



GRAPE-NEWS

A Publication of National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune



Vol. 13 (1), April - September 2009

Director's Desk



This Institute has been monitoring food safety and quality standardization component in table grapes for export to European Union countries since 2003-04 season. This is being monitoring by this Institute jointly with APEDA under Ministry of Commerce and AGMARK of Ministry of Agriculture by setting up of National Referral Laboratory at the Institute exclusively for this purpose. There are various dimensions followed in monitoring this system by way of studies on newer molecules in respect of their bioefficacy against target pest / diseases, dissipation of molecule to work out safe level of PHI and quality standardization in terms of size, shape, TSS and acidity of table grapes and finally transfer of this knowledge to grape growers for better management of major grape insects and diseases and other quality parameters. This institute works with all the stake holders involved in grape export chain i.e. grape growers, respective State Govts., exporters, pack houses, nominated laboratories to monitor the pesticide level and quality parameters as per the compliance to Europe market. APEDA, AGMARK and NRCG are working jointly for last six years for successful implementation of this food safety and quality standardization and as a result the failure

of grape for export which was at the level of 23.7 per cent has been now brought down to level of 3.5 per cent. The whole programme is known as grape-net of APEDA and being further extended to pomegranate, litchi, mango and may be covering all horticulture produce soon under Hort-net programme.

In this context, formulation of pesticide management bill of 2008 of Ministry of Agriculture under the Insecticide Act of 1968 is a welcome step. The bill was approved by the Cabinet on 24th April 2008 and introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 21st October 2008 and being circulated to concerned Ministries / Departments for their comments before submission to the Cabinet for final approval. Few suggestions have been made by this Institute based on the field and policy experience gained in monitoring of pesticide residue in exportable table grapes to EU market in last six years. It is high time that all the stake holders in grape export chain and in domestic market keep watch on the notification of this bill and give their constructive suggestions based on their experience gained at ground level in the last few years, before its implementation.

(P. G. ADSULE)

New Research Initiative

The Institute is identified as a participating Centre under the new out reach programme on 'Diagnosis and management of leaf spot diseases of field and horticultural

crops' for leaf spot disease of grapes. More than 130 isolates were obtained and purified for further studies.

Honours / Recognitions / Awards

Dr. R. G. Somkuwar received Vasantao Naik Krishi Scientist Award 2009. The award was conferred on 1st July 2009 by Sh. Ashok Chavan Honorable Chief Minister of Maharashtra in a ceremony held at Mumbai.

A National Horticulture Board's assessment team visited the Institute and inspected the nursery on 30th April 2009 for rating and accreditation of Institute nursery. The following were the members:

- Dr. Jagmohan Singh, Ex Vice-chancellor of YSPAUH & F, Solan, Himachal Pradesh

- Dr. P. K. Singh, Dy. Director, NHB, Gurgaon
- Dr. B. D. Badge, Dy. Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra
- Dr. S. B. Gurao, Associate Director of Research, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri
- Sh. Dharam Singh, Assistant Director, NHB
- Dr. R. G. Somkuwar, Pr. Scientist, NRCG, Pune

The team has recommended 3 star rating to Institute Nursery on the scale of one to five star rating system. The team specially appreciated high quality technical

supervision, excellent infrastructure and application of advance techniques. The team also put forth suggestions for improving the rating further in subsequent years.

Transfer of Technology

Participation in Grape Growers' Seminars

- Scientists of the Institute viz. Dr. S. D. Sawant, Dr. R. G. Somkuwar and Dr. J. Sharma delivered lectures in the seminars organized by Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association in their respective research areas to guide grape growers in the management of diseases, canopy management and irrigation and nutrition at Nasik, Sangli, Solapur, Baramati and Bableshwar in May and September 2009 after foundation and fruit pruning.

Field Visits and Guidance to Farmers

- Dr. P. G. Adsule visited few vineyards in Kolhapur and Sangli region under the Pesticide Residue Monitoring of APEDA-NRL project on 11th April 2009 and guided the grape growers.
- Dr. R. G. Somkuwar as a member of Nursery Rating Committee along with Sh. Dharam Singh, Assistant Director, National Horticulture Board visited Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth Nursery on 1st May 2009. The purpose of visit was to assess the nursery cultural practices being followed to meet the quality standards and to decide the rating of the nursery.
- Dr. P. G. Adsule visited Sangli on 16th May 2009 and organized training programme for manufacture of raisins for export for the grape growers of Sangli region.
- Dr. R. G. Somkuwar visited Manjarde on 23rd May 2009 for assessing the hailstorm affected vineyards and provided necessary guidance in the areas of appropriate food storage, nutrition, use of growth regulators, crop load, etc. for taking forthcoming crops. This will certainly

mitigate their problem to some extent.

