



NEWS LETTER

Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture

January - June, 2010

From the Director's Desk.....



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Coping with weather extremes in Agriculture

The last decade saw several records in terms of extreme weather events in India. The decade recorded highest maximum temperatures and highly skewed rainfall pattern. Different parts of the country have experienced long dry spells and severe floods simultaneously. More importantly, the intra seasonal variability in rainfall has increased. In several parts of the country, the number of rainy days are decreasing without change in the annual rainfall which is leading to more intense rains, accelerated soil erosion and floods. This is resulting in increased pest and disease incidence and posing major challenges in managing our natural resources. Going by the global models, the extreme weather events are only to increase further in future.

Much of our location specific research information has been generated for a particular rainfall pattern and temperature regions. The new challenges posed by droughts and floods in the same season have to be addressed with a new approach to research and technology transfer. We have to evolve plant material and technologies which can cope with prolonged dry spells and water logging in a short span of four months. While such strategic research has to be carried out on a long term basis, we need to also apply the readily available technologies for drought and flood management in the farmers' fields and enable them to cope with such extremes. With this in view, CRIDA has taken up the responsibility of compiling all the available information in the country for coping with drought, floods, heat wave, cold wave, frost, cyclone etc. These plans are being prepared for all the districts in the country in collaboration with the State Agricultural Universities, Departments of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. Once such plans are ready, it is hoped that the district administration will be better equipped to handle weather extremes in the country.

Dr. B. VENKATESWARLU

Director, CRIDA

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Portable pump set for lifting water from ponds

It is commonly believed that low head pump sets are suitable only for furrow irrigation but not for sprinkler. 5-HP pump sets are generally used for pumping water through sprinklers which consumes @ 1.5 ltr diesel/ hr. Considering the cost and weight, farmers find it difficult to use such pumps for farm ponds. A low weight portable pump was a long felt need of farmers. A portable pump set was (I.S,H.P) identified and tested for lifting water from ponds. Six sprinklers could be operated at a time covering an area of 700 m² with an effective radius throw

of 9m. The diesel consumption of the was 0.7 l/hr. and the discharge was 5 lps. The system was tested at Hayathnagar Farm, CRIDA for lifting 236 m³ of harvested water from pond for supplemental irrigation of 0.1 ha red gram and 0.15 ha of vegetable crops (Okra, and brinjal) through sprinkler irrigation .No operational defects were found during the tests. In all, the identified pump set needs to run for about 6 hrs to cover 1 acre with an irrigation depth of 10 mm with a diesel cost of Rs. 160/- per acre.

R.V.Adake,
Scientist, Sr.Scale (FMP)

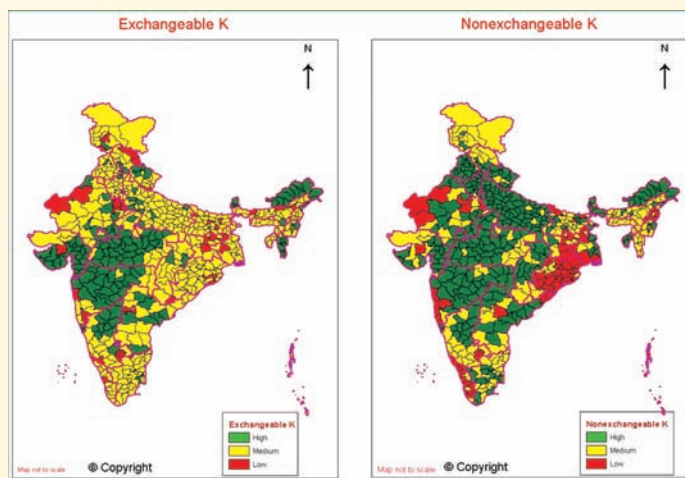


Portable pump in operation for lifting water farm pond and sprinkler irrigation

Classification of Districts Based on Non-exchangeable K

Recommendations of potassic fertilizer are generally made based on available (exchangeable + water soluble) K status of soils. However, recent studies indicate a substantial contribution of non-exchangeable K to crop uptake. Geographic information system (GIS) was used for categorizing the districts into low, medium and high in terms of exchangeable and non-exchangeable K based on published information on K status in Indian soils during last 30 years. Using Arc view 3.1, district wise maps of exchangeable and non-exchangeable K and boundaries of agro ecological regions on these maps were imposed. Through these maps, K deficient districts were identified where K application is a must. Maintenance dose of K is required in some districts where, exchangeable K is high but non-exchangeable K is low or medium. These maps and suggested recommendations help to prioritize the K deficient zones where K application is essential. These maps also help in meeting high K requirement crops like banana, sugarcane, potato, cotton, several cereals, tobacco, intensive fodder systems, vegetables and fruit

crops by super imposing crop area on these maps. Our study showed that inclusion of non-exchangeable K in the soil testing laboratories help in arriving at reliable K fertilizer recommendations in India.



