pods per hectare with 41% harvest index and 64% shelling outturn. This genotype may be used in further breeding programme for low oil and high protein content.

Inputs: MC Dagla, SK Bishi, Narendra Kumar, Ajay BC and MK Mahatma

Inbuilt fresh seed dormancy in Spanish groundnut

Spanish groundnuts, which are the only groundnut type suitable for summer cultivation because of their shorter duration, fit well in the season, as compared to the Virginia type. However, Spanish type of groundnuts suffer due to their characteristic lack of fresh seed dormancy; and this group of groundnut suffers huge losses, even up to total crop losses, due to in-situ germination when the summer crop is caught in the early monsoon. Similar situations do arise for the *kharif* groundnut crop when the monsoon prolongs up to the maturity of the crop. Under these situations, inbuilt fresh seed dormancy in Spanish groundnuts become of prime importance. In this direction, a set of Spanish groundnut genotypes was evaluated in summer 2014 under normally irrigated and simulated drought stress conditions, and under rainfed conditions in kharif 2014. In general, during drought stress, the groundnut genotypes tended to have shorter span of fresh seed dormancy compared to irrigated conditions. Perceivably, under drought stress conditions, the crop duration was shortened and so was the period for fresh seed dormancy due to forced maturity compared to irrigated conditions. There was variation in the responses of genotypes to irrigated and drought stress conditions. However, one Spanish genotype 'PBS 16038' has consistently taken 22 days for its 50% of the freshly harvested seeds to germinate compared to the known check variety 'TG 37A' for fresh seed dormancy in Spanish groundnut, which takes 2 to 5 days for germination.

PBS 16038 has already been identified as high yielding genotype and is presently under National Yield Evaluation trials of AICRP-G in summer season.



'PBS 16038'



'TG 37A'

Inputs: Chuni Lal

Amrit Pani: An organic growth promoter for higher crop yield and better plant protection

Plants respond well to organic growth promoters in terms of improved vigour, growth and development, productivity, quality, and resistance to insect-pests and diseases. Use of farm made organic growth promoters is required to get good quality high produce and control insect-pests and diseases in an eco-friendly way. Amrit pani is an organic growth promoter having pesticidal properties, which is prepared by mixing farm available raw materials. It has been found that amrit pani contains Azospirillum, Azotobacter, phosphate solubilizing bacteria, and macro and micronutrients. The main ingredients of amrit pani are: one kg each of neem leaves (*Azadirachta indica*), *aak* leaves (*Calotropis procera*), chickpea flour, cow dung; one litre cow urine, and 250 gm jaggery.

Preparation: Amrit pani can be prepared by farmers at their own fields by thoroughly mixing above mentioned ingredients in 12 litre of water in an earthen pot of 20 litre capacity. The pot is filled with water to its 80 percent capacity, and some empty space is kept on the top for accumulation of gases released during fermentation. After mixing all the ingredients properly, the pot is covered with lid tightly and made air proof by plastering cow dung and mud paste all over the lid. Now the earthen pot is kept in shade for next 12 days for fermentation of ingredients. The amrit pani would be ready for use on 13th day, and can be used for next two months if stored properly.

Spray schedule: Amrit pani should be shaked well before using, and filtered properly to prevent clogging of sprayer. Amrit pani (3%) should be sprayed 3-4 times during the crop growth period starting from 20 days after germination. The seeds can also be soaked in 3% solution of amrit pani before sowing for improved germination, higher vigour of plants, and resistance to insect-pests and diseases.

Production cost: The production cost of amrit pani comes to around Rs. 30 per litre which is much cheaper compared to its counterparts available in the market. The small farmers and women SHGs can prepare amrit pani as additional income source activity.

Results: Application of amrit pani has been found to increase plant height, dry matter, leaf area, number of flowers, pegs, and mature pods, and pod and haulm yield in groundnut. It was also noticed that the spray of amrit pani reduced incidence of sucking insect-pests and diseases in groundnut possibly due to improved immunity of plants.

Inputs: Ram A Jat and Rahul Solanki

Trainings & Workshops

Women farmers' field day organized at ICAR-DGR, Junagadh

(August 20, 2015)

Women make important contributions to agriculture and they comprise 43% of the world's agricultural labour force, which even rises up to 70% in some countries. In India, data indicates that the national average for women's share of total time-use in agriculture is 32%. Thus, women play an important role in agriculture. Hence, a field day for women farmers on "Safer use and handling of pesticides in groundnut" was organized at ICAR-DGR, Junagadh. Twenty-five woman farmers from village Devgam of Malia (Hatina) taluka in Junagadh district participated in the field day on 20th August, 2015. This programme was coordinated by Dr. Narendra Kumar (Scientist) and Sh. B.M. Chikani (ACTO, Plant Breeding). All scientific aspects related to safer use and handling of pesticides in groundnut were covered and demonstrated by experts. They also had an exposure visit to demonstrate different farm machineries and implements required in spraying of pesticides and their safer use and handling in groundnut cultivation.

