Issue 2, Volume 11, November 2018

A weekly newsletter from ICAR-CICR

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur organizes KAPAS MELA – 2018 on 30th October

ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur organizes one day Kapas Mela-2018 for cotton growing farmers of Maharashtra, on 30th October at its campus CICR, Nagpur, Dr. C.D. Mayee, Former Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB), New Delhi and Dr. Sharad Nimbalkar, Former Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P.D.K.V., Akola were the chief guests for the inaugural session. The Guests of Honour were Shri R. P. Singh, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development, Nagpur; Shri. Ravindra Bhosle, JDA Nagpur and Shri Ravindra Thakare, Director, Vanamati Nagpur also graced the occasion. Program started with the welcome address by Dr. V. N. Waghmare, Director, CICR, Nagpur, followed by release of different CICR publications/ magazines/ brochures: Souvenir Cotton Mela & Agil Exhibitions 2018, Integrated Pink Bollworm Management, Safe Handling of Insecticides in cotton farming and Usmanabadi Goat Farming- a profitable ancillary enterprise.



Dr C. D. Mayee in his inaugural address emphasized on increasing farmers' income by community farming. Dr. Sharad Nimbalkar stressed upon improving soil fertility and bringing down costs of cultivations. Shri. Ravindra Bhosle made aware to the farmers about various agriculture related schemes of Govt of Maharashtra. Dr. V. N. Waghmare focussed on the CICR strategies to be adopted by farmers to control Pink bollworm menace in fields. On the occasion five Champion cotton farmers, who successfully implemented CICR technologies shared their experiences and were felicitated. The champion farmers viz. Sh Manikrao Kadam from Wardha shared his experiences on 'High Density Planting System HDPS in cotton'; Sh Suresh Haribhau Hiwarkar, Dhapewada, Nagpur shared his experiences on 'Cotton based Intercropping system; Smt Vaishali Sudhakar Kukde, Selu, Ta. Kalmeswar, Nagpur shared her experiences on 'organic cotton production and use of cotton bags while picking of cotton'; Sh Pravin Deshmukh, Telkamathi Nagpur shared his views on 'use of drip irrigation and integrated nutrient management for successful and profitable yields in calcareous/saline/alkaline soils'; and Dipak Shankarao Balpande, Aanji Mothi, Wardha shared his views on 'e-kapas voice messages & dissemination of cotton production information to fellow farmers'. A gallery exhibiting 23 stalls with agricultural and other innovative technologies were put on display by CICR, other city based ICAR institutes viz ICAR- Central Citrus Research

Institute Nagpur, ICAR- NBSS & LUP Nagpur, ICAR-CIRCOT GTC Nagpur, private sector companies viz. CITI- CDRA Mumbai, IFFCO Mumbai, Ajeet Seeds Pvt Ltd, Aurangabad, Yashoda Hybrid Seeds Ltd Hinganght, Bajaj Steel Industries, Nagpur; Innovative Bioscience, Nagpur; Jain Irrigation Jalgaon; Dhanuka Agritech Ltd, New Delhi, agricultural universities/colleges/ state dept: Krishi Vibhag Nagpur Mandal Maharashtra; Maharashtra State Seed company Ltd Nagpur, Dept of Engineering RTM Nagpur, NGOs: Neem Foundations Nagpur; Self Help Mahilla Group Nagpur; Maharshi Multicare Health organisation, Nagpur and Dr B.D Deshmukh, Datta clinic Nagpur. Also four sponsor's viz. Rasi Seed Pvt Ltd,



Coimbatore (Platinum); Mahyco Jalna (Gold); Ankur seeds private Ltd Nagpur (Gold) and MCX -Multi Commodity Exchange (Gold) also displayed their stalls in Kapas Mela cum - exhibitions.

The Cotton Mela was attended by around 2200 farmers from different parts of Maharashtra who were provided with information about advanced technology on cotton farming. Farmers were also taken to fields to showcase improved public sector cotton varieties and cotton farming technologies. Experts' talks were arranged to provide guidance on: Improved cotton production practices (Dr Raju), Varieties (Dr Palve & Dr Mahajan), Integrated management for major cotton insect pests, especially Pink Bollworm (Vishlesh Nagrare); 'e-Kapas' (Dr Wasnik), Information on Central & State Govt Schemes (Millind Shende) and Future cotton trading & awareness programme on cotton price risk management (Badruddin Khan). Dr. S.M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist (Extension) and the Organizing Secretary, Kapas Mela-2018 proposed the vote of thanks during inaugural session while Dr RB Singandhupe Co-. Organizing Secretary proposed the vote of thanks for technical sessions. The Mela was highly appreciated by the farmers. At the end all exhibitors including sponsors were felicitated with awarding certificates at the hands of Director CICR Nagpur, HODs and Organising Team.