District wise exchangeable and non exchangeable K status of Indian soils

Ch.Srinivasa Rao,
Principal Scientist (Soil Science)

NEW RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Biochar for Carbon Sequestration

Crop residues can be carbonized by partial combustion to highly stable carbon compound known as 'biochar' or biomass-derived black C. The main quality of biochar is its carbon-rich fine-grained, highly porous structure and increased surface area, that makes it an ideal soil amendment for carbon sequestration. Producing biochar from crop residues and its utilization as a soil amendment emerged as one of the most promising approach for soil carbon sequestration in rainfed agriculture. CRIDA has initiated research on biochar and recently developed a low cost charring kiln to produce biochar from cotton, maize and castor bean stalks on a smaller scale to study the production of biochar at different loading rates and partial combustion periods. We are also studying its mineralization in soil and its effect on soil properties and crop yields.

To know the conversion efficiency of each stalk into biochar, different loading rates and partial combustion periods were tried. For each of the crop stalks, the highest conversion efficiency on partial combustion into biochar was identified. In kharif 2010, biochar from different crops was applied in the field to study its effects on soil properties and yield of pigeon pea and the results are very promising. Any positive effect of biochar on soil carbon sequestration nutrient supply and crop yield could significantly contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

G.Venkatesh,
Scientist (Forestry)

New carbon finance model for large community

Farmers generally take up activities for enhancing the agricultural productivity and income, in the normal business of

agriculture, which besides reducing the green house gas emissions, also sequester carbon. Some of these interventions are of agro forestry systems like agri horticulture systems, silvi pasture, agri silviculture, development of degraded lands and pastures, integrated nutrient management, residue management, zero tillage, conservation agriculture and adoption of measures which enhance energy efficiency, etc.

The existing CDM project in agriculture/forestry focus on covering large contiguous area for afforestation or large number of biogas plants in renewable energy sector. This does not benefit farmers who are not organized. An alternative model carbon finance project based on an area coverage with multiple activities was started by CRIDA in a large village (Jaffergudem) in Warangal district of A.P. In this approach all activities like afforestation, horticulture, manure management, biogas energy saving will be aggregated to claim credits

The entire village was selected for the project covering six hamlets, with an area of about 2070 ha. The GHG mitigation activities identified are agri horticulture, introduction of teak in to the existing systems, agri silviculture, silvi culture in degraded lands. The entire degraded land in the village and the degraded grasslands will be developed with suitable vegetation for enhancing their productivity. Other measures for arresting the further degradation of the land and soil erosion will also be taken up. Large scale tree planting can be integrated in to the employment guarantee programme by which it can be made as a community led development initiative.

JVNS Prasad
Sr. Scientist (Agronomy)

TECHNOLOGIES FOR ADOPTION

Ridge-furrow planting of Pigeonpea + Rice in Eastern Plain Zone of Uttar Pradesh

Recommendation domain:

Varanasi, Chandauli, Sant Rabidas Nagar, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra districts in Eastern Plain and Vindhyan Zone of Uttar Pradesh.

Improved Technology

Ridge-furrow planting of pigeonpea (Bahar) and rice (NDR-97) both in uplands and medium lands helps in minimizing risk and harvesting bonus yield of component crop i.e. either rice in case of pigeonpea based or pigeonpea in case of rice based system. Pigeonpea is planted on ridge and rice in furrows. The ridge-forming machine makes ridges 60 cm apart and 15 cm wide on the top and the cost of the machine is Rs. 2000/-



Pigeonpea + rice intercropping on ridges and furrows

Performance

Ridge-furrow planting helps in runoff modulation, crop diversification, soil fertility build up, risk reduction and disruption of pest cycle. This system produces a rice equivalent yield of 8866 kg/ha (2200 kg ha⁻¹ of rice and 2000 kg ha⁻¹ of pigeonpea) as against 3500 kg ha⁻¹ of rice with farmers' practice of sole rice under flat planting. Further, this system also gives 1.6 times higher biomass, and 18 percent reduction in production cost and 47 percent higher income over farmers' practice.