- Dr. P. G. Adsule, Dr. G. S. Karibasappa, Dr. R. G. Somkuwar and Dr. A. K. Upadhyay visited College of Horticulture, Mandasaur under Rajmata Vijayaraje Sindhiya Vishvavidyalaya, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh and also some of the vineyards and winery units in Ratlam during 3-5th July 2009. The team had meeting with Vice-chancellor, and officials of the college for selection of site for the approved Centre under AICRP-Subtropical Fruits (Grapes). Technical program was finalized after selection of site and necessary guidelines were given to take action for undertaking AICRP trials of grapes. The planting material was also provided to the concern scientist after the visit.
- Dr. S. D. Ramteke visited Nasik, Sangli, Solapur and Pandharpur on 25th July, 6th August, 7th August and 8th August 2009 respectively to deliver a lecture on 'Use of hydrogen cyanamide (H₂CN₂) in grapes'.

TV Programmes

- Dr. S. D. Ramteke appeared on three different TV channel programmes on Foundation pruning, Weed management and Management of grape vineyards during rainy season telecasted on 2nd April, 16th July and 20th August 2009 respectively.
- R. G. Somkuwar appeared on two different TV channel programmes on Back pruning in grapes and Practices followed for cane maturity in late pruned vineyards telecasted on 27th April and 2nd August 2009 respectively.

Participation in Scientific Seminars / Symposia / Workshops / Meetings

Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay attended DBT Task Force meeting on 15th April 2009 at New Delhi and presented report of the project 'Molecular characterization and creation of molecular database for Indian grape germplasm'. The report was well taken by the Committee.

Dr. P. G. Adsule participated and presided over the Technical Workshop meeting organized by the Abhinav Grape Growers' Co.op. Society at Junnar on 28th May 2009 and delivered lecture on 'Vineyard management'.

Dr. G. S. Karibasappa attended the first meeting of Zonal Institute Technology Management Committee - West on "Intellectual Property Management and Transfer/ Commercialization of Agricultural Technology" held at CIRCOT, Mumbai on 7th August 2009. In the meeting different aspects of commercialization of technologies

developed in ICAR institutes and patenting procedure was discussed.

Dr. R. G. Somkuwar participated in a workshop on 'Information Technology Applications in Horticultural Crops' on 24th August 2009 organized at Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla. This workshop was inaugurated by Dr. H. P. Singh, Dy. Director General, (Hort.), ICAR. There was group discussion on disease forecasting models developed by individual institute in different crops of their mandate. Dr. Somkuwar gave the inputs for further study in weather forecasting session.

Dr. G. S. Karibasappa along with Mr. O. Babu attended interactive meeting at NAARM, Hyderabad convened by Secretary, ICAR on 11th September 2009 to discuss the administrative and financial matters.

Personnel

Promotions / Transfer



Dr. R. G. Somkuwar was selected for the post of Principal Scientist (Horticulture) at NRC for Grapes by ASRB. He has joined the position on 7th August 2009.

Dr. N. S. Kulkarni was transferred to Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi subsequent to his selection as a Senior Scientist (Entomology) w.e.f. 7th July 2009.

Mr. A. S. Murthy, Assistant Finance and Accounts

Officer was transferred to Project Directorate of Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance, Bangalore from 21st August 2009.

New Joining



Dr. D. S. Yadav and Mrs. S. Shalini Scientists (Entomology) joined this Institute on 20th June and 28th August 2009 respectively after successful completion of foundation

course for ARS at NAARM, Hyderabad.

Human Resource Development

Deputation Abroad

Dr. P. G. Adsule and Dr. K. Banerjee were deputed to participate in the 2nd Latin American Pesticide Residue Workshop 'Food and Environment' during 6-19th June 2009 and to present a lead technical paper on 'Monitoring of pesticides in Indian table grapes'. They also visited Viticulture and Enology Technological Scientific Centre at Mendoza University of Argentina.

Training Acquired

Dr. A. K. Sharma and Dr. J. Sharma attended the training on "X SERIES 2 ICP-MS operators training course" at Thermo Fisher Scientific, Bremen, Germany during 14th - 21st June 2009.

Training Given

Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay guided two M.Sc. students of Dr. D. Y. Patil Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Institute, Pune for their project during January - June 2009.

The Scientists of the Institute were the resource persons for the training programme organized by

Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association during 9-23rd July 2009 at Pune. Forty-two grape growers were benefited by this training programme.

Training Programmes Organized



A 5 days training programme entitled 'Transfer of technology for production of export quality grapes' was organized at the Institute during 8-12th September 2009. Eighteen grape growers participated in the programme. This programme was sponsored by National Horticulture Board. Dr. S. D. Ramteke and Dr. R. G. Somkuwar coordinated the training programme.

