COTTON INNOVATE

Cotton Innovate

A Monthly Newsletter from ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

Ectoparasitic mite, Bochartia sp. feeding on the first instar nymph of jassid., Photo By:Dr. K. Rameash

Cotton News and Innovations – April 2022

Oviposition deterrence against old world bollworm, *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hübner)

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The old-world bollworm, *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) is a major insect pest of cotton. *H. armigera* is a widely distributed polyphagous pest. It is found to feed on more than 182 host plants including many cereals, pulses, fibre and horticultural crops and cause economic damage. Previously in India more than half of the insecticides were used on *H. armigera* which reflects the significance of this menace. Indiscriminate usage of pesticides enabled the *H. armigera* in developing resistance against most of the pesticides. Introduction of *Bt* cotton reduced its damage, however time to time various reports from all over the world including India states that *H. armigera* and its close relatives are able to survive in *Bt* cotton. Therefore, alternative management practices need to be developed to manage this pest in future. Across the globe use of info-chemicals has become a trend as it is safer to environment and it controls the pests by altering their behaviour. Info chemicals may be utilized to disrupt feeding, mating or even the oviposition. Among these ideas', oviposition deterrent is one of the most promising tools as it creates the first line of defence by reducing the number of eggs laid on targeted crops. Different researchers have reported that the compounds especially fatty acids present in larval frass reduce the egg laying of conspecific females of lepidoptera and coleoptera. Larval frass of *H. armigera* also contains fatty acids *viz.,* linoleic, palmitic, stearic and myristic acid and according to literature these compounds showed the oviposition deterrent activity in insects when applied in different ratio. Hence, vegetable oils containing these fatty acids at different ratio were evaluated as oviposition deterrents against *H. armigera* under laboratory conditions. The study was conducted at ICAR-Central Institute for cotton Research (ICAR-CICR) Nagpur (21°04'48.39" N 78°06'58.02" E) Maharashtra, India. Population of *H. armigera* was raised on chick pea-based diet. Muslin cloth was used as oviposition substrate. The presence of fatty acids in vegetable oil was confirmed by Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) (Shimadzu QP-2020) (Table 1).

Table 1: Details of oils evaluated as oviposition deterrent with presence of fattyacids

S. No.	Oils	Oleic	Linoleic	Palmitic	Stearic	Myristic
1	Groundnut	+	+	+	+	
2	Sunflower	+	+			
3	Ricebran	+	+	+	+	+
4	Soybean	+	+	+	+	
5	Safflower	+	+	+	+	
6	Sesame	+	+	+	+	
7	Palm	+		+		
8	Sheabutter	+	+	+	+	

+ shows the presence of fatty acids in an oil

Bioassays were conducted using oils in order to evaluate their role as oviposition deterrents. Two pairs of male and female were used for bioassay. Adult pair was allowed to mate for 48 hrs. Muslin cloth was treated with different concentrations of oils (0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 1.0, 2.0, 3.0%) and used as oviposition substrate. Methanol (solvent) treated muslin cloth was used as control. Mated pair was exposed to treated muslin cloth and after 5th day of treatment, experiment was terminated. Removed muslin cloth was stored and hatchlings were counted in each treatment. It was observed that number of eggs laid by the female decreased significantly with increase in concentration of fatty acids.

Table 2: Comparison of oils on the basis of concentration

Oils	> 50% reduction
Sunflower	1
Soybean	1
Palm oil	1
Ground nut	2
Ricebran	2
Safflower	2
Sesame	2
Shea butter	-

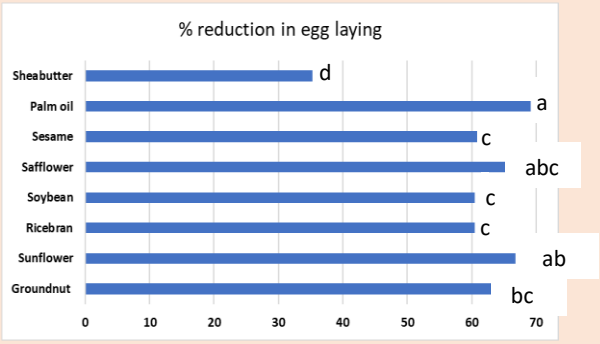


Fig. 1 Per cent reduction in egg laying at highest concentration (3%)

Results of the experiment revealed that all the oils were effective and showed promising results as an oviposition deterrent against *H. armigera* except Shea butter although it showed the presence of all the four fatty acids except myristic acid in GCMS. Shea butter is a vegetable fat at room temperature and hence it was not miscible with methanol properly which might have altered the concentration of shea butter in final solution. It was recorded that oils of ground nut, rice bran, safflower and sesame caused 50% reduction in egg laying at 2% concentration. However sunflower, soybean and palm oil showed same efficacy at 1% concentration (table 2). The data presented in table 2 confirmed that sunflower, soybean and palm oil were more effective in comparison to ground nut, rice bran, safflower and sesame as they cause more than 50% reduction in egg laying at 1% concentration. At highest concentration all the oils caused more than 60% reduction in egg laying except shea butter. Maximum per cent reduction in egg laying was recorded in palm oil with more than 65 % reduction which was on par with sunflower oil and safflower oil (Fig 1). Hence the above results confirmed the role of vegetable oils as an oviposition deterrent. These findings have opened the new direction of ethological pest management of *H. armigera* which is eco-friendly in nature. All the oils, except shea butter irrespective of containing different type of fatty acids caused more than 60% reduction in egg laying. However further intensive field study is needed for the confirmation of the statement.

Cotton Seed: Source of survival of Pink Bollworm (PBW) during off season

Rishi Kumar, Debashis Paul, Amarpreet Singh, S. K. Sain and S. K. Verma

ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa- 125055, Haryana

The cotton crop experienced a devastating loss due to infestation of Pink Bollworm (PBW) during the previous season (2021-22) in cotton growing zone of North India. Several initiatives by Central and State Government were taken to find out the management strategies of PBW for the upcoming season. Since pink boll worm is a functional monophagous pest, its survival during off season plays an important role in its infestation during ensuing season. As per the earlier reports available, seed cotton, cotton seed stored in godowns, ginneries or oil extraction mills as well as the stacked cotton stalks are the source of survival of PBW during off season. Among these, several reports have identified cotton seed as a prominent source of survival of PBW during off season. For proper management of PBW it is very important to know the source of infestation along with the survival of PBW during off season also. Although PBW can hibernate in single cotton seed of good size, it generally hibernates between two cotton seeds by joining them resulting in formation of double seeds which serve as a major source of PBW survival.

To estimate the magnitude of survival, a survey in ginning cum oil extraction mills of North zone (comprising the states Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan) was done during December, 2021 to March, 2022. A total of 64 ginning mills cum oil extraction mills were surveyed comprising 28 in Haryana, 21 in Rajasthan and 15 in Punjab, respectively. A 500 g sample of cotton seed was collected from all the ginning mills to estimate the extent of larvae, pupae, damaged seeds and double seeds present in the samples collected. In general the ginning and oil extraction mills purchased the cotton seed from local markets. It was found that the number of surviving larvae per seed samples ranged from 2 (two) to 10 (ten), from 1 (one) to 3 (three) and from 1 (one) to 4 (four) in the state of Haryana, Rajasthan and Punjab, respectively. The highest quantity of damaged seeds due to PBW was found in the samples collected from ginning mills of Haryana followed by Rajasthan and Punjab. Results showed the higher number of double seeds obtained from the samples collected from Haryana state, especially from Jind district. Furthermore, a special survey was conducted in Sirsa at the ginning cum oil extraction mills that purchased the cotton seeds (binola) from south zone. It was found that the availability of surviving larvae was much higher in cotton seed samples collected from seed outsourced from southern zone as compared to samples of local seed cotton.

PBW- Survival in Double Seed

PBW-Survival in single Healthy Seed

The number of surviving larvae per 500 g cotton seed samples ranged from 15 to 22 in the samples collected from these mills. In the cotton seed samples outsourced from South Zone the quantity of damaged seeds and double seeds were ranged from 45.13 to 84.20 g and 2.91 to 3.58 g, respectively. The holistic survey result covering all the three states confirmed cotton seed as a major source of PBW survival during off season and can be a cause of threat for the cotton growers of North zone during the ensuing season. Therefore advisory to store the seeds in close godowns, utilization of seed cotton or cotton seed till month of March and fumigation thereafter is issued regularly for the benefit of the farmers.

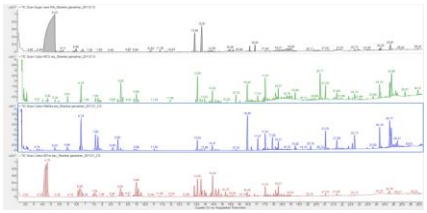
Semiochemical based attractants for cotton stem weevil management

K. Shankarganesh and,K. Rameash, ICAR-CICR Regional Station - Coimbatore

Cotton stem weevil *Pempherulus affinis* (Faust) Curculionidae: Coleoptera) causes significant yield loss in Bt as well as non Bt cotton varieties and hybrids in India. Infestation of the weevil occurs in 12-15 day old seedlings. During the early days of the crop, the mortality rate of the plant reaches up to 90% (Ballard 1922). Cotton seedlings of 10 to 25 days old were vulnerable to this pest. Several insecticides have been recommended for managing stem weevil. Despite the use of insecticides, it is becoming difficult to manage this pest by the cotton growers at times. Studies by several authors suggest that conventional insecticides belonging to organophosphorous, carbamate and synthetic pyrethroids have often failed to check the field population of stem weevil across the cotton growing regions of south India. During initial stages, the volatiles emanating from the seedlings attract this stem weevil.

Studies on influence of plant and insect derived volatiles on behaviour of stem weevil in cotton were meagre. So far there is no work on semiochemicals pertaining to cotton stem weevil. The work on pheromones /attractive plant volatiles for coconut rhinoceros beetle, sweet potato weevil, red palm weevil, banana pseudo stem borer and other economically important weevils represents a powerful tool for early detection of infestations. Monitoring and control strategies based on aggregation pheromones and their synergistic enhancement by host-plant volatiles has been used extensively in lepidopteron insects. Similarly, aggregation pheromone is an important component of the boll weevil eradication programme in the United States. The aggregation pheromones of several weevil species consist of multiple behaviourally active components. Hence, behavioral manipulation through interspecific (plant derived) and intraspecific (Insect derived) volatiles are the two viable options which will be explored in our project for effective management of stem weevil under field condition.