Impact and Upscaling

About 25 percent area in the region has come under this ridge-furrow planting system. With the introduction of ridge forming machine and its availability through custom hiring, large area under this diversified system is expected in future.

For further details, contact:

Chief Scientist, AICRPDA, IAS, BHU, Varanasi – 221 005, UP, Phone: 0542 - 2307111;
Email: Spr_Adrnarp@Sancharnet.In.

New Horsegram variety notified

CRHG-4, a second horsegram variety evolved by CRIDA was notified by CVRC for South India in April 2010. It has high yield potential of 785 kg/ha, based on testing at 28 locations of the country over 4 years. The variety matures in 85-95 days. Its unique feature is that it is grown purely under rainfed conditions with no inputs and ideal for small holders. It is also tolerant to shattering of pods CRHG-4 is tolerant to powdery mildew, anthracnose and mites.



CRHG-04, Single plant and field view

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

IMC meeting

The 40th management committee meeting of CRIDA was held on 16th January of 2010 under the chairmanship of Director, CRIDA. The members were briefed about the new initiatives and development activities taken up by the institute. The farmer members shared their experience on watershed projects in Maharashtra which was appreciated by all members



IMC meeting in progress

National Symposium on 'Climate Change and Rainfed Agriculture'

A two-day National Symposium on Climate Change and Rainfed Agriculture was organized by Indian Society of Dryland Agriculture and Central Research Institute for Dry land Agriculture, Hyderabad from 18-20 February 2010. About 220 delegates from various research institutes, SAU's, NGO's, banks, farmers and policy makers attended the symposium and discussed the road map for rainfed agriculture research under changing climate. The

symposium was inaugurated by the H. E. Shri ESL Narasimhan, Governor of Andhra Pradesh on 18, Feb., 2010. Dr William Dar, DG, ICRISAT was the Guest of Honour and Dr J C Katyal, Former Vice-Chancellor, CCS HAU, Hisar presided over the inaugural function. More than 200 papers were presented through oral and poster sessions organized under five technical sessions viz., 1) Vulnerability assessment of rainfed farming to climate change, 2) Impacts, adaptation and mitigation strategies in dryland cropping systems 3) Climate change and natural resources, 4) Impacts, adaptation and mitigation in livestock and fisheries, 5) Social and economics, risk management and policy issues. Dr.D. Purandeswari, Hon'ble Minister for State, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India was the Chief Guest for Plenary Session held on 20th February. Dr. P. Raghava Reddy, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, ANGRAU was Guest of Honour. The key recommendations from this symposium can be seen at www.crida.ernet.in





Different events of National Symposium on Climate Change

Brainstorming on forecasting technological needs

A brainstorming cum workshop on 'Forecasting future technological needs for rainfed agriculture in India' was organized on 19th March 2010 jointly by CRIDA and IASRI. About 100 delegates representing invited experts, researchers

and NGOs participated in the workshop. Critical issues related to rainfed agriculture were discussed to identify gaps and assess future technological needs. Besides lead papers, inputs from all invitees were solicited. The data will be analysed and documented by IASRI.



Brainstorming session in progress

Preparation of district level contingency plans

Based on the directions from the parliamentary committee on agriculture, CRIDA initiated a major effort of preparation of district wise contingency plans for all 600 districts in the country in 127 agro-climatic sub zones. These contingency plans are meant for providing technical guidance to the district administration for timely interventions to help the farmers when natural calamities like drought, floods, heavy rains, hail storms, cold wave, heat wave, etc. hit the farm sector covering crops, horticulture, livestock and fisheries.

The scientists from all state agricultural universities, KVKs and state relief commissioners are involved in this effort. A one day orientation workshop was held for Southern states of AP, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Kerala at CRIDA on 17th April, where in the template for district plans was finalized. Similar workshops were held for all other zones viz., North, West, East and Northeast and a schedule was drawn up for

completion of work before October,2010. Dr.Y.G.Prasad, Principal Scientist is coordinating the activities at CRIDA.



