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# Newsletter

**CENTRAL TOBACCO RESEARCH INSTITUTE, RAJAHMUNDRY - 533 105**

## STAFF RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Staff Research Council (SRC) Meetings and the IV Group Meeting of AINRP(Tobacco) were held from 26-31 July, 2006 at CTRI, Rajahmundry. The chief guest, Dr. J. Suresh Babu, IAS, Chairman I/c, Tobacco Board, Guntur inaugurated the meetings on 26.7.2006. The Heads of Divisions and Heads of Research Stations, Scientists, Technical Officers, Retired Scientists of CTRI, Scientists from AINRP(Tobacco) Centres, Officials from Tobacco Board, Executives and Scientists from Trade and Industry have attended the function. Dr. P.R.S. Reddy, Secretary, SRC and Nodal Officer, AINRP(Tobacco) welcomed the dignitaries and delegates.

Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI and Chairman, SRC presented the global tobacco situation highlighting the production trends, export prices and farm prices in major tobacco producing countries viz., China, Brazil, USA and India. He also presented the salient research findings of 2005-06 and stressed the need for improvement of tobacco yields in Southern light soils. He mentioned that CTRI has released three new flue-cured tobacco varieties viz., Kanthi, Hemadri and Siri, one rainfed natu tobacco variety Bhairavi and two chewing tobacco varieties viz., Abirami and Kaviri. He emphasized the need for concerted efforts for improving the productivity and quality of tobacco, Integrated

nutrient management, production of hybrid tobacco, DNA fingerprinting for tobacco varieties, development of microsatellite markers for tobacco, molecular mapping of tobacco traits, reduction of harmful substances in leaf and smoke, alternative uses of tobacco and remunerative cropping systems for different tobacco zones.



Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Dr. P.R.S. Reddy, Dr. K. Deo Singh and Dr. J. Suresh Babu

Dr. Suresh Babu in his inaugural address, congratulated the scientists of CTRI for releasing new high yielding varieties for the benefit of farming community. He informed that the FCV tobacco exports increased only by 2% compared to the previous year and new markets like Vietnam are being tapped. He advised the scientists to identify the chromosomal traits at genome level which will help in the production of desired material. In his presidential address, Dr. K. Deo Singh, Former Director, CTRI expressed concern over the low productivity and price fluctuations in SLS. He stressed the need to increase productivity levels by exploiting the hybrid vigour. He also laid emphasis on crop management practices with least effect on environment and eco-

system. On this occasion, Dr. Suresh Babu, Dr. Singh, Dr. Krishnamurthy and Dr. B.V. Ramakrishnayya, respectively released the following publications:

1. Indian Burley Tobacco: Its Production and Quality for Export by V. Krishnamurthy, R. Subba Rao and K. Deo Singh.
2. Indian Flue-cured Tobacco Varieties by V. Krishnamurthy, R.V. S. Rao, C.A. Raju and P. Harishu Kumar.
3. Achievements in Tobacco Research by P.R.S. Reddy, K. Deo Singh and K.C. Jain.
4. Non-FCV Tobacco Soils of India: Their Fertility and Management by V. Krishnamurthy and K. Deo Singh.

SRC reviewed the progress of research work carried out by individual scientists in different disciplines during the crop season 2005-06 and the technical programme for 2006-07 was also thoroughly discussed and finalized. Twenty six research projects were approved. Similarly, the progress of research work carried out in different disciplines and various centres of AINRPT during 2005-06 was reviewed and technical programme for 2006-07 was finalized in the IV Group Meeting of AINRPT.

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

### CTRI RS, Hunsur

- ❑ Flue-cured tobacco germplasm materials viz., 147 M x 121, V.4212, FCH 201, FCH 187, FCH 184, FCH 194, KST 29, RK 9, RK 11 and RK 1 were found promising against root-knot nematodes with root-knot Index < 1.5 under 0-5 scale.
- ❑ Application of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* (pf1 strain) @ 1 g/plant hole in combination with *Aspergillus niger* enriched FYM @ 100 g/plant at planting caused 74.5 and 49 per cent reduction in Fusarium wilt disease and root-knot index, respectively. Total cured leaf and bright grade leaf yield increased by 26 and 54.5 per cent, respectively over check.
- ❑ Bulk trial indicated 6.2 and 7.6% increase in cured leaf yield and Top Grade Equivalent, by using the tray nursery seedlings resulting in net monetary benefit of Rs. 4,640/ha. However, the quality of cured leaf was not significantly affected.
- ❑ An integrated wilt management module is recommended comprising seven tips including chemical control with carbendazim or copper hydrozide which gave a Cost Benefit Ratio of 1:1.2 and 1:1.39, respectively.
- ❑ The bio-intensive module is developed for nursery diseases management with soil solarization, neem cake amendment and application of *Aspergillus niger* enriched FYM which gave a Cost Benefit Ratio of 1:8.2.

## TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

### Training Programmes

- ❑ A training programme on 'Soil Testing and Water Analysis' was organized by the Division of Crop Chemistry and Soil Science for a period of 15 days i.e. from 03-07-2006 to 17-07-2006 for Tobacco Board officials of Ongole and Periapatna. Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI, enlightened the participants on 'Soil Testing and Irrigation Water Analysis for Tobacco'. Dr. P.R.S. Reddy, Principal Scientist and Dr. C.C.S. Rao, Sr. Scientist were the Course Coordinator and the Co-course Coordinator, respectively.
- ❑ Sri M. Sannibabu, Principal Scientist participated in the training programme on 'Seed-bed preparation, nursery management, pest and disease control in seed beds' at Kota Nagavaram on 25.8.06.
- ❑ Sri M. Sannibabu, Principal Scientist and Dr. J.V. Prasad, Sr. Scientist, participated in training programmes on "Nursery management practices, fertilizer management, intercultural practices and plant protection aspects for NLS farmers" at Jeelugumilli on 30.08.2006 and 19.9.06 and trained the farmers and Tobacco Board staff.
- ❑ Sri M. Sannibabu, Principal Scientist and Dr. P. Venkateswarlu, Sr. Scientist participated in the training programme on 'Seed-bed preparation, nursery management, pest & disease control in seed beds' at Sangaigudem and Gandhinagar on 6.9.06.
- ❑ Dr. J.V. Prasad, Sr. Scientist participated in the training programme on 'Nursery management, pest and disease control in seed-beds' at Kannapuram on 6.9.06.

- ❑ Sri M. Sannibabu, Principal Scientist and Sri S. Gunneswara Rao, Sr. Scientist participated in the training programme on "Main field preparation, fertilizer application, ridge formation, plantings, interculturalings, IPM and irrigations" at Borrampalem on 21.9.06.
- ❑ Dr. C. Chandrasekhara Rao, Dr. U. Sreedhar and Dr. Kasturi Krishna, Sr. Scientists participated in the training programme on "Nursery management" to the farmers at Mirthipadu on 27-09-06.

### Scientists- Farmers- Trade Inter-phase on NTRM

A meeting on 'NTRM (Non-Tobacco Related Material) in Burley tobacco' was convened by Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI on 23.09.06. The following decisions were taken to avoid use of plastic material: i) to introduce an award for clean tobacco production free from NTRM ii) to organize campaigns and field days to bring awareness among the farming community on NTRM and iii) to utilize mass media like radio and TV and print media like news papers, pamphlets and brochures to give wider publicity.

### CONFERENCES/ TRAININGS/ WORKSHOPS

- ❑ Sri M.N.P. Kumar, Tech. T-4 attended the workshop on "Maintenance of Personnel Management Information System Network (PERMISnet)" at NASC, New Delhi during 21<sup>st</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2006.
- ❑ Dr. Y. Subbaiah, Programme Coordinator, KVK attended the workshop on "Evaluation of KVK performance" at CRIDA, Hyderabad on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2006.

- Sri R. Sudhakar, Smt. J.V.R. Satyavani, Sri. E. Vijaya Prasad, Technical Officers, KVK, Kalavacherla attended "Coconut Workshop" conducted by Dept. of Horticulture, Govt. of A.P. at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2006.
- Dr. Y. Subbaiah, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK attended the National Workshop on "Process of agricultural knowledge management" at KAU, Thiruvananthapuram from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2006.

### PUBLICATIONS

- Jayalakshmi, D., K. Nagarajan and K.K. Sinha. Survey of stored tobacco samples of government ware-houses and private godowns for the incidence of various mycoflora. Indian J. Pl. Path. 23(1&2):95-100, 2005.
- Krishnamurthy, V. About Tobacco. Yojana 50(9):36-7&62, 2006.
- Krishnamurthy, V. Viable production technologies. *The Hindu Survey of Indian Agriculture*, 2006. pp 200-2.
- Ravi Sankar, H., C.A. Raju and I. Jagadish Chandra. Expert system on pests and diseases of major crops in A.P. ICAR News, April-June, 2006. p.5

### RADIO TALKS

- అధిక దిగుబడినిచ్చే వర్షానియా వంగడాలు by Dr. R.V.S. Rao, Principal Scientist & Head, Division of Crop Improvement on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 10.07.2006.
- విల్లల ఆహార విషయంలో తల్లులు తీసుకోవలసిన జాగ్రత్తలు by Smt. N.

Aruna Kumari, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 21.7.2006.

- బట్టి పొగాకు సాగులో ఎరువుల యాజమాన్యం by Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 24.08.2006.
- పెరటి తోటల పెంపకంలో మెళకువలు by Smt. J.V.R. Satyavani, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 24.8.2006.
- పొగాకు నారుమళ్ళ యాజమాన్య పద్ధతులు by Dr. S. V. Krishna Reddy, Sr. Scientist on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 30.08.2006.
- పొగాకు నారుమళ్ళనాశించే చీడపురుగులు by Dr. C. A. Raju, Principal Scientist & Head, Division of Crop Protection on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 31.08.2006.
- పశువులలో పిచ్చికుక్క కాటు - చికిత్స by Dr. P.V.V.S. Siva Rao, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 11.9.2006.
- జాతీయ వ్యవసాయ విధానంలో మిశ్రమ సేద్యం - పాడి పరిశ్రమ by Dr. B. John Babu, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK on AIR, Visakhapatnam on 19.09.2006.
- సమగ్ర వ్యవసాయ పద్ధతులు by Dr. B. John Babu, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK on AIR, Vijayawada on 19.09.2006.