Extraction of semiochemicals from host plant and insect pest



Characterization of semiochemicals from host plant and insect pest

Evaluation of extracts for attrctancy and repellency against stem weevil through Y tube and multi arm olfactometer

Identification of potential attrcatance / deterrent & Development of semiochemical based attractant for stem weevil management

ICAR-CICR Celebrates Foundation Day

ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur celebrated its 46th Foundation day on 1st April 2022 in the presence of Dr. C. D. Mayee, Ex-Chairman (ASRB) & Ex-Director (ICAR-CICR), Dr. Velchala Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU, Telangana, Dr. B. S. Dwivedi, Director, ICAR-NBSS&LUP, Nagpur and Dr. D. K. Ghosh, Director, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur. Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR in his welcome address mentioned that genome editing, transgenic cotton and precision agriculture are major thrust areas of future research in cotton and briefed the achievements of the institute. It is a matter of pride that CICR released 10 cotton varieties during 2021-22, out of which, four are Bt varieties for the Central and Southern states. For the first time, a naturally coloured cotton variety (dark brown linted) was released for cultivation in South zone. Two Extra-long staple (ELS) cotton varieties (> 32.5 mm fibre length) which are superior in yield to the landmark variety 'Suvin' have been released to boost the production of the much needed ELS cotton so as to meet the requirement. Three non Bt American cotton varieties and one desi cotton variety have been released for adoption under organic cotton cultivation in Central and Southern states. CICR is in the process of initiating work on cotton value chain for desi/organic kapas in partnership with stakeholders in Maharashtra. Dr. Mayee, in his address as Guest of Honour emphasized the role of CICR in pink bollworm management by mating disruption technique and also appreciated Institute's efforts towards the welfare of cotton farming community. Dr. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU, Telangana, in his foundation day lecture as Chief Guest spoke about the promotion of High Density Planting System (HDPS) in Cotton as a key for enhancing cotton productivity and resource use efficiency. He stated that this method helps in tackling pink boll worm menace in cotton due to early maturity of crop within 150 days. He also stressed that location specific canopy management and defoliants aid in upscaling of HDPS towards mechanisation of cotton cultivation and harvesting. A journey of ICAR-CICR since its inception (1976) was presented by the Director. Institute publications "CICR at a Glance" and "CICR Technologies" were also released by the dignitaries during the occasion. Dr. Mayee inaugurated an Automatic weather station for providing value added agromet advisories to farmers in Nagpur district. The staff of all categories who retired from ICAR-CICR were felicitated in honour of their significant contributions. The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Nandini GokteNarkhedkar.

Dr. C. D. Mayee, Ex-Chairman (ASRB), Dr. B. S. Dwivedi, Director, ICAR-NBSS&LUP, Nagpur and Dr. D.K. Ghosh, Director, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur along with Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur and Dr. Nandini GokteNarkhedkar on the dias during the inauguration of ICAR-CICR 46th Foundation Day

Release of the Institute Publication, CICR At a Glance and CICR Technologies developed at the hands of Dr. C. D. Mayee, Ex-Chairman (ASRB). Other dignitaries present include Dr. B. S. Dwivedi, Director, ICAR-NBSS&LUP, Nagpur and Dr. D.K. Ghosh, Director, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur; Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, Dr. D. Blaise, Head, Crop Production and Dr. Nandini Gokte Narkhedkar, Head, Crop Protection, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur

Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on cotton held during April 6-8, 2022

The annual group meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton along with fifty years of Cotton Hybrid Technology was held in hybrid mode during April 6 to 8, 2022 organised by ICAR-AICRP on Cotton, ISCI, Mumbai and TNAU. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) participated virtually and delivered the presidential address. Dr. S. A. Patil, Chairman (RAC) for ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, Sh. Suresh Kotak, Chairman, Kotak & Co., Mumbai participated virtually in the Inaugural session. Dr. T.R. Sharma, DDG (Crop Science), Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Dr. R. K. Singh, ADG (Commercial Crops), Dr. C. D. Mayee, Chairman, Programme Advisory & Monitoring Committee of AICRP on Cotton, Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, Dr. (Mrs) Sujata Saxena, Director, CIRCOT, Mumbai, Dr Hema Prabha, Director, ICAR-SBI, Coimbatore, and Dr. A.H. Prakash, Project Coordinator, AICRP on Cotton along with the members of Programme Advisory and Monitoring Committee of AICRP on Cotton, scientists from various public and private sector R & D institutes participated in the meeting.. The first day had five sessions with lectures delivered by many experts on cotton hybrid technology. On April 7- 8, 2022 AICRP meeting was held with seven technical sessions followed by valedictory. The results of various trials under Plant Breeding, Agronomy, Entomology, Pathology and Fibre quality were reviewed in detail. Further the technical programme for the forth coming year was also finalized. During the group meeting, the Variety Identification Committee meeting of both Bt Cotton Hybrids / Varieties and Non-Bt Cotton Hybrids / Varieties were also conducted under the chairmanship of Dr. R.K. Singh, ADG (CC).

Deputy Director General (Crop Science) visits ICAR- CICR, RS, Coimbatore

Dr. T.R. Sharma, Hon'ble Deputy Director General (Crop Science) and Dr. R K Singh, Assistant Director General (Commercial Crops) visited ICAR - Central Institute for Cotton Research, Regional Station, Coimbatore on April 7, 2021. During the visit DDG interacted with scientists and the scientists briefly presented their research activities and progress made during the year 2021-22. The demonstration fields with poly-mulch and drip fertigation, wireless smart traps for automated pest monitoring in cotton, drone spraying pesticides were observed by the dignitaries during the visit. The DDG (CS) inaugurated the newly constructed "Insect Screening Chamber" at the station.

Student visit:

Ninety-Six final year BSc Agri students from National College, College of Agriculture, Padannakkad visited ICAR-CICR, Regional Station on April 4, 2022. Dr S. Usha Rani (Agricultural Extension), Dr S. Manickam (Plant Breeding) interacted with students and highlighted the achievements of the Station. Field and laboratory visits were also arranged during the visit. Ninety third year and final year B.Sc. Agri students from School of Agricultural Sciences, Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research (BIHER), Selaiyur, Chennai visited ICAR-CICR, Regional Station on April 27, 2022. Dr Gulsar Banu (Agricultural Nematology), Dr J. Annie Sheeba (Plant Physiology) interacted with students and briefly explained about the inception of the institute and significant achievements on various research areas of the Station.




Collaborative Masters Training Program organized at CICR, Nagpur

Five days 'Masters training program on recent advances and improved cotton production technologies" for the agricultural officials of Maharashtra was organized by city based premier institutes VANAMATI and ICAR-CICR at seminar hall, CICR, Nagpur during 25-29th April, 2022. This master training of trainer's program was formulated under the mentorship and guidance of Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR- CICR, Nagpur. At the outset, inauguration and opening of the training program was done by the hands of Dr. Y. G. Prasad. Sh. Uday Patil, Additional Director and Sh. Subodh Mohril from Vanamati graced the inaugural function. Ms. Sima Mundle worked as a course coordinator for whole session of the training program. She introduced the participants to the dignitaries and experts of training program. Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Senior Scientist (Agricultural Entomology), Dr. Ramkrushna, G.I., and Dr. Dipak T. Nagrale, senior scientists from the institute acted as a local course coordinator for the training program.Dr. M. V. Venugopalan, Principal Scientist (Agronomy) & I/c PME cell welcomed the participants and briefed the course content and lecture series of subject experts prepared by CICR. In valedictory function, Dr. Prasad advocated the importance of such masters training program for the agricultural officials. He informed various research and extension activities being done by institute and strongly expressed his opinion that this training was very useful as step ahead to sensitize trainers about several cotton production technologies to enhance the production and productivity in Maharashtra. During the event, subject experts from the institute covered several topics including insect-pests, diseases, soil fertility and nutrition, water management, improved varieties etc. Thirty-two participants from different cotton growing zones of Maharashtra mainly benefitted from this training program.

ICAR-CICR organize workshop for organic cotton growers

One day Workshop on organic cotton production was organized at Sewagram on 23rd April 2022 by ICAR-CICR in collaboration with Gram Seva Mandal, Wardha and Mission Samruddhi, Chennai as part of 'Annadata Devo Bhava' campaign. Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, CICR highlighted the revival in demand for organic cotton and the need for establishing robust supply chain from production to marketing. Non-GM varieties developed and released by CICR will fill the gap in meeting the demand for varieties of suitable quality by organic growers in central and southern cotton growing zones. Geotagging, traceability and certification will help in boosting organic cotton production.

Dr. Dr. MV Venugopalan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, Mr. Atul Sharma Secretary, Gram Seva Mandal, Wardha, Dr. Vidya Mankar Project Director ATMA, Wardha, Mr Kishore Jagtap, program officer, Mission Samruddhi, Dr. Suhas Podar, Principal, Anand Niketan Agricultural College, Warora explained & guided the participating farmers on organic cotton production initiative. Dr. Sunil Mahajan, Principal Scientist (Seed Technology) provided detailed information to the farmers about the properties of non-GM varieties promoting for organic farming developed by CICR. Dr. Ramakrishna G. I. Senior Scientist provided guidance on soil testing and nutrient management in organic cotton production. Dr. Rachna Pandey provides information on pest management and Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik explained about Trichogramma production technology to the farmers as an important biological method of pest management. Dr. Shailesh Gawande, Senior Scientist presented the alternatives for disease management in organic cotton production developed by CICR. The seeds of non-GM varieties along with Trichoderma packet for seed treatment were distributed to the farmers on this occasion. About 90 farmers from Yavatmal and Wardha districts participated in the workshop. Mr. Kishor Jagtap from mission Samrudhhi proposed the vote of thanks. The program was concluded with a prayer song in the Gram Gita. Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Senior Scientist (Agricultural Entomology), Dr. Ramkrushna, G.I., and Dr. Shailesh Gawande, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) acted as a course coordinator for the training program.

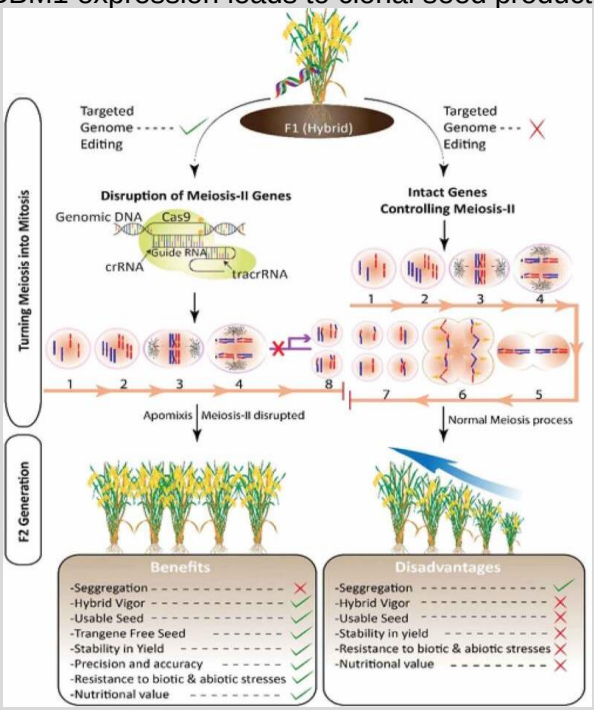
Exposure visit of Agricultural graduates to ICAR-CICR- Nagpur

The final year students of College of Agriculture, Kalaburagi, UAS Raichur (KA) visited ICAR-CICR on 26th April 2022 as part of their course curriculum under All India Educational study tour programme. The students visited labs of the institute and were briefed about the different research activities by Dr. Vivek Shah (Insectary), Dr. Rakesh Kumar (Tissue culture lab), Dr. Pooja Verma (GC-MS and other instrumentation) and Dr. Chandrashekar N (Biotechnology and Bt referral lab). Dr. Neelakanth S. Hiremani (Member, HRD Cell) coordinated the students' visit.

Did You Know?

Sustaining hybrid vigour over several generations?

Most farmers cultivate hybrid cotton in India because of the higher vigour obtained in F_1. The only way to fix this hybrid vigour is through obtaining apomictic seeds. The induction of apomixis is made easier by the advancement of genome editing techniques. Through the CRISPR/Cas genome editing system, disruption of the expression of egg cell MATRILINEAL (*MTL)* genes encourages the production of haploid seed, whereas knockout of three genes namely Baby Boom (BBM) genes BBM1, BBM2, and BBM3 causes embryo arrest and abortion. Genome editing of BBM1 expression leads to clonal seed production and heritability for multiple generations.



