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Seed Spices E-News Letter

July-August, 2018

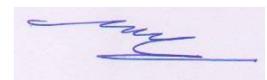
From Director's Desk



Dear Readers,

This is the beginning of season's queen "Rainy season" to quench the thirst of burning land & soil by hot summer. It is the time to plan for kharif ajwain sowing and nursery of other seed spices, where there is a possibility of transplanting has already been explored. This is also the time to monitor farm boundaries for check the loss of water and soil through erosion so as to keep our basic resource healthy and store house of water and nutrients for our seed spices in forth coming rabi season. Increasing humidity in air causes lot of insect-pest infestation in seed spices are require to store in cool and dry place to avoid such problems. Most of the seed spice crops are adaptive for winter season which creates a lean period for both researcher and stakeholders needs to sharpen them for forth coming season, hence, farmers trainings were organized and surveyed for ICT interventions in seed spices growers.

Some of the researchers went on deputation for training and other programmes pertaining to highly specialized and general in nature like Genomics assisted pre breeding, natural farming, attracting youth in agriculture etc. Abhiyan" becomes more essential at farm and institute premises by booming in weeds due to moisture, hence special drives were conducted to remove them. Our most premier column in research where we enlisted two elite lines having unique features of early maturity and higher yield for the trait specific varietal development. Hope readers will enjoy spicy information emanating from this issue with the beginning of "rainy season" which corroborate to Geosmin produced by the action of certain bacteria and actinomycetes with first shower.



(Gopal Lal)

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RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Two elite lines of anise identified for earliness and higher yield

R.K. Solanki, A.K. Verma, O.P. Aishwath and G. Lal

A project on anise crops has been concluded and the main objective of the project was to find out the superior lines of anise for the cultivation in arid and semi-arid regions. The trial comprises anise germplasm lines with one check variety (Ajmer Anise-1). There was significant variation present in the germplasm



lines for different morphological characters during the experimental periods. The average plant height of germplasm lines ranges from 43.32 cm (Ani-14) to 61.32 cm (AGP-Ani-13). Minimum day to flowering were taken by AA-17-S4 (76.33 days), while maximum days were taken by Ajmer Anise-1 (99.11 days). Highest (39.57) number of umbel/plant was recorded in Ani-15 followed by Ani-10 (39.56), Ani-16 (39.18) while maximum umbellate per umbel was recorded in Ani-4 (15.07) followed by Ani- 9 (14.82), AA-17-S4 (14.67). Maximum (197.71) number of seed per umbel was recorded in AA-17-S4 followed by Ani-8, Ani- 6, Ani- 9. Enormous variability was recorded with respect to days to maturity, earliest (150 days) maturity was recorded in

AA-17-S4 followed by Ani- 2 (155 days), while check variety AA-1 taken 166 days to mature. Two lines (AGP-2 and AA-17-S4) found superior than AA-1 with regards to yield and days to maturity. Among the different germplasm lines maximum (11 q/ha) yield was recorded in germplasm line AA-17-S4 followed Ani-2 (8.6 q/ha), which were significantly higher than Ajmer Anise-1 (7.3 q/ha). The author highly thankful to Director ICAR-NRCSS for managing the necessary facilities.

EVENTS/MEETINGS/FIELD DAYS/ TRAININGS ORGANIZED Events

A three days training programme on *Saunf ki kheti* (cultivation of fennel) was organised from 18th-21st July, 2018 at the centre for the progressive farmers of Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh under the leadership of Course Director, Dr. Gopal Lal ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer. In the inaugural function of this programme, Dr. Gopal Lal welcomes all the



participants and advised them to interact with the specialist and take advantage of

their expertise in the field of seed spices particularly fennel crop. The training was coordinated by Dr. A.K. Verma, Mr. Ravi Y. and Sh. S.R. Meena. The fennel crop is newly introduced to this area for cultivation and farmers want to grow this crop, so looking into the farmer's need, the training was focussed on 'cultivation of fennel crop'. The training programme was included with all the aspects of fennel cultivation starting from land preparation, selection of improved cultivars, seed treatment, important cultural practices, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest and disease management, pre and post harvest managements, marketing and to seed production. The lectures were delivered by the expert from different subjects of ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer. Food and accommodation facilities were also provided during the training period to the trainees. At the end of the training programme, *Trichoderma* bioagent for seed treatment was distributed among the trainees. Finally training was concluded with the feedback from the trainees.

