



IIMR

Millet

Newsletter

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Hyderabad ■ Solapur ■ Warangal



ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. 500 030.

IIMR bagged The Agriculture Leadership Award - 2022

Agriculture Today is India's leading agriculture magazine that covers the latest news and analysis of pressing agricultural issues of national and international importance and helps in disseminating such information to the grassroots and to all agriculture related agencies and institutes. The AT group offers Leadership Awards and prizes to the students, faculty, researchers, and public figures recognizing their services of excellence in the field of Agriculture. This year, The **Agriculture Leadership Award - 2022** of the Agriculture Today Group was bestowed on ICAR - Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad for the leadership role and exemplary contribution to agriculture development and Farmers welfare. Dr. CV Ratnavathi, Director, ICAR -IIMR received the award from the Hon'ble Secretary DARE and DG ICAR at the 13th Leadership Award Ceremony held at New Delhi during 13 December, 2022.



Field day on Millets organized

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad organized a Field Day on Millets at Chalki and Mungi villages in Sangareddy district in Telangana on 5th December, 2022 under Farmer First Project.



The main objective of the programme was to introduce technology interventions under NRM and horticulture module of the farmer first project and to orient the farmers for implementing technologies and their feedback. Around 50 farmers from the above villages including trial and non-trial farmers participated in this programme. Dr. Swarna explained the importance of NRM modules viz., millets based intercropping, balanced fertilization, seed treatment with bio-fertilizers, line sowing, mulching and dead furrows for soil & moisture conservation and its implementation

for increasing the productivity and profitability of millet cultivation. Dr. Srinivas introduced the horticulture technology interventions by allotting vegetable seed kits to selected farmers, Dr. Anuradha interacted with the beneficiaries of FFP project and collect data to compute the cost benefit analysis of the demonstrated technologies. Dr. Deepika elaborated about improved millet cultivars and their potential for increasing the productivity of millet crops. Dr. Malathi made aware about health and nutritional benefits of millet crops and incorporating millets in daily diet. It was followed by visit to the farmers' field and to observe the performance of the rabi sorghum variety CSV 29R and redgram variety WR 97 demonstrated by IIMR. The farmers expressed their gratitude for the valuable information and the trial farmers gave a positive feedback about demonstrated improved varieties by IIMR. This event was organized by Co-PIs of the Farmers first Project Drs. Swarna Ronanki, A. Srinivas, N. Anuradha and ICAR-IIMR scientists; Drs. C. Deepika, Malathi and Project staff of FFP project Spanditha, Meghana, Vinod and Chandrakanth under the guidance of project PI, Dr. Rajendra Chapke, PS, ICAR-IIMR.

World Soil Day - 2022 organized

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad organized "World Soil Day" On 5th December 2022 at Chalki village of Sangareddy District, Telangana with the theme "Soils, where food begins". In this event about 25 farmers from the Chalki village participated. Scientific staff of ICAR-IIMR – Drs. R Swarna, A Srinivas, N Anuradha, C Deepika and VM Malathi organized the event and



addressed the farmers. They explained about the importance of soil testing, method of soil sample collection, maintaining soil health and measures to prevent soil erosion and degradation. They emphasized the importance of balanced fertilization as unscientific use of fertilizers results in degradation of soil health and occurrence of multi-nutrient deficiencies in soil. They also encouraged farmers to take millets cultivation as they act as soil preservers with their fibrous root system. The farmers and villagers were encouraged to take initiatives to protect our soils collectively as a community activity.

Swachhta Pakhwada

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad observed Swachhta Pakhwada during 16-31 December 2022. The programme started with the Swachhta Pledge taken by all the scientific, administrative, technical and supporting staff on 16



December, 2022. During the Swachhta Pakhwada, several identified places such as areas around guest house, gene bank, Nutrihub, pathways, parking areas were cleaned. Plastic waste such as nylon bags were collected from all the fields and segregated into non-usable and reusable stock. Dr. N G P Rao crop improvement building containing field labs of sorghum, bajra and all small millets premises were cleaned.

Off-campus cleaning activity as a part of Swachhta Pakhwada was organized at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School, NIRD Campus, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad on 21 December 2022. The premises were cleaned of all the pebbles and unwanted items. On 22 December 2022 Plantation of saplings programme was taken up in the school premises. Ms. Ritu Dalal, SAO, Drs. C. Aruna, P. Sanjana Reddy, N. Anuradha, C. Deepika, Scientists of IIMR, Mr. A. Vilas Farm In-charge, IIMR and Principal BVB



School, Faculty and X Class students participated in this event.