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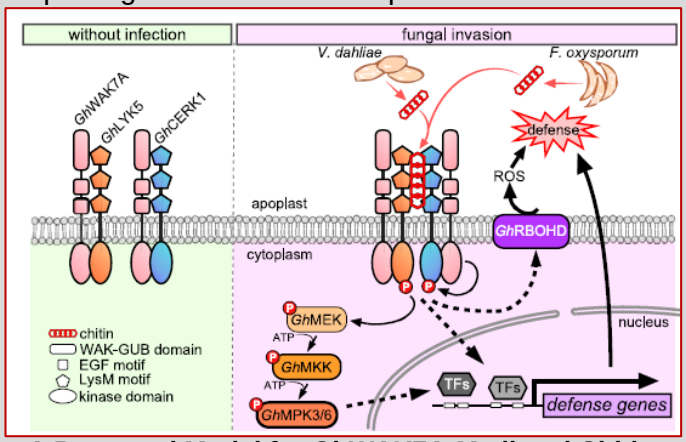
Contributed by: Dr. K. Baghyalakshmi, Scientist, Plant Breeding and Genetics, ICAR-CICR, RS-CBE.

Recent Advances in Plant pathology

GhWAK7A- The Cotton Wall-Associated Kinase Mediates Responses to Fungal Wilt Pathogens

Plant receptor-like kinases (RLKs) are proteins with a predicted signal sequence, single transmembrane region and cytoplasmic kinase domain. Plant receptor-like kinases (RLKs) are important players in response to pathogen infections. Verticillium and Fusarium wilts, caused by Verticillium dahliae (Vd) and Fusarium oxysporum f. sp vasinfectum (Fov) are among the most devastating diseases in cotton. In order to understand the host response to these soil-borne fungal pathogens, the research team performed a genome-wide in silico characterization and functional screen of diverse RLKs for their involvement in cotton wilt diseases. In turn they identified Gossypium hirsutum GhWAK7A, a wall-associated kinase, that positively regulates cotton response to both Vd and Fov infections. A conserved chitin sensing and signaling system is present in cotton, including chitin-induced GhLYK5-GhCERK1 dimerization and phosphorylation which contributes to cotton defense against Vd and Fov. Importantly, GhWAK7A directly interacts with both GhLYK5 and GhCERK1 and promotes chitin-induced GhLYK5-GhCERK1 dimerization. Thus, it reveals GhWAK7A as an important component in cotton response to fungal wilt pathogens by complexing with the chitin receptors.



A Proposed Model for GhWAK7A-Mediated Chitin Signaling in Cotton Defense against Fungal Pathogens (Image source: Wang *et al.*, 2020)

References:

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Contributed by: *P. Valarmathi, Scientist (Plant Pathology), ICAR- CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore-641 003*

Farmer's Corner

Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM) strategies in cotton – a farmer Shri. P. Mayisamy who adopts IRM from Sattakkalpudur shares his success story

The ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore had initiated National Food Security Mission (NFSM) funded project on "Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM): Dissemination of pink bollworm strategies" in Kinathukadavu block of Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu from 2018 as a part of extension program. Fifty farmers from Palanigoundanur, Muthugoundanur, Sokkanur, Veerappagoundanur, Sattakkalpudur villages were adopted for the implementation of project activities during the current season. Training was imparted to farmers on plant protection technologies through lectures, field demonstrations, group meetings and exhibitions. Also they are being trained on pest monitoring with pheromone traps, use of bio-control agents and safe handling of insecticides. Regular monitoring of fields was done for sucking pests, natural enemies and boll damage at weekly intervals. Critical inputs were given and the farmers are advised to follow the plant protection measures.

Shri. P. Mayilsamy (Mobile No: 9965332843), an adopted farmer from the Sattakkalpudur village cultivating sole cotton actively participated in the training programmes organized under IRM project. After receiving the training, the farmer started adopting the use of pheromone traps for pest monitoring; was able to identify the damage symptoms and learned the concept of economic threshold level (ETL) in deciding the timing of insecticide spray. He used to get an annual income of Rs. 96,296/- from cotton. He faced problems like pest and diseases, non availability of labour, water scarcity increase in critical input price etc. With DFI interventions like supply of critical inputs like insecticides, growth regulators, fertilizers, better cultivation practices, drought management techniques etc. he is getting an annual income of Rs. 1,63,925/- with a benefit cost ratio of 1.85. There was 65.32 % reduction in pesticide usage by following IRM strategies.

Information provided by
Dr. K. Rameash,Principal Scientist,
Agrl. Entomology, ICAR, RS,
Coimbatore -3

Scientists' Corner:

- ICAR-CICR Celebrated 46th Foundation day on 01st April 2022 in hybrid Mode. Dr. Praveen Rao Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU participated as Chief Guest. Dr C D Mayee, Former Chairman, ASRB, Dr B S Dwivedi, Director, ICAR-NBSS & LUP and Dr D K Ghosh, Director, ICAR-CCRI Nagpur participated as Guests of Honour.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with Price Fixing Committee Members participated in the Price Fixation Committee meeting held on 04th April 2022 through virtual mode.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with scientists involved in genome editing research participated in the virtual interaction regarding "Information on status of ongoing genome editing research in field and horticultural crops" being organized by ICAR Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR on 06th April 2022.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur participated in the the Fifty years (Golden Jubilee) Celebration of Cotton Hybrid Technology on 6th April, 2022 jointly hosted by ICAR-AICRP Project on Cotton, Coimbatore and ISCI, Mumbai.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with concerned scientists attended the varietal identification committee meeting for Bt cotton variety/ Hybrid under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.K. Singh, ADG (CC), ICAR, New Delhi on 7th April, 2022 in hybrid mode.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with concerned scientists participated in the ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton Annual Group Meeting on 07th & 08th April, 2022 at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur participated as Panelist in the Session III "Next Revolution in Cotton Farming" in the CITI-CDRA Golden Jubilee Celebrations & Mega event in the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 12th April 2022 organized by Confederation of Indian Textile Industry. The Theme of the Mega Event was "Kapas Ki Adhik Upaj, Shudh Upaj".
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, attended the annual conference of ICAR Directors held on 13thApril, 2022 in C Subramanian Auditorium, NASC, PUSA, New Delhi.
- On behalf of the Kamgar Kalyan Mandal, ICAR- Central Institute for Cotton Research paid homage to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar on **14.04.2022** at **10.30** am in the reception hall of the office building on the occasion of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti. The chairman of the committee, Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Heads of the various divisions and the members were present.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur along with Dr. V.N. Waghmare attended the zoom meeting regarding CCPI of the project for discussion during the cost committee on 20th April, 2022 organized by ADG (NASF), ICAR, New Delhi.
- Dr.Y.G. Prasad, Dr.V.N. Waghmare, Dr. M.V. Venugopalan and Dr. A.H. Prakash attended meeting with the officials of Bayer Crop Science on 22nd April 2022 to discuss the proposal for trait introgression (TI) of RRF into BGII lines to be provided with companies licensed to Bayer Crop Science.
- Dr. Y.G Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur delivered the special guest address in Kisan Mela and Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari Abhiyan on 22nd April, 2022 being organized by KVK, ICAR-CICR Nagpur in Commemoration of 75th Year of India Independence (Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav).
- Dr.Y.G Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, Nagpur inaugurated the "Masters' Trainers on Cotton" training programme being jointly organised by Vanamati, Nagpur and ICAR-CICR Nagpur during 25th to 27th April, 2022 at ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.
- Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur was nominated as member of UGC Expert Committee to assess the Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) – Kerala Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Kerala. He held discussions with its major stakeholders and made assessment of its academic viability and infrastructure facilities adhering to the provisions as enunciated in the guidelines during 27th-30th April 2022.
- Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Sr. Scientist (Ag. Entomology) and Dr. Dipak T. Nagrale, Sr. Scientist (Plant Pathology) delivered an interactive lecture on "Management of Pink bollworm in Cotton" and "Integrated boll rot disease complex management in cotton" during Five days 'Masters training program on recent advances and improved cotton production technologies" for the agricultural officials of Maharashtra was organized by city based premier institutes VANAMATI and ICAR-CICR from 25-29 April, 2022.
- Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Sr. Scientist (Ag. Entomology) delivered an interactive lecture on "Biocontrol agents for Management of Pink bollworm" during One day Workshop on organic cotton production was organized at Sewagram on 23rd April 2022
- Dr. A. Manikandan, (Scientist, Soil Science) delivered a talk on "Biofertilizer formulation from agricultural waste and crop improvement through Biotechnology" at Department of Biotechnology and Environment Science, Kamala Nehru College, Nagpur on 8th May 2022.
- Dr. A. Manikandan (Scientist, Soil Science), delivered a lecture on soil health management in the training programme on 'Master Trainers training for cotton crop' at Vasantrao Naik State Agricultural Extension Management Training Institute (VANAMATI), Nagpur on 25th April 2022.
- Dr. A. Manikandan, Scientist (Soil Science) delivered a lecture on "Foliar Nutrition Management and ways to improve biofortification" at farmers level to reduce malnutrition. For the "Nationwide campaign on "Biofortification, Nutrient Grooms and Crop diversification". To create massive awareness and wider publicity, the outreach of the said campaign is carried out at ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur on 28th April, 2022
- Dr. A. Manikandan (Scientist, Soil Science), conducted a week long training (16th -21st April, 2022) on 'Soil and Plant Analysis' for the staff of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR-CICR Nagpur.

