



CGIAR Stake Holders Consultation Workshop Organized

A Stake Holders Consultation Workshop on CGIAR Research Programme: Roots, Tubers, and Banana for food security and income were held at CTCRI on 16th August, 2010. The programme was organized jointly by CTCRI and International Potato Centre (CIP), New Delhi. Delegates representing CTCRI, CIP, Bioversity International, MSSRF, NRC Banana, KAU, and NGO participated. The workshop deliberated on CGIAR mega program on Roots, Tubers and Banana with special reference to priority area of research and key program strategies which was presided over by Dr.S.K.Naskar. The program was coordinated by Dr.M.Anantharaman and facilitated by Dr.V.Sujith (CIP).



News from the Research Front

Conducted Field demonstrations on management of Papaya mealy bug infection on cassava

Fourteen field demonstrations (2 in Erode, 6 each in Salem and Namakkal districts of Tamil Nadu) on eco-friendly management of papaya mealy bug on cassava were conducted with the cooperation of Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, Tamil Nadu, KVK- T.N.A.U and KVK- TANUVAS and SPAC Tapioca Products, a cassava starch industry. A meeting on the management of mealy bug followed the demonstration. Wide publicity was given by leading Tamil dailies on the demonstration. The bio-pesticide formulated at CTCRI against papaya mealy bug was also demonstrated in Salem, Coimbatore, Erode and Namakkal districts of Tamil Nadu.



Field demonstration of management of papaya mealy bug infection on cassava

Adoption of improved varieties of sweet potato in Orissa

Adoption survey on sweet potato varietal and production technologies in Koraput and Ganjam districts of Orissa carried out by a team of scientists Dr.M.Anantharaman, Dr T.Srinivas and Dr. P.Sethuraman Sivakumar indicated that farmers are cultivating improved varieties of sweet potato (Kishan and Pusa Safed) only to the extent of less than 30-40% while majority are cultivating local varieties. Farmers are having the knowledge that higher yields can be obtained over the local varieties they are using now. However, lack of knowledge about the source and availability of planting material for new high yielding varieties are indicated as the major constraints faced by the farmers. Farmers are aware of fertilizer application to the crop but not applying the recommended dose. No



Kishan, an improved sweet potato variety in cultivation by Koraput farmers in Orissa

pesticides are applied though there is incidence of sweet potato weevil in the fields where the crops harvest is delayed and when there is prolonged dry spell.

New projects approved

Two externally aided projects were approved during this period. CTCRI NEWS congratulates the scientists for getting the projects approved.

- *“Soil based nutrient management plan for agro ecosystems of Kerala.” (PI Dr. Susan John, Coordinated by State Planning Board and funded by Ministry of Agriculture, Kerala.)*
- *“Development of eco-friendly technologies for quality cassava production and to safeguard soil health and environment.” (PI Dr. Suja G, funded by Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) Govt. of India.)*

Participation in Exhibitions

1. National Cattle and Poultry Exhibition and Food Mela 2010 organized by Dept. of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Kerala from 23-27, July 2010.

New Appointment



Dr. James George, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), Division of Crop Production joined as Project Coordinator, AICRP on Tuber Crops w.e.f after noon of 24th September 2010. CTCRI NEWS congratulates and wishes him success in this endeavor.

2. Kalpagam 2010, organized by KVK Alleppey and KVK Kayamkulam from 1-4, September 2010.

3. Santhigiri Expo 2010, organized by Santhigiri Foundation, Pothencode, Thiruvananthapuram from 15-30, September, 2010.



Visitors at CTCRI stall at Santhigiri Expo 2010

Training programmes Organized

Exposure training on “Production and processing of tropical tuber crops” was organized by CTCRI RC for 25 trainees from Western Orissa sponsored by Overseas Projects Services Ltd, Bhubaneswar on 31-07-2010.

Training on Soil Sampling Procedures to trainees of Nehru Yuva Kendra under the Project on Soil based nutrient management plan for agro ecosystem of Kerala was organized by Dr. K. Susan John in association with KAU, CESS and State Planning Board during 13-14, September 2010.

The All India level Model Training Course on Integrated Production and Processing Management for Tropical Tuber Crops sponsored by the Directorate of Extension, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India was organized at CTCRI from 23-30 September, 2010. Twenty six extension personnel in the rank of Assistant Directors and above working in the Departments of Agriculture/Horticulture from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Bihar and Tripura took part in this week long programme. Latest production and processing techniques of tuber crops perfected at this Institute have been imparted to the trainees through interactive sessions and visits to experimental and farmers' fields. Dr.P. V. Balachandran, Director of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University, Mannuthy inaugurated the programme at CTCRI campus on 23/09/10 and Dr.N.Hrishi, former Director, CTCRI

distributed certificates to the trainees at the valedictory function on the concluding day.