They also visited groundnut seed production plots as well as Technology Park demonstrating plant protection technologies. Dr. Chuni Lal addressed women farmers and encouraged them to take up groundnut cultivation. Dr. Radhakrishnan T., Director, ICAR-DGR addressed the farmers and appreciated their active participation in this programme and also ensured to provide technical advice related to groundnut cultivation. Dr. A. L. Rathnakumar also appreciated their dedication towards farming in addition to other social responsibilities.

DGR imparts training to tribal farmers from Arunachal Pradesh

(September 20-24, 2015)

Under Tribal Sub-Plan, the DGR organized a five-day training programme entitled 'Improved groundnut production technologies for tribal farmers of Arunachal Pradesh". Twenty-four tribal farmers along with one Farm Manager, KVK from the Lower Dibang Valley district of Arunachal Pradesh participated in the training held on September 20-24, 2015.

Dr. A.L. Rathnakumar, Principal Scientist and in-charge of AICRP programme recommended some varieties of groundnut suitable for Arunachal Pradesh (NER) and assured to provide five varieties of groundnut seeds for taking up on-farm trial at KVK farm by end of November 2015. The scientists of DGR spoke on various aspects like

prospects and potentiality of groundnut cultivation in Arunachal Pradesh, improved varieties like ICGS 76, ICGS 12 and Girnar 3 recommended for Arunachal, pest and diseases management, nutrient management, aflatoxins, harvesting, storage and marketing strategies, etc.



The farmers were also imparted hands-on-knowledge through visits to various field at Mendarda and Una areas as well as institutional farm, groundnut export industries and APMC, different departments, technology park and museum. They also gained knowledge on polythene mulching, drip irrigation and improved farm implements. During the inaugural day, the Director, DGR, Dr. Radhakrishnan T., welcomed the farmers and appreciated the efforts made by Dr. T.J. Ramesha, Programme Coordinator KVK, Lower Dibang valley for meticulous planning and executing of the training programme. The training was concluded with distribution of certificates to the participants. This training was coordinated by Dr. Narayanan G. and Dr. K. Chakraborty.

मुँगफली का उत्पादन, उत्पादकता एवं प्रौद्योगिकी : मध्यप्रदेश में वस्तुस्थिति एवं संभावनाएँ इस निदेशालय में दिनांक 28 सितम्बर से 02 अक्टूबर, 2015 तक किसान प्रशिक्षण जिसका शीर्षक "मुँगफली का उत्पादन, उत्पादकता एवं प्रौद्योगिकी : मध्यप्रदेश में वस्तुस्थिति एवं संभावनाएँ" पर आत्मा योजना के तहत 5 दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया l इस प्रशिक्षण में जिला शिवपुरी (मध्यप्रदेश) के कुल 34 किसानों ने भाग लिया | इस जिले में लगभग 70,000 हैक्टेयर में मूँगफली फसल की पैदावार की जाती है | इस प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में व्यख्यान के लिए राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर के वैज्ञानिकों का सहयोग लिया गया और किष विज्ञान केंद्र, कोडीनार, कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जुनागढ़ एवं प्रोग्रेसिव किसानों के खेतों का भ्रमण भी करवाया गया । इस प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम के व्यख्यानों में मुख्य रूप से सस्य पद्दति, ज्यादा पैदावार देने वाली किस्में, बीज उत्पादन, पोषक तत्व, प्रोद्योगिकी, बीमारी-कीट नियंत्रण एवं जैव उर्वरकों पर जोर दिया गया । डा. एस एन निगम (प्रधान वैज्ञानिक, इक्रिसेट, हैदराबाद) ने किसानों से दो घंटो तक मुँगफली उत्पादन पर चर्चा करके किसानों को प्रेरित किया । इस प्रशिक्षण में सभी किसानों को हिंदी भाषा में प्रशिक्षण पस्तिका तैयार करके वितरित की गई l किसानों ने इस प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम को काफी उपयोगी बताया एवं सराहना करते हुए कहा की हमे इस प्रशिक्षण में बहुत कुछ नया सिखने को मिला जिसका प्रयोग हम हमारी खेती में करके लाभान्वित होंगे l इस प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का संचालन हर नारायण मीना, कलदीप सिंह जादोंन और नटराज एम वी ने किया l



Events

भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय में संपन्न "राजभाषा कार्यशाला"