Several competitions were conducted to bring awareness on Swachhta. An elocution competition was held for the staff of ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research on 28 December 2022. The topic was 'Swachhta measures for fighting COVID in work area'. The speakers emphasized on the importance of personal hygiene, workplace sanitation, avoiding congregations, importance of proper ventilation and vaccination as well as measures to enhance individual immunity. The competition was organised by IIMR Scientists, Drs. Anuradha N, Jinu Jacob and Deepika C.

Quiz competition was held for the staff of ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research on 29 December, 2022. Twenty members participated in the quiz competition, and questions on Swachhta and COVID 19 were covered. The competition was organised by IIMR Scientists, Dr. Srividhya, Dr. Amasiddha and Dr. Sanjana Reddy.

A painting competition was organised for the students of Springfield High School, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad on 30 December, 2022. A total of 31 students participated in the competition. The topics for the competition were 'Swachhta at School' for the students of class 6 and 7 and 'Green city clean city' for the students of class 8 and 9. All the students had actively participated in the competition. A small meeting was also organised including the school Principal and the participants. The Principal, IIMR Scientists, Drs. Anuradha and V M Malathi described the importance of Swachhta, especially in the post COVID era. The students also shared their thoughts on keeping the surroundings clean. Besides these activities Swachhta Pakhwada banners were displayed at the prominent places of the institute.

All the above programmes were coordinated by the organising committee constituting of Dr. P. Sanjana Reddy (Chairman), Dr. N. Anuradha, Dr. Sangappa, Smt. Ritu Dalal and Mr. A. Vilas Dnyanoba as members.

Kisan Diwas

At IIMR, the celebration of Kisan Diwas, 2022 held on 23 December, 2022 virtually under the Chairmanship of Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare was attended by the Staff of ICAR-IIMR. Around 50 farmers from neighbouring villages of FPO gathered to celebrate Kisan Diwas at Mudhol oilseeds and millets Farmer Producer Company, Mudhol promoted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad. The Board of Directors and staff of FPO participated in the event. Mr. Bharath, represented IIMR during the occasion and spoke about the importance and objectives of celebration of Kisan Diwas in India and he also highlighted the importance of cleanliness and hygiene in the FPO office. Mr. Sanjaysingh Rajput, CEO of the company addressed the gathering and created awareness on the importance of adopting collective approaches to harness the benefits of it. Further, he sought the help of the Board of Directors of the company to undertake shareholders drive to improve the authorized capital to initiate business in the days to come. The program was coordinated by a team of scientists' Drs. Sangappa, Amasiddha, Anuradha, Deepika, Srividhya and

Malathi with the technical guidance from Dr. P Sanjana Reddy, Chairperson, Swachatha Pakhwada, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

Resource person

Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (Official Language), IIMR, Hyderabad was invited as a Resource Person



by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, Hyderabad to give lectures on “Noting and Drafting in Hindi for Official Language implementation” on 20 December, 2022 in a one day Hindi Workshop. Dr. Mahesh Kumar in his lecture told about the Easy ways of Official Language implementation & given hands-on training of Noting and Drafting in Hindi.

Promotion

Based on the Departmental Promotion Committee recommendations **Mr. Ramachandra M Patil**, Technical Assistant (T-3) was promoted to the next higher grade -Technical Assistant (T-4). *Congratulation to RM Patil for this promotion.*



Visitors

Farmers from Tamil Nadu

Twenty farmers along with three agricultural department officials visited IIMR from Karur district, K. Paramathi block of Tamil Nadu on December 7 2022 as a part of interstate exposure visit on “Dry Land Agriculture” under Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA). Dr. Srividhya, Scientist, IIMR briefed about millets production aspects and various research activities at IIMR, followed by visits to gene bank where Dr. Elangovan, Principal Scientist explained about the millets germplasm and its utility. Later they visited Nutrihub, CEO and processing units and Dr. Hema Shankari Scientist (Sr.Scale) briefed about various activities of Nutrihub. Dr. Anuradha Narala, Sr. Scientist and Dr. Srividhya, Scientist, coordinated the overall visit at IIMR.

Twenty farmers along with three agricultural department officials visited IIMR from Tenkasi district, Melaneelithanallur block of Tamil Nadu on 20 December, 2022 as a part of interstate exposure visit on “Technology Interventions in Dryland Agriculture” under Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA). Dr. Anuradha Narala, Senior Scientist, IIMR briefed about millets production aspects and various research activities at IIMR, followed by visits to gene bank where Dr. Elangovan, Principal Scientist explained about the millets germplasm and its utility. Later they visited Nutrihub, CEO and processing units and Dr. Hema Shankari Scientist (Sr. Scale) and team Nutrihub briefed about various activities of CEO and Nu-

trihub. Dr. Anuradha Narala, Sr. Scientist coordinated the overall visit at IIMR.

