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किसानों का हमसफर
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

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Review Meet on brucellosis

New Delhi, 22 November 2014. A two-day long Annual Review Meet of Department of Biotechnology sponsored



'Network Project on Brucellosis' was jointly organized by Jawaharlal Nehru University and National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (NIVEDI), Bengaluru at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi from 21 to 22 November 2014. Prof. Sudhir Kumar Sopory (Vice Chancellor, JNU) inaugurated the Meet and emphasized that he could sense the quality of work carried out in the project in controlling and prevention of brucellosis in the country.

Dr H. Rahman (Project Coordinator and Director, NIVEDI) highlighted the impact of brucellosis on the economy and food security of the country. He stated that brucellosis' a widespread zoonosis, causes heavy economic loss to farmers of the country. Dr H. Rahman called upon the investigators to make this landmark project a success.

Dr S.R. Rao (Advisor, DBT) emphasized on the need of documentation, digitalization of the data and mentioned the research work carried out in Bioinformatics and Vaccine sub-projects. After threadbare discussions the following recommendations were made:

Recommendations

1. Strengthening the molecular epidemiology by increasing the isolation to understand the disease dynamics and generate an epidemiology map of India. Correlation analyses of the bulk data may also be undertaken.
2. Genomics of all *Brucella* isolates to be done.
3. The diagnostic kits developed under this project should be validated by a third party.
4. The vaccines developed under this project should be validated by groups within the network followed by validation by third party at the earliest.

There were two informative talks by two international experts Dr Michael Ward, (Professor, University of Sydney, Australia) on 'Epidemiology of Brucellosis', and Dr Ramesh (Professor, Vemulapalli, Purdue University, USA) on 'Better Vaccines for Brucellosis'.

Workshop on Ganga Fisheries

Allahabad, 21 November 2014. To highlight the importance of fish diversity of the Ganga river because the river is known as original abode of the valuable Indian fish species, World Fisheries Day was celebrated at the Allahabad Regional Centre of Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute. The river is rapidly losing its valuable fish diversity due to cumulative effect of massive anthropogenic activities in the river and along the catchments. The workshop was organized to discuss the relevant issues with the stakeholders and to sensitise the fishers, fish traders, fish farmers and NGOs of Allahabad about the situation. The deliberations were given by the renowned personalities who highlighted about maintaining water quality of the river by using various treatment plants along the river course and explained the work done by the centre in recent years on ecology and fisheries of the river Ganga in relation to multiple stressors; pen culture in the region, and studies related to climate changes.



Prospects and potential of pulses for coastal region

Goa, 23 November 2014. A Brainstorming Session on 'Prospects and potential of pulses for coastal region' was held at Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Old Goa.



Dr Narendra Pratap Singh (Director, ICAR Research Complex for Goa) requested the expert group to suggest research plan for the pulses production in the coastal areas. Dr B.B. Singh (ADG, OP) highlighted the scope of pulses especially mungbean, urdbean and cowpea in the coastal areas. However, Dr B.B. Singh cautioned separated approaches to be designed for east and west coast as they are very different. Potential and scope of pulses in the coastal areas was presented by experts. Suitable crops, varieties, production practices and crop protection were discussed. Priorities of introducing pulses in coastal areas were identified through discussions and it was proposed to prepare a strategic plan for implementation.

Farm Innovators Day

Jhansi, 19 November 2014. The National Research Centre for Agroforestry observed Farm Innovators Day at Parasai-Sindh watershed in Babina block of Jhansi district. Dr Javed Rizvi (Regional Director) and Dr Rajendra Choudhary (Senior Liaison & Monitoring Officer, South Asia Programme, ICRAF, New Delhi) observed the interventions taken up in watershed and discussed the impact of the measures with the accompanying farmers during their visit at the Parasai-Sindh watershed. The team has interactions with community and realized that virtually there is no impact of deficit rainfall (31% less than long term average rainfall) on agricultural activities.

