

# COTTON *Innovate*



Weekly Newsletter from Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

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## ICAR- CICR, Nagpur Signs Material Transfer Agreement and Commercial Use Agreement with TNAU, Coimbatore for New Bt Cotton Event

ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur signed a Material Transfer Agreement and Commercial Use Agreement with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on August 27, 2015 at Coimbatore for newer Research & Development initiatives and commercial exploitation of a new Bt cotton event "CH12" developed by the team of TNAU scientists led by Prof. V. Udayasuriyan.

The Bt cotton transgenic event CH 12 was developed in a Coker 310 containing codon optimized cry2AX1 gene under the control of enhanced CaMV35S promoter, conferring resistance to *Helicoverpa armigera* and other lepidopteran insects. A construct (pCAMBIA1300-EnCaMV35S-cry2AX1-nos polyA) harbouring codon modified synthetic cry2AX1 gene (Acc. No. GQ332539.1) driven by EnCaMV35S promoter in pCAMBIA1300 backbone (which was used to develop CH12 event of Coker 310 transgenic cotton). The material will be used by the ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur exclusively for introgression (transfer) of the transgene contained in event CH12 into varieties and hybrids of cotton for commercial cultivation value.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Dr. S. Ayyappan, Hon'ble Director General, ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. C.R. Anandakumar, Hon'ble Acting Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr. K. Ramasamy, Former Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore & Member, State Planning Commission, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Dr. K. Alagusundaram, Hon'ble DDG (Agricultural Engineering), ICAR besides senior Officers and scientists of TNAU, Coimbatore and CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore. Dr. S. Ayyappan congratulated the research team of TNAU scientists led by Dr. Udayasuriyan for their significant achievements and thanked the TNAU for sharing the valuable material for national cause. He wished the scientists of CICR to take forward the technology for overall enhancement of cotton productivity in the country.



## Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav Initiative at CICR, Nagpur

The meeting of all scientists was held under the Chairmanship of Dr K. R. Kranthi, Director CICR Nagpur on 22 August 2015 at CICR Nagpur to finalize the operational part of the 'Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (My Village My pride)' programme. The scheme was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on July 25, 2015 on 87th Foundation Day of ICAR and KVK conference at Patna. As per letter received from DDG (Agri. Extn), ICAR under the scheme the Scientists of ICAR and Agricultural Universities will remain in touch with the adopted villages and provide information to farmers on technical and other related aspects in the time frame through personal visits and other related means. The initiative is intended to hasten the process of Lab to Land. In the meeting implementations of the project, selection of villages and team of scientists and the activity chart to be followed in the scheme was discussed with all the scientists.



## Honorable Director General, ICAR Visits CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore

Dr. S. Ayyappan, Honourable Director General, ICAR, New Delhi visited ICAR-CICR Regional Station, Coimbatore on August 27, 2015. He was warmly welcomed by the staff. Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, former ADG (CC) and I/c – PC & Head briefly explained the current activities carried out in the Regional Station. Dr. S. Ayyappan also interacted with all the Staff of the Regional Station. He also launched "*Mera Gaon, Mera Gaurav*" programme featuring the road map of CICR Regional Station, Coimbatore.





## CICR Participated in Farmers' Meet at CIAE, RC, Coimbatore

A farmers' meet involving around 200 farmers was held at ICAR-Central Institute for Agricultural Engineering, Regional Centre, Coimbatore during the Inauguration of new building of CIAE on August 27, 2015. Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, former ADG (CC) and Principal Scientist moderated the farmers' meet. Dr. S. Manickam, Dr. K. Sankaranarayanan and Dr. B. Dharajothi also participated in the meet and clarified the queries raised by the farmers. Dr. S. Ayyappan, Honourable Director General also visited the farmers' meet.



Do you know?

Tiny cotton seeds are a lot more durable than you think. They can actually survive even if they are blown across the ocean, which means they can travel for thousands of miles and still remain viable.

Cotton is one of the key raw materials to make Khadi. Khadi is cool in summers and it also provides warmth in winters.