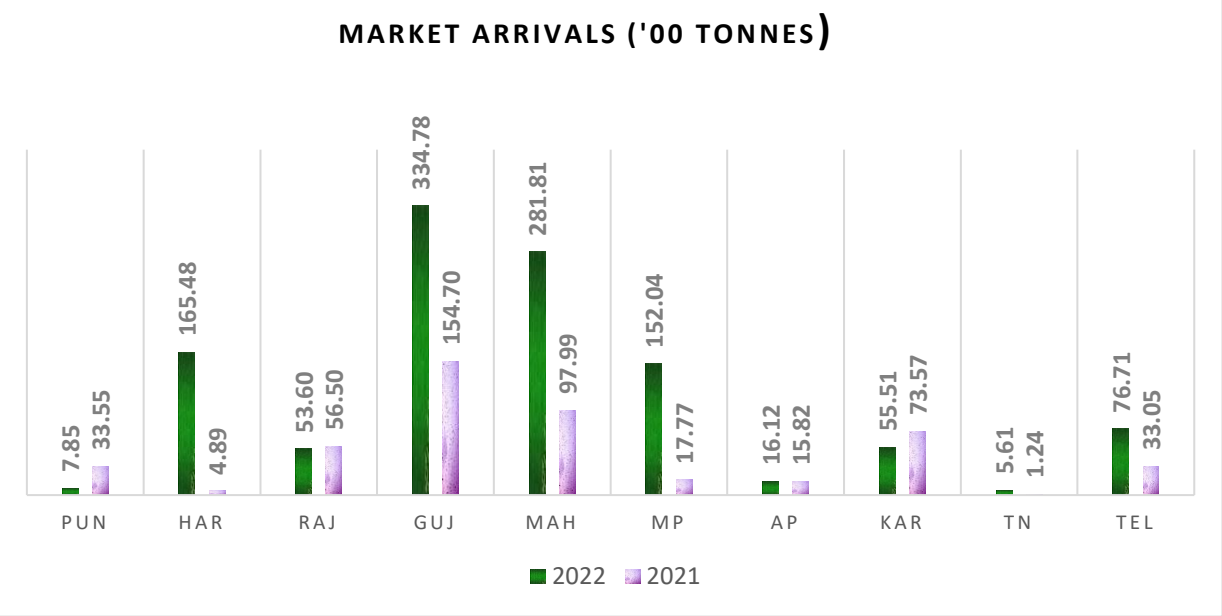
Cotton scenario during April 2022

A. R.Reddy and Isabella Agarwal

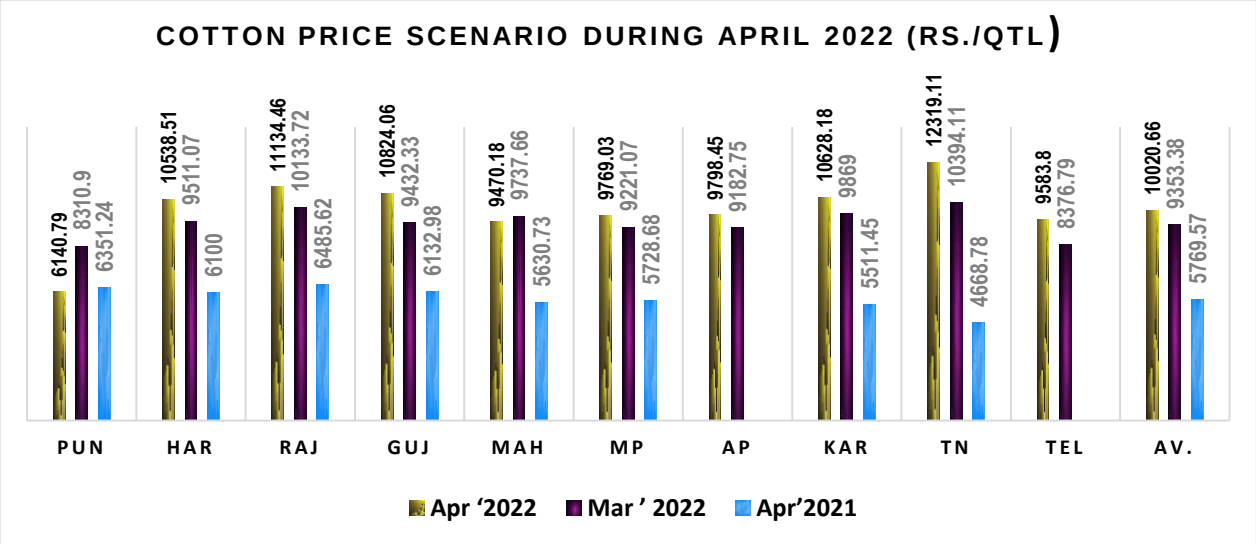
Global cotton prices surged since last month with A-Index rising over 20 cents per pound to 154 cents and nearly 70 cents above the same period last year. Despite the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, prices on the Intercontinental Exchange have witnessed an exuberant rally.

2022	A-Index	US	China	India	Brazil
Mar	133.2	114.8	162.8	127	137.6
April	154	132.1	162.9	153.7	151.7
Change (%)	20.8	17.3	0.1	26.7	14.1

Contrary to price movements across the world, spot prices in China were unchanged. High lint prices and its large cotton yarn and fabric stocks are both helping to suppress cotton lint demand. The A-Index is roughly 10 cents lower than domestic prices in China compared to roughly 30 cents last month, signaling that China's price gap has narrowed dramatically. This is expected to slow China's short-term foreign purchases despite the recent issuance of sliding scale quota. Indian cotton market remained firm during April.



The arrivals were highest in Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, MP and Telangana when compared to the other States where the produce was immediately marketed prior to skyrocketed price. All India daily arrivals are decreasing rapidly and tight supply helped prices stay strong in the Indian market. Indian mills are struggling to get quality cotton. Also, disparity in yarn forced them to cut down production of yarn. Indian cotton Shanker-6 prices remained stable near Rs. 90,200 to 90,500 per candy.



There was exorbitant rise in cotton prices during April 2022 in the States of Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Telangana to the tune of 14 to 18 per cent compared to previous month. Cotton prices continued their upward trend that began in early May 2020 to reach an 11-year high in March.

CICR in Media:

CICR's welfare activities for cotton farmers lauded

ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (**ICAR-CICR**), Nagpur, celebrated its **46th foundation day** on April 1, where the dignitaries lauded the institute's various progressive and welfare activities for cotton farmers. The event was held in the presence of **CD Mayee**, ex-chairman (ASRB) and ex-director (ICAR-CICR), **Velchala Praveen Rao**, vice-chancellor, PJTSAU, Telangana, **BS Dwivedi,** director, ICAR-NBSS&LUP, Nagpur and **DK Ghosh,** director, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur. **YG Prasad,** director of ICAR-CICR said that **CICR** released **10 cotton varieties** during 2021-22, out of which, **4 are Bt varieties** for the central and southern states. Mayee emphasized the role of CICR in **pink bollworm management** and appreciated institute's efforts towards the welfare of cotton farming community. **VP Rao,** in his foundation day lecture as chief guest spoke on promotion of **high density planting system** in cotton as key for enhancing productivity. Mayee inaugurated an **automatic weather station** for providing value added agromet advisories to farmers in Nagpur district. The **staff** of all categories **who retired** from **ICAR-CICR** were felicitated for their significant contribution. Vote of thanks was proposed by **Nandini Gokte Narkhedkar.**

Times of India, 05.04.2022

ICAR-CICR holds training programme on 'Scientific Goat Farming'

Staff Reporter

ICAR-Central Institute of Cotton Research (ICAR-CICR) conducted a three-day training programme on 'Scientific Goat Farming' at Krishi Vigyan Kendra recently.

This training was conducted under "Capacity building of farmers through training programmes on profitable dairy farming and livestock management" scheme. Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Ministry sponsored the training programme.

Total 40 participants from Nagpur district participated in the training. Guidance regarding establishment of goat farming to marketing was given by experts. This event was held under the guidance of Dr Y G Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.

In the valedictory function, Dr C D Mayee was the chief guest. Dr Mayee urged participants to come together to form an FPO and said goat farming is an excellent, sustainable, supplementary business which plays an important role in doubling farmer's income.

Dr S N Rokde, Principle Scientist (Livestock Production and Management) and Head, KVK delivered lecture on 'Scientific goat farming'.

The course co-ordinator Dr Ulhas Galkate said, the goat farming can be started with less capital and better for small marginal farmers, landless labours and rural unemployed youth. If this business is done by scientific method then mortality percentage can be reduced and if scientific breeding is done then we can get kids with enhanced body weight.

Dr Ulhas Nandankar, Dr Subhash Patil, Sunita Chauhan, Dr Deepa Lal and Dr Deulkar extended support to conduct the programme.

The Hitavada, 06.04.2022

Textile prices said to surge as cotton cost soars

'Cotton prices rose 58%, yarn by 33%'

M. SOUNDARIYA PREETHA
COIMBATORE

With cotton prices spiralling to more than ₹90,000 a candy, prices of cotton textile products are expected to surge, according to industry officials.

In Tiruppur, manufacturers of basic garments raised prices by 15% in December and were likely to go in for another price revision shortly. "Cotton prices are going up almost on a daily basis. But, garment manufacturers cannot do so. Now, there is no option but to raise the prices again," said an industry source.

Raja M. Shanmugham, president of Tiruppur Exporters' Association, said that between October 2021 and April 2022, cost of cotton-based garments increased 15%. "Overseas customers are not willing to offer any further hike in prices as they had already increased the prices earlier," he said.

Industry sources point out while cotton prices rose 58%-60% between last October and this month, yarn prices had gone up by 33%.

J. Thulasidharan, president of Indian Cotton Federation, called for measures to control the holding of cotton stocks.

The Hindu, 06.04.2022

२ नागपूर, बुधवार, ६ एप्रिल २०२२ **आपला नागपूर जिल्हा**

शाश्वत उत्पन्नासाठी शेळीपालन राजमार्गच!

डॉ. चारुदत्त मायी यांचे प्रतिपादन

◆ नागपूर, ५ एप्रिल

निव्वळ शेती केल्याने शेतकऱ्यांचे भले होत नाही. याकरिता त्यांना पूरक व्यवसायाची जोड स्वीकारावी लागते. मग शेळीपालन का नाही? याचा विचार शेतकऱ्यांनी करायला हवा. शेळीपालन केल्याने शेतकऱ्यांना शेतीपूरक उद्योग मिळतो, शिवाय शाश्वत उत्पन्नही त्यापासून काढता येते. यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांसाठी शाश्वत उत्पन्नासाठी शेळीपालन हाच राजमार्ग असल्याचे प्रतिपादन कृषी वैज्ञानिक मंडळ नवी दिल्लीचे माजी अध्यक्ष डॉ. चारुदत्त मायी यांनी केले.

कृषी विज्ञान केंद्र, सीआयसीआर नागपूर यांच्या वतीने शास्त्रोक्त पद्धतीने शेळीपालन या प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमात ते बोलत होते. याप्रसंगी केंद्राचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, डॉ. चारुदत्त मायी, कृषी विज्ञान केंद्राचे प्रमुख शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. सुनील रोकडे, डॉ. उल्हास गव्हकाटे, डॉ. सुभाष पाटील उपस्थित होते.

भारतीय कृषी संशोधन संस्था अंतर्गत केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था नागपूर येथे शास्त्रोक्त पद्धतीने शेळीपालन या विषयावर तीन दिवसांचे प्रशिक्षण पार पडले. यात जिल्ह्यातील ४० शेतकऱ्यांनी सहभाग घेतला होता. शेळ्यांचे उत्पादन ते विक्री पर्यंतच्या सर्व तांत्रिक बाबी याबेळी त्यांना समजावून सांगण्यात आल्या. प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमात प्रमुख शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. सुनील रोकडे यांनीही मार्गदर्शन केले. त्यांनी शेळीपालनाची सुरुवात नेमकी कशी करायची यावर प्रकाश टाकला. त्यांच्या अभ्यासू भाषणाने अनेकांना काही तरी कार्य करण्याची प्रेरणा मिळाली, हे विशेष.

प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम यशस्वी व्हावा म्हणून डॉ. उल्हास नंदनकर, सुनीता चव्हाण, डॉ. दीपा लाल, डॉ. सचिन वानखेडे, डॉ. देऊळकर, जयश्री खोब्रागडे, रोशन ठाकूर, राजेश गिरडकर, प्रशांत गायकवाड, कमलाकर वाघले, अभिषेक पातुरकर, अमोल राघोर्ते यांनी अथक परिश्रम घेतले. ◆(तभा वृत्तसेवा)

कमी भांडवलात उत्तम रोजगार

शेळीपालन हा तरुण बेरोजगार, लहान शेतकरी तसेच भूमिहीन मजुरांकरिता कमी भांडवलामध्ये सुरू करता येणारा व्यवसाय आहे. विशेष म्हणजे यातून शाश्वत उत्पन्न मिळते अशी भूमिका विषयाचे तज्ज्ञ डॉ. उल्हास गव्हकाटे यांनी मांडली. हा व्यवसाय उभारायचा असेल तर इच्छाशक्ती हवी. त्यानंतर संबंधितांनी योग्य ती काळजी घेत शास्त्रोक्त पद्धत अनुसरली तर नक्कीच ते यशस्वी उद्योजक बनू शकतात असेही डॉ. उल्हास गव्हकाटे यांनी स्पष्ट केले.

