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Editor-in-Chief:

Dr. R. C. Srivastava

Editor :

Dr. Kumar Rajyavardhan



RPCAU
PUSA, SAMASTIPUR

Message



From the Vice-Chancellor Desk

Welcome to the February edition of e-newsletter of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University.

Agriculture is a pivotal economic activity in India. Indian agriculture sector contributes around 18 per cent of India's gross domestic product (GDP) and provides employment to almost 50% of the Indian workforce. The focus of the Interim Budget 2019 presented in February was emphatically on Farmers. Government of India announced an income support scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi for small and marginal farmers. Under this scheme farmer holding less than 2 hectare of farm will receive Six thousand rupees annually in 3 instalments. For an average marginal farmer, an additional income of ₹6,000 per annum could mean savings of around 15% to 20%. The farmer can use this additional income for productive purposes, like purchasing insurance, better quality of seeds, repair and maintenance of farm machines and equipments.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University organised Technology and Machinery Demonstration Mela along with Manufacturers' meet in February. The aim of the 'meet' was to bring all three stakeholders of farming i.e. Farmers, Manufacturers and Scientists at one place so that they understand the demands and feedback of each other. I emphasised in my address during the meet that one of the major challenge in agriculture mechanisation is skill barriers to support modern technology. Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University along with State Government of Bihar has started training programs for skill development in these areas.

With an objective to promote modern techniques and diversification in agriculture that could help in doubling farmers income, along with ICAR, University jointly organised three day Krishi Kumbh 2019 from 9th February 2019 to 11th February 2019 at Motihari. Honourable Governor Shri Lalji Tandon and Union Agriculture Minister Shri Radha Mohan Singh jointly inaugurated the program in which over fifteen thousand farmers from different states and about two hundred agricultural scientists participated. Honourable Union Minister, Shri Ravishankar Prasad, Honourable Governor of Sikkim, Shri Ganga Prasad, Honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, Honourable Agriculture Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Surya Pratap Shahi and other dignitaries graced the occasion.

You will find glimpses of various other important activities of the University held in February. I hope you will enjoy reading.

Happy Reading!!!

R. C. Srivastava

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ENGAGEMENT

Dr. R. C. Srivastava, Honourable Vice-Chancellor of the University inaugurated Technology and Machinery Demonstration Mela along with Manufacturers' meet on February 15, 2019 at Mela ground of RPCAU Campus, Pusa, as Chief Guest. College of Agricultural Engineering had organised the Mela and it was sponsored by AICRP on FIM. Er. J. P. Narayan, Joint Director (Agricultural Engineering), and State Nodal Officer (Mechanization), Govt. of Bihar, Patna was the Guest of Honour in the program whereas Mr. Vijay Saraswat, President, AMMA, India (Bihar Chapter) participated as distinguished guest during inaugural session. About 500 farmers from different parts of adjoining districts namely Samastipur, Darbhanga, Vaishali and Muzaffarpur actively participated in the Mela. Twenty manufactures from different parts of the country exhibited and demonstrated their latest machinery/ technologies during the program.



Krishi Kumbh 2019 was held from 9th to 11th February 2019 in Motihari under inspiring guidance of Honourable Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, Government of India, Shri Radha Mohan Singh Ji. This event was graced by Honourable Governor of Bihar, Shri Lalji Tandon, Honourable Dy. CM, Bihar Shri Sushil Modi and Honourable Cabinet Minister Government of India Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad on first day. Honourable Governor of Sikkim, Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of UP, Shri Surya Pratap Shahi and other dignitaries also graced the occasion during Krishi Kumbh.



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ENGAGEMENT

Dr. R. C. Srivastava, Honourable Vice Chancellor initiated a trial to evaluate sub surface drip irrigated bamboo plantation fed by solar powered floating boat based pumping system to achieve the objective of greening river side of Bihar.



Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. R. C. Srivastava inaugurated the training program of Green House Operator organized by PFDC, Pusa Center on 4th February 2019 in College of Agricultural Engineering, Pusa. The training program was coordinated by Er. Sanjay Kumar Niarala, PI, PFDC Scheme. Dr. R. Suresh, Dean, C.A.E., Pusa, Dr. M. Kumar, Director Research, Dr. K. M. Singh, Director Extension and other officers of the university graced the occasion.



NEWS FROM COLLEGES AND UNITS

Dr. B. S. Dwivedi, Head of the Department, Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and Dr. (Mrs.) M. Raychaudhuri Principal Scientist (Soil Fert./Che./Microbio.), ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management visited RPCAU on 26.02.2019 and observed the functioning of Ground Water Recharge structure, University Dhab Area, Bamboo Plantation under Subsurface drip system, Solar Photovoltaic Pumping System, Solar Tree and Gur Processing unit. Dr. Ravish Chandra along with Dr. R. K. Sahu coordinated the field visit.