IRC Meeting

The annual Institute Research Council (IRC) meeting was held on 4, 5, 6, 26 May and 1st June 2010. The main agenda was to cut down large number of experiments and focus on few major themes. In all 79 projects including externally funded were reviewed and 8 new projects were approved. Director appreciated the efforts of the scientists in the past year in terms of external projects sanctioned, funds mobilized and additional responsibilities assigned by the council in recognition of the institute's contribution.

18th RAC meeting

The Eighteenth Research Advisory Committee Meeting (RAC) was held on 20th May 2009 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Dwarakinath. Members Drs. S. M. Virmani, R. K. Aggarwal, A. T. Rao and D. C. Upreti attended the meeting. The Chairman called for renewed emphasis on dryland agriculture and small farmers. The Chairman also reiterated that technology generation and transfer should receive equal emphasis and CRIDA should champion the cause of dryland agriculture in the country and sensitize policy makers.

The members made several useful suggestions to plan research programmes under climate change, resource conservation and impact assessment of watershed projects.

Mid- Course Evaluation of NABARD Watersheds

Three inter-disciplinary teams of scientists from CRIDA carried out a NABARD sponsored mid-course evaluation of



RAC meeting in progress

two WDF watersheds ie.Thimmapur and Fazulnagar in Karimnagar district and one Indo-German Watershed Veeraram in Warangal district of Andhra Pradesh during April June, 2010. The studies brought out that the critical role of project facilitating agencies and community involvement in bio physical interventions. The studies brought out the administrative, institutional, technical and policy measures that are required for effective implementation of such projects and sustaining the gains. The executive summary of this evaluation can be seen at www.crida.ernet.in

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE INNOVATION PROJECT

Training on cultivation of fodder crops & preservation methods

A one-day training programme on 4th February 2010 was organized for all the dairy farmers on cultivation of fodder crops and preservation methods during lean periods at Ibrahimpur village, Parigi,Rangareddy district. Around 30 dairy farmers participated. Cultivation of annual and perennial fodder crops and preservation methods like hay and silage were explained. Importance of Azolla as supplementary feed was demonstrated.

KSC Awareness camp and Quiz Programme

As a part of the community mobilization activities to create awareness among the cluster over ICTs and its objectives, "KSC Awareness camp and Quiz Programme" was conducted in Jamistanpur cluster, Mahabubnagar on February 24 2010. Around 45 farmers, women and rural youth participated in the programme. After initial awareness quiz was organised on services of various ICT tools like touch screen kiosk, display announcement package, IVRS and Internet. The farmers gained hands on experience on these ICT tools.

Agri packing and storage unit inaugurated

On 5th March, 2010, Director CRIDA inaugurated the Agri

packing and storage unit built as part of Cluster Livelihood Resource Centre, built by project partner WASSAN at Nazeerabad, to serve the post harvest packaging needs of farmers of Ibrahimpur cluster.



Inauguration of Agri packing and storage unit

Agro Web Workshop

A one day workshop was organized on 17th March, 2010 at CRIDA to review the progress made in Agroweb project of NAIP. The website created with Joomla CMS was presented to the participants for their suggestions. It was decided to create a section depicting the major research themes on the front page which could be updated periodically.

Review workshop on "Mechanization of sweet sorghum"

CRIDA organized a seminar cum workshop on "Mechanization of sweet sorghum crop for enhanced productivity and profitability" on 23-3-2010 as a part of NAIP. About 55 scientists and engineers participated in the seminar including 8 representatives from industry. Dr. B. V. S. Reddy from ICRISAT presented the status of sweet sorghum crop and its viability for bioethanol production. Dr. I. Srinivas, convener briefed about the status of mechanization and critical gaps. Representatives from Rusni distilleries and Tata chemicals outlined the industry perspectives and need to bring down the cost of cultivation. The deliberations helped in creating a road map for mechanization of sweet sorghum cultivation in India.



Deliberations during workshop

INM workshop

A workshop on INM trials was held on 22nd March 2010 at the lead centre to discuss the progress of the INM activities in different clusters. The workshop was attended by about 25 participants representing various NAIP partners, ICRISAT staff, CRIDA scientists and project staff. Issues such as SSNM treatments based on the individual farmers soils test data, data collection and monitoring were discussed.



