

# COTTON *Innovate*



Weekly Newsletter from Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

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## Dr Kranthi, Director, ICAR - CICR Presented Key Note Address on 'Future of Biotechnology in Cotton' in Giza, Egypt

Dr Kranthi Director, Central Institute for Cotton Research was invited as chief guest of the inaugural session of the 12th Meeting of the Inter-Regional Cooperative Research Network on Cotton for the Mediterranean and Middle East Regions at Sharm El-Sheikh, EGYPT, October 07-09, 2015. Dr Kranthi was felicitated for his outstanding contributions to cotton research, by Dr Rafiq Chaudhary, Head Technical Information and International Cotton Advisory Committee Washington. In the inaugural session Dr Kranthi presented the key note address on 'Future of biotechnology in cotton'. The Inter-regional meeting on cotton was organized by the cotton research institute Giza, Egypt, in collaboration with ICAC Washington. A total of 90 delegates from 15 countries participated in the meeting. Dr Kranthi presented his deputation report and his impressions of the visit on 4th November 2015 before the scientists of CICR.



## AICCIP Project Coordinator and PMEC Members Visited NFSM-IRM-HDPS Demonstrations

The Project Coordinator, Dr A. H. Prakash along with Dr Gopalakrishanan, Principal Scientist and Ex-ADG (CC), CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore and members of PMEC, Nagpur visited Frontline demonstrations conducted under AICCIP and NFSM-IRM-HDPS in different villages of District Sirsa on 5th October, 2015. Dr Dilip Monga, Head, CICR organized this visit. At almost all the locations one picking of cotton was done. The team members interacted with the farmers and discussed the issues related to the production and protection techniques.



## 'Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav' - Programme Highlights



Under 'Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav' initiative farmer training and exposure visits was organized at CICR Nagpur for five villages (Jogingumpha, Arvi, Faridpur, Shivanphal and Mohgaon) from Girad cluster, Wardha District on Sept. 23, 2015. Ten farmers from each adopted village were invited for the training cum exposure programme of which 54 farmers from five villages participated. Farmers interacted with the concerned team of scientists, Dr. Nandini Gokte-Narkhedkar, Dr. S. Gawande, Dr. M. Saravanan and Dr. Joy Das as well as other scientists from CICR for information on technical aspects. Farmers were shown High density Planting System technology advocated by CICR through field trails as well as through audiovisuals. Experimental fields with tree cotton germplasm and intercrops advocated for rainfed cropping were also demonstrated. Farmers also visited laboratories as Biotechnology lab, Insectary and Biocontrol lab and Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Farmers were also given extension material as folders and leaflets in Marathi. The visit was coordinated by Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, CICR, Nagpur and Dr. S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist and Programme Nodal Officer.



## New Crop Arrivals Started & Minimum Support Price (MSP) Operations Expected to Follow

Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is reporting new crop arrivals of 19,500 480 lb. bales (25,000 170 kg bales/ 4,250 mt) daily across India. CCI continues holding almost 1.5 million 480 lb. bales (1.9 million 170 kg bales/323,000 mt) from its MY 2014/15 MSP procurement. Trade sources indicate that CCI will be present in the market since the beginning of the MY 2015/16 season, and the procurement under MSP could begin by the third week of October. MSP operations are expected to begin in the southern states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh due to low farm gate prices.

In June 2015, the Government of India announced new MSP rates for MY 2015/16 (Oct/Sep) medium and long-staple cotton. The support price for long-staple Shankar 6 variety (staple length - 27.5 to 29 mm) was fixed at Rs. 4,050 (28.4 cents per pound), and bunny brahma variety (staple length - 29.5 to 30.5 mm) at Rs. 4,100 per 100 kg (28.1 cents per pound).

*Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service; GAIN Report Number (IN58128) dated 10/7/2015; Cotton and Products update-September 2015.*

(Dr. Anuradha Narala, Scientist)

## Meetings Attended

- Dr. K.R. Kranthi, Director, ICAR-CICR attended and presented a paper on 'Future on Biotechnology in cotton' at the ICAC-12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Inter-Regional Cooperative Research Network on Cotton for the Mediterranean and Middle East Regions at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt on 07-09 October, 2015.
- Dr O.P.Tuteja and Dr.Rishi Kumar, Principal Scientist (Entomology) attended a workshop for "Agro climatic zone –IV (Trans Gangetic Plains Region) on 5<sup>th</sup> October ,2015. The workshop was chaired by DDG (Animal Sciences) Dr K.M.L. Pathak

## Blooming Cotton Flower



Photo: M Sabesh



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