Field visit for the participants of Model Training Course

Besides, 14 batches of farmers were given training on tuber crops production and processing technologies and various activities of CTCRI wherein 505 farmers from Kerala and Tamil Nadu participated. Eleven batches of 436 students from Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala and Tamil Nadu also attended training programmes conducted at CTCRI.

Recognition & Awards

Name of the Scientist	Recognition and Award
Sri. M. Unnikrishnan	External member, CSIR-JRF& assessment committee (meeting chaired) on 14-07-2010 at Plant Molecular Biology Laboratory, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, (DBT), Thiruvananthapuram.
Dr. K. Susan John	Member, Technical committee of Central Soil Analytical Laboratory, Dept. of Agriculture (Soil conservation unit), Govt. of Kerala.
Dr. M. Nedunchezhiyan	Member, Technical Committee to scrutinize and evaluate the proposals for developing and scaling-up strategy for agricultural development by the Orissa Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood programme, Orissa.

Participation in Seminar/Symposium/Workshop

Name of the Scientist	Participation details in Seminar/Symposium/Workshop
Dr. S. K. Naskar	Director's Conference held in New Delhi during 14-17, July 2010.
Dr. S. K. Naskar and Sri. M. Unnikrishnan	One day seminar on Agro biodiversity hotspots conducted by the Department of Agriculture, and State Biodiversity Board, Kerala on 17-09-2010 at Govt. Guest House, Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram.
Dr. C. S. Ravindran Dr. (Mrs.) K.Susan John Dr. (Mrs.) G. Suja	Launch workshop of Soil Based Plant Nutrient Management project under the aegis of Kerala State Planning Board on 04-08-2010 at Mascot hotel, Trivandrum
Dr. R.S. Misra and Dr. K. Laxminanrayana	Technical Support Group meeting of National Horticulture Mission in the Directorate of Horticulture, Orissa on 26-07-2010.
Dr. R.S. Misra	ICAR Regional Committee meeting at CARI, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands during 14-16, September 2010
Dr. M. Anantharaman	28 th Scientific Advisory Committee meeting of KVK of Mithranikethan, Thiruvananthapuram on 11-08-2010.
Dr. Archana Mukherjee	Workshop on Horticulture Nursery on 20-08-2010 at Dir. of Horticulture, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
Dr. M. N. Sheela	Consultation on Biotechnology Research in ICAR, New Delhi on 26-27, July 2010.
Dr. K. Susan John	1. One day workshop on formulation of ad-hoc recommendation for secondary and micronutrients for different crops of Kerala at KAU, Vellanikkara on 13-07-2010. 2. Technical Committee meeting of State Planning Board

	<p>Project on soil based nutrient management plan for agro ecosystem of Kerala at state planning board on 17-08-2010.</p> <p>3. II interactive meeting on nutrient dynamics in horticultural crops held at National Research Centre for Citrus, Nagpur on 27-28, September 2010.</p>
Dr. M. Nedunchezhiyan,	Review workshop of NAIP project at Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar on 3-8-2010.
Dr. T. Makesh Kumar	<p>1. Seminar on "Role of transgenics in shaping Indian Agriculture" on 23-07-2010, organized by Indian Virological Society at IARI, New Delhi.</p> <p>2. Conference on whitefly and thrips transmitted viruses held at University of Delhi – south campus during 27-28, August 2010 and presented a paper on "White fly transmitted viral diseases of tropical tuber crops and their management option through transgenic approach".</p>
Dr. K. Laxminarayana,	Six monthly meeting of the "Town Official Language Implementation Committee" on 13-8-2010 held at Aayakar Bhawan, Bhubaneswar.
Dr. C. Mohan	4 th Annual plant breeding meeting of American National Association of Plant Breeders held at Pioneer H1-Bred, International, Johnson IOWA, USA from 15-17, August 2010.
Dr. P. Sethuraman Sivakumar	Rural Advisory Committee meeting of Prashar Bharathi to decide topics for Krishi Darshan and Palishree programme at Prashar Bharathi, Bhubaneswar on 24-9-2010.

Lectures /Media talks/ Meetings attended

Name of the Scientist	Details of Lectures /Media talks/ Meetings
Dr. S K Naskar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interaction Meet held at CIAE, Bhopal on 23-24, July 2010. 2. 28th Group Meeting held at CPRI, Shimla during 10-11, September 2010 organized by the AICRP (Potato).
Dr.C.SRavindran	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting arranged at the Kerala Assembly Hall by Minister of Agriculture and took part in the discussion on production of planting materials in Tuber crops on 06-07-2010. 2. Class on cultivation practice of tuber crops to a group of 35 farmers organized by Kerala Ghandi Smaraka Nidhi, Thiruvananthapuram on 17-07-2010. 3. 4th meeting on climate changes for formulation of short term and long term action plans to mitigate national calamity held in the Chamber of Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Kerala on 23-07-2010. 4. Visited CTCRI RC ,Bhubaneswar and BCKV Kalyani (26-09-10 to 30-08-10) along with Director, CTCRI and discussed with the officials about the production of quality planting material and the distribution
Dr James George	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agricultural Research and Educational Strategy for Chattisgarh at IGKV, Raipur during 28-30, September 2010. 2. VFPCCK discussion for Tuber crops planting material production at Cherthala on 29-07-2010. 3. Class for farmers at Kizhuvillam co-operative society, Chirayinkil on 17-08-2010 on tuber crops. 4. KVK function of coconut day at CPCRI Regional Station, Kayamkulam on 01-09-2010. 5. AIR broadcast on potential of cassava for facing the challenge of climate change on 16-09-2010.