Workshop on INM trial in progress

Malkaipet farmers meet for Kharif crop planning

A meeting of the group leaders of the Water Users Association of Malkaipet thanda, Rangareddy district was organized by WASSAN on 20th April. The network of pipelines laid out for pooling and using the bore well water among 18 farmers spread over 45 acres was a significant event in the cluster. Due to this infrastructure, about 25 acres came under rabi groundnut for the first time in Malkaipet

thanda during the last year. Group leaders of Malkaipet Water Users Association, farmer representatives from Gundlapalli and Challapur villagers discussed the water sharing interventions.



Discussions on water sharing interventions

District Administration, Bhilwara to emulate SRLS Model

Senior Officers of the district administration, Bhilwara, Rajasthan visited NAIP SRLS project sites in AP on 24th April 2010 and discussed with CPI and other members regarding the project interventions, institutional set up and innovations. They expressed keen interest to formulate a project on similar lines for Bhilwara. Dr S.K. Sharma of the AICRPDA, Bhilwara centre coordinated the visit.

Consortium Implementation Committee (CIC) Meetings

The Consortium Implementation Committee (CIC) meeting cum Kharif Planning Workshop of livelihood project was held on 28 and 29th May, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Director, CRIDA. During the meet, the consortium partners presented cluster wise progress and kharif plan for 2010. Despite a severe drought in kharif 2009, the innovative interventions helped farmers to cope with drought. These are to be documented carefully.



Discussions on kharif plan 2010

The Sixth Consortium Implementation Committee (CIC) meetings of NAIP Component 4 Sub-project on Development of Decision Support Systems for pest management was also held on 15th February and 26th June 2010 chaired by Director, CRIDA. The meeting reviewed the project progress and sorted out administrative, financial and implementation issues. The meetings were attended by the consortium partners: CICR, Nagpur, DRR, Hyderabad, NCIPM, New Delhi and SAC, Ahmedabad.

NEWS FROM AICRPs

Water Day organized by ORP, Solapur

A Water Day was organized jointly by CRIDA and ORP centre, Solapur, under Farmers Participatory Action Research Programme of Ministry of Water Resources in the field of Shri. Vivek Bhange, Sarole village, Mohol tehsil, Solapur district on January 29, 2010. About 65 farmers from Sarole and nearby villages, Mr. A. Beig, Deputy Director, Central Water Commission, officers from Dept. of Agriculture, scientists from ZARS, Solapur participated. The successful demonstration of tank silt application to enhance water productivity and issues in upscaling were discussed on the day.



Project beneficiaries sharing experience

Kisan Mela

A Kisan Mela was organized at AICRPDA Center and Agriculture Research Station, Anantapur on 7th and 8th March 2010. The Mela was inaugurated by Sri N. Raghuvveera Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of A.P. Many local elected representatives, the vice chancellor of ANGRAU and sr. officers from line departments participated in the meet. The major technologies developed by the center were explained by the scientists, particularly on groundnut production. About 3000 farmers participated in the Mela. Farmers visited various stalls depicting rainfed technologies and

Visit of Joint Secretary (SGSY) to ORP village, Arjia

Sh. Vijay Kumar, I.A.S., Joint Secretary (SGSY), Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Govt. of India, visited the adopted villages of ORP Centre, Arjia viz., Kochariya and Mandpiya on April 10, 2010 and interacted with the farming community. He appreciated the impact of the ORP programme and sought the help of the center to formulate National Livelihood Mission pilot project in Bhilwara district and announced that ORP and Main centres at Arjia would be partners to this programme.



Sh. Vijaykumar, IAS Jt. Secretary (SGSY) interacting with farming community



Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture addressing farmers at kisan mela

PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA

- **Director, CRIDA** attended Planning Commission meeting on midterm review chaired by Dr.Kasturi Rangan, Member, at Nagpur on February 22, 2010.
- **Dr.B.Venkateswarlu**, Director, CRIDA, participated in the high level expert consultancy at ICRISAT on February 23, 2010 on formulation of CG mega programmes..
- **Drs.P.K.Mishra**, Project Coordinator and **Dr. G. Ravindra Chary**, Principal Scientist attended National Workshop on Agricultural Drought Monitoring and Vulnerability assessment at NRSC, Hyderabad, 10-11 March, 2010.
- **Director, CRIDA** participated in the workshop on Climate Change action in semiarid areas with focus on Bundhelkhand

at Orcha, on April 27, 2010.

