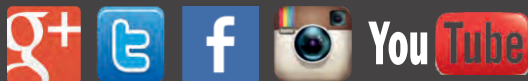


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Annual Workshop of AICRP on Groundnut held at Andhra University

The Annual Workshop of AICRP on Groundnut was held at Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam during May 25-27, 2019. In his inaugural address, Dr. V Damodar Naidu, Vice Chancellor, ANGRAU, Andhra Pradesh expressed concern on the recurring crop failures in Anantapur District due to the vagaries on monsoon and urged the scientists to develop varieties exclusively suitable for such areas. Dr. NV Naidu, Director of Research, ANGRAU, AP had emphasized the need for drought tolerant varieties and mechanization for drought prone areas of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Dr. SK Jha, Assistant Director General (Actg), Oilseeds and Pulses, ICAR has highlighted the need for a campaign to reduce the per capita consumption of edible oil and the scientists should work towards enhancing the productivity of the oil crops so as to meet the increasing demand of oil seeds and to reduce the import. Guest of Honor, Dr. Vishnuvardhan Reddy, Director IIOR, highlighted the need for enhancing the productivity of the oilseeds to address the increasing import of edible oil. The need for expanding the crop to the non-traditional areas also emphasized.

In his address, the Guest of Honor, Dr. DK. Agarwal, Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Seed Science, Mau accentuated the need to rationalize the seed conversion system and urged for taking up more seed production programmes. Special guest Dr. Rajeev K Varshney, Director, center of Excellence in Genomics & Systems Biology, ICRISAT has informed that the genome sequences and annotations for the cultivated groundnut are now available and the platform is ready to take up genome assisted breeding in groundnut. Dr. K Muralidharan and Dr. JB Misra, Ex Directors of ICAR-DGR, Dr. Sain Das, Ex Director, ICAR-DMR also were present on the occasion. Dr. Radhakrishnan T., Director, ICAR-DGR presented research highlights of work done by different centers of the scheme. Two publications, one on the conservation agriculture and the other on groundnut research at ANGRAU were released during the workshop. Centre-wise presentations of the work done and the detailed discussions on experiments conducted and new technical programme was done.

In the Variety Identification Committee chaired by the Dr. AK Singh, Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences) has identified three entries for release as varieties for commercial cultivation. Dh 256 for cultivation in



kharif season for Zone V (Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telengana); and Girnar 4 and Girnar 5, two high oleic groundnut varieties (>78% Oleic acid) developed for the first time in India, recommended for cultivation in *kharif* season in Tamil Nadu, AP, Telangana, Karnataka, Gujarat and Rajasthan. The workshop registered more than 100 participants from AICRPG centers, Research & Development organizations from different SAUs and ICAR institutes etc.

Identification of novel source of resistance to rust, *Puccinia arachidis* in the groundnut cultivars

Forty released cultivars were screened against rust, *Puccinia arachidis* in the 2 m length and 1m width concrete block, at ICAR-DGR, Junagadh. Seeds were treated with fungicide, tebuconazole 2 ds @1.5g per kg seeds and sown in second fortnight of June, 2019 in 30cm x 15cm spacing, and 20 healthy plants were retained after



Rust reaction on RHRG 6083 and spores



Rust reaction on TMV 2 and spores

germination. Freshly collected uredospores of *P. arachidis* from DGR field were mixed in sterile distilled water and spore suspension @ 50000-100000 fertile spores per ml concentration was sprayed on the foliage at 40 days old plants.

The disease started appearing on lower leaves of the susceptible cultivars about 15 days after inoculation. On 90 days old susceptible cultivars, the rust severity reached to 7, 8 and 9 score of 1-9 rating scale. However, cultivars RHRG 6083, KDG 128 and KDG 123 were recorded with disease score of 3 or less of 1-9 rating scale, and shown resistant reaction to *P. arachidis*.

Symptoms on resistant cultivars appeared only at maturity stage of the crop as minute yellow flecks, small microscopically discernible size pustules without rupturing of host epidermal cell wall, containing few numbers of fertile spores. In these contexts, cultivars RHRG 6083, KDG 128 and KDG 123 may be used as potential donor parent in groundnut breeding programme for developing variety resistant to rust, *P. arachidis*.

Inputs : Thirumalaisamy PP , Padvi RD, Rathnakumar AL, Ram Dutta, Sana Yusufza, Chandramohan S, Gangadhar KS and Radhakrishnan T

Blister beetle- feeding on flowers of groundnut

Blister beetles are named because of a well-known defensive secretion cantharidin which causes blister. More than 7000 species of known to occur worldwide, Some adults are aposematically coloured to warn their predators.



Mylabris pustulata adult



Beetle feeding on groundnut flower

Mylabris pustulata belongs to family Meloidae mostly found in south Asia. Adults usually feed on number of plants, however yellow coloured flowers of leguminous crops are preferred once. While first instar larva is triungulin form and predators on soft bodied insects such as aphids and grasshopper eggs. *Mylabris pustulata* is a cosmopolitan blister beetle throughout India. It is phytophagous and polyphagous. It feeds on floral parts such as petals, pollen, stigma secretions. The best method to manage these beetles is by hand collection. In *kharif* 2019 the adult beetles were recorded in DGR Entomology experimental plots. A flower damage upto 3-5 per cent was observed.