इस निदेशालय में दिनांक 23 दिसम्बर, 2015 को "राजभाषा कार्यशाला" का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें इस निदेशालय के कुल 30 अधिकारियों/कर्मचारियों को आमंत्रित किया गया। इस कार्यशाला के वक्ता श्री दरवेश कुमार (प्रशासनिक अधिकारी एवं नामित-हिंदी अधिकारी) थे । उन्होंने काफी सरल भाषा में हिंदी का कार्यालय में प्रयोग संबंधित विविध पहलुओ को बहुत अच्छे ढंग से व्यक्त किया । उन्होंने एक छोटी सी स्पर्धा भी रखी और उसमे सफल कई प्रतिभागियों को इनाम भी दिया गया । सभी प्रतिभागियों को निदेशक द्वारा प्रमाण-पत्र भी दिए गए । इस कार्यशाला के लिए समन्वयन एवं संयोजन का कार्य श्री दरवेश कुमार एवं श्री एच. बी. लालवानी द्वारा किया गया । तथा इसमें श्री ए. डी. मकवाना, श्री अनिल कुमार एवं श्री लोकेश कुमार (तकनीकी सहायक) ने भी महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया । अंत में श्री एच. बी. लालवानी ने धन्यवाद जापन दिया।

"Jai Kisan Jai Vigyan", Farmers Awareness Meet (29 December, 2015)

"Jai Kisan Jai Vigyan" in commemoration of birthdays of two Former Prime Ministers of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Late Shri Chaudhary Charan Singh, was celebrated during 23-29 December, 2015. On the concluding day 29th Dec, a farmers meeting was organized at this directorate. About 60 farmers participated in the meeting. All the scientists of ICAR-DGR had participated in the meeting.



Farmers appreciating the groundnut varieties developed in India

The Director, ICAR-DGR, Dr Radhakrishnan T., welcomed all the participants. Dr IU Dhruj, Associate Director of Research, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh was Chief Guest of this meeting. Dr JH Vachhani, Res. Sci, Junagadh Agricultural University, gave a talk on improved groundnut varieties, Dr SD Savaliya, ACTO, DGR gave information on management of bruchids and whitegrub and Dr RS Yadav, Sr. Scientist, DGR briefed about Soil Health Card scheme and it's benefits. Sh HB Lalwani, ACTO, DGR concluded the meeting with vote of thanks to all the participants.

Meetings

नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नाराकास)-जूनागढ़ की प्रथम बैठक

भारत सरकार, गृह मंत्रालय, राजभाषा विभाग के पत्र संख्या-12024/13/2015-रा.भा.(का-2), दिनांक 7 मई 2015 के अनुसार नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति, जूनागढ़ का गठन किया गया, जिसके अध्यक्ष पद के लिए डॉ. राधाकृष्णन टी., निदेशक, भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय जूनागढ़ को नामित किया गया | दिनांक 18 सितम्बर 2015 को 'नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नाराकास)-जूनागढ़ की प्रथम बैठक हुई, जिसका आयोजन भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ में किया गया | इस बैठक में कुल 14 सदस्य-कार्यालयों ने भाग लिया | यह बैठक डॉ. राधाकृष्णन टी., अध्यक्ष, नराकास, जूनागढ़ की अध्यक्षता में संपन्न हुई | इसका संचालन डॉ. मनेश चन्द्र डागला, सदस्य-सचिव, नराकास, जूनागढ़, वैज्ञानिक एवं नामित हिन्दी अधिकारी, भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ ने किया |

इस प्रथम बैठक में श्री विनोद कुमार शर्मा उपनिदेशक, राजभाषा विभाग, क्षेत्रीय कार्यान्वयन कार्यलय, मुम्बई व श्री राम किशोर गुप्ता, वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक (राजभाषा), सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया, राजकोट उपस्थित थे l इस छमाही बैठक का शुभारम्भ माननीय अतिथियों एवं अध्यक्ष के कर कमलों द्वारा दीप प्रज्जवलन तथा उन्हें पुष्प-गुच्छ भेंट करके किया गया l जिसके पश्चात हिन्दी-गीत 'हिंदी भारत माँ की बिंदी' सुनाया गया । अपने स्वागत भाषण में डॉ. मनेश चन्द्र डागला ने सभी सदस्यों का तहदिल से इस बैठक में सम्मिलित होने के लिए अभिवादन किया तथा इस बैठक के सफल होने की कामना की l इसके पश्चात डॉ. ज्ञान प्रकाश मिश्र, वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक, भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ ने माननीय श्री राजनाथ सिंह जी, गृह-मंत्री, भारत सरकार के हिंदी दिवस पर दिए गए संदेश को सभी को पढ़ के सुनाया । तत्पश्चात, डॉ. मनेश चन्द्र डागला, ने जूनागढ़ स्थित विभिन्न सदस्य-कार्यालयों की छमाही रिपोर्ट का पॉवर-पॉइंट प्रस्तुति की, जिसकी समीक्षा श्री विनोद कुमार शर्मा द्वारा की गयी । नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नाराकास)-जुनागढ़ की अगली बैठक अप्रैल महीने में प्रस्तावित है, जिससे पहले हिन्दी के प्रचार एवं प्रसार की आवश्यकता प्रकट की गई । इसके अंतर्गत विभिन्न सदस्य-कार्यालयों को कुछ विशिष्ठ कार्यक्रम करने को दिये गए l श्री राम किशोर गुप्ता, ने अपने संबोधन मे कहा कि, चूंकि नाराकास अब वैज्ञानिकों के हाथों में है, अतः उसे एक सही मार्ग मिल गया है | उन्होंने विश्वास व्यक्त किया कि नाराकास- जूनागढ़, डॉ. राधाकृष्णन के सानिध्य में नई ऊंचाई को हासिल करेगा | उन्होंने हिन्दी को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सभी को हिन्दी में काम करने की मानसिकता को बदलने की जरूरत पर बल दिया l माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, डॉ. राधाकृष्णन टी. ने नराकास-जूनागढ़ को नई ऊंचाइयों तक पहुंचाने कि दिशा में सभी सदस्य-कार्यालयों के सहयोग की अपेक्षा व्यक्त की l अंत में डॉ. मनेश चन्द्र डागला ने सभी सदस्यों का इस बैठक को सफल बनाने के लिए धन्यवाद दिया, तथा एक समूह-चित्र अनुस्मरण के लिए लिया गया l



