



हर कदम, हर डगर  
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भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

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### Blending Conventional and Modern Plant Pathology for Sustainable Agriculture

Bengaluru, 4 December 2012. Dr Gurbachan Singh (Chairman, Agricultural Scientists' Recruitment Board) inaugurated the three-day National Symposium on 'Blending Conventional and Modern Plant Pathology for Sustainable Agriculture', jointly organized by Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bengaluru; Indian Phytopathological Society, New Delhi; and University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, on 4 December 2012 at IIHR, and emphasized that in the context of the changing scenario of climate, new and emerging diseases would be a great threat to sustainability of agriculture and food safety. He added that the scientists should initiate work on blending traditional knowledge with Integrated Pest management as well as advanced molecular techniques in combating stress. Dr K. Narayana Gowda (Vice Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences) urged that disease forecasting is one of the major thrust areas on which work needs to be intensified. Dr A.S. Sidhu (Director, IIHR) presided over the inaugural session.



Dr Ravi Khetrpal (President, Indian Phytopathological Society) launched the Crop Protection Federation and Seed pro-a microbial growth promoter and fungal disease suppressor – a technology developed by IIHR was also released. Many stalwarts of plants pathology were awarded various awards on the occasion. The Symposium would deliberate on issues like Reaching farmers and farmers participation, Crop losses and epidemiology, Molecular diagnostics and strategies, Sustainable agriculture and livelihood, Green technologies for reducing impact on environment, Classical and molecular breeding, Old and new generation chemicals, integrated disease management, Impact of climate change on plant diseases, Safeguarding protected cultivation, Exotic pathogens and plant quarantine, Regulatory and policy issues in plant pathology. More than 300 participants were present in the three-day symposium. For details e-mail: [iihrdirector@ihr.ernet.in](mailto:iihrdirector@ihr.ernet.in)

### Managing Stress in Drylands under Climate Change Scenarios

Jodhpur, 2 December 2012. Justice Shri N.N. Mathur (Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Jodhpur) inaugurated the two-day symposium on 'Managing Stress in Drylands under Climate Change Scenarios', jointly organized by Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI) and Arid Zone Research Association of

India, at Jodhpur on 2 December 2012. He appreciated the role of CAZRI for developing technologies which has helped in improving the eco-systems of the region and enhanced the productivity of crops and livestock. He emphasized for the need to develop cost effective and eco-friendly technologies for the improvement of rural livelihood and environment under the climate change scenario. About 200 scientists from different parts of the country and international institutions like ICRISAT and ICARDA, Syria participated and presented research papers. Dr Peter Craufurd (Research Director, ICRISAT, Hyderabad) informed that ICRISAT has also planned to work on a project with CAZRI for the rural livelihood improvement in arid region. Scientists focused on developing climate resilient farming systems. It was informed that the temperature level and moisture deficit is likely to increase significantly in western Rajasthan during falling decades. Scientists opined that the programmes on rainwater harvesting, drought-tolerant varieties, alternate land-use systems, and livestock with strong support for fodder, rangeland development

### Salient achievements of the ICAR in 2012

#### Productivity Enhancement

- Produced over 9838 tonnes of breeder seed, 13228 tonnes of Foundation seed, 20541 tonnes of certified seed, 14860 tonnes of truthfully labeled seed and 4437 tonnes of planting material in 2011-12. The 40 million planting material and about 40000 tissue culture plantlets of field crops were produced.

#### Cutting Edge Science

- India's first ovum pick-up IVF cattle calf Holi.
- First mithun calf, Mohan, was born through embryo transfer technology from a cryo-preserved embryo.

#### Mechanization and Post-harvest Management

- Developed self-propelled hydraulic hoist for orchard management.
- Introduced pop-up tagging in Tuna for the first time in the country.
- Developed non-electric pyrolysis unit for charcoal production.

#### Information, Communication and Publicity Services

- Published the first India-ASEAN News on Agriculture and Forestry (a biennial newsletter) and first Hindi agricultural sciences research journal of ICAR, *Krishka*.
- Designed an e-learning solution, 'e learn agriculture' at the IASRI, New Delhi.
- Developed AGRI-Dash, a Knowledge Management tool for on-line expert system for crops.

#### Organization and Management Reforms

- Formulated agricultural research and development policy for the first time in the country.

