



Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Cotton 2015-16

The Annual Group Meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cotton was held during 7-9, April, 2016 at Surat under the aegis of Navsari Agricultural University and discusses the progress made by the Scientists of AICRP on Cotton in various field trials conducted by them during 2015-16 besides discussion on Pink bollworm, whitefly and CLCuD problems in cotton.

On 7th April, 2016, the inaugural session was held in which Hon'ble Vice chancellor, NAU, Navsari chaired the meeting and offered his initial remarks bringing out the need for quality research, generation of sustainable technologies besides reduction in cost of cotton cultivation. Dr. R. K. Singh, ADG (CC), ICAR, New Delhi emphasized the need for precision in conduct of field experimentation and quality research programmes.

Dr. K.R. Kranthi, Director, CICR, Nagpur brought the significance of the cotton research being conducted at CICR from basic and strategic point of view and stressed the need for coordinated approach in solving problems that are once again surfacing through biotic and abiotic stresses. The need for cutting edge research was emphasized by him.

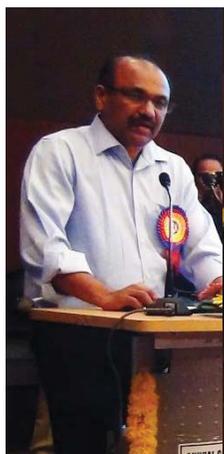
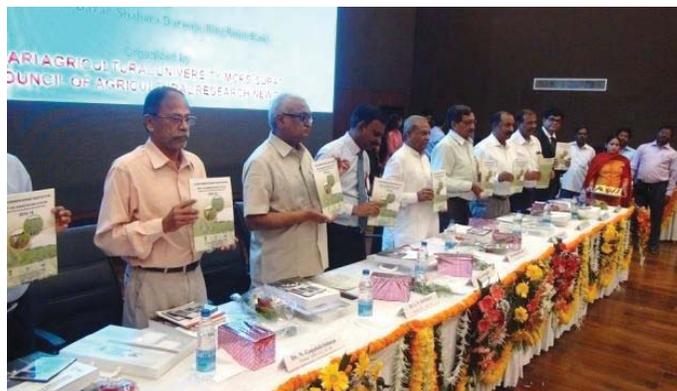


Dr. A.H. Prakash PC (Cotton) gave elaborate account of the progress made under AICRP on Cotton bringing out salient achievements during 2015-16. Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, Former ADG (CC) in his special address presented the various issues connected with cotton. Various aspects like breeding for crop tolerance to drought, water logging, disease resistance, fibre quality improvement, whitefly menace, pink bollworm resurgence in Bt cotton affecting cotton cultivation, need for search in cotton genetic resources for resistant material and wide hybridization, agronomy for high density planting, weed control, soil health management, water management, nutrient management approaches, new approaches in ELS cotton, G.herbaceum were all touched upon.

In the afternoon of 7th April and whole day of 8th April, 2016, concurrent sessions were held on Breeding, Agronomy, Physiology and Biochemistry, for fine tuning the programme of work for crop season 2016-17. A separate session was also conducted to discuss the burning issues connected with cotton and also on the more effective functioning of AICRP in which many Public sector and Private sector personnel could offer various suggestions and were noted by the rapporteur for needful action by concerned.

On 9th April, 2016, a Special session on the menace of Pink bollworm on cotton and strategies to overcome the adverse impact during coming crop season was held under the chairmanship of Hon'ble DDG(CS), ICAR, New Delhi and Co-chaired by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, NAU, Navsari and ADG(CC), ICAR, New Delhi. The major speakers included Director, CICR, Nagpur, Dr. Sandhya Kranthi, Head, Crop Protection, CICR, Nagpur, Dr Dharajothi, PI (Entomology), CICR, RS, Coimbatore besides State Department officials and other participants, who explained the impact of PBW on cotton in their respective states. It was agreed upon that a single window system of forewarning and also control strategies shall be disseminated by CICR, Nagpur taking inputs from various sources.

DDG (CS) also chaired a discussion with Cotton Breeders of AICRP to streamline the technical activities under the AICRP as well as forging further collaborative work between CICR and SAUs, be it germplasm sharing, pre-breeding efforts, evaluation trials, parameters to be recorded for biotic and abiotic stress tolerance etc.





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