(आदान: डॉ. मनेश चन्द्र डागला, सदस्य सचिव-नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन सिमिति, जूनागढ़, एवं वैज्ञानिक व नामित हिंदी अधिकारी, भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़)

Brainstorming session on Quality seed production

(October 19, 2015)

A brainstorming session on quality seed production was held at ICAR-DGR on 19th October, 2015. Dr AR Pathak, VC, Junagadh Agricultural University was the Chief Guest. The meeting was attended by other dignitaries such as Dr JS Chauhan, ADG (Seeds), Shri S. Selvaraj, Depty. Commissioner (Seeds), DAC; Dr S Rajendra Prasad, Director, ICAR-DSR Mau; Dr VS Bhatia, Director, ICAR-DSR Indore; and Dr NP Singh, Director, ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur.

Dr Radhakrishnan, T., Director, DGR welcomed the delegates. Dr JS Chauhan, ADG (Seeds) presented a brief of the meeting. The issues in seed production were discussed by Shri S Selvaraj, Deputy Commissioner (Seeds). Dr S Rajendra Prasad, Director, ICAR-DSR, Mau gave a presentation on the seed situation in India. The Chief Guest, Dr AR Pathak, in his remarks, mentioned about the importance and significance of quality seed production and its availability to the end users.



Brainstorming session on 'Quality seed production'

This was followed by the presentations on the seed production issues of different crops - Dr VS Bhatia on soybean, Dr Radhakrishnan on groundnut, Dr NP Singh on chickpea, Dr Sanjeev Gupta, Project Coordinator MULLaRP on lentil, Dr AK Sharma, IIWBR on wheat, Dr Jyoti Koul, IIMR on maize. The concluding remarks were presented by Dr JS Chauhan, ADG (Seeds).

Vigilance Awareness Week celebrated (October 26 – 31, 2015)

Vigilance Awareness Week started at DGR on 26th October, 2015 with the taking of oath by the staff members. Dr AL Rathnakumar, Vigilance Officer, gave a brief of the importance and relevance of the week, followed by the screening of a video of the President of India speaking on the occasion of the week. A message from the Prime Minister of India was also read on the occasion.

ICAR-DGR Industries Interface meeting (December 15, 2015)

In the current scenario of groundnut gaining more and more relevance as a food crop besides an oilseed, the stake of food industries and export houses is on the rise. Realizing this fact, all the stakeholders in groundnut cultivation and industry were brought on a common platform to facilitate their interactions for identifying issues of mutual interest and formulating strategy for research, extension and trade and also addressing the policy issues, through an Industries Interface meeting at this Directorate on 15th December, 2015.

Dr Radhakrishnan T., Director, DGR welcomed the participants. Dr. K. Raja Reddy, Director of Research, ANGRAU, A.P. was the chief guest. The other dignitaries attending the meeting were Dr IU Dhruj, Associate Director of Research, JAU, Junagadh; Dr SB Vaghamsi, Deputy Director Agriculture, Junagadh and Dr JB Misra, Technical Advisor, IOPEPC. The meeting was also attended by some groundnut researchers from ICRISAT and AICRP-G centres. Representatives from local export houses, seed industries, major food industries, progressive farmers and manufacturers of farm implements participated in the meeting.

During this meet, the key challenges in the groundnut production across India which needs to be addressed together with industry were discussed thoroughly. Varied aspects like problems faced by the groundnut industries (aflatoxin, etc.), improvement in the seed replacement rate, commercialization of already existing technologies, etc. were covered. The technical session included presentations on successful cultivation of exportworthy groundnut, host resistance for producing disease free export-worthy groundnut, GAP for reducing pre-harvest aflatoxin load, attributes which need improvement for confectionery use, postharvest aflatoxin contamination and its management in food industries, dovetailing GAP and GMP for export quality groundnut production, biofertilizer formulations developed by DGR (NutBoost and NutMagic), etc.