Farmers training on “Bijiye Masala Faslon Ki UnnatKheti”

A five day's training programme was organised at ICAR-NRCSS Ajmer under the leadership of Course Director, Dr. Gopal Lal from 20-24 August, 2018. In this training thirty farmers from

Shamber and Dudu block, Jaipur along with two state department official participated. Total twenty five lectures by the resource persons among them 23 by



ICAR-NRCSS experts and two outside of this centre were delivered. Farmers were imparted with knowledge on advance technologies on production, protection, improvement, soil management post-harvest management, value addition and marketing aspect of seed spice crops and also other major crops grown by the trainee farmers. Topics like animal husbandry, crop insurance and use of social media in agriculture were also covered. An open house discussion of



farmers with Director ICAR-NRCSS Dr Gopal Lal was arranged. Farmers raised the queries related to seed spice production, were replied by the director

with appropriate solution. On concluding day, products of ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer i.e. coriander seed, Trichoderma powder etc alongwith participation certificate was distributed among the farmers and officers. This training was coordinated successfully by Dr. O.P. Aishwath, Dr. Sharda Choudhary and Dr. M.D. Meena.

Extension/TOT and HRD Scientist-Farmers interface meeting under TSP

Use of ICT by spice growers in Gujarat: A primary survey

A primary survey under the project “Assessing approachability and of ICT and effective medium of Information dissemination to cumin and coriander



grower of Western India” was carried out in Banaskanta, Patan and Mehsana districts of Gujarat during 1 to 3 August, 2018. The survey was carried out by ICAR-NRCSS team comprising Dr. M. D. Meena, Dr. R.D. Meena, Dr. A.K. Verma and Mr. S.R. Meena. During this survey work personnel interview of more than one hundred and fifty farmers from Devodar,

Kankrej, Deesa, Palanpur, Amirgadh, Harij, Radhanpur, Sami, Patan, Unja, tehsils of study area was conducted. Team also visited major cumin mandis in Gujarat namely TharaMandi in Patan District and



UnjaMandi from Mehsana district and interacted with traders also. The team came to know from preliminary observations that private input dealers in the surveyed area were the major source of information related to agriculture. Majority of the farmers are receiving SMS from SAU, state departments and private agencies. Young farmers were found to use internet based social media apps for seeking market related information.

SWACHHCHATA ABHIYAN

Under the ambit of **Swachhch Bharat Abhiyan** cleanliness program is continuously being organised on Friday of every week wherein, cleaning work in and around the office premises is being carried out which involves eradication of weeds, plastic and other unwanted material was carried out. Special cleanliness drives were conducted during July-August, 2018 in the

area around the highway in front of the office and a tract of about 1.0 km was cleaned which included collecting of waste, uprooting of weeds, pruning of thorny trees and collection of these organic waste and transporting it to our compost pit. Participation of all the staff members of ICAR-NRCSS under the leadership of Director was ensured for the successfulness of the Abhiyan.

MEETINGS/TRAININGS/ SEMINARS /SYMPOSIUMS/LECTURES/ CONFERENCES

Meetings attended

10 days Short Course Training on “Genomics Assisted pre breeding in



Vegetable crops” at ICAR-IARI, New Delhi (25/06/2018 to 04/07/2018) was attended by Dr. A.K. Verma, and Sh. Ravi Y. Scientists, Spices, Plantation and Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.

- Dr. Gopal Lal, Director, attended a foundation day of ICAR-NRC on Camel and exhibition of ICAR-NRCSS also exhibited on 5th July, 2018.
- Dr. Gopal Lal, Director, ICAR-NRCSS monitored Pandit Dindayal Upadhyaya Yojana and also delivered a lecture on Role of seed spices “Natural Farming” in Piprali-Sikar from 12-12 July, 2018.
- On 16th July, 2018 Director, Gopal Lal, attended ICAR foundation day at New Delhi.
- Dr. Gopal Lal, Director attended Regional Conference on “Motivating & attracting youth in Agriculture” organized by TAAS at New Delhi.

APPOINTMENT/PROMOTIONS/TRANSFER/RETIREMENTS/JOINING /TRANSFER

1. Dr. Shiv Lal, Senior Scientist transferred from ICAR-CITH, Srinagar (J&K) to ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer w.e.f. 4.7.2018.
2. Dr. Narendra Choudhary, Scientist transferred from ICAR-IISR, Regional Station-Appangala, Madikeri Karnataka to ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer w.e.f. 2.7.2018.



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