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need to be strengthened, and stressed the need for the scientists and all other stakeholders to work together to address the challenge of climate change. Dr M.M. Roy (Director, CAZRI) stressed the need to alter the agro-techniques in line with changing climatic conditions and promote low carbon options. Dr B. Venkateswarlu (Director, CRIDA, Hyderabad) elaborated on the NICRA programme for developing 'Climate smart villages' in 100 districts. For details e-mail: mmroyster@gmail.com

### State Level Workshop on Integration and Effective Extension through ATMA

Babhaleshwar, 9 December 2012. The Minister for Agriculture and Marketing, Government of Maharashtra, Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, inaugurated a two-day State Level Workshop on 'Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) for Integration and Effective Extension System' that was organized by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Babhaleshwar (Taluka Rahata, District Ahmednagar) on 8 December 2012. He said that ICAR has undertaken leading role by involving the KVK with ATMA and bring about strengthening of extension system for betterment of farmers. He also added that in agriculture, being risk prone, the welfare of farmers is paramount and is required to be assisted in every possible way. The Minister of Agriculture (State), Government of Maharashtra, Shri Gulabrao Deokar, said that through ATMA various programmes and projects should be undertaken which address the problems and issues of farming community. He also added that women's participation in agricultural programmes should be increased.

Dr K.D. Kokate (Deputy Director General, Agriculture Extension) said that for the first time in the history of KVK and the entire extension system has come under one umbrella. Initially the KVKs, which focused on training and demonstrations, have now mandated to conduct technology assessment and refinement will go a long way in improving the agricultural productivity, he said. About 250 officials of all line departments were present in this Workshop. For details e-mail: gaikwadbh@yahoo.com/kvkahmednagar@yahoo.com

### CIFA breeds tamberparniei barb - an endangered ornamental fish

Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) has successfully bred one of the Western Ghats' beautiful endemic barb species, the *tamberparniei barb* (*Dawkinsia tamberparniei*) in their hatchery located at Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The Red List of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categorized *tamberparniei barb* as an endangered (EN) species. The probable reasons for its decline are a combination of habitat loss (due to removal of riparian cover, sand mining, industrial and organic pollution) and exploitation for the aquarium trade.

CIFA sees two distinct, but complementary benefits to the country from the hatchery breeding of *Dawkinsia tamberparniei*.

First, its conservation with the goal being to release the adult fish back into restored natural waterways that have yet to be re-colonized by this iconic endangered native species. Secondly, its commercialization as an indigenous ornamental fish to meet the demand for such fishes in the domestic and international markets. The *tamberparniei barb*, *D. tamberparniei* with its attractive colour combination commands high market demand as an indigenous ornamental fish. CIFA has initiated the brood stock development, induced breeding and larval rearing of *D. tamberparniei* this year. The institute has successfully bred this fish in their hatchery facility



in late August. The high demand for this species can only be met through artificial breeding and propagation through entrepreneurs. Brood stock development and larval rearing were successfully carried out in CIFA, far away from its natural habitat which clearly indicates that this fish species is amenable to acclimatization and grow well in new environments. Since the indigenous ornamental fish has good demand in domestic and international markets, *D. tamberparniei* can effectively be popularized among the entrepreneurs by developing a standardized breeding technology in the near future. For details e-mail: icarreporter@rediffmail.com

### Progress of work reviewed at IVRI Eastern Regional Station

Kolkata, 9 December 2012. Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Processing, Govt. of India, Shri Tariq Anwar, visited the Eastern Regional Station (ERS), Kolkata of Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) on 9 December 2012. He convened a meeting with the scientists of the Regional Station. The Joint Director (Extension Education) appraised the Hon'ble Minister about the salient achievements of IVRI, Izatnagar and ERS,

Kolkata related to research, teaching, training and transfer of technologies. The scientists also briefed about the ongoing research projects emphasizing on zoonotic diseases and services offered to eastern and north-eastern states of the country.



Hon'ble Minister appreciated the activities of the ERS in order to improve the health status of livestock in Eastern and North-Eastern Region. Further, he emphasized to develop low-cost technologies for the benefit of end users. He assured all possible help to further strengthen the station and wished that this Station will definitely go a long way to cater the need of the poor farmers of the region. For details e-mail: dassuresh2001@yahoo.co.uk

### Fish harvesting systems for resource conservation

Cochin, 10 December 2012. The 21-day long ICAR Winter School on 'Fish Harvesting Systems for Resource Conservation', organized by Fishing Technology Division of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Cochin from 20 November to 10 December, 2012 concluded with a valedictory function on 10 December, 2012. Twenty-five participants comprising of Assistant Professors, Scientists and Subject Matter Specialists from ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities, Colleges and State Fisheries Departments from 10 States and one Union Territory across the country attended the programme. For details e-mail: tksgopal@gmail.com

Dear All  
please submit topical news related to agriculture to:  
**Project Director**  
e-mail: pddkma@icar.org.in