Tarun Bharat, 06.04.2022

सीआयसीआर कापसाची मूल्यसाखळी विकसित करू

केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. प्रसाद यांची माहिती

नागपूर : "जागतिक स्तरावर सर्वाधिक कापूस लागवड भारतात होते. त्या पार्श्वभूमीवर केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेने शेतकऱ्यांपर्यंत उत्पादकता वाढीचे तंत्रज्ञान पोचविण्यावर भर दिला आहे. त्याच धोरणा अंतर्गत खासगी सार्वजनिक भागीदारीतून ही संस्था देशी किंवा सेंद्रिय कापूस मूल्यसाखळीवर काम सुरू करण्याच्या प्रक्रियेत आहे," अशी माहिती केंद्रीय कापूस शिक्षण संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद यांनी दिली.

केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या ४६ व्या वर्धापन दिन सोहळ्यात ते बोलत होते. तेलंगणा कृषी विद्यापीठाचे कुलगुरू डॉ. प्रवीणराव, राष्ट्रीय मृदा सर्वेक्षण व भूमी उपयोग संस्था संचालक बी. एस. द्विवेदी, शास्त्रज्ञ भरती सेवा मंडळाचे माजी अध्यक्ष डॉ. सी.डी. मायी, केंद्रीय लिंबूवर्गीय फळपीक संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. दिलीप घोष उपस्थित होते. डॉ. प्रसाद म्हणाले, "जनुकीय संपादन, ट्रान्सजेनिक्स आणि काटेकोर शेती ही भविष्यातील कापसाची निगडित संशोधनाची प्रमुख क्षेत्रे आहेत." 'सीआयसीआर ॲट अ ग्लान्स' आणि 'सीआयसीआर टेक्नॉलॉजीज' या पुस्तकांचे प्रकाशन करण्यात आले.

नागपूर : केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या स्थापना दिवसाच्या निमित्ताने पुस्तकांचे प्रकाशन करण्यात आले. या वेळी ज्येष्ठ शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ.सी. डी. मायी, डॉ. वा. जी. प्रसाद, डॉ. दिलीप घोष, डॉ. बी.एस. द्विवेदी उपस्थित होते.

Sakal Agroone, 03.04.2022

शेतकऱ्यांपर्यंत कापसाचे प्रगत तंत्रज्ञान पोहोचवा

संचालक डॉ. प्रसाद यांचे आवाहन; मास्टर ट्रेनरसाठी प्रशिक्षण

ॲग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा

नागपूर : राज्यातील कापूस उत्पादक जिल्ह्यांमधील कृषी अधिकाऱ्यांसाठी केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेत प्रशिक्षण वर्गाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे. या वेळी उद्घाटन सोहळ्याला उपस्थित संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, उदय पाटील, सुबोध मोहरील.

नागपूर : जागतिकस्तरावर सर्वाधिक कापूस लागवड क्षेत्र असतानाही भारताची उत्पादकता मात्र इतर देशांच्या तुलनेत अत्यल्प आहे. ही बाब लक्षात घेता केंद्रीय कापूस संस्थेच्या वतीने विकसित प्रगत वाण, तंत्रज्ञानाच्या प्रसारासाठी कृषी विभागाने विस्तारकाची भूमिका बजावावी असे आवाहन केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद यांनी केले.

राज्यातील ३५ कापूस उत्पादक जिल्ह्यांमधील मास्टर ट्रेनरसाठी आयोजित पाचदिवसीय प्रशिक्षण वर्गाच्या उद्घाटन प्रसंगी ते बोलत होते. केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था तसेच वसंतराव नाईक राज्य कृषी विस्तार, व्यवस्थापन प्रशिक्षण संस्था (वनामती) यांच्या संयुक्त सहकार्याने हे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे.

या वेळी वनामतीचे अतिरिक्त संचालक उदय पाटील, सुबोध मोहरील यांची उपस्थिती होती. या पाचदिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमाच्या अभ्यासक्रमाचे समन्वयन सीमा मुंडले यांनी केले आहे. उद्घाटन सत्रात त्यांनी उपस्थित पाहुण्यांचा परिचय करून दिला. केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे डॉ. रामकृष्णन जी. आय., डॉ. व्ही. चिन्ना बाबू नाईक, डॉ. दीपक नगराळे हे स्थानिकस्तरावर समन्वयकाची भूमिका बजावत आहेत. डॉ. एम. वेणुगोपाल यांनी सीआयसीआरने या प्रशिक्षणासाठी खास तयार केलेल्या अभ्यासक्रमासंबंधी बाबींची माहिती दिली.

या वेळी बोलताना डॉ. प्रसाद म्हणाले, की कापसाची एकरी उत्पादकता वाढविण्यासाठी सघन लागवड पद्धतीला प्रोत्साहन देण्याची गरज आहे. मात्र हे करताना जमिनीचा पोत विचारात घ्यावा लागेल. जमिनीचा पोत विचारात घेऊनच झाडांची संख्या निर्धारित केल्यास आपल्याला अपेक्षित उत्पादन मिळू शकते. त्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांनी माती परीक्षणावर भर दिला पाहिजे. गुलाबी बोंड अळीचा प्रादुर्भाव वाढत आहे ही बाब लक्षात घेता शेतकऱ्यांनी कमी कालावधीत परिपक्व होणाऱ्या कापूस वाणाची निवड केली पाहिजे. त्याकरिता देखील शेतकऱ्यांना प्रोत्साहित करण्यासाठी कृषी विभागाने पुढाकार घ्यावा. छोट्याशा उपायोजनातून कापसातील कीड रोग व्यवस्थापन शक्य होते. त्यासोबतच एकरी उत्पादकता वाढविण्याचा उद्देश साधता येतो मात्र अशा छोट्या बाबींकडे होणारे दुर्लक्षच उत्पादकता वाढीत अडचण ठरते.

Cotton hits ₹13k/quintal, some gain, some miss

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Illustration: Ranmurti Nerlay

WHITE GOLD

Nagpur: These days, cotton rates are continuing to match the Sensex. Soon after the harvest, cotton rates touched Rs 10,000 a quintal. The rally has continued with raw cotton even fetching over Rs 13,000 a quintal in certain pockets of the region. Earlier, it was barely around the minimum support price of Rs 5000 odd.

The average price now is in the range of Rs 12,000 to 13,700 a quintal, said traders.

The current levels are more than what the farmers had even dreamt of. Now as prices of the main crop of Vidarbha reach a new high, farmers TOI talked to said they have already sold off their produce when the rates were in the range of Rs 8,000 to 9,000 a quintal.

The high prices rather came as a saving grace because the output was low and it was only because of exorbitant rates of cotton that they were saved from losses, the farmers said. Yet, not many could reap the benefit of cotton touching Rs 12,000 to 13,000.

Traders on the other hand said farmers too have become smarter these days. It's the cultivators, though handful of them, who are bringing the produce in the market and not traders. They had held on to the stock waiting for the prices to rise.

Arun Sheskaria, director of Cotton Association of India (CAI), says that so far the supply has been of 238 lakh bales as against this there is an estimate of an output of 340 lakh bales. Now the questions is that who is sitting on as much as 102 lakh bales of cotton or is it that the estimates are wrong. Sheksaria said if exports are continuing, the domestic industry is facing shortage.

Vijay Jawandhia, an activist from Wardha said even he has ended up selling cotton between Rs 10,000 to 11,000. Cotton has to be dearer as the international prices are at a record high of 156 cents per pound. This has affected the rates of seeds which is at Rs 4,300 a quintal as against Rs 3,800 earlier. This has made cattle fodder dearer as it is made out of cotton seeds. As there is a shortage, India has become a source of cotton the world over.

Pawan Singhania, a trader in Wardha, said the rates in Selu Tehsil of the district are the highest. Cotton is being purchased for as much as has Rs 12,500 to Rs 13,700 a quintal. It's the farmers who had held on to the stock and are now bringing the produce. Its April and as much as 200 vehicles are reaching the yard. This is more than the arrivals during peak season, he said. This has also made cattle fodder costlier by Rs 1,000 a quintal at Rs 4,400, said Singhania.

Farmers on the hand say they have already sold of their stock not leaving much to profit. Nitin Khadse in Jalka village of Yavatmal said almost everyone in his village had sold away the cotton, except one. The person who hasn't sold had a Central government job and could not find time to reach the market.

Gajanan Singewar from Patan village at Maharashtra Telangana border also said he sold when the rates where around Rs 9,000 a quintal.

Sudhir Kothari, a director at the APMC in Hinganghat, said its certainly the farmers though they may be just a handful who are selling cotton. It also true that a majority have sold the cotton earlier.

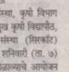
Times of India, 06.04.2022

सकाळ ॲग्रोवन

कापूस लागवड-व्यवस्थापन तंत्रज्ञानावर आज मंथन

राज्यभरातील ३५० शेतकरी, सेवा क्षेत्रातील भागधारकांचा समावेश

ॲग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा



नागपूर : कापूस उत्पादकता वाढीसाठी पूरक तंत्रज्ञान, व्यवस्थापनाच्या तांत्रिक बाबी अशा सर्व मुद्यांवर चर्चा करण्यासाठी केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, कृषी विभाग आणि डॉ. पंजाबराव देशमुख कृषी विद्यापीठ, केंद्रीय कापूस तंत्रज्ञान संस्था (सिरकॉट) यांच्या संयुक्त सहकार्याने शनिवारी (ता. ७) एक दिवसीय खरीपपूर्व मेळाव्याचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे. वनामती (वसंतराव नाईक राज्य कृषी विस्तार, व्यवस्थापन प्रशिक्षण संस्था) सभागृहात सकाळी साडेदहा वाजता हा मेळावा होईल.

मेळाव्याला प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून पशुसंवर्धन व दुग्धविकासमंत्री सुनील केदार यांची उपस्थिती राहणार आहे. मेळाव्यात राज्याच्या कापूस उत्पादक जिल्ह्यातील सुमारे ३५० शेतकरी, कापूस सेवा क्षेत्रातील भागधारक, तज्ज्ञ सहभागी होणार आहेत. उद्घाटन सोहळ्यानंतर तांत्रिक सत्रात कापूस ॲक्शन प्लॅन तयार केला जाणार आहे. शेतकरी, तज्ज्ञांमध्ये संवादात्मक सत्र देखील राहील. येत्या खरीप हंगामात कापसाची उत्पादकता, उत्पन्न वाढ, कापसाचा दर्जा राखणे त्याकरिता पूरक तंत्रज्ञान, त्यासंदर्भाने आवश्यक नियोजन आणि अंमलबजावणी अशा सर्व मुद्यांवर या चर्चासत्रात मंथन होणार आहे, अशी माहिती केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद यांनी दिली.

> कापसावर गुलाबी बोंड अळीचा प्रादुर्भाव होतो. त्याच्या नियंत्रणासाठी कमी कालावधीत परिपक्व होणाऱ्या वाणांच्या लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देण्याचे प्रस्तावित आहे. त्यासोबतच कापसाचा दर्जा आणि उत्पादकता यातही सुधारणांची गरज आहे. या दोन्ही बाबी नजरेसमोर ठेवत या प्रशिक्षणाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे. कापसाच्या दरात गेल्या हंगामात आलेल्या तेजीमुळे यंदा लागवड क्षेत्र सरासरी गाठेल, अशी अपेक्षा आहे.
> – डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, संचालक, केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, नागपूर

9 May, 2022, Sakal Agroone

350 farmers benefit from cotton workshop

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Minister Sunil Kedar was the chief guest of ICAR-CICR workshop

Nagpur: ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), organized a 'Stakeholders Interface workshop - Pre-kharif consultation on technologies and best practices for enhancing cotton productivity' at Vanamati on Saturday.

