

Newsletter

CENTRAL TOBACCO RESEARCH INSTITUTE, RAJAHMUNDRY - 533 105

STAFF RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Staff Research Council (SRC) meetings and Annual Meeting of All India Network Research Project on Tobacco (AINRPT) were held from 23 - 27th August 2003 at CTRI, Rajahmundry.

Sri A. N. Singh, Ex.-Additional Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of

India, Dr. G. J. Patel, Ex.Project Co-ordinator, AINRPT, Dr. Y. S. Ramakrishna, Acting Director, CRIDA, Hyderabad, Dr. Kochu Babu, Director, NRC for Oil Palm, Pedavegi were the guests of honour. Heads of Divisions and Heads of Research Stations, Scientists, Technical Officers, Retired Scientists of CTRI and Scientists from ITC - ILTD and

GPI attended the inaugural function.

In his inaugural address, Dr. K. Deo Singh, Director, CTRI gave a detailed account of the positive aspects of Indian tobacco like low production cost, conversion cost and export prices as compared to other leading tobacco producing countries. Dr. Singh informed that

Indian tobacco is characterized by presence of very low level of harmful substances such as pesticide residues, heavy metals and carcinogenic substances like tobacco specific nitrosamines (TSNA). He stressed the need for use of molecular approach for breaking the yield barriers in all the crops. He opined that priority should be given for identification

weather-based forewarning system etc. He released a book entitled "Improved fodder production technologies for higher milk production" prepared by the KVK of CTRI. Dr. G. J. Patel reiterated the importance of identifying genotypes with high potassium and low chloride uptake for improving the position of Indian tobacco in international

market. He released CTRI Annual Report 2002 - 03. Sri A.N. Singh felt that tobacco trade made concerted efforts for creating a place of pride for Indian tobacco in the international market. He released a folder 'Central Tobacco Research Institute - A Glance.' Dr. Kochu Babu briefly explained about the Indian Oil Palm situation and



Dr. Y. S. Ramakrishna, Dr. K. Deo Singh, Sri A. N. Singh and Dr. G. J. Patel

of micro zones with suitable weather conditions for production of flavourful tobacco.

Dr. Y. S. Ramakrishna highlighted various farmer-friendly research activities of the CRIDA, such as rain water harvesting and recycling, watershed approach, farming systems approach, agro-forestry,

importance of collaborative research efforts between CTRI and NRC for Oil Palm. A book entitled 'World Trade Organization and Indian Agriculture' prepared by KVK was released jointly by Dr. K. Deo Singh and Sri K. Manoharan.

A total of 36 new projects were approved during the SRC.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ A Jati tobacco variety 'MANASI' with a yield potential 1600 – 1700 kg/ha was recommended for identification and release during SRC meetings for cultivation in Jati tobacco (chama) growing areas of North Bengal.
- ❑ In soybean – FCV tobacco sequence, dual inoculation of soybean with *Rhizobium* + PSB improved succeeding tobacco leaf yields by 16.3%, 27.07% and 12.91% in cured, bright leaf yield and grade index, respectively.
- ❑ Pearl, millet *in situ* green manuring followed by FCV tobacco with 10t FYM fortified with 4 kg commercial *Azospirillum* produced higher cured leaf yield with better quality i.e. low nicotine (1.98%), high sugars (18.51), high sugar/nicotine ratio (9.35), medium PEE (4.74%), low starch (1.7 mg/g), medium NO₃ – N (4.82 mg/g) and medium rutin (15.76 mg/g).
- ❑ Molecular (RAPD and AFLP) markers were generated for 20 *Nicotiana* species and 78 released tobacco varieties.
- ❑ Kocide (Copper hydroxide) @ 0.2% applied at the time of planting along with planting water and followed up with drench around the plant at 30 and 45 DAT is found to be a better fungicide than carbendazim (Bavistin) and thiophanate methyl (Topsin M) for effective control of fusarium wilt disease in FCV tobacco field crop. The disease was controlled to the extent of 88.3 to 93.8% with this fungicide.
- ❑ Contaf (hexaconazole) and Companion (carbendazim + mancozeb) effectively controlled leaf and stem infection phases of anthracnose in the nursery, besides controlling frog-eye spot disease.
- ❑ Poultry manure @ 250 g/m² was the most effective and economic dosage for root-knot control in nursery.
- ❑ Application of glyphosate @ 1.5 kg a.i./ha along with ammonium sulphate @ 10 g/l spray solution, three weeks prior to tobacco sowing on the foliage of weeds effectively controlled all the weeds, including nutsedge, in the nursery. In combination with 'Apsa,' an adjuvant, glyphosate @ 1.25 kg a.i./ha was equally effective in weed suppression. These two treatments recorded better weed control efficiency than soil solarization.
- ❑ Fumigation of tobacco stacks with Magnesium phosphide plates (Degesch plates) @ 1g/m³ with 5 days exposure period resulted in cent per cent mortality of all the stages (including eggs) of cigarette beetle *Lasioderma serricorne*. Aeration of the fumigated stacks for 72 hrs resulted in safe level of phosphine (< 1 ppm).