Newspaper coverage







बागपूर /प्रतिनिधी

भारतीय कृषी अनुसंधान प्रकल्प अंतर्गत नागपूर येथील केंद्रीय कापुस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने 'कापुस नागपुरात पार पडले.

मंडळाचे माजी अध्यक्ष डॉ. सी.डी.मायी यांच्या हस्ते झाले. यावेळी डॉ.पंजाबराव कृषी विद्यापीठाचे माजी कुलगुरु डॉ.शरद निंबाळकर, कापूस विकास संचालनाचे संवालक डॉ.आर.पी.सिंग, कृषी सहसंवालक रवींद्र भोसले आणि वनामतीचे संचालक रवींद्र ठाकरे उपस्थित होते. यानिमित्ताने संस्थेद्वारे प्रकाशित विविध माहिती पत्रक व स्मरणिकेचेही प्रकाशन मान्यवरांच्या हस्ते करण्यात आले. पाहुण्यांचे स्वाणत व प्रास्ताविक

डॉ.व्ही.एन.वाघमारे यांनी केले. यावेळी पाच उत्कृष्ट कापूस उत्पादक शेतकरी बंधू आणि भणिनींचा सत्कार मान्यवरांच्या हस्ते करण्यात आला. या मेळाव्यात मेळावा -२०१८' चे यशस्वी आयोजन ३० आक्टोबरला "उत्कृष्ट कापूस उत्पादन कसे घ्यावे ? याबाबतची सविस्तर माहिती देण्यात आली. यात गुलाबी बोंड अळी, एकात्मिक मेळाव्याचे उद्घाटन कृषी शास्त्रज्ञ निवड व्यवस्थापन, कीडनाशकाचा सुरक्षित वापर, कपाशीवरील रोगांवे एकात्मिक व्यवस्थापन इत्यादी विषयावर प्रबोधनात्मक माहिती उपस्थित कृषीतज्ञांनी विविध व्याख्यानातून दिली. मेळाव्यादरम्यान प्रगतीशील शेतकऱ्यांनी कापूस उत्पादन वाढीच्या अनुभवाचे व ज्ञानाचे आदान-प्रदान केले. या मेळाव्यात राज्यातील जवळपास २२०० कापूस उत्पादक शेतकरी सहभागी झाले होते. कार्यक्रमाचे संचालन डॉ.वाघमारे यांनी केले. आभार डॉ. एस.एम.वासनिक यांनी मानले.

Adopt community farming, experts tell cotton growers

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Nagpur: A cotton mela to discuss prevailing issues in cotton sowing and production was held by ICAR-Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR) at its premises after a gap of 12 years on Tuesday.

Good amount of research is being done in agriculture, but it fails to reach the farmers, said Sharad Nimbalkar, former vice-chancellor of Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth Akola. "Varieties are developed based on size, quality of the land, seasons, water facilities, yet farmers are unable to benefit from the developments due to lack of awareness. GM seeds industry is worth 3.6 billion dollars and is expected to be worth 8 billion dollars by 2023," he said.

CICR centres need to educate farmers and develop seeds according to ecological conditions of the area. He urged farmers to take decisions on seeds and fertilizers keeping in mind the quality of their land, their circumstances and financial situation. "Cotton is grown on 16 lakh hectares in Vidarbha alone. Cotton was first grown in India in Kalamb near Yavatmal," he added.

CD Mayee, former chairman Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board said, "In 2002, when Bt cotton was launched, we thought all problems would be solved. But in 2017, we faced the problem of pink bollworm. Moreover, 35 lakh hectares in Telangana and Maharashtra saw sowing of unauthorized Herbicide tolerant Bt cotton seeds."

Giving example of Ashta village in Yavatmal, Mayee pointed out the benefits of Integrated Pest Management through com-



The cotton mela, which discussed prevailing issues in cotton sowing and production on Tuesday, was held after a gap of 12 years

munity management. He also asked farmers to wait for 15 days when MSP would be raised to ₹6,000 per quintal before selling their produce.

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Cotton is an important crop in Vidarbha. Farmers feel helpless in the prospect of increasing the yield and their dependency on the crop can be linked to farmer suicides, stated Vanamati director Ravindra Thakre. He asked farmers to learn ways to increase yield through techniques promoted by CICR. By quitting to be a primary producer and responding to markets demands 100 farmers in 13 talukas were able to achieve ₹700 more per quintal than market price, Thakre added.

Ravindra Bhosale, joint director of agriculture, Nagpur, stated, "Farmers need to step into the market through their own company, oversee the cotton being turned to cloth. By making use of agricultural schemes by the government and applying benefits of group farming, end to end results can be achieved."

(Forfull report, log on to www.timesofindia.com)



Produced and Published by: Chief Editor:

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Citation: Cotton Innovate, Issue-2 Volume-11, 2018, ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur. Publication Note: This Newsletter presented online at http://www.cicr.org.in/cotton_innovate.html

Cotton Innovate is the Open Access CICR Newsletter

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