Students from Tamil Nadu

83 final year B.Sc .(Hons) Ag. students and four staff members of Sethu Bhasakara Agricultural College and Research Foundation from Karaikudi, Shivagangai district from Tamil Nadu visited IIMR on 13-12-2022. Students visited gene bank where Dr. Elangovan, Principal Scientist explained about the millets germplasm and its utility. Later they visited Nutrihub, CEO and processing units and interacted with scientists and briefed about various activities of Nutrihub. Dr. Anuradha Narala, Sr. Scientist coordinated the overall visit at IIMR.

39 final year M.Sc Food Science and Nutrition students and two staff members of Nehru Arts and Science college, Thirumalayampalayam from Coimbatore of Tamil Nadu visited IIMR on 21 December, 2022. Students visited gene bank, Nutrihub, CEO and processing units and interacted with scientists and Nutrihub team and were briefed about various activities of Nutrihub. Dr. Anuradha Narala, Sr. Scientist coordinated the overall visit at IIMR.

About 150 final year B.Sc Agriculture students along with four staff members of Madurai Agricultural College of TNAU of Madurai from Tamil Nadu visited IIMR on 23 December, 2022. Students visited gene bank, Nutrihub, CEO and processing units and were briefed about various research aspects of millets and millet value chain activities of Nutrihub at IIMR. Shri P V Rajappa, Technical Officer coordinated the overall visit at IIMR.

Women FPO members from Andhra Pradesh

About 25 millets sisters associated with Visakha Millets FPO promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad from Vizianagaram and Vishakhapatnam districts visited ICAR-IIMR on 20 December, 2022 as an exposure visit to bring awareness and to enrich their knowledge on various value addition technologies of millets. They visited Nutrihub, CEO and processing units and Dr. Anuradha Narala, Sr. Scientist and team Nutrihub briefed about various activities of CEO, Nutrihub and value chain of millets. Dr. Anuradha Narala, Sr. Scientist coordinated the overall visit at IIMR.

FPO News

Two days’ awareness campaign

IIMR organized two days’ awareness campaign for millet sisters from SVDS in collaboration with Visakha FPO during 19



and 20 of December. About 20 women farmers and members

of the FPO group from Visakhapatnam and Vijayanagaram districts of AP took part in this programme. They were briefed about the recent technologies, products and avenues for millets value addition and marketing. They also visited Millet Processing and Incubation Centre of PJTSAU, Hyderabad. Dr. Sangappa, Sh. K Srinivasa Babu, Senior scientists IIMR and project staff -Dr. Manjuprakash, Ms. Manne Sri Sandhya and Mr. Bharath H Giriappa coordinated the visit for two days.

Meeting with APMAS-CEO

On 21 December 2022, Sh. Srinivasa Babu and Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientists-IIMR and Project staff Dr. Manjuprakash visited APMAS, Manikonda and had a fruitful discussion with Mr.



TCS Reddy, CEO and Director of APMAS and team regarding working together to achieve the purpose of forming FPOs and work on promotion of millets through FPOs to celebrate International Year of Millets 2023 in a meaningful way. Plans were laid out to execute the ideas at the earliest to collaborate and take forward FPO moment and celebrate International Year of Millets 2023.

Students from VIA, Pollachi, TN visits IIMR

As a part of All India Study Tour, about 100 students from Vannavarayar Institute of Agriculture (VIA), Pollachi, Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR on 16 December, 2022. Dr. Sangappa, Scien-



tist of IIMR interacted with the students and briefed about the mandates and activities of IIMR. He also shared the experiences in formation and promotion of FPOs by FPO unit of IIMR.

Dr. Sangappa delivered an invited talk

Dr. Sangappa, Scientist of IIMR, delivered an invited talk on “The role of Millets FPOs in Dryland ecosystem” during international conference held at ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad on 23rd December 2022. More than 700 participants attended the session and interacted with speaker on promotion and formation of FPOs in dry land ecosystem.

Farmers Day at Aland Bhootai FPO

Aland Bhootai FPO promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad organized Farmers Day on 29th December 2022. In this programme,



innovative and progressive farmers were honored. Dr. Sangappa, Scientist presided the function. The program was witnessed by the august presence of invited guests from Agricultural Department, KVK, ZP, TP, Gram Panchayat and Board of Directors.

Review meeting of CBBOs by NABARD

A review meeting was organized by NABARD on 28 December, 2022 to monitor the progress of the FPOs and their respective



CBBOs under Central Sector Scheme for promotion of 10000 new FPOs. Ms. Manne Sri Sandhya of IIMR-FPO project attended the meeting. The meeting was headed by Mrs. Sushela Chintala, CGM, NABARD. The deliberations were made on celebration of International Year of Millets by millet campaigns and organizing millet conclave in future in coordination with ICAR-IIMR.

