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DG reviews progress at NRCS

Dr. Mangala Rai, Director General-ICAR, and Secretary-



Dr. Aruna, Scientist explaining Dr. Mangala Rai, DG, ICAR, about the newly developed cultivars



The DG shows keen interest in the new transgenic sorghum lab (Inset) .

DARE, visited NRCS on the afternoon of 6 October 2004. He was appraised about the new hybrids and varieties developed recently at this centre and demonstrated the samples at museum. He was taken to the labs, transgenic glass house and recently developed insect rearing lab. He also had a brief discussion with the staff of NRCS and reviewed the ongoing activities. He encouraged the scientific community to envisage broader perspective with appropriate and logical planning to reach the goal.

Book release

A book in Marathi entitled "Rabi Jwari Pikotpadan tantragnyan" (Rabi sorghum production technology) was released by Dr. Mangala Rai . It contains latest



Dr. Mangala Rai releasing a MPKV publication in Marathi on "Rabi Sorghum production technology". Also seen - Dr. U.G. Kachole, Sr. Res. Asst. from MPKV, Rahuri and other scientists from NRCS.

information on techniques to enhance rabi sorghum production. It is a publication from MPKV, Rahuri.

Meeting on development of Network projects on Millets Biotechnology

A review meeting to develop network projects on millet biotechnology was held at NRCS on 28-29 October 2004. About 35 scientists from ICAR institutions (3), SAUs (5), CPMB, Hyderabad and ICGEB, New Delhi participated the meeting along with 2 DBT officials.

A total of 17 subprojects under four thematic areas namely 1) DNA marker-assisted improvement of rabi sorghum (Theme coordinator: Dr. N Seetharama, Proposed budget: Rs.159.92 lakhs); 2) QTL mapping and marker-assisted selection to improve drought tolerance, downy mildew, resistance and stover quality

of pearl millet (Theme coordinator: Dr. IS Khairwal,



The DBT network projects on Millets Biotechnology meeting in progress

Budget: Rs. 110.51 lakhs); Saturating linkage maps of millets and comparative mapping for identifying useful genes or markers for selection (Theme coordinator: Dr. M Udaya kumar, Budget: Rs.139.31 lakhs) and 3) Transgenic of millets to improve resistance to biotic and abiotic stress, and forage quality (Theme coordinator: Dr. V Dashavantha Reddy, Rs. 135.398 lakhs) were presented by 17 PIs. Two sub-projects were proposed from NRCS, one each on MAS for rabi improvement (Dr. R.Madhusudhana) and transgenics for salinity tolerance (Mr. Balakrishna).

All the projects were reviewed by the DBT appointed expert committee headed by Dr. Arjula R Reddy, Professor, University of Hyderabad. The other members were Prof. MS. Kuruvinashetty, UAS, Dharwad, Dr.K.Veluthambi, Professor, Madurai Kamaraj University, Dr Vanga Reddy, Sr. Scientist, ICGEB, New Delhi. Two members from DBT, Dr VP Gupta (Advisor) and Dr RR Sinha (Director) facilitated above meeting.

Seed production under Seed-village concept

Under the seed village concept, seed production of sweet sorghum variety RSV 9 (CSV 19SS) has taken up in two ha area at Kollur village in Medak district. Production of Kharif hybrid CSH 16 in 15 ha. area at Lingareddyguda in Mahboobnagar district and SSV 84 seed in one ha. area in Salgutta village in Ranga Reddy district were also undertaken. This programme was organized by Dr. S Audilakshmi, Principal Scientist.

Sorghum day at Mauranipur

Two scientists from NRCS, Hyderabad participated in the Sorghum Day and *Kisan Mela* organized at Crop Research Farm (CRF), Mauranipur, UP on 13 October 2004. A total of 350 farmers were attended the *mela*.

The function was formally inaugurated by Dr DK Singh, Principal Investigator (Forage), IGFR. The other



The Sorghum day and Kisan mela in progress at Mauranipur

dignitaries attended function were Dr. AK Saxena, Joint Director (R), CSAUAT, Kanpur, Dr. Venkatesh Bhat, Dr. Mishra and Dr. Shah from IGFR. They were briefed about the sorghum production technology and plant protection measures by the subject specialists from CRF and IGFR – Jhansi. Awareness was also created on the importance of plant genetic resources management especially the collection and conservation by Dr. M. Elangovan, Scientist (SS), NRCS and sorghum a nutritious and healthy food for future by Dr. AV Umakanth, Scientist (SS), NRCS.