Dr S K Dhyani (Director, NRCAF) informed the team that this scenario vindicates that only watershed management through alternate land use system such as agro-forestry is the viable option in the region as far as water availability is concerned and it will also check the migration in search of livelihoods. The issue of sanitation and cleanliness was also raised and the team advised the villagers about benefits of having plants of guava, *aonla*, drumstick, *tulsi* and giloy in the backyard of the household.

World Fisheries Day

Dehra Dun, 21 November 2014. The Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute (CSWCRT&I) celebrated the World Fisheries Day, 2014 at the Research Farm, Selakui. Dr P.K. Mishra (Director, CSWCRT&I) highlighted the need of conserving water and fisheries resources as natural capital and life support systems. Dr Mishra informed the august gathering that fish and fisheries resources need to be cared for many reasons, and mainly for being important natural resources and livelihood options. The students and participants were sensitized on the on-going *Swachh Bhatart Abhyan* to maintain cleanliness in the premises for the benefit of environment and health. The day-long celebration highlighted the importance of fish, fisheries resources, aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity and conservation needs at various levels to perpetuate food production, livelihood and socio-economic support facilities.



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Short-neck clam fishery turns India's first Marine Stewardship Council certified fish

Kochi, 5 November 2014. The short-neck clam (*Paphia malabarica*) fishery in the *Ashtamudi* lake in Kerala has received India's first Marine Stewardship Council certification which will help boost sustainable fisheries and also protect the ecosystem. The certification to *Ashtamudi* short-neck clam fishery — only the third fishery in Asia to have received this recognition — will help in implementation of measures to ensure that it is not over-fished and its ecosystem is protected; this valuable resource will fetch highest price in European Union.



The Marine Stewardship Council certification was a joint effort by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, WWF, State Fisheries Department and the local fishing community.

Yak Mela 2014

Tawang, 25 November 2014. Shri Pema Khandu (Minister for Urban Development, Tourism and Art and Culture, Government of Arunachal Pradesh) inaugurated *Yak Mela* 2014 held at Chhaghar Grazing Ground and Outdoor Stadium Jang, Twang at an altitude of 11,000 ft above mean sea level organized by the National Research Centre on Yak, Dirang in collaboration with 46 Infantry Brigade, Indian Army; Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department, Tawang and Jang Sports Club.

Onion variety "Bhima Red" licensed

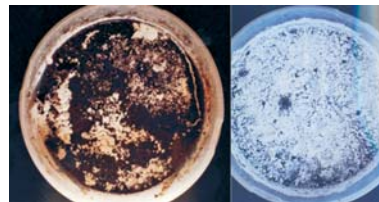
Onion variety "Bhima Red" has been licensed by Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research (DOGR) to M/s. Safalmantra Agro Farms Private Limited (SAFPL), Navi Mumbai. A Memorandum of Understanding in this regard was signed by the Directorate with SAFPL on 12 November 2014. SAFPL is all women lead organization, in the business of producing and marketing sustainable agro-products. As per MoU, DOGR has extended a non-exclusive license to SAFPL for seed production and distribution of Bhima Red, which is a high-yielding onion variety recommended for cultivation in *kharif* in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, in late *kharif* in Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra, and for *rabi* in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. It matures in 105-110 days after transplanting in *kharif* and in 110-120 days after transplanting in late *kharif* and *rabi*.



Commercialized groundnut technologies

Junagadh, 21 November 2014. The Directorate of Groundnut Research and M/s Paccar Biotech Limited, Ahmedabad have signed two Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) for transferring process/knowhow for production of enzymes cellulase from groundnut shell and proteases from de-oiled groundnut cake by microbial fermentation developed by the Directorate of Groundnut Research. The MoUs were signed by Dr T. Radhakrishnan (Director, Directorate of Groundnut Research) and Shri Dilip Mansukhlal Bhatiya (Director, Paccar Biotech Limited, Ahmedabad) in a function held at Directorate of Groundnut Research. The technologies have been commercialized on non-exclusive basis and one time license fee fixed by the ITMU.

The process knowhow has commercial values owing to the fact that the substrates use are available in plenty at nominal cost in Gujarat and the enzymes can be produced with high yield employing solid state fermentation.



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Project Director

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