Dr KK Pal, Principal Scientist, DGR thanked all the speakers from both private and public sectors; entrepreneurs and others who had attended and contributed to the success of the meet and hoped that this would surely mark a milestone in furthering the cause of increasing the groundnut productivity and benefits to both farmers and industries through joint partnerships.

ICAR-DGR Celebrates Industry Day (15 December, 2015)

In the current scenario of groundnut gaining more and more relevance as a food crop besides an oilseed, the stake of food industries and export houses is on the rise. Realizing this fact, all the stakeholders in groundnut cultivation and industry were brought on a common platform to facilitate their interactions for identifying issues of mutual interest and formulating strategy for research, extension and trade and also addressing the policy issues, through an Industries Interface meeting at this Directorate on 15th December, 2015.

Dr. K. Raja Reddy, Director of Research, ANGRAU, A.P. was the chief guest. Besides, Dr. IU Dhruj, Associate Director of Research, JAU, Junagadh; Dr. SB Vaghamsi, Deputy Director Agriculture, Junagadh, Dr. JB Misra, Technical Adviser, IOPEPC and Director, DGR, Junagadh were the other dignitaries. The meeting was also attended by groundnut researchers from ICRISAT and AICRP-G centres, representatives from groundnut exporters, GSFC, GSBTM, entrepreneurs, seed industries, major food industries, progressive farmers and manufacturers of farm implements.

Varied aspects like problems faced by the groundnut industries (aflatoxin, etc.), improvement in the seed replacement rate, commercialization of already existing technologies, etc. were covered. Special emphasis was given on commercialization of two biofertilizer formulations developed by DGR namely NutBoost and NutMagic. Representatives from GSBTM, GSFC and Pruthvi Khetiwadi Kendra expressed keen interest in acquiring the biofertilizer formulations through MoU.



ICAR-DGR Industries Interface Meeting



हिन्दी मास के अवसर पर मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ में आयोजित विभिन्न प्रतियोगिता एवं पुरस्कार वितरण समारोह

हिन्दी चेतना दिवस

भाकृअनुप-मूँगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ में प्रत्येक वर्ष हिन्दी दिवस, सप्ताह, या पखवाड़ा या मास मनाया जाता है । इसी श्रृंखला में इस वर्ष निदेशालय में 'हिंदी चेतना दिवस-2015' दिनांक 14 सितम्बर 2015 को मनाया गया । इस अवसर पर दो प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया । इन प्रतियोगिताओं के लिये तीन सदस्यीय आयोजन समितियों का गठन किया गया तथा इन्हीं आयोजन समितियों ने सम्बंधित प्रतियोगिता के प्रतिभागियों का मृल्यांकन भी किया ।

सामान्य हिन्दी ज्ञान प्रतियोगिता: इस प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन डॉ. महेश कुमार महात्मा, डॉ. कौशिक चक्रवर्ती तथा डॉ. सुजीत कुमार बिशी द्वारा किया गया, तथा साथ ही प्रतिभागियों का मूल्यांकन भी इन्हीं के द्वारा किया गया | इसके लिये एक सौ प्रश्न का प्रश्नपत्र तैयार किया गया जिसमें हिन्दी व्याकरण संबंधित, सामान्य ज्ञान, शब्दों तथा वाक्यों का अनुवाद, तथा कुछ राजभाषा सम्बंधित प्रश्न शामिल किये गये। इस प्रतियोगिता में कुल 22 प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया | इस प्रतियोगिता में 'क' क्षेत्र से प्रथम, द्वितीय एवं तृतीय स्थान पर क्रमश: डॉ. आर. ए. जाट, श्री राकेश नोगिया एवं श्री अनिल कुमार मौर्य रहे | 'ख' क्षेत्र से प्रथम स्थान पर श्री वाई. एस. कारिया, द्वितीय स्थान पर श्री बी. एम. चिकानी एवं श्री धर्मेश एन. शेरठिया, एवं तृतीय स्थान पर कु. देविका एच. पंचिमया रहे | 'ग' क्षेत्र से केवल एक ही प्रतिभागी श्री पीतबास दास थे |

निबंध लेखन प्रतियोगिता: इस प्रतियोगिता में कुल 8 प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया, तथा इसके लिए निबंध का शीर्षक था "आधुनिक भारतीय शिक्षा प्रणाली और भारतीय संस्कृति" । इस प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन डॉ. नरेंद्र कुमार, डॉ. कुलदीप सिंह जादौन तथा श्री अनिल कुमार मौर्य ने किया तथा साथ ही प्रतिभागियों का मूल्यांकन भी किया । इस प्रतियोगिता में 'क' क्षेत्र से प्रथम, द्वितीय एवं तृतीय स्थान पर क्रमश: डॉ. महेश कुमार महात्मा, डॉ. आर. ए. जाट एवं श्री राकेश नोगिया रहे। 'ख' क्षेत्र से प्रथम, द्वितीय एवं तृतीय स्थान पर क्रमश: श्रीमती लोहाना महेश्वरी एम., श्री सुरेश राघवजीभाई सचानिया, श्री रावल सचिन कुमार शिरीषभाई रहे। इस प्रतियोगिता में भी 'ग' क्षेत्र से केवल एक ही प्रतिभागी श्री पीतबास दास थे।