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

PUBLICATIONS/ CDS

- ❑ "KVK-Two decades of service to the farming community". 2003. 33p. (Bulletin)
- ❑ R. Sudhakar, H. Ravisankar, V. V. Subramanian and K. Deo Singh. User friendly database management for income generation programmes (Publication + CD).

EXTENSION LITERATURE/ PAMPHLETS

- ❑ Scientific storage of food grains (in Telugu) – Sri S. Jitendranath

- ❑ Behavioural problems in children (in Telugu) – Dr. K. Suman Kalyani
- ❑ Weaning foods for children (in Telugu) – Dr. (Mrs.) K. Suman Kalyani
- ❑ Scientific storage methods suitable for rural areas (in Telugu) – Dr. (Mrs.) K. Suman Kalyani

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

- ❑ Production technology for FCV tobacco in A.P. – Rs.45.00
- ❑ Palmyrah fibre separator – Video CD – Rs. 250.00

- ❑ Database management system for income generation training programme (CD with booklet) – Rs.150.00
- ❑ Package of practices for enhancing farm productivity – Vol. I & II – Rs.20.00 each.

PAPERS PUBLISHED

- ❑ S. Sitaramaiah, U. Sreedhar and S. Jitendranath. Rythu Vartha, 18.10.03.
- ❑ Banana Fibre Extractor A need based user friendly invention in India. SAARC Newsletter 13(1); 3, Jan-March. 2003.

RADIO TALKS

- వృద్ధాప్యంలో తీసుకోవలసిన ఆహారం (Diet for elderly people) by Smt. N. Aruna Kumari on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 9.7.03.
- శ్రమను తగ్గించే వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు (Drudgery reducing agricultural implements) by Sri S. Jitendranath on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 18.7.03.
- వివిధ పంటల యాజమాన్యం పాటించవలసిన సూచనలు (Tips to follow in cultivation of field crops) by Sri S. Jitendranath on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 21.7.03.
- బత్తాయిలో సమగ్ర పోషకాల యాజమాన్యం (Integrated nutrient management in Batavia) by Sri E. Vijayaprasad, on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 18.8.03.
- DWACRA మహిళలకు చేతివృత్తిలో శిక్షణ (Handicrafts vocational training programmes for DWACRA women) by Smt. N. Aruna Kumari on AIR, Vijayawada on 23.8.03.
- సురక్షిత నీరు ఆవశ్యకత (Safe drinking water) by Sri R. Sudhakar on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 3.9.03.
- పిల్లలలో ప్రవర్తనా లోపాలు (Behavioral problems in children) by Dr. K. Suman Kalyani on AIR, Vijayawada 10.9.03.
- రాగులలో పోషక విలువలు-వంటకాల తయారీ (Nutritive values of ragi and its preparation) by Smt. V.V. Lakshmi Kumari on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 10.9.03.
- అరటి వ్యర్థాలనుండి కాగితం తయారీ (Paper making from waste portions of

banana) by Sri R. Sudhakar on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 10.9.03.

- ఏజన్సీ ప్రాంతంలో వైట్ బర్లీ సాగు (White Burley cultivation in agency areas) by Sri R. Subba Rao on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 25.7.03.
- వైట్ బర్లీ నారు మళ్ళపెంపకంలో మెళకువలు by Sri I.V. Subba Rao on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 3.8.03.
- చీడపీడల తీవ్రతను అరికట్టి యాజమాన్య పద్ధతుల ద్వారా సమగ్ర సస్యరక్షణ by Dr. U. Sreedhar on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 6.9.2003
- వివిధ పద్ధతులలో పొగాకు లద్దె పురుగు నివారణ by Dr. U. Sreedhar on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 9.9.03.

**CONFERENCES/
SYMPOSIA/ TRAININGS/
WORKSHOPS**

- Dr. K. Deo Singh, Director, CTRI and Dr. R.V.S. Rao, Head-in-Charge, Division of Crop Improvement attended the meeting on 'Management of plant genetic resources in the special focus on evaluation" under the Chairmanship of Dr. G. Kallou, Deputy Director General (CS&H) at NBPGR, New Delhi on 1.8.2003.
- Dr. (Mrs.) K. Suman Kalyani, Training Organizer and Sri R. Sudhakar, Tech. Officer, K.V.K. attended the KVK Zonal Workshop held at Nasik during 26.9.03 to 28.9.2003.
- Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Crop Chemistry & Soil Science and Dr. P. Harishu Kumar, Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Crop Production attended the Workshop on 'Irrigation systems for oil palm' during 9-14 July, 2003 at NRC Oil Palm, Pedavegi.