## Participation in Group Meeting

Dr. K. Rathinavel, Principal Scientist, have attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Review Meeting of ICAR Seed Project scheduled during August 24-25, 2015 at ICAR Research Complex, Goa. He presented the annual progress report 2014-15. During this year CICR has produced 1.90 qtl of breeder seed, 14.39 qtl of foundation seed and 314.48 of TFL seed through participatory seed production. Apart from this 237 qtl of barley breeder seeds were produced. List of new varieties/ hybrids promoted under this project during last five years are CICR-2 hybrid, Suvin, Suraj, AKH-081, NH-615, AKA-7, HD123, etc. Percent of Varietal Replacement Rate is >1000 acres under Suraj and Phule Dhanvantri (Desi) in HDPS demonstrations/ farmers' fields during 2014-15, 10000 acres were under CICR-2 hybrid in Haryana Dt./North region. Total of 43382Kg of Suraj distributed for sowing in 3470.56 h

## Transplantation Technique Standardized

CICR had initiated work on cotton seedlings nursery to take advantage of one month seedling for transplanting to overcome the weather vagaries. Accordingly an Experiment on Cotton Seedling Nursery was taken up. Sixteen combinations of potting (matrix) mixtures for raising cotton seedlings were screened found that Kelbrick to be the cheapest compared to other combinations. Vigor of the seedlings was better in seeds sown in larger hole trays and medium hole trays. Root growth was good after 20 days of sowing in commercial substrata than conventional substrata except in FYM. Thus the cotton seedling Nursery can help the farmers in gap filling when the initial germination gets affected. This area can go as an entrepreneurship.

## Participation in Training Programme

### CENTRE OF ADVANCED FACULTY TRAINING IN GENETICS AND PLANT BREEDING

Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana – 141004

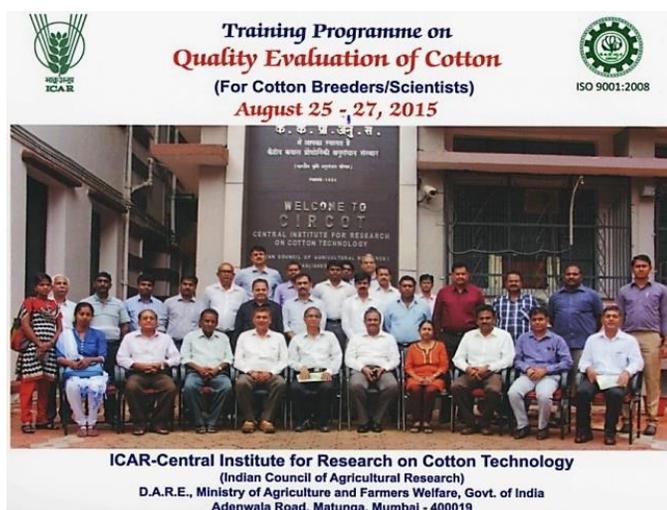
Training Programme on "Mendelian Genetics to Molecular Genetics in relevance to Plant Breeding"  
August 6-26, 2015



Chairs (L to R).....Mohinder Kaur Sidhu, S. Santha, M.S. Gill, Sundip Kumar, S.K. Sharma, K.S. Thind, S.K. Dhillon, S.K. Sandhu  
Standing (L to R).....Jagdeep S. Sandhu, D.K. Zate, V.V. Ujjainkar, M.G. Paishetkar, Ramesh Kumar, Hitesh Kumar, Deepak Gauraha, Gaurab Gogoi, Asif Mohd Iqbal, S. C. Sharma, Saravanan.M., Harjinder Singh, B.H. Kale, R.S. Gill

Dr. Saravanan, M Scientist (Plant Breeding), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur participated in Twenty- one days training programme on "Mendelian Genetics to Molecular Genetics in relevance to Plant Breeding" organized by Centre of Advanced Faculty Training in Genetics and Plant Breeding, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana from 6-26, August, 2015.

Dr. A. Manivannan Scientist (Genetics), ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore and Dr. H. B. Santosh, Scientist (Plant Breeding), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur participated in "**Training Programme on Quality Evaluation of Cotton**" organized by Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology (CIRCOT), Mumbai during 25-27 August, 2015



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D.A.R.E., Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India  
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