दोनों प्रतियोगिताओं में प्रतिभागियों के 'क' 'ख' तथा 'ग' क्षेत्रानुसार समूह बनाये गये तथा प्रत्येक समूह के प्रतिभागियों में प्रथम, द्वितीय तथा तृतीय विजेता चुने गये । ऐसा इसलिये किया गया, क्योंकि अहिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्रों से लोगों की हिन्दी इतनी सुदृढ़ नहीं होती है अत: वे किसी भी प्रतियोगिता में बेझिझक हिस्सा ले सकें | ऐसा करने से निदेशालय के सभी कर्मचारी सभी प्रतियोगिताओं में बढ़-चढ़कर हिस्सा भी लेते है तथा अहिन्दी भाषियों में हिन्दी के प्रति आशा और उत्साह दिखाई पड़ता है ।

पुरस्कार एवं प्रमाण-पत्र वितरण: दिनांक 1 अक्टूबर 2015 को इस निदेशालय का स्थापना दिवस मनाया गया | इस अवसर पर डॉ. जे. एस. संधु, उप महानिदेशक (फसल विज्ञान), भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद, नई दिल्ली, एवं डॉ. ए. आर. पाठक, कुलपति, जूनागढ़ कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जूनागढ़ एवं डॉ. एस. एन. निगम, प्रमुख मूँगफली प्रजनक (सेवानिवृत), इक्रिसेट, हैदराबाद उपस्थित थे | इन अतिथियों एवं डॉ. राधाकृष्णन टी. निदेशक द्वारा सभी विजेताओं को पुरस्कार तथा प्रमाण-पत्र प्रदान किये गए | दोनों प्रतियोगिताओं में 'ग' क्षेत्र से केवल एक ही प्रतिभागी श्री पीतबास दास होने पर उन्हें सांत्वना पुरस्कार प्रदान किया गया | इस तरह 'हिन्दी चेतना दिवस-2015' इस निदेशालय पर बड़े ही उत्साह, प्रेम, उमंग तथा जिम्मेदारी के साथ मनाया गया |



'Groundnut farmer fair cum exhibition' organized by ICAR-DGR

(September 10, 2015)

In Gujarat, groundnut is sown annually in approximately 15 million hectares of area giving 20 million tons of production with 1400 kg per hectare productivity. ICAR-DGR has developed various improved technologies for this region which can increase groundnut productivity. Therefore, the Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh organised a 'Groundnut farmer fair cum exhibition' on September 10, 2015, to acquaint the farmers of Saurashtra region of Gujarat with the improved package of practices for cultivation of groundnut for its sustainable production and improved productivity. This fair was sponsored to ICAR-DGR under NMOOP with a financial assistance of Rs. 4.00 lakh. In all, there were more than 750 farmers from Devbhoomi-Dwarka, Jamnagar, Amreli, Targhadia, Junagadh, Dhoraji, Bhavnagar, Kodinar, Vishavadar, Keshod, Mangrol, Vanthali, Navsari, Amrapur, Gir-Somnath areas. The sarpanchs of the 30 adopted villages under the "Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav" programme also participated.



Director DGR, Dr Radhakrishnan T., welcoming the Chief Guest Shri Alok Kumar Pandey, Collector and District Magistrate, Junagadh with a bouquet of flowers

Sh. Alok Kumar Pandey (District Magistrate, Junagadh) was present as the Chief Guest and Dr BB Singh (ADG-OP, ICAR, New Delhi) as the Guest of honour. The special guests present on the dais included Dr AM Parakhiya (Director of Extension Education, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh); Sh. SS Solanki (Joint Director, Agriculture Extension, Government of Gujarat, Junagadh), Deans of Agricultural Engineering, Veterinary College and the Associate Director of Research, JAU were also present.

The program started by the lighting of the lamp by the guests present on the dais and progressive farmers. At the inaugural session, Dr Radhakrishnan T., Director, ICAR-DGR, welcomed all the farmers and dignitaries and requested the participants to take full advantage of such farmers' fairs-cumexhibitions to improve their productivity.



Farmer's participation on the occasion of 'Groundnut farmer fair cum exhibition'

On this occasion, programme coordinators of various Krishi Vigyan Kendras like Targhadia (Rajkot), Porbandar, Jamnagar, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Kodinar and Pipaliya (Dhoraji) and scientists from JAU were also present. After the inaugural session, lectures on improved groundnut production technologies were delivered by the experts from ICAR-DGR and Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh in local languages. Interactive sessions were well organized between scientists and farmers after the formal inaugural session.