The event was held in association with PDKV, Akola and department of agriculture, Nagpur Division. More than 350 farmers from villages of Nagpur, Wardha, Amravati, Akola, Umred, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli benefitted from the workshop.

State minister for animal husbandry Sunil Kedar was the chief guest. Dr CD Mayee, ex-chairman (ASRB) and ex-director (ICAR-CICR), Dr VM Bhale, vice-chancellor of PDKV, Dr AL Waghmare, director of DCD, and Ravindra Bhosle, JDA, Nagpur division, were the dignitaries who shared the dais.

Kedar emphasized the need of good extension so as to take research benefits to villages.

Dr Mayee opined on the necessity to make Ht Bt cotton legal and shared about the Bandhan project and its contribution in controlling pink boll worm thereby enhancing the cotton productivity.

Dr Bhale spoke on the need to use plant shedders on hiring basis for crop residue management, use of pheromone traps. Dr YG Prasad, director of ICAR-CICR, briefed on the production and protection strategies to enhance cotton productivity in Maharashtra.

A technical session was conducted for farmers which included interactive lectures. Dr Sunil Rokde proposed a vote of thanks.

9 May, 2022, Times of India

Sakal Agrowon 30/4/2022

सेंद्रिय मालाच्या मागणीत वाढ

डॉ. प्रसाद : 'अन्नदाता देवो भव' या मोहिमेअंतर्गत कार्यशाळा

ॲग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा

नागपूर : "आरोग्याप्रती जागरूकता वाढल्याने सेंद्रिय शेतमालालादेखील वाढती मागणी आहे. काही उत्पादनांना अधिक दरही मिळतो त्यामध्ये कापसाचा देखील समावेश आहे. याची दखल घेत सेंद्रिय कापसाच्या लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देत विपणनापर्यंत मजबूत पुरवठा साखळी स्थापन करण्याची गरज आहे," असे मत केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद यांनी व्यक्त केले.

केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने 'अन्नदाता देवो भव' या मोहिमेअंतर्गत सेवाग्राम येथे सेंद्रिय कापूस उत्पादन या विषयावर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या निमित्ताने आयोजित कार्यक्रमात डॉ. प्रसाद बोलत होते. ते पुढे म्हणाले, बाजारपेठेत सेंद्रिय खाद्यान्नाची विस्तारित बाजारपेठ आहे अशा शेतमालाला ग्राहक देखील अधिकचा दर देतात आरोग्य प्रति जागरूकता वाढल्याने हे घडत आहे जागतिक स्तरावर नजीकच्या काळात सेंद्रिय कापसाला देखील वाढती मागणी आहे ती लक्षात घेता शेतकऱ्यांनी काही प्रमाणात अशा प्रकारच्या कापूस उत्पादनावर भर द्यावा. केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, ग्रामसेवा मंडळ वर्धा आणि मिशन समृद्धी, चेन्नई यांच्या संयुक्त सहकार्याने सेवाग्राम परिसरात सेंद्रिय कापूस लागवड यंदाच्या हंगामात केली जाणार आहे.

या वेळी एम.व्ही. वेणुगोपालन, ग्रामसेवा मंडळ वर्धाचे सचिव अतुल शर्मा, आत्मा प्रकल्प संचालक डॉ. विद्या मानकर, मिशन समृद्धीचे कार्यक्रम अधिकारी किशोर जगताप, वरोरा येथील आनंद निकेतन कृषी महाविद्यालयाचे प्राचार्य सुहास पोदार यांनी यावेळी मार्गदर्शन केले. सेंद्रिय कापूस उत्पादनात नोंद जीएम देशी वाणांची भूमिका यावेळी मांडण्यात आली.

वर्धा : केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने काही अशासकीय संस्थांच्या सहकार्यातून सेंद्रिय कापूस लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देण्यात येणार आहे. यानिमित्ताने अजित कार्यशाळेला उपस्थित संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, विद्या मानकर.

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NAGPUR
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022

TIMES CITY

This 'rakhi' keeps pink bollworm at bay

'Bandhan' Improves Cotton Yield

Sarfaraz.Ahmed@timesgroup.com

HOW IT WORKS

- PB knots work like pheromone traps
- The wire is filled with pheromone — a female hormone
- Pheromone smell lures male worm to search for non-existent female
- This prevents egg laying, thereby curtailing pest breeding
- Knot tied to every alternate plant after 40 days of sowing on the border of the farm
- For each acre, 107 bandhans or knots tied
- Project implemented on 300 acres spread across five fields of 60 acre each in two tehsils

Nagpur: Cotton grower Ankush Mote from Adasa village in Kalmeshwar tehsil didn't use any spraying to protect his crop from pink bollworm last kharif season. Despite this, Mote claimed to have harvested two quintals more cotton after suffering heavy crop damage due to the pest in 2020-21. The turnaround in Mote's farm came after he switched to Japanese technology-based PB knots — a small wire filled with lures — to prevent pest attack.

Under project Bandhan, over 100 PB knots, as mating disruptors, per acre were tied to every alternate cotton plant spread over 300 acres in five clusters in Kalmeshwar and Katol tehsils in the district. Mote along with several other farmers shared the success stories during a pre-kharif workshop for farmers from the region, organized by Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR) in association with Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth (PDKV), Akola, at Vanamati on Saturday.

"It is an eco-friendly and cost-effective technology," said CD Mayee, advisory of NGO Agrovision, which implemented the project in the two tehsils.

Over 270 farmers from Kalmeshwar and Katol tehsils had agreed to join Bandhan following several awareness campaigns by Mayee and his team.

"The project is named Bandhan as the wire is fastened like a rakhi on the stem of a 40-day-old plant. The wire is filled with pheromone and the smell persists for 90 days," explained Mayee.

The knots disrupt breeding of the insects by keeping the male on a constant chase. "The male worm keeps looking for non-existent female due to the smell and dies in the pursuit. This way, the pest population was controlled to a large extent," he said.

Mayee said training was imparted in April-May and June last year to farmers at Adasa, Warora and Metpanjara villages.

Each 60-acre farm was categorized as controlled plot, while nearby farms were identified as uncontrolled plot to observe the difference in the study.

"Plots in which the knots were not put had less productivity while the yield of controlled plots increased by an average 2 to 2.5quintals," he said.

The technology was introduced in Marathwada region before this project, but the acreage was far less, Mayee said. "This was the first time the project was launched on such large scale in India. Going ahead, 60 acre each in Yavatmal, Amravati and Wardha are likely to come under this project."

More than 350 farmers from villages in Wardha, Amravati, Akola, Umred, Chandrapur, and Gadchiroli were provided with inputs such as pheromone traps with lure, trichoderma culture and printed leaflets on safe pesticide application as well as pink bollworm and boll rot management in cotton during a workshop organized by CICR on Saturday.

Minister of animal husbandry, dairy development, sports and youth welfare Sunil Kedar, PDKV vice-chancellor VM Bhale, CICR director YG Prasad and DCD director AL Waghmare were present.

9 May, 2022 Times of India

यशोगाथांमधून ॲग्रोवनने जागविला नवा आशावाद

वर्धापनदिन कार्यक्रमात तज्ज्ञांच्या चर्चासत्रातील सूर

कापूस उत्पादकतेत वाढ गरजेचे: डॉ. प्रसाद

शेतकरी हिताचे धोरण आवश्यक: जावंधिया

तरुण भारत
Apla Nagpur | 2022-03-12 | Page- 2
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राष्ट्राच्या जडणघडणीत महिलाही अग्रेसर

◆ नागपूर, ११ मार्च

कुटुंबाला सांभाळून अनेक महिला आपल्या कर्तव्यस्थळी सर्वोत्तम अशी कामगिरी करीत असतात. एकूणच सर्व व्यापक दृष्टीने त्यांचे कार्य पाहता राष्ट्राच्या जडणघडणीत महिलाही अग्रेसर आहेत, असे प्रतिपादन आयसीएआर-सीआयसीआरचे संचालक डॉ. वाय.जी. प्रसाद यांनी केले.

जागतिक महिला दिनाच्या सोहळ्यात ते बोलत होते. यावेळी कृषी विज्ञान केंद्राचे प्रमुख डॉ. सुनील रोकडे, डॉ. दीपा लाल, सुनीता चव्हाण, डॉ. रेणुका मैंदे, डॉ. यु. व्ही. गळकाटे, डॉ. एस. एस. पाटील, कमलाकर चापले, अभिषेक पातुरकर, जयश्री खोब्रागडे, डॉ. सचिन वानखेडे, डॉ. देऊळकर उपस्थित होते.

महिला दिनाचे औचित्य साधत स्वयंसहायता गटातील ज्यांनी प्रशिक्षण घेत उद्योग सुरू केला त्या सदस्यांचा यावेळी सत्कार करण्यात आला.

दरम्यान, आहारतज्ज्ञ डॉ. रेणुका मैंदे यांनी दैनंदिन जीवन जगताना आरोग्य सुदृढ कसे ठेवायचे यावर मार्गदर्शन केले. त्या म्हणाल्या, महिला कुटुंबाची खूप काळजी घेतात. पण स्वत:कडे मात्र सातत्याने दुर्लक्ष करतात. असे तुम्ही कदापि करू नका. कुटुंबाला जेवढे महत्त्व देतात तेवढेच स्वत:लाही द्या. शरीर उत्तम राहावे म्हणून आहारावर लक्ष केंद्रीत करा. यावेळी सुनीता चव्हाण यांनीही मार्गदर्शन करीत विविध प्रयोगांची माहिती दिली. डॉ. दीपा लाल यांनी महिलांचे अधिकार यावर मार्गदर्शन केले. ◂(तभा वृत्तसेवा)

अर्थव्यवस्थाही बळकट केली : डॉ. रोकडे

महिलांना संधी मिळताच त्यांनी त्याचे सोने केले आहे. आज महिलांनी प्रत्येक क्षेत्र व्यापले असून, आर्थिक विकासातही त्यांचे योगदान महत्त्वपूर्ण असल्याची भूमिका कृषी विज्ञान केंद्राचे प्रमुख शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. सुनील रोकडे यांनी मांडली. कृषी विज्ञान केंद्रामार्फत चालणाऱ्या विविध उपक्रमातही महिलांचे योगदान मौल्यवान आहे. आज ग्रामीण भागातील अर्थव्यवस्था त्यांच्या हातभाराने मजबूत होत असल्याचेही त्यांनी स्पष्ट केले.

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Lokmat Times

Women's Day celebrated at CICR

Dr Y G Prasad, director ICAR, CICR, Nagpur and Dr S N Rokde, head, KVK celebrating International Women's Day along with Women Self Help Groups.

International Women's Day was celebrated at KVK, CICR, Nagpur. The theme of the programme was 'Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow'.

Over 100 SHG women, scientists of CICR and KVK staff participated in the programme.

Dr Y G Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR Nagpur chaired the programme. In his address he said that, Women's Day is celebrated to acknowledge the immense contribution of women in all fields.

On this occasion, the institute felicitated the self help groups working in Nagpur district who are trained under KVK, CICR, Nagpur for starting their own Fruit and Vegetables Processing units for self employment. Dr Sunil Rokde, Principal Scientist, and Head KVK, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur gave introductory speech on the work done by KVK for empowerment of women .He urged them to actively participate in all the trainings, demonstrations and other activities and achieve economic gains.