Er. Meera Kumari, Asstt. Prof, Department of Agricultural Engineering, TCA, Dholi participated in Agri Univest 2018-19 as a team member from 3rd-7th February, 2019 at Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agril. University, Gujrat.



AICRP Scientists and staffs of Maize, Pluses, Oilseeds, Tuber crops, Spices and Soil Science participated in Krishikumbh which was organised from 9-11th Feb. 2019 at Gandhi Maidan, Motihari.

Students of 2016-17 batch of Tirhut College of Agriculture, Dholi successfully organised Saraswati Puja ceremony on 10th Feb. 2019. The Puja was celebrated at Dholi Campus in the presence of Dean, Directors, Scientists, Staff member and students.



Crop Group meeting was held on 14th February 2019 under the chairmanship of Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Dean TCA, Dholi. In this meeting AICRP scientist presented their research highlights of Kharif 2019. Director Seed & Farms, PI's of different scheme and scientists were also present.



NEWS FROM COLLEGES AND UNITS



Zonal Research & Extension Advisory Committee Kharif meeting for Zone- 1 was organised by Department of Extension Education, TCA, Dholi on 15th February 2019. Dean TCA, Dholi, Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh inaugurated the meeting. Director, Seed & Farms, Dean, PDDUCOH & F, Piprakothi, Scientists of the university, KVK, Govt. representative and progressive farmers of different districts of Zone-1 of Bihar also participated in the meeting.

Farmer's Training on Spices Production Technology was organised at Training Hall of TCA, Dholi From 18-20th February 2019 under centrally sponsored scheme of Directorate of Arecanut & Spices Development, Calicut, Kerala (Govt. of India). Forty nine tribal farmers from Bagha, West Champaran participated as trainees. Dr. Mithilesh Kumar, Director Research inaugurated the training program, as Chief Guest while Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Dean, TCA Dholi Chaired the session. During the valedictory session Dr. S. K. Varsheney, Dean, (Ag.), RPCAU, Pusa, Director Seed & Farms, Dean, PDDUCH & F, Piprakothi, HOD's and PI's of different department were also present.



AICRP on Rapeseed & Mustard Monitoring Team under the leadership of Dr. Pankaj Sharma, ICAR DRMR Bharatpur visited Dholi centre on 19th Feb, where as monitoring team of AICRP Pulses under the leadership of Dr. V.S. Hegde, principal scientist visited Dholi centre on 27th February 2019. During the visit, local coordinators and scientist of Rapeseed & Mustard and Chickpea were also present and discussed their progress.

Scientists, staffs and students of TCA, Dholi under the leadership of Dean, TCA Dholi paid homage to the martyrs in the terror attack at Pulwama in Kashmir.



Monthly meeting of TCA, Dholi was organised under the chairmanship of Dean, TCA on 28.02.2019 at Instrumentation Laboratory Building for review of teaching, research and extension activities. Thirty six scientists including Dean and Director also participated in the meeting and discussed various issues related with academic improvement.

NEWS FROM KVK'S

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jale, Darbhanga participated in Mega Agri. Expo 2019 at Watson High School Campus, Madhubani on 17th February 2019. Honorable Chancellor of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University Prof. P. K. Mishra and other dignitaries visited the exhibits displayed by KVKs.



Kisan Mitra group training program was organized at KVK Birauli by IFFCO Samastipur on 15th February 2019. Director Extension Education was the Chief Guest whereas Nodal Officer, KVKs was the Special guest for the program.



Two days HRD training program on RCT was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Piprakothi on 13th and 14th February 2019. Twenty one Agricultural Coordinators of East Champaran district participated in the training. DAO and ADH of East Champaran district were also present during inaugural session of the program.



NEWS FROM KVK'S

KVK Birauli, Samastipur organized three days sponsored training program on "Medicinal Aromatic Plants" for farmers from 12th February to 15th February 2019. This Training was sponsored by National Spices Board under skill orientation training program. Thirty farmers participated in the training.



Krishi Vigyan Kendra Saraiya organized Kisan Gosthi on integrated nutrient management in collaboration with IFFCO on 7th February 2019. Fifty farmers and farm women participated in the program. During Kisan Gosthi farmers interacted with the scientists. Seeds were also distributed to the farmers for Maize cultivation.



Krishi Vigyan Kendra Piprakothi organised three days training program on Mushroom production from 20th February to 22nd February 2019. The training program was organised under ARYA project. 30 Farmers participated in the training.



Assistants : Sanjeev Kumar, Photographer : K. K. Verma