On this day, a competition was also organised for farmers. The farmers were given an opportunity to display their groundnut plant samples which were evaluated by an expert committee. As a token of recognition of their efforts in promoting good agricultural practices; some utility items were given away to these farmers as prizes. The farmers were taken around the 'Technology Park' of ICAR-DGR to enable farmers appreciate the impact of various technologies on growth and other yield attributes of groundnut plants. An exhibition comprising 20 stalls was also set up, mainly by the input dealers, the DGR and the JAU. Farmers also visited various stalls exhibiting the agro-chemicals that are now available in market for use in agriculture. Information pamphlets and brochures describing (in Gujarati) various aspects of groundnut were distributed to farmers free of cost.



Distribution of awards to the winner farmers

Mr. HB Lalwani, Technical officer, ICAR-DGR, thanked all the guests and farmers for their active and constructive participation.

ICAR-DGR celebrates 36th Foundation Day (October 01, 2015, Junagadh)

ICAR-DGR celebrated its 36th Foundation Day on October 01, 2015. Dr. J.S. Sandhu. DDG (CS), ICAR, N. Delhi was the chief-guest. Dr. A.R. Pathak, Vice-Chancellor, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh was the Special Guest and Dr S.N. Nigam, Principal Groundnut Breeder (Retd.), ICRISAT, Hyderabad was the Guest of Honour. The other guests included members of Institute Management Committee and some senior personnel from JAU, Junagadh.

The programme began with an invocation song, and lighting of the lamp followed by welcoming of the guests by the Director DGR, Dr. T. Radhakrishnan. On this occasion, the new website of ICAR-DGR was launched by the Chief Guest, Dr. J.S. Sandhu. This was followed by the release of Girnar Patrika 2014-15 (hindi magazine of DGR) and four technical bulletins of DGR, by the dignitaries. The Guest of Honour, Dr. S.N. Nigam delivered the foundation day lecture "Ailing Queen of Oilseeds - Groundnut". Dr. J.S. Sandhu, DDG (CS) and Chief Guest expressed his happiness to be present at ICAR-DGR on the occasion of its foundation day. Dr. A.R. Pathak, V.C. JAU, Junagadh also addressed the audience and mentioned about the role of oilseeds research. particularly groundnut in Saurashtra.

A small cultural programme by the staff of DGR was also organized including folk dance, group song, etc. In a felicitation programme, the senior most employees of this Directorate in the categories of technical, administrative, supporting and TSL were felicitated for their long services. This was followed by the prize distribution ceremony for the winners of different competitions held during Hindi Day celebration. The Chief Guest and the other dignitaries presented the prizes to the winners and the performers of the cultural programme. The Foundation Day programme ended with a Hi-Tea arranged for the dignitaries and the staff of ICAR-DGR.





Celebration of ICAR-DGR 36th Foundation day on 1st October, 2015

ICAR-DGR celebrates 'World Soil Day'

ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh celebrated 'World Soil Day' and distributed Soil Health Cards to farmers in the 'International Year of Soils-2015'. The programme was held at the Simasi village (Taluka- Mendarda, District-Junagadh) in the afternoon of December 5. In this occasion 75 soil health cards was distributed to the farmers of eight villages (Simasi, Ivnagar, Majewadi, Galiyavada, Maliyavada, Sargavada, Khamdhrol, Khalipur) of Junagadh district. This soil health card has reported the available status of major nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) and micronutrients (zinc, copper, manganese, iron) in soil along with general fertilizer recommendations for groundnut, cotton, wheat and coriander.



The programme was successfully conducted in presence of dignitaries like Chairman, Taluka Panchayet, Mendarda; Associate Director of Research, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh; Director, ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research; Sarpanch, Gram Panchayet, Simasi village; and progressive farmers. Soil scientists of this directorate, Dr. Debarati Bhaduri (Nodal Officer, SHC scheme) and Dr. R.S. Yadav (Chairman, organizing committee of soil health card distribution programme) took initiative to organize the event. About 300 participants including soil health card recipients, local farmers and staffs of ICAR-DGR, Junagadh attended the programme.