□ Dr. K. Giridhar, Sr. Scientist, CTRI Research Station, Hunsur and Dr. S.V. Krishna Reddy, Sr. Scientist attended the Summer school on 'Use of modern tools for increasing on-farm water use efficiency' during 16.7.2003 to 5.8.2003 at IARI, New Delhi.

- Sri Y.V. Suryanarayana, Documentation Officer attended the 'Practical training on database management' during 21 - 22 July, 2003 at ARIC, DIPA, ICAR, New Delhi.
- Dr. K. Sarala, Sr. Scientist attended the 'Meeting on molecular breeding' on 4th September, 2003 at NBPGR, New Delhi.
- Dr. M. Anuradha, Scientist attended the training programme on 'Physiological and molecular basis of stress resistance in crop plants' on 19th September, 2003 at IARI, New Delhi.
- Sri M. Mohan, Technical Officer, CTRI Research Station, Vedasandur attended the short course on 'Emerging trends in conservation, utilization and management of genetic resources' during 22.9.2003 to 1.10.2003 at Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur.

**DISTINGUISHED VISITORS
AT CTRI RS HUNSUR**

- Sri Shailendra Agarwal, Director, Dept. of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 19.9.03.
- Sri Gilberto Kohn, DIMON Leaf (Thailand) Ltd., Thailand on 20.9.03.
- Sri Simon Grant, Trans Continental Leaf Tobacco Corporation on 22.9.03.

HINDI FORTNIGHT CELEBRATIONS

CTRI organized Hindi Fortnight Celebrations from 15.9.03 to 29.9.03. Dr. K. Deo Singh, Director, CTRI inaugurated the celebrations by lighting the lamp on 15.9.03. Staff of CTRI participated in various events/competitions in Hindi. The closing ceremony was organized on 1.10.2003 and Sri R.C. Arora, Deputy General Manager, Gas Authority of India (GAIL), Rajahmundry was the Chief Guest.



Dr. K. Deo Singh presided over the function. Dr. Singh said that Government of India identified Hindi as

Official language because many people in the country know Hindi. He requested scientists to write agricultural books in Hindi. On this occasion, the messages sent by Sri L.K. Advani, Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister and Sri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture were read by Sri Ch. Sree Rama Rao, Secretary, OLIC. Sri Arora distributed prizes to the staff who participated in various competitions.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Sri K.T.R. Singh, Stenographer Gr. III and Sri M.D. Elias, Jr. Clerk of CTRI, Rajahmundry jointly received 'Best Administrative worker' Rolling cup for the year 2002 constituted by Sri J. Suryanarayana, Ex. Administrative Officer of CTRI. The award was handed over by Dr. K. Deo Singh during the Independence Day Celebrations at CTRI, Rajahmundry.



RETIREMENTS

□ Sri D. Barman, SS. Gr. II, CTRI Research Station, Dinhat retired from Council's service on 31.8.2003.

OBITUARY

□ Sri D. Ranga Rao, Tech. T-3, CTRI Res. Station, Guntur expired on 2.7.03.

□ Sri P. Anjaiah, Temp. Status Casual Worker, BTRC, Jeddangi expired on 27.8.03.

KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

□ KVK organized 28 training programmes for 1371 farmers, farm women, rural youth and extension functionaries; three long duration training programmes on (i) Banana fibre extraction, (ii) Commercial garment making. twelve training programmes on Health and child care and Home science for extension functionaries.

□ SAC meeting of KVK was held from 23.8.03 to 30.8.03 and two projects (i) Scientific Storage Practices (on going project), (ii) Post harvest technologies for empowerment of farm women (new project) were presented by the Training Organiser.

□ Two hundred animals were vaccinated and 80 animals were

treated in the Animal Vaccination Camp organized on 21.9.03 at Undeswarapuram.

□ A training programme was conducted on Preservation of fruits and vegetables at KVK from 18.9.03 to 20.9.03 in which thirty women participated from Krishna Dt. Demonstrations were conducted on preparation of squashes, jams and pickles with locally available fruits and vegetables.

GUEST LECTURES

□ Dr. K. Suman Kalyani, Training Organiser, Smt. V.V. Lakshmikumari, Technical Officer, Smt. N. Aruna Kumari, Technical Officer gave guest lectures to women at Anganwadi Training Centres, Samalkot, Amalapuram and Sitanagaram.



Dr. K. Suman Kalyani explaining KVK activities to Dr. K.C. Jain, ADG (CC), ICAR.



Sri Jitendranath explaining the paddy row seeder to Dr. K.C. Jain, ADG (CC), ICAR.

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