Lectures

Vilas Tonapi delivered lecture on “Legislative mechanisms ensuring supply of quality seeds in India” on 6 Oct, 04 at NAARM in the winter course on “WTO & IPR: Allied national and International treaties” and also the same lecture was delivered in the training program on Hybrid rice production technology at Directorate of Rice Research on 9 Oct 04.

Poster Presentation

Dr. Chari Appaji presented a poster on “Sorghum in Rice paddies- A case study of Guntur District”, (Chari Appaji, B. Subbarayudu, S. Ravi Kumar, B. Dayakar Rao and N. Seetharama).

Dr. AV Umakanth presented a poster on “Evaluation of Sorghum genotypes for their suitability in rice fallows in vertisols (Umakanth, A.V., N Seetharama, R Mahender Kumar and VSS Kiran Kumar).

Both posters were presented during the International Symposium on “Rice : Green revolution to Gene revolution” held at Directorate of Rice Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, during 04-06 October 2004.

Visitors

40 Agricultural extension officers who are trainees under APERP project, accompanied by Dr. T. Vijay kumar, a World Bank consultant and Mr. Ranga Reddy, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Farmers Training Centre, Suryapet, Nalgonda District -visited NRCS on 28 Oct 04.

Official tours during the month

S. No	Name of the Scientist	Place visited	Dates	Purpose
1	S Indira	Parbhani	5 – 6, Oct 04	Monitoring of AICSIP Trials
2	SL Kaul	Surat, Udaipur, Deesa, IARI	3 - 17, Oct 04	Monitoring of AICSIP Trials, FLDs and attending Krishi Mela at Udaipur & Indore, Visit to IARI, New Delhi
3	BU Singh & TG Nageshwar Rao	Surat, Udaipur Deesa and Indore	3 - 11, Oct 04	Monitoring of AICSIP Trials, FLDs and attending Krishi Mela at Udaipur and Indore.
4	B Dayakar Rao	Chittoor, Dharwad & Indore	1-10 Oct 04	Monitoring of trials under RNPS -7, NATP
5	M Elangovan	NBPGR, New Delhi,	3-7 Oct, 2004	To present status report on sorghum genetic resources & to participate in the deliberations on network project on wild sorghums.
6	A .Umakanth & M Elangovan	Udaipur, Jhansi and Mauranipur	8-14, Oct 04	Monitor germplasm trial under NATP (MM – BD); 12 -Oct 04 to visit IGFR and collect forage sorghum germplasm data; 13 -Oct 04 to attend Farmers Day at CRF, Mauranipur.
7	Vilas Tonapi	Bellary	7 Oct, 04	sowing of parental lines for synchrony studies
8	HS Gawali	Bellary	7 Oct, 04	Filming of seed production plots
9	IK Das	Centre on Rabi Sorghum, Solapur	6-8, Oct 04	Sowing of rabi trials 2004-05
10	Dr. Dayakar	PDKV, Akola	20-23th October 2004	Monitoring the OFAT -RNPS-7 trials
11	Vilas Tonapi	Mahabaleshwar	17- 19 Oct, 2004	Sowing of cold tolerance experiment
12	Dr. S Ravi Kumar, V. Ravi Kumar, SRF	Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad	11-13 Oct, 04	To discuss a collaborative project on Sorghum Crop Modeling

Meetings / Symposia/ Conference/ Training attended

S. No	Name of the official	Participated in	Venue	Date
1	N Seetharama	Biotech meeting conducted by Rice.	ANGRAU Auditorium.	6 Oct, 04
		International cotton genome Initiative : ICGI-2004 workshop	Hotel Taj Krishna, Hyderabad	10 -13 Oct, 04
		69 th Annual convention of Indian Society of Soil Science.	ANGRAU, Hyderabad	27 Oct, 04
2	M Elangovan	Workshop on "Utilization of PGR"	NBPGR; New Delhi.	5 - 6 Oct, 04
3	M Elangovan	Meeting on network project on "Use of wild species in crop improvement"	New Delhi.	7 Oct, 04
4	OV Ramana, V. Ravi Kumar	Meeting on Development of web pages of ICAR institutes	NBPGR, New Delhi	8-9 Oct, 04
5	Chari Appaji and umakanth	International Symposium on Rice : Green revolution to Gene revolution",	DRR, Hyderabad	04-06 Oct, 04

Thought for the month

To find fault is easy and is everyman's power, but to point out the proper remedy is the proof of a wide counselor