- **Dr.M.Maheswari** Head of division attended the National Conference on women in Science as invited speaker organized by Indian Women Scientists Association and TWOS on May 8-9, 2010 at IICT, Hyderabad.
- **Director, CRIDA**, attended the meeting to review the document on National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture at DAC, New Delhi, on May 24,2010
- **Dr.M.V.Padmanabhan**, Principal Scientist (SWCE) & Head, TOT participated in the meeting of the Rainfed Farming Mission of the Government of Tamilnadu at Chennai on June 29, 2010.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Silver Jubilee Foundation Day of CRIDA

The Silver Jubilee Foundation Day of CRIDA was celebrated on April 12, 2010, in a befitting manner. The Institute's achievements during the past 25 years were highlighted by the Director. Shri Shiti Kanthananda Swamiji of Ramakrishna



Inspiring message from chief guest

math, Hyderabad as a Chief Guest gave a motivational speech by relating science, divinity and duty. Scientists who received awards during the last one year were facilitated on this occasion. Dr. K. Karemula, vice president, CRIDA Cultural Club coordinated the event successfully.



Director felicitating the scientist

IMPORTANT VISITORS

- Technical staff from 30 project facilitating agencies (PFAs) of NABARD Watershed Programme in Nizamabad district of AP visited CRIDA on 27th January, 2010. Shri G.Ramasubraminyam, AGM, NABARD facilitated the visit. The team visited Hayathnagar Research Farm to gain up to date knowledge on rainfed agriculture technologies and interaction with the scientists.
- Five scientists from Australian PhytoFuel Company visited CRIDA on 29.4.2010, to know our work on biofuels
- A twelve member official delegation from Ethiopia visited CRIDA on June 4, 2010, led by **Ato Sileshi Getahun, Director**, Natural Resources Management Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD), Ethiopia. The team interacted with heads of divisions and senior officers and evinced keen interest on our work



Ethiopian delegation interaction with CRIDA scientists

on NRM in relation to livelihoods.

- **Dr. Amit Aradhey**, Agricultural Specialist, American Embassy, New Delhi visited CRIDA on 17th June, 2010 to discuss the recent developments in biofuel crops.

VISITS ABROAD

- **Dr. N. Jyothi Laxmi**, Sr. Scientist (Physiology) visited cropping systems research laboratory of USDA, Lubbock, Texas during 24th March-June 18, 2010 under NAIP Capacity Building Component-I for hands on training on MAS, mapping QTL's in sorghum for transpiration efficiency
- **Dr. G. Ravindra Chary**, Principal Scientist (Agronomy) visited Wagenengin University and Research (WUR) Centre for Development of Innovation, Wagenengin, during 20-29

May, 2010 to attend a short course on Agriculture in Transition: analysis, design and management of sustainable farming.

- **Dr. K. Ravi Shankar**, Sr Scientist (Agri.Extn.) attended the International Climate Change Adaptation Conference at Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia during June 29-July 1, 2010 and presented a paper on "Farmers perception on Adaptation Measures towards Climate Change in South India".

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Workshop on “Emerging Paradigms in Watershed Management

Capacity Building Training cum Workshop for Sensitization of Senior Officers from Andhra Pradesh on “Emerging Paradigms in Watershed Management” was held at CRIDA during February 23-25,2010. This was sponsored by NRAA. The



Participants of workshop and interaction with farmers in the watershed project site

senior officers were exposed to emerging concepts in watershed management, revised guidelines, criteria of selection of watersheds, DPR preparation, institutional mechanisms, project management and sustainability issues besides field visit to watershed sites and interaction with farmers.



