



CTRI News

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CENTRAL TOBACCO RESEARCH INSTITUTE, RAJAHMUNDRY-533 105, A.P.

From the Director's Desk



Global tobacco scenario

The world FCV tobacco production in 2011 is expected to increase by 2.35% to 4,655 M kg compared to 4,548 M kg produced in 2010. However, production in African countries has dramatically increased obviously due to more area taken up by the farmers because of the attractive prices realized in 2008 and 2009. Important FCV producing countries such as Zimbabwe, Brazil and Tanzania have produced higher crop with

World FCV tobacco production trends during 2010-11

S.No.	Country	Production (M kg)
1	China	2,260
2	Brazil	700
3	India	290
4	USA	222
5	Zimbabwe	150
6	Tanzania	119
7	Bangladesh	90
8	Argentina	87
9	Philippines	50
10	Indonesia	38
Total world FCV tobacco production		4,655
Total world tobacco production (All types)		6,475

marginal increase over other countries, except China and India where the crop has declined because of incessant rains.

Total world tobacco leaf production in 2011 is forecasted at 6,475 M kg. Generally, FCV tobacco prices are influenced by the demand and supply situation in the international market. The increase in production in almost all FCV tobacco producing countries leading to excess supply resulting in a "Buyers' Market" and lower prices.

Indian scenario

In Karnataka, a total quantity of 127.85 M kg FCV tobacco was produced from an area of 1,18,652 ha during 2010-11 crop season, as against the authorized quantity of 100 M kg. In KLS, auctions have been

completed by the end of June, 2011 and the average price was ₹ 92.30/kg. In the current crop season of 2011-12, the crop growth is satisfactory likely to give normal yields and quality.

In Andhra Pradesh, FCV tobacco crop was planted in an area of 1,14,000 ha and the production is expected to touch 165 M kg mark as against 170 M kg permitted by the Tobacco Board during 2010-11. The lower production in A.P. is mainly due to unprecedented rains and *Laila* cyclone which affected the crop growth and leaf yields. However, the leaf quality is good with ~80% bright grade out turn.

Tobacco auctions in A.P. have begun, but the prices are not commensurate with the quality and farmers are not happy with the prices offered. By the end of June, 2011, 75 M kg of tobacco is marketed at an average price of ₹ 108.40/kg, while the farmers demand ₹125/kg to sustain the cost of production. At CTRI, Rajahmundry, FCV tobacco seed collection, processing and packing are in progress for distribution to the farmers during 2011-12 crop season.

V. Krishnamurthy

(V. KRISHNAMURTHY)

RAC MEETING

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting of CTRI was held during April 19-20, 2011 at CTRI, Rajahmundry under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. Raghava Reddy, Former Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU, Hyderabad.

Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Dr. Nazir Ahmed Khan, Dr. M. Mani, Dr. Kanwal Raj, Dr. R. Samiyappan and Sri Ch. Venkataswamy, Members of RAC attended the meeting. The Committee reviewed the Action Taken Report (ATR) of previous RAC meeting, progress of the research work, achievements during XI Plan (2007-12) and the XII Plan (2012-17) research priorities.



Chairman, RAC lighting the lamp



RAC Meeting in progress

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ Kasturi Krishna, S., S.V. Krishna Reddy, P. Harishu Kumar, V. Krishnamurthy and M. Nageswara Rao (2010). Agronomic and economic evaluation of alternative cropping systems for FCV tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*) on Vertisols of Andhra Pradesh. **Indian Journal of Agronomy** 55(4):270-5.
- ◆ Suman Kalyani, K., V. Krishnamurthy, C. Chandrasekara Rao and N. Aruna Kumari. (2010). Constraint Analysis and prioritization through PRA techniques in the agency area of East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh. *Journal of Progressive Agriculture*, Vol.1 (1): 51-54

