



## Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting held at CICR

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting was held at ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur during 1-2 December 2016. The meeting was chaired by Dr. B.V. Patil, Director of Education, University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka. The following RAC members and officials attended the meeting:

- Dr. T. Pradeep, Director (Seeds), Seed Research & Technology Centre, PJTSAU, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.
- Dr. A. K. Dhawan, Former Head, Entomology, PAU, Ludhiana & State Coordinator (Punjab) IRM.
- Dr. A. J. Shaikh, Ex-Director, Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai.
- Dr. Sunil Mukherjee, NASI, Senior Scientist, Platinum Jubilee Fellow, Genetics Department, University of Delhi.
- Dr. R. K. Singh, Assistant Director General (Commercial Crops), ICAR, New Delhi.
- Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.
- Dr. A. H. Prakash, Project Coordinator (Cotton) & Head, CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore.
- Dr. V. N. Waghmare, Head, Division of Crop Improvement
- Dr. Mrs S. Kranthi, I/C Head, Division of Crop Protection
- Dr. Blaise, I/C Head, Division of Crop Production
- Dr S.B. Nandeshwar, I/C Head, Biotechnology Section
- Dr. O. P. Tuteja, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa.
- Dr. M. V. Venugopalan, Member Secretary, RAC, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.
- Dr. K. P. Raghavendra, Scientist, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.
- Dr. H. B. Santosh, Scientist, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur

Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, ICAR – CICR, Nagpur welcomed the Chairman and members of RAC. Action Taken Report (ATR) was placed before the RAC for deliberation. Dr. B. V. Patil, Chairman, RAC expressed satisfaction on ATR and appreciated the research efforts of the institute. Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director ICAR-CICR, made a presentation on "Global and National Cotton Perspectives" and emphasized about sustainable cotton production. The reasons for low yields and approach to improve cotton yields in India were also elaborated. The Chairman and the members of RAC widely appreciated the presentation.

Research Advisory Committee members along with the Director, ICAR-CICR and Heads of divisions/sections/regional stations visited different experimental fields and laboratories and interacted with the scientists regarding the research programmes being implemented. The research achievements during 2016 were

presented by Heads of the Division of Crop Improvement, Crop Production, Crop Protection, I/C Biotechnology Section, Head CICR Regional Station Coimbatore and Dr. O.P. Tuteja from Regional Station Sirsa. The work being carried out was reviewed



thoroughly. On second day all the scientists of CICR Nagpur attended the meeting. The committee appreciated the efforts of CICR and made several suggestions and some specific recommendations. The chairman and members of RAC also released CICR Technical Bulletin on *Whitefly and CLCuD management strategies for cotton in North India*. The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. V. N, Waghmare, Head, Division of Crop Improvement.



## ICAR-CICR & KVK, Nagpur celebrates World Soil Day

ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (ICAR-CICR) and KVK, Nagpur along with officials of the Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra celebrated World Soil Day on 5 December 2016 at Bhugaon in Kamptee; Salai & Sillari villages of Ramtek Taluka, Nagpur district of Maharashtra. The programme was organized to raise awareness and the importance of soil health & its quality. In this campaign more than 150 farmers participated in the event. Mr. Bhaskar Mehar (President, Bhugaon) was the Chief Guest of the function and explained the importance of soil testing and benefits. Mr. Satish Dikshit (TAO, Kamptee), Mr. T.K. More (AO, Ramtek); Mr. M.V. Belkar (TAO, Ramtek) participated and coordinated the function. Dr. Blaise, I/C Division of Crop Production, ICAR-CICR briefed about soil “soul of infinite life”. He discussed about burning of stubbles in farm and their associated environmental problems. He emphasized on conservation agriculture, role of microbes, crop residue management and explained benefits of mulching on soil health. Dr. R.B. Singandhupe, I/C Head, KVK stressed the need for use of balanced fertilizers in rice ecosystems and horticultural crops to maintain soil health. More than 3500 Soil Health Cards (SHC) was prepared after collecting about 4075 samples. SHC’s were distributed to nearly 150 farmers. Dr. Manikandan (Scientist, Soil Science) spoke about crop rotation, intercropping and border crop of pulses for nitrogen fixing and improving the soil health. Dr. S. S. Patil (SMS, Agricultural Extension), Dr. U. V. Galkate (SMS, Veterinary Science) and Mr. R. M. Ramteke (Technical Assistant) also participated in the campaign. Ms. Sonal Gajbhiye proposed the vote of thanks at Bhugaon village and Mr. A.E. Nazare (Agricultural Supervisor) proposed the vote of thanks at Salai village. Farmers appreciated the efforts of ICAR-CICR.



Dr.R.B.Singandhupe addressing at Bhugaon



Soil Health Card distribution to farmers



Dr. Blaise addressing farmers of Salai village



Release of Soil Health Card at Salai village

## Agricultural Education Day Celebrated at CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa

To strengthen the Agriculture Education in the country, the Agricultural Education Day was celebrated at Central Institute for Cotton Research, Regional Station, Sirsa on 3rd Dec, 2016. In the celebration Dr R. A. Meena emphasized the need for dissemination of the Agricultural technology among the farmers whereas Dr Rishi Kumar Principal Scientist, elaborated the importance of the day and advised all the faculty to create awareness among the rural mass toward education in agriculture and allied subjects to achieve the target of food grain production for the increasing Indian Population. All the staff members, Temporary Skilled labourers and SRF attended the celebration.



## Meetings attended

Dr S. M. Wasnik, Principal Scientist, Extension attended agriculture advisory committee meeting of Doordarshan on 16 December 2016 organised at its office, Doordarshan Kendra, Seminary Hills, Nagpur. In the meeting TV programmes to be telecasted from Nagpur Doordarshan during the quarter months of January to March 2016 was discussed and finalized.

## Other activities

Dr. S. Manickam, Principal Scientist (Plant Breeding) gave a radio talk on the achievements of Crop Improvement in AICRP on Cotton as well that of ICAR-CICR, Regional Station, Coimbatore which was recorded by All India Radio, Coimbatore Station on November 22, 2016 and it was broadcasted on November 25, 2016.

Dr. S. Manickam, Principal Scientist (Plant Breeding) have been nominated by the Director, Centre for Plant breeding and Genetics to act as External Member of Technical Committee for the purchase of Cotton Fibre Quality Testing Instrument. The committee meeting was held in the Directorate of Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics on 22.11.2016 to finalize the technical specifications for the purchase of the instrument.





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