### APPOINTMENTS

- Sri G. Govinda Raju is appointed as Technician T-1 (Tractor Driver) at CTRI Research Station, Jeelugumilli on 11.9.2006.
- Sri K.T.R. Singh, Stenographer Gr.III is promoted as Personal

Asistant at Director's Personal Section, CTRI, Rajahmundry on 12.9.2006.

- Sri Vemu Subba Rao is appointed as Technician T-1 (Tractor Driver) at CTRI Research Station, Hunsur on 16.9.2006.
- Smt. Ch. Chinnayamma, W/o. Sri Nookaraju, Temporary Status Casual Worker, BTRC, Jeddangi is appointed as SS Gr.I (Beldar) at BTRC, Jeddangi on 18.9.2006.
- Sri Md. Elias, LDC, CTRI, Rajahmundry is appointed as Technical Assistant T-3 (Library/ Documentation Service/ Information Science) at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 21.9.2006.

### INTER-INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFERS

- Dr. M. Seshu Madhav, Scientist (Sr. Scale), CTRI, Rajahmundry is transferred to Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Hyderabad on inter-institutional transfer basis on 26.8.2006.
- Sri M.S.N. Murthy, AAO, CTRI, Rajahmundry is promoted to Administrative Officer and posted at Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur on 22.9.2006.

### Institute Management Committee Meeting

42<sup>nd</sup> IMC meeting was held at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 11.09.06 under the chairmanship of Dr.V.Krishnamurthy, Director CTRI. The research Programmes, Extension activities and audit paras were discussed in the meeting.

## HINDI FORTNIGHT CELEBRATIONS

Hindi Fortnight Celebrations were held at CTRI from 13<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2006. Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI inaugurated the celebrations on 13.9.2006. Many staff members participated in the various competitions organized during the fortnight. The concluding ceremony was held on 7.10.2006, in which Sri Narendra Kumar, Dy. General Manager, Gas Authority of India Ltd., Rajahmundry was the chief guest. Dr. V. Krishnamurthy was the

president and Dr. K. Deo Singh was the special invitee. Officials of OLIC, Sri Y.V. Suryanarayana, Vice-Chairman, Sri Ch. Sreerama Rao, Secretary were on the dias. All the dignitaries emphasized the importance of Hindi as official language and stressed the need for propagation of Hindi. The chief guest distributed prizes to winners of various competitions. Smt. J.V.R. Satyavani, Member, OLIC proposed the vote of thanks.



Sri Narendra Kumar addressing the gathering

## KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

- A total of 49 training programmes were conducted in agriculture and allied aspects and a total of 1920 farmers, farm women, rural youth and extension personnel were trained.
- Two months duration training programme on 'Skill upgradation in garment-making' was conducted in

collaboration with ABIRD for 25 rural girls at NT Rajapuram village from 15.7.2006 to 14.9.2006.

- Organized training programmes on i) coir yarn making over automated machines for 10 rural women from 26.6.2006 to 5.7.2006 and ii) Coir door mat making for 10 rural women from 25.5.2006 to 24.7.2006.

### Meetings/visits of Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI

- Inspected CTRI Research Stations at Kandukur and Guntur and conducted pre-SRC meeting & field visits during 14-15<sup>th</sup> July, 2006.
- Monitored AINRP(T) experiments at Shimoga Centre along with a team of scientists and visited farmers' fields/on-farm trials during 5-6<sup>th</sup> Aug., 2006.
- Inspected CTRI Research Station, Hunsur and monitored the experiments along with a team of scientists. Visited Core Team trials and ITC trials in the KLS area during 7-8<sup>th</sup> Aug., 2006.
- Conducted the Institute Joint Council Meeting at CTRI RS, Dinahata and visited Farmers' fields during 21-23<sup>rd</sup> Aug., 2006.
- Visited tobacco growing areas in Assam/ Meghalaya and explored the possibility of growing different tobacco types and collected tobacco germplasm during 24-27<sup>th</sup> Aug., 2006.
- Attended the 120<sup>th</sup> Meeting (Special) of the Tobacco Board in Hyderabad on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2006.
- Visited University of Agril. Sciences, Dharwad and discussed with the Vice-Chancellor and Director of Research on AINRP(T) projects and also visited AINRP(T), Nipani Centre during 15-16<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2006.
- Attended the Selection Committee Meeting for Programme Coordinator at BCT, Visakhapatnam and also visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BCT, Yelamanchili on 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept., 2006.
- Visited rain-fed natu and oriental tobacco areas of Kurnool, Prakasam and Mahaboobnagar districts of Andhra Pradesh and Raichur district of Karnataka during 25-26<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2006.

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