Inputs: Harish G, Thirumalaisamy PP and Ram Dutta

Kisan Mela organized at ICAR-DGR

Kisan mela was organized in ICAR-DGR on 24th February 2019. The launch of PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana) by Hon. Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi was live telecasted to the attended farmers. Around 600 farmers from nearby villages of Junagadh district have graced the occasion. Farmers were also explained about the importance of soil health cards (SHC's), how to interpret them and achieve maximum utilization of information given in SHC's.

Inputs: Kiran Reddy



National Science Day celebrated at ICAR-DGR

National Science day was celebrated at ICAR-DGR on 28th February 2019 with much pomp and glory. It is celebrated to commemorate discovery of the 'Raman Effect', which led to Sir CV Raman winning the Noble Prize.



A total of 48 students from class VI to IX from six different schools (8 from each school) have participated in the elocution competition "Science for sustainable future". A total of 24 students from class VI to IX from six different schools (4 from each school) have participated in the painting competition "Renewable Energy". The schools which have participated are RS Kalariya English Medium school, NP Bhalodiya High School, Eklavya Public School, Kendriya Vidyalaya and Podar International School. The theme of National science day for 2019 was "Science for the people and people for the science". The purpose of the theme was to raise public appreciation of the scientific issues involved. Dr. MK Mahatma acted as chairman for organizing the programme. Gifts and certificates were distributed to the winners of the different competitions.

International Women's Day celebrated at ICAR-DGR

ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research (ICAR-DGR), Junagadh celebrated 'International Women's Day' on March 8, 2019 with great zeal and enthusiasm. All the staff members of DGR including contractual staff were



invited to attend an event organized in the conference hall to mark the occasion. The programme started at 9:30 am by an introduction and a short speech by Dr. Kirti Rani, Scientist, emphasizing the significance of 'International Women's Day' and the importance of women in every walk of life. The theme for International Women's Day this year, "Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change", puts innovation by women and girls, for women and girls, at the heart of efforts to achieve gender equality. The Director, DGR, Junagadh also addressed the staff members of the Directorate on this occasion and mentioned the role of women and their contribution in society and need for their empowerment and gender equality

A live telecast of Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi ji's address from Varanasi was also arranged on this occasion for the benefit of one and all, and attended by all the staff members of ICAR-DGR, Junagadh.

नराकास-जूनागढ़ के अंतर्गत आयोजित "हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता"

हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन दिनांक 8.4.2019 को सुबह 11.00 बजे किया गया। इस प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेने के लिए जूनागढ़ स्थित, नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नराकास) के अंतर्गत आनेवाले सदस्य कार्यालयों से भी प्रतिभागियों को आमंत्रित किया था। इन में से भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम, आंध्रा बैंक, केंद्रीय विद्यालय एवं भाकृअनुप-मूंगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ इत्यादि सदस्य कार्यालयों के कुल 26 प्रति भागियों ने इस प्रतियोगिता में भाग लिया। इस हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता में 50 बहु विकल्पी प्रश्नरूप में पूछे गए, जिनका एक सही विकल्प चुनकर पुस्तिका में टिक (✓) करना था। सभी प्रश्नों को हलकर ने का समय 1 घंटा रखा गया था। प्रश्न बहुत ही दिलचस्प एवं ज्ञान वर्धक थे, जिसे सभी प्रतिभागियों ने अपनी बुद्धिमता से हल किया।

भाकृअनुप-मूंगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ ने "सामान्य ज्ञान / हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता" का दिनांक 19.08.2019 को अपराह्न 04:00 बजे आयोजन किया। इस प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेने के लिए जूनागढ़ स्थित, नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नराकास) के अंतर्गत आने वाले सभी सदस्य कार्यालयों से 2-2 प्रतिभागियों को आमंत्रित किया था, जिसमें कुल 17 प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया। प्रतियोगिता के प्रश्न सामान्य ज्ञान पर आधारित थे, जिनमें हिंदी सामान्य विज्ञान, सामाजिक विज्ञान, वर्तमान मुद्दे, बैंक व्यवसाय इत्यादि से प्रश्नों का समावेश था।

नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति, जूनागढ़ की वर्ष 2019 की प्रथम छमाही बैठक

