

COTTON *Innovate*



Weekly Newsletter from Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

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RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting was held at CICR, Nagpur on 14th March, 2014. The RAC meeting was chaired by Dr. B.V. Patil, Vice Chancellor, UAS, Raichur, Karnataka. The RAC members were Dr. T. Pradeep, Principal Scientist (Breeding), Maize Research Centre, ARI, ANGRAU, Hyderabad, Dr. A. K. Dhawan, Ex. Prof. & Head, Entomology, PAU, Ludhiana, Dr. A. J. Shaikh, Ex-Director, Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai and Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, Assistant Director General (CC), ICAR, New Delhi. Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, CICR welcomed the RAC Chairman and the members. After the introductory remarks by the Chairman, RAC and members, the action taken report was presented by Dr. M.V. Venugopalan, Member Secretary, RAC. The research achievements of 2013-14 and programmes for 2014-15 of various divisions were presented by Dr. Sandhya Kranthi, Head, Division of Crop Protection, Dr. D. Blaise, Head, Division of Crop Production, Dr. Suman Bala Singh, Head I/C, Crop Improvement Division, Dr. A.H. Prakash, Project Co-ordinator and Head, Regional Station, Coimbatore, Dr. D. Monga, Head, Regional Station, Sirsa and Dr. S.B. Nandeshwar, Head I/C Biotechnology Section. Dr. Sandhya Kranthi, Head, Crop Protection Division, proposed the vote of thanks.



BRAIN STORMING SESSION



A Brain Storming Session on “Where are the constraints for high cotton yield” organized by Indian society for Cotton Improvement was held at Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur on 15th March 2013. Dr. C.D. Mayee, Chairman, ISCI presided over the session. Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, CICR, welcomed the chairman and the delegates. All the delegates elaborated their views on the constraints for achieving higher yields in cotton. Dr. A.J. Sheikh, Ex. Director, CIRCOT Mumbai proposed the vote of thanks.

LITERATURE SCAN

GENETIC 'WIRING' OF SEEDS REVEALED

George Bassel, Hui Lan, Enrico Glaab, Daniel J. Gibbs, Tanja Gerjets, Natalio Krasnogor, Anthony J. Bonner, Michael J. Holdsworth, and Nicholas J. Provart.

The University of Nottingham, UK.

Seed germination involves the reactivation of the metabolic pathways that lead to growth and the emergence of the radicle or seed root and plumule or shoot. At university of Nottingham, researchers have discovered that Genetic wiring helps seed to decide on the perfect time to germinate. According to Dr. George Bassel, the seed network demonstrated that genetic factors controlling seed germination were the same as those controlling the other irreversible decisions in the life cycle of plants such as the decision to start flowering. The induction of flowering, like germination, is highly responsive to cues from the environment.

It was reported that the same genes can perform different functions at different stages in life of plant. Genes required by leaves and roots for responding to stress are also used by seeds to stop their germination. This indicates that plants have adapted existed genes to fulfill a different role.

The work on seed wiring will be used to identify important factors controlling stress response in seeds and the plant itself, contributing towards the development of new crops producing increased yields under extreme environmental conditions such as drought or floods. It could be a significant step towards the development of new crop species that are resistant to climate change and would help secure future food supplies.

Reference:- <http://www.sciencedaily.com/>

Contributed by Ms. Pratiksha Gajbhiye, Project Assistant, Crop Production Division, CICR, Nagpur

The above literature scan was awarded with cash prize under 'Most Exciting Discoveries in Agricultural Sciences after 2010' as a part of National Science day Celebration 2014 under RA/SRF's Category.



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