Demosthenes

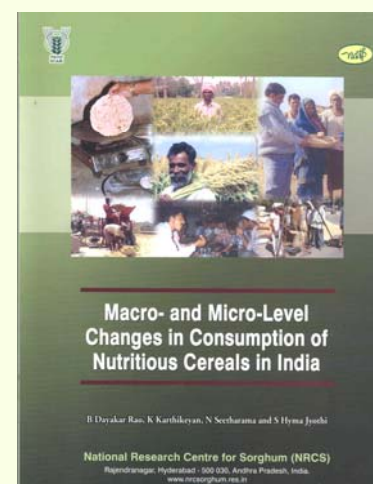
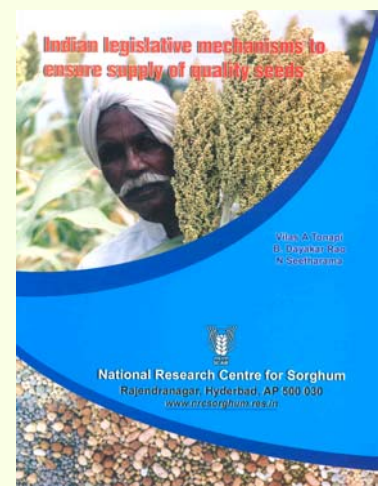
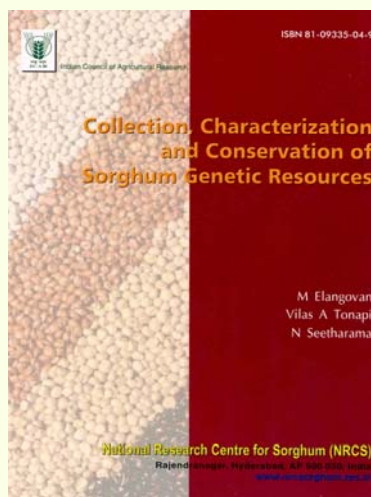
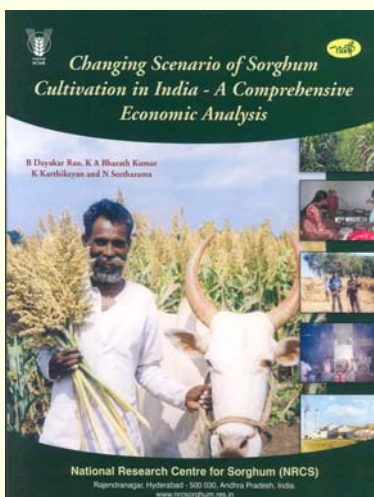
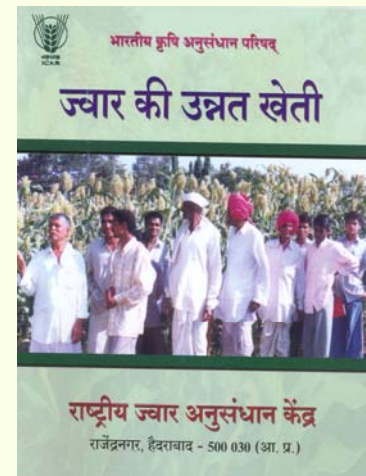
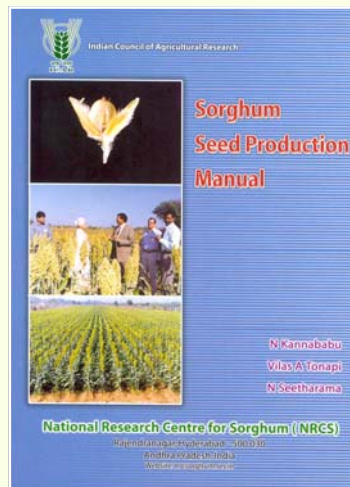
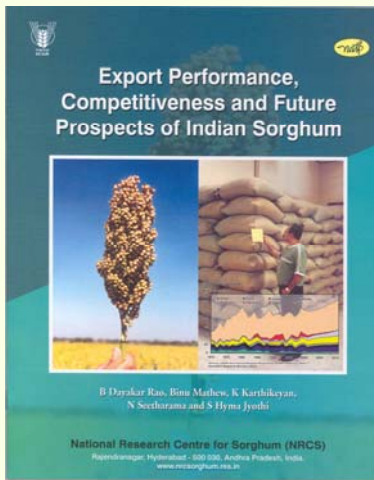
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Our recent publications



For copies of these publications DD should be drawn in favour of ICAR UNIT- NRCS and addressed to the Director, NRCS, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, 500 030, AP