KVK ACTIVITIES

- During the period, the KVK conducted 22 need based and skill oriented training programmes which were attended by 737 clientele including practicing farmers, rural youth, extension functionaries etc.
- A field day on chickpea was conducted on March 10, 2010 in the KVK adopted village Jalaguda. Around 50 farmers were exposed to the varietal performance and IPM technologies on chickpea for improving productivity.
- Scientists of KVK participated in ‘Rythu Chaitanya Yathralu, kharif – 2010 programme organized by the State Department of Agriculture during 17th May to 2nd June, 2010 in different mandals of Ranga Reddy district.
- Scientists of KVK participated in ‘Rythu Sadassulu’ programmes organized by the State Department of Agriculture on 8th June at Maheswaram, on 9th June at Pargi and on 13th June at Peddemul villages and arranged exhibitions in all places by displaying various technologies developed by the CRIDA for the benefit of farmers.



Trainees gain skill on operating farm machinery

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Title of the event	Duration
Model Training Course on “Impact of Climate Change in Rainfed Agriculture and Adaptation Strategies”	August 3-10, 2010
ICAR Training Course on Water Productivity	September 16-29, 2010
Model Training Course on “Integrated nutrient, pest and disease management in dryland crops”	November, 2010
Model Training Course on “Mechanization in dryland agriculture”	December, 2010

For more details please visit the: www.crida.ernet.in

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Principal Scientist (Soil Science) received "Sukumar Basu memorial award" of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi on 13-2-2010 for his outstanding contributions in the field of soil science from Honourable President of India.
- Dr.B.Venkateswarlu, Director, CRIDA was conferred the fellowship of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences by the President Dr. Mangala Rai during Annual General Meeting held on June 5, 2010 at New Delhi.



CRIDA foundation day awards for staff

To encourage and motivate the staff to work efficiently and contribute to growth of the Institute, 3 awards in the categories of technical, administrative and supporting staff were instituted from the year 2010 which marks the silver jubilee year for CRIDA. These awards to be given to the best employees in the particular category selected based on a detailed process of assessment of their long term and sustained contribution to the institute, team spirit and punctuality etc. These awards will be given annually on 12 April, the foundation day of CRIDA



Mr. Narsingh Singh (administration), Mr.K. Venkanna (technical) and Mr. K. Narayana (supporting staff) receiving foundation day awards from the Director

PERSONNEL INFORMATION

Appointments and Promotions

Name	Promoted/Appointed as	Date
Dr.C.A. Rama Rao	Principal Scientist (Agril.Econ.)	17.10.2008
Dr. S.S. Balloli	Principal Scientist	03.12.2008
Dr.M. Vanaja	Principal Scientist	11.06.2008
Dr. G. Ravindra Chary	Principal Scientist	09.12.2008
Mr. J. Mani Babu	T-1(Field/Farm Technician)	03.02.2010
Ms. DGM Saroja	T-3 (Field/Farm Technician)	03.02.2010
Mr. I. Bhaskara Rao	T-4 (Agril.Engg.)	24.02.2010

Our Hearty Congratulations to them

Retirements

Name	Designation	Date of superannuation
Smt. Battila Yellamma	SSS	01.02.2010
Shri B. Balakrishna	T-5	30.04.2010
Smt. Begari Rukkamma	SSS	01.05.2010
Shri S. Narasimha	T-5	30.06.2010

Our best wishes to them for happy and peaceful retired life

Obituary

Shri M. Narsing Rao	T-5	21.01.2010
Shri M. Srinivasulu	T-5	17.04.2010
ShriK.Eshwar	SSS	12.05.2010

CRIDA staff express their deep condolences to the bereaved family members

Transfers/Return from deputation

Mr. B. Amarnath	Assistant joined back from deputation at PDBC Bangalore w.e.f. 01.04.2010
Mr. G. Lakshminarayana	AAO transferred to NIASM , Baramati, w.e.f. 04.05.2010

CULTURAL AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES

Sports meet

CRIDA participated in ICAR South Zone Sports Meet at CIFT, Cochin during February 23-27, 2010 and won gold medal in Table Tennis (men), the team consisted of Y.G. Prasad, K. Surender Rao, Balloli SS and Ahmed Pasha.S. Mukund won bronze medal in cycle race

Republic Day

CRIDA celebrated 60th Republic Day on January 26, 2010 with enthusiasm and gaiety. Dr. B. Venkateswarlu, Director hoisted the National flag and addressed the gathering. On the occasion, twenty five members of CRIDA staff who completed 25 years of service were honoured with Certificates by the Director. He inspired the staff with his message to work with commitment and propel the institute to greater heights



Director's Republic day message to CRIDA staff

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