Students of AC&RI, Madurai visited IIMR

About 120 final year B.Sc. (Agri) students of Agricultural College and Research Institute (AC&RI), Madurai, Tamil Nadu vis-



ited ICAR-IIMR on 23 December 2022, as a part of All India Tour. Mr. Rajappa, and Dr. Manjuprakash coordinated the visit and interacted with students.

Celebration of World Soil Health day 2022 "Soil: Where food begins"

On 5th December, 2022, Shorapur Taluka Millets FPCL and Krishi Vignyan Kendra, Yadgir jointly organized awareness pro-



gramme on soil its importance and conservation at Kavadinatti to farmers and B.Sc. (Ag) final year students on the mark to celebrate World Soil Health day. Mr. Kailash Korishetty, Senior Research Fellow of ICAR-IIMR briefed on soil and water conservation techniques, aims and objectives of FPO and importance of millets in ensuring food and nutritional security and appealed to support International Year of Millets 2023. In addition, Scientists from KVK explained how to maintain soil fertility, impact of organic fertilizer, bio fertilizers, green manures and crop rotation on soil health and also provided knowledge of soil and water conservation techniques.

Kisan Diwas and Swachchata diwas at Mudhol FPO

IIMR, Hyderabad promoted Mudhol Oilseeds and Millets Farmer Producer Company, Mudhol celebrated Kisan Diwas



and Swachchata Divas on 23 December, 2022. Around 50 farmers from neighboring villages of FPO congregated to celebrate Kisan Diwas. Mr. Bharath H G of FPO unit represented IIMR.

APMAS rolls in IIMR promoted FPO

As a part of National Level Training cum Exposure visit to FPOs organized by APMAS, 30 stakeholders of NABARD and SFAC implemented FPOs from different states visited Hulsoor Mahila Kisan Millets Producer Company Ltd., promoted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad on 11 December 2022.

Aland FPO displays value added products

IIMR Promoted - Aland FPO exhibited its products before the District Monitoring Committee (DMC), during the review meeting headed by District Commissioner Sri. Yashwant Gurukur held on 16 December 2022 at the Office of the District Com-

missioner Gulbarga.

Training attended

Ms. Manne Sri Sandhya of IIMR working under CSS Project in Telangana attended a Training on Marketing to FPOs under C SASA, Hyderabad Telangana. The training was held for 3 days from 19th to 22nd December, 2022 at Hotel Lemon tree, Hi-Tech city under the supervision of GIZ and NABARD with an aim to create awareness on Market situations and marketing strategies to the FPO CEOs.

Kisan Goshti on the eve of Kisan Diwas 2022

On the occasion of Farmers Day, Kisan Goshti was with the theme "Igniting young minds by innovative farmers", organized on 23 December, 2022 by The Department of Agriculture,



Yadgir District to discuss the issues faced by farmers. Mr. Kailash Korishetty of IIMR participated and delivered lecture on "Formation and Managing the FPOs"

Millets awareness walk at Vijayapura District

Dr. Sangappa, scientist of IIMR participated in Millets awareness walk programme organized jointly by Department of Agri-



culture and College of Agriculture, Vijayapura, Karnataka on 30 December, 2022 to create awareness among the folks about the nutritional importance of millets and health benefits of millets on the eve of celebration of International Year of Millets (IYOM) 2023.

MoU/ MoA made during December 2022

The following Memoranda of Agreement / Understandings were made through ITMU, ICAR-IIMR, signed at ICAR-IIMR during December 2022. Dr. CV Ratnavathi, Director-IIMR on behalf of IIMR signed the agreements. The details are as follows:

Date of Agreement	Second Party/ Licensee	Purpose of MoA/ MoU	Signed by Second party	In the presence of
14.12.2022	Mulukanoor Women's Cooperative Dairy, Telangana	Licensing of CSH 43 MF	Dr. M. Bhaskar, General Manager	Dr. J. Stanley
30.12.2022	CMS College of Science & Commerce, Coimbatore	Student Research	Dr. H. Balakrishnan Principal	Drs. R. Madhusudhana and J. Stanley
30.12.2022	HDFC Bank	Collaborative programs for promotion of millets	Mr. S. Sridhar, Regional Head (Rural)	Sh. K. Srinivas Babu and Dr. J Stanley

Online Meetings (M) / Workshops (W)/ Trainings (T) Conferences (C) attended

S. No.	Name of Employee	Programme details	Type	Organized by	Dates
1	Mahesh Kumar	International conference on System of crop Intensification for Climate-Smart Livelihood and Nutritional Security	C	ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad	12-14 December, 2022



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