CONFERENCES/ TRAININGS/ WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- * Dr. K. Suman Kalyani, Sr. Scientist attended the National Seminar on "Multi-sectorial innovations for rural prosperity" at IARI, New Delhi during 19-21 May, 2011.
- * Dr. S. Ramakrishnan, Sr. Scientist attended the National Symposium on "Harnessing Biodiversity for Biological Control of Crop Pests" at NBAIL, Bangalore during 25-26 May, 2011
- * The Heads of Divisions and Heads of Regional Stations of CTRI have attended the Meeting-cum-Workshop held at CIAE, Bhopal during June 14-15, 2011.
- * Dr. M. Mahadevaswamy, Sr. Scientist attended meeting of "Working Group on Horticulture" arranged by National Horticultural Board at Bangalore on 17-06-2011.
- * N. Aruna Kumari, Technical Officer T-7/8 delivered a guest lecture on 'Importance of fruits and vegetables in daily diet' at KVK, Kalavacharla organized by 'World Vision' (NGO). About 25 Community Health Workers from Vizianagaram district have participated in the programme.
- * Dr. U. Sreedhar, Head, Crop Protection attended the 3rd Congress on Insect Science at PAU, Ludhiana during 18-20 April, 2011 .
- * Dr. A.V.S.R. Swamy, Head I/c and Dr. M. Kumaresan, Sr. Scientist, CTRI RS, Veda sandur have attended the meeting of Tamil Nadu Chewing Tobacco Farmers, Manufacturers, Dealers and Workers Association at Patlur on 24.04.2011.

IBSC MEETING

IBSC Meeting of CTRI was held on 4th May, 2011 under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI and Chairman, IBSC; Dr. T.V. Satyanarayana, DBT Nominee; Dr. M. Mani, Member, IBSC; Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Dr. C.V. Narasimha Rao and Dr. G. Raghupathi Rao, Members; and Dr. K. Sarala, Member-Secretary, have attended the

meeting. Dr. K. Siva Raju, Dr. P.V.V.G. Rao and Dr. K. Prabhakara Rao, Scientists of CTRI also attended the meeting.

The Committee examined the 'Action Taken Report' of the previous IBSC meeting, the transgenic research carried out during 2010-11 season and the half-yearly biosafety report. The members expressed their satisfaction over the

biosafety measures undertaken in carrying out transgenic research at the Institute.



IBSC Meeting in progress

FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS

The 65th Foundation Day celebrations of CTRI was organised on 01.04.2011.

Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI highlighted the research achievements of the Institute during 2010-11. The staff of CTRI and members of RICAREA have participated and shared their experiences.



65th CTRI Foundation Day Celebrations



A view of the participants

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

CTRI RS, Hunsur

Paecilomyces lilacinus (20g/m²) in combination with poultry manure@1kg/m² and *P. lilacinus* (20g/m²) in combination with neem cake @1kg/m² were on par with each other in significantly controlling root-knot nematodes on FCV tobacco nursery beds by causing 58.4% and 57.1% reduction in root-knot index, respectively. Subsequent increase in root-knot free and healthy transplants count was to the tune of 58.7 and 55.4%, respectively.

AWARDS/ HONOURS

Best Paper Award

The poster paper entitled 'Indigenous Technical Knowledge in the Tribal area of East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh' by K. Suman Kalyani, V. Krishnamurthy, C. Chandrasekara Rao and N. Aruna Kumari was given the "Best Paper Award" at the V National Seminar on 'Multi-sectorial Innovations for Rural Prosperity', organized by Society for Community Mobilization for Sustainable Development held at NDRI, Karnal during 19-21 May, 2011.

HINDI WORKSHOP

Hindi Workshop was held at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 04.05.2011 to create interest and promote the use of Hindi among the Staff.



Participants in Hindi Workshop

VISITORS

- Sri G. Kamalavardhana Rao, IAS, Chairman, Tobacco Board, Guntur visited CTRI and discussed the issues related to tobacco production and exports.

Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director, CTRI gave a detailed presentation on 'Tobacco in India - Current Scenario' on 25th April, 2011.



Chairman, Tobacco Board addressing the Seminar Group

- Trainees from Dr. M.S.S.R. Foundation visited Biotechnology Laboratory on 20th April, 2011. They were explained the operation of various instruments in the Laboratory. DNA extraction, PCR, Gel electrophoresis and tissue culture techniques were demonstrated to the trainees on Bioresources and Biotechnology.
- Thirty six farmers of ATMA from KR Puram, West Godavari district visited CTRI, Rajahmundry on 1st April 2011 and interacted with the CTRI Scientists. Scientists have explained the FCV tobacco production technology to the farmers.