Nagpur First
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'सीआयसीआर' अभ्यासणार गुलाबी बोंड अळीच्या अवस्था

शिरसा येथील केंद्रावर प्रायोगिक तत्त्वावर अंमलबजावणी

Sakal Agrowon 4/4/2022

विनोद इंगोले : ॲग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा

नागपूर : देशाच्या काही भागांत एप्रिल ते १२ मे या दरम्यान कापूस लागवड केली जाते. त्यामुळे कापसाची काढणी लवकर होते. त्यानंतर कपाशीच्या झाडांचा जळतन म्हणून उपयोग केला जातो. त्याकरिता शेतातच ही झाडे ढीग करून ठेवण्यात येतात. अशा झाडांवरील गुलाबी बोंड अळीची अवस्था अभ्यासण्याचा प्रयत्न केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन केंद्राकडून केला जात आहे. सीआयसीआरच्या हरियानास्थित शिरसा येथील केंद्रावर प्रायोगिक तत्त्वावर हे काम होत असून, त्यात यश आल्यास इतरत्रही याची अंमलबजावणी होणार आहे.

हरियाना, पंजाब हे राज्य १०० टक्के सिंचनाच्या सोयी असलेले राज्य आहेत. यातील हरियानाच्या शिरसा भागात केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन केंद्रांतर्गत संशोधनाचे काम सुरू आहे. हरियाना राज्यात सुमारे तीन लाख हेक्टरवर कापसाची लागवड होते. या भागात गेल्या हंगामात गुलाबी बोंड अळीचा उद्रेक होत कापूस उत्पादकांचे मोठे नुकसान झाले.

कापसाचे दर १० हजार रुपयांवर पोहोचले असताना उत्पादकताच प्रभावित झाल्याने शेतकऱ्यांना या वाढीव दराचा फायदा मिळू शकला नाही. हरियानामध्ये एप्रिल महिन्यात कापसाची लागवड होते. पाण्याची सोय असल्याने शेतकरी पूर्वहंगामी लागवड करून कापूस काढणीनंतर हरभरा किंवा गहू असे दुसरे पीक घेतात. मात्र, कापूस उत्पादकांची संख्या या भागात मोठी आहे.

यापुढील काळात गुलाबी बोंड अळीचा प्रादुर्भाव नियंत्रित राहावा याकरिता केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेने शिरसा येथील केंद्रामार्फत प्रयत्न चालविले आहेत. त्या अंतर्गत काढणीनंतर पऱ्हाटीच्या झाडांवर मच्छरदाणी अंथरण्यात आली आहे. या माध्यमातून या किडीच्या अळी, पतंग आणि इतर अवस्था अभ्यासणे सोपे होणार आहे. याची जाळीत कामगंध सापळेदेखील लावण्यात आले आहेत. हा प्रयोग यशस्वी झाल्यास सर्वच भागात त्याची अंमलबजावणी करून अभ्यास केला जाणार आहे. त्याआधारे किडीचा प्रसार होण्याचा कालावधी व इतर बाबी जाणता येणार असून ती माहिती नंतर कृषी विभागाला उपलब्ध करून देण्यात येणार आहे.

> केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन केंद्र (सीआयसीआर) अंतर्गत शिरसा येथील प्रादेशिक केंद्रात गुलाबी बोंड अळीच्या अवस्था अभ्यासण्याचे काम सुरू आहे. मच्छरदाणीचा उपयोग यासाठी केला आहे. त्यात अळीनंतर पतंग व इतर अवस्था अभ्यासता येतील. मच्छरदाणीत बंदिस्त असल्याने प्रसारही टाळता येणार आहे. ही माहिती नंतर कृषी विभागाला देण्याचे प्रस्तावित आहे. हंगामात बोंड अळी नियंत्रणासाठी हा डेटा पूरक ठरेल, अशी अपेक्षा आहे.
> – डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, संचालक, केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, नागपूर

Sakal Agroone, 04.04.2022

Sakal Agrowon 30/4/2022

सेंद्रिय मालाच्या मागणीत वाढ

डॉ. प्रसाद : 'अन्नदाता देवो भव' या मोहिमेअंतर्गत कार्यशाळा

ॲग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा

नागपूर :. "आरोग्याप्रती जागरूकता वाढल्याने सेंद्रिय शेतमालालादेखील वाढती मागणी आहे. काही उत्पादनांना अधिक दरही मिळतो त्यामध्ये कापसाचा देखील समावेश आहे. याची दखल घेत सेंद्रिय कापसाच्या लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देत विपणनापर्यंत मजबूत पुरवठा साखळी स्थापन करण्याची गरज आहे, " असे मत केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद यांनी व्यक्त केले.

केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने 'अन्नदाता देवो भव' या मोहिमेअंतर्गत सेवाग्राम येथे सेंद्रिय कापूस उत्पादन या विषयावर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या निमित्ताने आयोजित कार्यक्रमात डॉ. प्रसाद बोलत होते. ते पुढे म्हणाले, बाजारपेठेत सेंद्रिय खाद्यान्नाची विस्तारित बाजारपेठ आहे अशा शेतमालाला ग्राहक देखील अधिकचा दर देतात आरोग्य प्रति जागरूकता वाढल्याने हे घडत आहे जागतिक स्तरावर नजीकच्या काळात सेंद्रिय कापसाला देखील वाढती मागणी आहे ती लक्षात घेता शेतकऱ्यांनी काही प्रमाणात अशा प्रकारच्या कापूस उत्पादनावर भर द्यावा. केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, ग्रामसेवा मंडळ वर्धा आणि मिशन समृद्धी, चेन्नई यांच्या संयुक्त सहकार्याने सेवाग्राम परिसरात सेंद्रिय कापूस लागवड यंदाच्या हंगामात केली जाणार आहे.

या वेळी एम.व्ही. वेणुगोपालन, ग्रामसेवा मंडळ वर्धाचे सचिव अतुल शर्मा, आत्मा प्रकल्प संचालक डॉ. विद्या मानकर, मिशन समृद्धीचे कार्यक्रम अधिकारी किशोर जगताप, वरोरा येथील आनंद निकेतन कृषी महाविद्यालयाचे प्राचार्य सुहास पोद्दार यांनी यावेळी मार्गदर्शन केले. सेंद्रिय कापूस उत्पादनात नोंद जीएम देशी वाणांची भूमिका यावेळी मांडण्यात आली.

वर्धा : केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने काही अशासकीय संस्थांच्या सहकार्यातून सेंद्रिय कापूस लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देण्यात येणार आहे. यानिमित्ताने अजित कार्यशाळेला उपस्थित संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, विद्या मानकर.

कापूस उत्पादनाचा अंदाज वर्तविणारी सक्षम यंत्रणा उभारा

» पान १ वरून

समितीच्या पहिल्या बैठकीत ३६२ लाख गाठींच्या उत्पादनाचा अंदाज वर्तविण्यात आला होता. त्याचा आधार घेत व्यापाऱ्यांनी दर नियंत्रित ठेवले. सुरुवातीला शेतकऱ्यांना सात हजार रुपयांपासूनचा दर कापसाला मिळाला. त्यानंतरच्या काळात मात्र गुलाबी बोंडअळी, बोंडसड याचा प्रादुर्भाव होत कापसाचे उत्पादन घटल्याने बाजारातील कापसाची आवक कमी झाली. परिणामी टप्प्याटप्प्याने कापसाचे दर वाढीस लागले. मात्र, त्यानंतरही सीओसीपीसी कडून कोणत्या ही प्रकारचा अंदाज उत्पादनाविषयीचा जाहीर करण्यात आला नाही. त्यामुळे या समितीच्या कार्यप्रणालीवरच आता साशंकता व्यक्त केली जात आहे.

व्यापाऱ्यांसाठी पोषक वातावरण निर्मिती करण्याचे काम या समितीकडे होत असल्याने आरोप देखील या पार्श्वभूमीवर केला जात आहे. त्यामुळेच शेतकऱ्यांकडील कापूस सात ते दहा हजार रुपये प्रतिक्विंटल या दराने विकला गेल्यानंतर आता कापसाची साठवणूक करणाऱ्यांना फायदा व्हावा याकरिता सीओसीपीसीकडून दुसरा अंदाज वर्तविण्यात आला आहे. त्यानुसार कापूस उत्पादनात तब्बल २२ लाख गाठींची तूट दर्शविण्यात आली आहे. सुरुवातीला सीओसीपीसीकडून ३६२ लाख गाठींच्या उत्पादनाचा अंदाज वर्तविण्यात आला होता. आता मात्र समितीच्या दुसऱ्या बैठकीअंती ३४२.६२ लाख गाठींचे उत्पादन होईल, असे सांगण्यात आले आहे. समितीची ही भूमिका संशयास्पद असल्याचा आरोप कापूस क्षेत्रातील जाणकारांकडून केला जात आहे.

आता शेतकऱ्यांकडे केवळ पाच टक्के कापूस शिल्लक उरला असून दरातील तेजीचा फायदा केवळ साठवणूक करणाऱ्यांनाच होणार आहे. समितीच्या अंदाजानुसार ३४० लाख गाठींचे उत्पादन होणार आहे. त्यामुळे ही बाजारपेठ एक लाख तीस हजार कोटींपेक्षा अधिकची आहे. परिणामी देशातील मोठ्या घटकांची अवलंबिता असलेल्या या बाजारपेठेच्या सनियंत्रणा करिता सक्षम यंत्रणा उभारण्याची गरज व्यक्त केली जात आहे.

२०१९-२० मध्ये सोयाबीनला चांगला दर मिळाल्याने लागवड क्षेत्र महाराष्ट्रात ४५ लाख हेक्टरपर्यंत पोचले होते. त्याच्याच परिणामी कापसाचा पेरा देशात सुद्धा कमी झाला होता. देशात सुमारे १३० लाख हेक्टर कापसाखाली सरासरी क्षेत्र आहे. त्या तुलनेत गेल्या हंगामात १२० लाख हेक्टरवर लागवड झाली होती. त्याची कोणत्याही प्रकारची दखल सीओसीपीसीकडून घेण्यात आली नाही. विशेष म्हणजे समितीची पहिली बैठक १२ नोव्हेंबर २०१९ रोजी झाल्यानंतर दुसरी बैठक थेट मार्चमध्ये २२ तारखेला झाली.

CICR in process of initiating work on value chain for Desi or organic cotton

Dr C D Mayee, former Chairman, ASRB, and Dr B S Dwivedi, Director, NBSS&LUP, and Dr D K Ghosh, Director, CCRI; Dr Y G Prasad, Director, CICR; and Dr Nandini Gokte Narkhedkar releasing books 'CICR At a Glance' and 'CICR Technologies' during CICR Foundation Day programme.

■ Staff Reporter

ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur celebrated its 46th Foundation Day on Friday. During the programme, the dignitaries informed the audience about various initiatives of CICR. It was stated that CICR was in the process of initiating work on cotton value chain for Desi or organic cotton in partnership with stakeholders in Maharashtra.

During the year 2021-22, CICR released 10 cotton varieties out of which four were Bt varieties for Central and Southern states. For the first time, a naturally coloured cotton variety (dark brown linted) was released for cultivation in South zone. Two extra-long staple (ELS) cotton varieties (>32.5 mm fibre length) superior in yield to the landmark variety 'Suvin' were released to boost the production of ELS cotton to meet the requirement. Three non-Bt American cotton varieties and one Desi cotton variety were released for adoption under organic cotton cultivation in Central and Southern states. Further, CICR is in the process of initiating work on cotton value chain for Desi/organic cotton in partnership with stakeholders in Maharashtra.