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A sample of Soil Health Card

(Input: Debarati Bhaduri, Scientist, Soil Science)

Institute Seminars

Speaker	Date	Topic(s)			
Mr MV Nataraja Scientist (Entolmology)	July 7, 2015	Effect of trap design and weather factors on relative efficiency of yellow sticky traps for sampling aphids in groundnut			
Dr K Chakraborty Scientist (Plant Physiology)	August 6, 2015	Physiological efficiencies of Indian peanut cultivars of various botanical groups			
Dr MC Dagla Scientist (Plant Breeding)	August 14, 2015	Genotypic variability and inheritance of Iron, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc contents in F2 and F3 generations of peanut			
		Dominance variance influencing iron, phosphorus, potassium and zinc concentration in kernel and shell of peanut			
Dr NK Jain Principal Scientist (Agronomy)	September 4, 2015	Dynamics and indicators of soil carbon vis-à-vis carbon sequestration potential of peanut-based cropping systems in calcareous vertisols: A short term study			
		System productivity, enzymatic activities, nutrient dynamics, economics and biochemical changes in peanut-based cropping systems: Influence of zero tillage and residue incorporation in Saurashtra region of Gujarat			
Ms Nisha Goswami Ph.D. student (Plant Physiology)	November 7, 2015	Genotypic response of iron sources on lime induced iron deficiency chlorosis in groundnut			
Dr KK Pal Principal Scientist (Microbiology)	November 20, 2015	Discovery of facultative C3-CAM transition in drough stressed peanut: likely trendsetter for future agriculture			
		Enhancing water-use efficiency (WUE) vis-à-vis drought tolerance in agricultural crops: retrospect and prospect			
Mr Kiran Patel Ph.D. student (Biotechnology)	December 19, 2015	Pre- thesis submission seminar 'Molecular and functional analysis of transgenic Groundnut (<i>Arachis hypogaea</i> L.) containing Mannitol-1-Phosphate Dehydrogenase and Defensin gene'			

Participation in Conference/Workshop/Seminar/Symposia/Training Programmes

Name	Programme	Venue	Date
Dr. AL Singh Dr. MK Mahatma Dr. K Chakraborty Dr. SK Bishi Dr. Narendra Kumar	3rd International Plant Physiology Congress (IPPC-2015) on Challenges and Strategies in Plant Biology Research		December 11- 14, 2015
Dr. KK Pal Dr. SK Bera	National Seminar on Sustainable Agriculture for Food Security and Better Environment		December 17- 18, 2015
Dr. Narendra Kumar	Brainstorming session on seed quality production	ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh	October 19, 2015

Distinguished Visitors

Visit of DDG (Crop Sciences), Dr. Jeet Singh Sandhu

Dr. JS Sandhu, Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences), ICAR visited ICAR-DGR on 1st October, 2015 on the occasion of this institute's Foundation Day. In the afternoon Dr. Sandhu visited the research farm of ICAR-DGR and interacted with the scientists' about their experiments. He also visited the glass house, net house, field gene banks and appreciated the on-going research activities. In the evening he had an interaction with all the scientific, technical and administrative staff of this directorate.





DDG (CS) and Dr. SN Nigam interacting with scientists of ICAR-DGR during field visit

Visit of ADG (Oilseeds & Pulses), Dr. Brij Bhuvan Singh

Dr. Brij Bhuvan Singh, Assistant Director General (Oilseeds & Pulses), visited this directorate from 10-11 September, 2015 on the occasion of ICAR-DGR's Farm Innovators Day (10 Sep, 2015). In the morning of 11th September, Dr. BB Singh visited the experimental fields of ICAR-DGR and interacted with the scientists and technical staff of this directorate. Later he also visited the laboratory and germplasm storage facilities and appreciated the on-going research activities.





ADG (O&P) appreciating the quality produce at farmers' field and DGR labs

Personnel

Awards and Honours

Dr. Koushik Chakraborty (Scientist, Plant Physiology) and Dr. Mahesh K Mahatma (Sr. Scientist, Biochemistry) received 'RD Asana Gold Medal - 2015' of 'Indian Society for Plant Physiology', (ISPP) for outstanding contributions in the area of Plant Physiology and cognate sciences during '3rd International Plant Physiology Congress' held at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi from 11-14 December. 2015.





Dr GP Mishra, Senior Scientist, was relieved from this Directorate on October 23, 2015, upon transfer on promotion as Senior Scientist (GP 9000) at ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi.

Dr Chunilal, Principal Scientist, was relieved from this Directorate on November 30, 2015, upon transfer to ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal.

Dr MC Dagla, Scientist, was relieved from this Directorate on November 30, 2015, upon transfer to ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Regional Station, Bikaner.

Dr KS Jadon, Scientist, was relieved from this Directorate on November 30, 2015, upon transfer to ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.

Dr NK Jain, Principal Scientist, was relieved from this Directorate on December 1, 2015, upon transfer to ICAR Headquarters (HRM Division), New Delhi.

Promotions

Sh. VG Koradia and **Sh. PK Bhalodia** had been promoted to the post of Chief Technical Officer (CTO) from Assistant Chief Technical Officer (ACTO) w.e.f. July 1, 2015.

Superannuation

Smt. Mukta Ben Maganbhai, TSL, retired from her services on 30th September 2015. She served this institute as TSL for more than 18 years.

Editorial Team: Rinku Dey, Abhay Kumar, Koushik Chakraborty and Radhakrishnan T.

Photo Credit: A.M. Vakhariya

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