

COTTON *Innovate*



Weekly Newsletter from Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

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A weekly newsletter from ICAR-CICR

CICR Nagpur Team Surveyed Bollworm & Whitefly situation on Bt Cotton in Gujarat

A team consisting of Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Scientist (Ento.), Mr Prabhulinga T, Scientist ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with Dharmendra (SRF) and Vishveshwar surveyed the major Bt cotton growing districts of Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Junagadh, Rajkot, Surendranagar and Ahmedabad districts in Gujarat from 5/01/2017 to 12/01/2017 and assess the situation of the pink bollworm, American bollworm and whiteflies on Bt cotton in Gujarat. The salient observations made during the survey were that the infestation of green bolls on NBt ranges 56 to 100 % while in case of Bt 40 to 100 % in different district of Gujarat at 180 to 200 days after sowing. The farmers already completed three picking.



Skill Training on “Low- Cost On- Farm Production Technique of Trichoderma” Organized CICR, RS, Sirsa

A one day Farmers training programme on “Low-cost on-farm production technique of Trichoderma” was organized by ICAR- Central Institute for Cotton Research Regional Station, Sirsa at MGMG village Begu (Dist Sirsa) on 03.02.2017. Dr. Rishi Kumar delivered talk on ‘Pest management in wheat, mustard and chickpea crops’ while Dr. SK Sain delivered lecture on ‘Trichoderma - its uses and low-cost on-farm production technique’. Total of 35 progressive farmers from the village Begu, Rangdi and RAWE students of B.Sc. final year from CCSHAU participated in the day long training. They were provided with the leaflets on practices on on-farm production of Trichoderma. Farmers were satisfied with the information and practical skills provided by CICR scientists.



ADOPT GLOBAL BEST PRODUCTION PRACTICES FOR HIGH COTTON YIELD- Dr. K. R. Kranthi

Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, ICAR-CICR and Dr. M. V. Venugopalan, Principal Scientist (Agronomy) addressed farmers and students during a KRISHI SAMVAD and FARMERS MELA organized at Ramakrishna Bajaj Collage of Agriculture, Pipri, Wardha on 11-02-2017. In his address, Dr. Kranthi narrated the global best cotton production practices, emphasizing on short duration cotton varieties and narrow inter-plant spacing of 10 cm. He informed about the development of new Bt cotton varieties by ICAR-CICR. Dr. Kranthi also shared his experiences on transforming the HDPS technology among farmers and the difficulties encountered in changing the mind-set of farmers. Earlier Dr. Venugopalan reminded farmers that in an era of climate change and weather aberrations, and volatile markets, there is a lot of uncertainty about yield and returns. Therefore, the best option available to farmers is to reduce cost of production. Farmers should be aware earlier about any recommendation aimed at reducing production cost. Earlier Dr Kranthi also interacted with the students of B Sc (Agriculture) from Ramakrishna Bajaj Collage of Agriculture, who had displayed crop production and protection technologies that have commercial value.



Shri Atul Sharma welcomed the guests and farmers. Dr. B.K. Sontakke, Principal, Ramakrishna Bajaj Collage, Dr. P.G. Ingole, Director of Extension Education, Dr. PDKV, Akola, Shri. Sanjay Bhargav, Chairman, Shiksha Mandal, Wardha also addressed the gathering and spoke on a range of issues ranging from soil testing to entrepreneurship. Few farmers also shared their experiences on agriculture, soil test health, soil testing animal husbandry. Around 300 farmers participated in the programme.

Meetings attended

- Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director attended one day meeting in Bangalore on 25th January, 2017 and discussed the concerns and issues with regard to the advancement in science and technology in agriculture.
- Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director attended the meeting at Mumbai on 2nd February, 2017 on “Best Global Practices for a Sustainable Cotton Roadmap in India”
- Dr D.Monga, Head ICAR- CICR Sirsa, Dr S.K.Verma, Principal Scientist (Crop Improvement) and Dr.Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist (Entomology) attended a meeting at PAU Ludhiana on 06.02.2017 regarding the compilation and discussion of the results of Zonal Trials conducted jointly by ICAR-CICR, PAU Ludhiana, CCSHAU Hisar and RAU ARS Sriganganagar during 2016-17. In the meeting the results of the trials conducted on hybrid evaluation, working out common agronomic recommendations, testing of agrochemicals /bio agents and spray equipments were discussed. The action plan for conducting the joint experiments during 2017-18 was also discussed.
- Dr D. Monga , Head ICAR- CICR Sirsa, and Dr.Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist (Entomology) attended a meeting at Chandigarh in Punjab Secretariat on 09.02.2017 regarding the whitefly management strategies action plan under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, Punjab. In the meeting detailed discussion on the hybrids, weed eradication, sowing plan, monitoring and surveillance and management strategies including testing of new insecticides for whitefly management were discussed in detail along with budget requirements. The Additional Director General (CC), ICAR, Director of Agriculture, Punjab, Director of Extension Education, PAU, Ludhiana, Director RRS, Bhatinda and chief agricultural officers of cotton growing districts of Punjab were present in this meeting.



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