Dr C D Mayee, former Chairman of Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB) and former Director of CICR; Dr Velchala Praveen Rao, Vice-Chancellor, PJTSAU, Telangana; Dr B S Dwivedi, Director, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP); and Dr D K Ghosh, Director, Central Citrus Research Institute, graced the occasion with their presence. Dr Y G Prasad, Director, CICR, made welcome address. He mentioned about genome editing, transgenics, and precision agriculture as major thrust areas of future research in cotton and briefed about CICR's achievements.

Dr Mayee emphasised upon the role of CICR in pink bollworm management through mating disruption technique. He appreciated CICR's efforts towards welfare of cotton farming community. Also, he inaugurated an Automatic Weather Station for providing value-added agromet advisories to farmers in Nagpur district. Dr Praveen Rao delivered Foundation Day lecture. He spoke on promotion of high-density planting system (HDPS) in cotton as key for enhancing cotton productivity and resource use efficiency. He stated that this method helped in tackling pink bollworm menace in cotton due to early maturity of crop within 150 days. He also stressed that location-specific canopy management and defoliants aided in upscaling of HDPS towards mechanisation of cotton cultivation and harvesting. Dr Prasad presented a journey of CICR since its inception in 1976.

The dignitaries released two publications 'CICR at a Glance' and 'CICR Technologies' on the occasion. The staff of all categories who retired from ICAR-CICR were felicitated in recognition of their significant contributions. Dr Nandini Gokte Narkhedkar proposed a vote of thanks.

The Hitavada
2 April, 2022

सेंद्रिय मालाच्या मागणीत वाढ

डॉ. प्रसाद : 'अन्नदाता देवो भव' या मोहिमेअंतर्गत कार्यशाळा

ॲग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा

नागपूर : "आरोग्याप्रती जागरूकता वाढल्याने सेंद्रिय शेतमालालादेखील वाढती मागणी आहे. काही उत्पादनांना अधिक दरही मिळतो त्यामध्ये कापसाचा देखील समावेश आहे. याची दखल घेत सेंद्रिय कापसाच्या लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देत विपणनापर्यंत मजबूत पुरवठा साखळी स्थापन करण्याची गरज आहे, " असे मत केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद यांनी व्यक्त केले.

केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने 'अन्नदाता देवो भव' या मोहिमेअंतर्गत सेवाग्राम येथे सेंद्रिय कापूस उत्पादन या विषयावर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या निमित्ताने आयोजित कार्यक्रमात डॉ. प्रसाद बोलत होते. ते पुढे म्हणाले, बाजारपेठेत सेंद्रिय खाद्यान्नाची विस्तारित बाजारपेठ आहे अशा शेतमालाला ग्राहक देखील अधिकचा दर देतात आरोग्य प्रति जागरूकता वाढल्याने हे घडत आहे जागतिक स्तरावर नजीकच्या काळात सेंद्रिय कापसाला देखील वाढती मागणी आहे ती लक्षात घेता शेतकऱ्यांनी काही प्रमाणात अशा प्रकारच्या कापूस उत्पादनावर भर द्यावा. केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, ग्रामसेवा मंडळ वर्धा आणि मिशन समृद्धी, चेन्नई यांच्या संयुक्त सहकार्याने सेवाग्राम परिसरात सेंद्रिय कापूस लागवड यंदाच्या हंगामात केली जाणार आहे.

या वेळी एम.व्ही. वेणुगोपालन, ग्रामसेवा मंडळ वर्धाचे सचिव अतुल शर्मा, आत्मा प्रकल्प संचालक डॉ. विद्या मानकर, मिशन समृद्धीचे कार्यक्रम अधिकारी किशोर जगताप, वरोरा येथील आनंद निकेतन कृषी महाविद्यालयाचे प्राचार्य सुहास पोद्दार यांनी यावेळी मार्गदर्शन केले. सेंद्रिय कापूस उत्पादनात नोंद जीएम देशी वाणांची भूमिका यावेळी मांडण्यात आली.

वर्धा : केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेच्या वतीने काही अशासकीय संस्थांच्या सहकार्यातून सेंद्रिय कापूस लागवडीला प्रोत्साहन देण्यात येणार आहे. यानिमित्ताने अजित कार्यशाळेला उपस्थित संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, विद्या मानकर.

Chhindwara, Ngp farmers get training in crop residue mgmt

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Attendees of the one-day training programme held by ICAR-CICR, Nagpur

Nagpur: ICAR-CICR, Nagpur in association with World Wide Fund for Nature, India (WWF India) organized a one-day training programme on 'Crop residue management' at ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), recently.

Farmers and field staff from Chhindwara and Nagpur districts who are working with WWF, India on organic cotton cultivation participated in it. The main focus of the training was to demonstrate management of crop residue for improving organic carbon content in soil and improve its health and fertility.

Dr YG Prasad, director of ICAR-CICR, urged the master trainees to extend/share the knowledge gained from this training to 6,000 farmers who are following organic cultivation practises in their villages.

Dr Blaise Desouza (head, division of crop production, ICAR-CICR) delivered lecture on 'Restoring soil health - best management practices'. The importance of practises like crop rotation, intercropping, live mulching, newspaper mulching and soil test-based fertilizer recommendations were highlighted and farmers were advised to perform soil sample testing for prior to cultivation.

Dr A Manikandan, (scientist, soil science), delivered lecture on 'Recycling of crop residues and their benefits - on-farm'. Dr Savitha Santosh (scientist, agri microbiology) spoke on 'Improving crop residues quality'.

Dr Prateeksha Mehra (senior project officer, WWF India) provided an overview on the activities of WWF, India. She also briefed about regenerative agriculture (RA) pilot project in cotton-growing region, Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh.

Dr A Manikandan and Dr Savitha Santosh coordinated the training programme.

Times of India, 3rd April, 2022

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नत्राच्या वाढीसाठी करा पिकांची फेरपालट

शेतकऱ्यांनी मातीचे आरोग्य जपावे

◆ नागपूर, २९ एप्रिल

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CAI lowers cotton crop estimate to 335.13 lakh bales

Hitvada 10/4/2022

MUMBAI, Apr 9 (PTI)

THE Cotton Association of India (CAI) on Saturday reduced the cotton crop estimate by 8 lakh bales to 335.13 lakh bales for the 2021-22 season as the production in Gujarat, Telangana, Maharashtra and Karnataka is expected to decline.

The total production during crop year 2020-21, stood at 353 lakh bales, the CAI said in a statement. For Gujarat, the CAI lowered the production estimate to 88.99 lakh bales for the 2021-22 season, Telangana to 39.91 lakh bales, Maharashtra to 83.50 lakh bales and in Karnataka to 21 lakh bales.

Meanwhile, the total cotton supply from October 2021 to March 2022 is estimated at 343.68 lakh bales, which consists of the arrivals of 262.68 lakh bales, imports of 6 lakh bales and the opening stock estimated at 75 lakh bales at the beginning of the season.

Further, the CAI has estimated cotton consumption from October 2021 to March 2022 at 175 lakh bales while the export shipments up to March 31, 2022 are estimated at 35 lakh bales.

Stock at the end of March 2022 is estimated at 133.68 lakh bales, including 75 lakh bales with textile mills and the remaining 58.68 lakh bales with the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Maharashtra Federation and others (MNCs, traders, ginners, MCX among others including the cotton sold but not delivered).

The CAI Crop Committee has estimated the total cotton supply till end of the season 2021-22, that is up to September 30, 2022, at 425.13 lakh bales.

The Hitavada, 10 April, 2022

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शेतकऱ्यांसाठी मार्गदर्शन शिबिरे घ्या

सुनील केदार यांची सूचना
वनामती येथे विभागीय कार्यशाळा

◆ नागपूर, ७ मे

विदर्भात एकूण क्षेत्राच्या तीस टक्के क्षेत्र कापसाखाली आहे. परंतु कीड व निसर्गाच्या अवकृपेमुळे अपेक्षित उत्पन्न मिळत नाही. या शेतकऱ्यांना विविध योजना व किडींच्या व्यवस्थापनाची माहिती होण्यासाठी कृषी विभागाने ग्रामीण भागात मार्गदर्शन शिबिरे आयोजित करावी, अशी सूचना पशुसंवर्धन, दुग्ध व्यवसाय विकास, क्रीडा व युवक कल्याण मंत्री सुनील केदार यांनी दिली.

मंत्री सुनील केदार यांच्या पुढाकारात केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्था, कापूस संचालनालय, विभागीय कृषी सहसंचालक कार्यालय व पंजाबराव कृषी विद्यापीठाच्या सौजन्याने कापूस उत्पादक शेतकऱ्यांसाठी विभागीय कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन शहरातील वसंतराव नाईक स्मृती सभागृह (वनामती) येथे करण्यात आले होते, यावेळी ते बोलत होते.

केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. वाय. जी. प्रसाद, ज्येष्ठ कृषितज्ज्ञ सी. डी. मायी, डॉ. पंजाबराव कृषी विद्यापीठाचे कुलगुरू व्ही. एम. भाले, कापूस संचालनालयाचे संचालक ए. एल. वाघमारे, विलास खर्चे, एम. जी. वेणुगोपाल, कृषी सहसंचालक रवींद्र भोसले आदी यावेळी प्रामुख्याने उपस्थित होते.

ग्रामीण भारताची अर्थव्यवस्था उंचावली पाहिजे तरच खऱ्या अर्थाने महात्मा गांधींच्या 'गाव बनाव देश बनाव' या संकल्पनेस न्याय देऊ शकू, असे केदार यांनी सांगितले. या विचारधारेचे चिंतन व मनन करणे काळाची गरज आहे. शेतकरीच देशाचे चित्र बदलवू शकतात. त्यासाठी शेतीसोबतच पूरक व्यवसाय करावा. देशातील ७० लाख शेतकरी कापूस उत्पादन घेतात. परंतु त्यांना आधुनिक तंत्रज्ञान व किडींच्या व्यवस्थापनाबाबत माहिती नसल्याने दरडोई उत्पन्नात घट होत असते. त्यासाठी कृषी विभागाने ग्रामीण भागात प्रसार व प्रचार करून शेतकऱ्यांना याबाबत माहिती द्यावी, असे ते म्हणाले.

प्रारंभी मान्यवरांच्या हस्ते दीप प्रज्वलन करून कार्यशाळेचा प्रारंभ करण्यात आला. कृषी विभागाच्या मार्गदर्शनपर घडीपत्रिकेचे प्रकाशन मान्यवरांच्या हस्ते करण्यात आले. तसेच प्रगतिशील शेतकऱ्यांचा शाल व श्रीफळ देऊन सत्कार करण्यात आला. कार्यक्रमाच्या अनुषंगाने कृषी विषयक प्रदर्शनाचे आयोजनही करण्यात आले. ही कार्यशाळा दोन सत्रांत आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. या दोन्ही सत्रांत कृषी क्षेत्रातील तज्ज्ञांनी मार्गदर्शन केले. या कार्यक्रमाचे संचालन वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक कीटकशास्त्र डॉ. बाबासाहेब फंड यांनी, तर उपस्थितांचे आभार डॉ. सुनील रोकडे यांनी मानले. या कार्यक्रमास विदर्भातील सर्व जिल्ह्यातील कापूस उत्पादक शेतकरी तसेच अधिकारी व कर्मचारी मोठ्या संख्येने उपस्थित होते. ◂(तभा वृत्तसेवा)

Click of the Month

Ectoparasitic mite, *Bochartia sp.* feeding on the first instar nymph of jassid.

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