Dr. Archana Mukherjee	Lecture on “Green productivity using coconut based coir pith waste and tuber crops” on ‘World Coconut Day’ organized by CDB, Pitapalli, Khurda, Orissa on 02-09-2010.
Dr. V. Hegde	Practical class on “Identification of diseases of Tropical Tuber Crops” in MTC 2010 on 25-09-2010.
Dr. M. S. Sajeev	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consortium Implementation Committee meeting, CEPC Lab, Kollam on 18.8.10 2. Project monitoring workshop, KSCSTE, Trivandrum on 08-09-2010.
Dr. G. Suja	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lecture on organic farming of tuber crops to farmers of Kerala Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi on 17-07-2010 at CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram. 2. Class to 80 farmers of Sangamythri Karshikolpanna sampavana vipanana sangam - Banana Growers Association of Kerala on cultivation of tuberous vegetables as intercrops in Banana on 16-09-2010 at Pallichal, Nemom, Thiruvananthapuram. 3. Lecture on organic production of tuber crops to Agricultural Officers and ADAs from various states of India for Model Training Course 2010 on 27-09-2010.
Dr.(Mrs).M. L. Jeeva	1. Annual Review meeting of ICAR network project on Application of Microorganisms in Agriculture and Allied Sectors (AMAAS) during 17-18, August 2010.
Dr. J. Sreekumar	Lecture on “Design and data analysis-CRD,RBD, Incomplete block design, loop designs, reference designs and ANOVA models in microarray experiments” and hands on practice on microarray data Dept. of Statistics, Manipal University, Manipal during 5-6, August 2010.



CTCRI celebrated **64th Independence Day** on August 15, 2010 with lot of patriotism and devotion. Dr. S.K. Naskar, Director hoisted the flag and gave the speech on the occasion.

Trainings Attended

Name	Details
Dr.M.S Sajeev	Training on Rheology organized by Anton Paar (India), Bangalore on 06-08-2010.
Dr. J. Sreekumar & Sri. R. Bharathan	Training programme on "SAS- A Comprehensive Overview" organized by Dept of Statistics, UAS, Hebbal, Bangalore from 09-08-10 to 16-9-10.
Dr. K. Susan John Dr. G. Suja Dr. M.L. Jeeva Dr. S.S. Veena Dr. A. N. Jyothi	One day training programme on Career Advancement Programme for Scientists-Development of Soft skills organized by Women Scientists Cell, KSCSTE, Sasthrabhavan, Pattom on 22-09-2010.

Visit Abroad

- Dr. C. Mohan attended NAIP short term training in "Advances in Marker Assisted Selection (MAS)" at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA from 01-07-2010 to 30-09-2010.
- Dr. James George participated and presented a paper in the "International Conference on Food Security during Challenging Times" held at University Putra, Kualalumpur, Malaysia during 05-07, July 2010.
- Dr. S.K.Naskar participated in the World Cafe' Meeting to develop a proposal on Agricultural Systems for the poor and Vulnerable: Integrated Agricultural Production Systems in the Humid Tropics in Accra, Ghana during 9-10, August 2010.
- Dr. K.Susan John participated in the XI European Society of Agronomy Congress (AGRO 2010) at Mont Pellier, France during 29th August to 3rd September 2010 and presented two research papers.

Science Forum Corner

Two science forum meetings were conducted on 2nd and 28th July 2010 and five research papers and one training completion report were presented by CTCRI scientists.

Distinguished Visitors

Visitor	Date
Dr. B.C. Nayak, Former Dean of Agriculture, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar	13-8-2010
Dr.B.C. Nayak, Former Director, Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar (post) Malpura (Tehsil), Tonk(District), Rajasthan	13-8-2010
Dr. Basudev Behera, Professor (Agronomy) & CPI, NAIP (Comp-3), Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India.	13-8-2010
Dr. Prem Mathur, Bioersity International, New Delhi	16-8-2010
Dr. V. Surjit, CIP, South West and Central Asia office New Delhi	16-8-2010
Dr. Md Mustaffa, Director, NRC Banana, Tiruchirapally	16-8-2010
Dr. Anil Kumar, MSSRF, Chennai	16-8-2010

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Designed by: Sri.R.Bharathan

TUBERS FOR HUNGER ALLEVIATION