दिनांक 25 अप्रैल, 2019 को नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नराकास)-जूनागढ़ की वर्ष 2019 की प्रथम छमाही बैठक, भाकृअनुप-मूंगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ में आयोजित की गयी। बैठक में इस निदेशालय सहित कुल 9 सदस्य कार्यालयों ने भाग लिया। इस बैठक में डॉ. सुनीता यादव, उप-निदेशक (कार्यान्वयन), गृहमंत्रालय, राजभाषा विभाग (पश्चिम), नवीमुंबई, विशेष अतिथि के रूप में उपस्थित रहीं। यह बैठक डॉ. राधाकृष्णन टी, निदेशक, भाकृअनुप-मूंगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जूनागढ़ एवं अध्यक्ष, नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति, जूनागढ़ की अध्यक्षता में आयोजित की गयी। इस बैठक में मूंगफली अनुसंधान निदेशालय के अलावा जिन सदस्य कार्यालयों ने भाग लिया, वे इस प्रकार हैं; केन्द्रीय विद्यालय जूनागढ़, भारतीय रेल जूनागढ़, भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम जूनागढ़, भारतीय विमान पत्तन प्राधिकरण केशोद, कापेरिशन बैंक जूनागढ़, भारतीय डाक विभाग जूनागढ़, आंध्रा बैंक जूनागढ़, यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया जूनागढ़ के अधिकारी एवं कर्मचारी उपस्थित रहे। डॉ. सुनीता

यादव उप-निदेशक (कार्यान्वयन), महोदया ने नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति में उपस्थित सदस्य कार्यालयों को अपना कार्य राजभाषा हिंदी में करने की अपील की तथा सभी कार्यालयों में हिंदी कार्यको बढ़ावा देने हेतु सुझाव भी दिये।

World No Tobacco day observed at ICAR-DGR

ICAR-DGR observed “world No-tobacco day” on 31st May 2019. Health and other risks associated with tobacco use like cancer, diabetes, chronic lung disease, stroke, infertility, blindness and tuberculosis etc., were highlighted to the DGR staff. The theme of World No Tobacco Day 2019 was "Tobacco and lung health". Display of posters depicting “Tobacco free zone” are installed in the office premises and different wings of each floor. A pledge was also taken by the DGR staff to keep the office campus tobacco free

International day of Yoga celebrated at ICAR-DGR, Junagadh

The ICAR-DGR, Junagadh celebrated International Day of Yoga during 19-21st June 2019. Director, ICAR-DGR, Junagadh welcomed the participating employees and instructors from various organizations. On 19th June 2019 an essay writing competition on “Yoga for healthy and peaceful mind” was organized at 11:00 AM onwards. On 20th June 2019 a quiz competition, which included areas of “Yoga, Agriculture, Sports, Polity and Scientific aptitude” was organized at 11:00 AM onwards. Then, the prayer followed by Physical Yoga Session by the employees as per



Common Yoga Protocol was organized on 21st June 2019 at 06:00 AM onwards with the expert instructions of Ms Jaishriben Lashkari and her team from Patanjali Yogpeeth, Junagadh, Gujarat. Followed by Physical Yoga Session, a workshop on meditation was organized on 21st June 2019 at 10:00 AM onwards as per advice and instructions of Ms. Brahm Kumari Ritaben and her team from Brahm Kumaris Junagadh, Gujarat. A poster making competition on “Yoga: fitness for all” was also organized on 21st June 2019 at 02:00 PM onwards. Finally, the International Day of Yoga 2019, which was this year celebrated as “Festival of Yoga and wellbeing” ended with prize distribution for winners of various events. Dr. Ram Dutta, Principal Scientist & Nodal Officer, International Day of Yoga at ICAR-DGR, Junagadh and his team coordinated the event.

Training program on ISO 9001: 2005 organized at ICAR-DGR

A one-day training program on ISO 9001:2005 was conducted by URS verification pvt ltd. in ICAR-DGR on 25.02.2019. A total of 30 DGR staff (scientific, technical and administrative staff) have actively participated in the event. Dr. A. L. Singh acted as nodal officer for the programme and certificate of participation was bestowed on to the participants at the end of the event.

ICAR-DGR participates in ICAR-West zone sports meet

ICAR-DGR has actively participated in ICAR-west zone sports meet held at ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi from October 5-8, 2018. A total of 26 staff from DGR have actively participated in various sports events like Volleyball, Carom, Chess, Table tennis, Badminton, Race, Disc throw, High Jump, Long Jump and Javelin throw. Sh. DR Bhatt acted as chief-de-mission for the sport contingent. Smt. MN Vaghasia bagged 2nd prize under chess (Women) event.



Institute seminars

Title	Name of the speaker	Date
Breeding new niche/season specific varieties of groundnut for higher productivity	Kirti Rani	13 May 2019
Distribution epidemiology, biology, host vector relationship and management strategies for groundnut viral diseases	Ananth Kurella	13 May 2019
Distribution epidemiology, biology, host vector relationship and management strategies of nematodes associated with groundnut	Rupak Jena	13 May 2019
Amistability: R package for ranking genotypes based on stability parameters derived from AMMI model	Ajay BC	16 May 2019

Participation in Conference/Seminar/Symposium

Name	Programme	Organizer(s)/Venue	Date
Narendra Kumar	13 th International Conference on Development of Drylands (ICDD)	ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur	11-14 February 2019
MK Mahatma	Food and Nutritional Conclave	MPKV, Rahuri	25-27 February 2019

Personnel

Awards and Honors



Dr. Narendra Kumar
Young Scientist Award-2019 for outstanding contribution and recognition in the field of plant breeding by Agriculture Technology Development Society (ATDS). in June 2019

Superannuation



Smt. Rosamma Joseph
Personnel Secretary to Director
superannuated on 31st March 2019