International Collaborative Study on Cigarette Smoking Methods

CTRI has participated in the collaborative study sponsored by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO)/ Technical Committee (TC) - 126, Berlin, Germany to estimate the main stream smoke yields of nicotine-free dry particulate matter (NFDPM), nicotine and carbon monoxide (CO) from eight commercial cigarette brands and two

reference cigarettes/ monitor test pieces smoked under ISO and Health Canada Intense (HCI) machine smoking regimes. The study was taken up by 35 participating laboratories from 21 countries, including India. The comprehensive report showed that the values reported by CTRI are well in agreement with the overall mean values of all the laboratories.

PERSONALIA

APPOINTMENTS

- The President, ICAR Society has renewed the tenure of Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Director for the period from 02.06.2011 to 31.01.2012.

RETIREMENTS

- Dr. P. Harishu Kumar, Pr. Scientist (Agronomy), CTRI, Rajahmundry retired from Council's service on 30.04.2011.
- K. Rajakumar, AAO, CTRI RS, Guntur, retired from Council's service on 30.04.2011.
- N. Prabhakara Rao, Technical Officer T-7&8, CTRI, Rajahmundry retired from Council's service on 31.05.2011.
- C.L. Bhagya Lakshmi, AAO, CTRI RS, Hunsur retired from Council's service on 31.05.2011.
- Y. Sambrajyam, SSS, CTRI, Rajahmundry retired from Council's service on 31.05.2011.
- K.S. Michayelu, AAO, CTRI RS, Jeelugumilli retired from Council's service on 30.06.2011.
- M. Papa Rao, SSS, CTRI Farm, Katheru retired from Council's service on 30.06.2011.

OBITUARY

- S. Arockiam, SSS, CTRI Research Station, Vadasandur expired on 05.04.2011.

MEETINGS / VISITS OF DR. V. KRISHNAMURTHY, DIRECTOR, CTRI

- Inspected the CTRI Research Station, Guntur and monitored the progress of tobacco harvesting, flue-curing process and grading. Attended the 131st Meeting of the Tobacco Board held at the Tobacco Growers Association Building (Rytu Bhavan), Guntur, A.P. on 06.04.2011
- Monitored the Institute and AINRP(T) trials at CTRI RS, Vadasandur. Inspected the farmers' fields at Thangachipalayam, Kosavapatti, Oddanchitram of Dindigul District, Salakadai, Dharapuram, Palladam of Tiruppur District, Kangayam, Gobichettipalayam and part of Satyamangalam areas of Erode district of Tamil Nadu from 08.04.2011 to 10.04.2011.



- Monitored the AINRP(T) trials/ projects at AINRP(T) Centre, Araul, Kanpur Nagar district and *Hookah* and Chewing tobacco farmers' fields in Kanpur nagar, Barabanki, Kannauj districts



of Uttar Pradesh and held discussions with V.C. and Director of Research of CSAU&T, Kanpur regarding the AINRP(T) Centre, Araul, Kanpur and the Director, IIPR, Kanpur on high yielding pulses from 13.04.2011 to 16.04.2011

- Attended the meeting of the Directors of Crop Science Division of ICAR at the Conference Hall, ICAR Conference Facility, NASC Complex, New Delhi on 12.05.2011
- Attended the meeting on "Agricultural Produce Processing and Value Addition (Secondary Agriculture) in Production Catchments" at New Delhi on 16.05.2011.
- Attended the Administrative Meeting in ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi on 21.05.2011.
- Attended the Interaction Meeting of Project Directors/ Project Co-ordinators of ICAR Institutes held at CIAE, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on 16.06.2011.
- Attended the Interaction Meeting of Project /Network Co-ordinators of Crop Science Division held on 23.06.2011 & 24.06.2011 at ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
- Attended the 17th Meeting of Food and Agriculture Division Council (FADC) held at the BIS Auditorium, Manak Bhawan, New Delhi on 29.06.2011.