Publications

Research Papers

Sharma A. K., Adsule P. G. and Banerjee K. 2009. A study on physico-chemical properties of Indian raisin samples. 9th ASC: June 22-24, 2009, Srinagar, SKUSAT & NAAS. Abstract book, p 240.

Technical Articles

Mundankar K. Y., Sawant S. D., Sawant Indu S., Sharma J., and Adsule P. G. 2009. "NRCG-SKAI PMExpert": Software for management of powdery mildew disease in grapes. In 'Information technology applications in

horticultural crops (Eds. PM Govindakrishnan, JP Singh, SS Lal, VK Dua, Shashi Rawat & SK Pandey). Central Potato Research Institute Shimla. Pp 133-138.

Mundankar K. Y., Karibasappa G. S. and Upadhyay Anuradha. 2009. Information Systems for morphological and molecular characterization data of Grape Germplasm in India. *Ibid.* pp196-200.

Mundankar K. Y., Sawant Indu S., and Adsule P. G. 2009. Miscellaneous IT initiatives at NRC, Grapes, *Ibid.* pp 315-136.

Meetings Held

Institute Research Committee (IRC)

The 14th meeting of the IRC of the Institute was convened on 25-26th June 2009 under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director. In the meeting, reports covering

the annual progress in respective ongoing projects and action taken on the points raised by the previous IRC, RAC were presented and deliberated by the members.

Celebrations

Independence Day

The Centre celebrated Independence Day on 15th August with joy and splendour. Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director, hoisted the flag. In his address, he highlighted the good work done by the Centre for sustaining the grape production under water scarcity conditions and called upon all the staff for collective efforts to uplift the grape sector in India. The programme ended by singing patriotic songs and distribution of sweets.

हिन्दी पखवाड़ा

राजभाषा हिन्दी के समुचित विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष भी दिनांक 15 सितंबर से 30 सितंबर 2009 तक केन्द्र में हिन्दी पखवाड़ा का आयोजन किया गया। पखवाड़ा के शुभारंभ के अवसर पर निदेशक महोदय ने सभी अधिकारियों एवं कर्मचारियों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा हिन्दी में काम करने की शपथ दिलाई और हिन्दी के प्रयोग को

बढ़ाने के लिए आवाहन किया।

पखवाड़ा के दौरान विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया। इन प्रतियोगिताओं में अनुवाद लेखन, स्वरचित हिन्दी कविता पाठ, एक मिनट प्रतियोगिता, निबंध लेखन एवं कंप्यूटर पर हिन्दी टंकण आदि प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया। हिन्दी पखवाड़ा के शुभ अवसर पर संस्थान के प्रमुख वैज्ञानिक डॉ. जी. एस्. करीबसप्पा ने धार्मिक विचारों पर व्याख्यान दिया तथा योगगुरु पंडित जगन्नाथ देव ने योग विज्ञान पर व्याख्यान दिया।

समारोह का समापन दिनांक 1 अक्टूबर 2009 को आयोजित किया गया। श्री. गोपाल वर्मा, हिन्दी अधिकारी (सी. डैक., पुणे) समापन समारोह के मुख्य अतिथी थे। इस दिन हिन्दी कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। हिन्दी के प्रगति पर राजभाषा विभाग एवं सी. डैक., पुणे द्वारा विकसित विभिन्न सॉफ्टवेयर एवं निःशुल्क हिन्दी सॉफ्टवेयर की जानकारी दी गयी। अंत में प्रतियोगिताओं में विजेता प्रतिभागियों को मुख्य अतिथी द्वारा नकद पुरस्कार प्रदान किया गया।

Visitors

- Shri Sudhir Bhargava, Member, ICAR Governing Body visited NRC Grapes on 18th April 2009.
- Dr. H. P. Singh, Dy. Director General (Hort.), ICAR visited NRC Grapes on 27th April 2009.
- Shri Chaman Kumar, Addl. Secretary, DARE & Financial Advisor, ICAR visited NRC Grapes on 3rd May 2009.
- Dr. N. Shanmugham, Principal Investigator and Dr S.B Pal, Manager, Zonal Technology Management and Business Planning & Development (ZTM BPD) of

CIRCOT visited the Institute on September 2009. ZTM-BPD is a NAIP funded project to promote commercialisation of technology developed at ICAR institutes. In their presentation, Dr. Shanmugham talked about Business Incubation and Business Support while Dr. S. B Pal focused on the agenda and aim of BPD and how BPD Unit can be helpful to the researchers and scientists. Opportunities of commercializing technologies developed at institute and other related issues were also discussed.

Technical folders and Bulletins

1. Management of Leafhopper on grapes by Kulkarni NS, Mani M and Banerjee K, 2008, Extension Folder No. 27.
2. द्राक्षपिकावरील तुडतुडे व त्यांचे व्यवस्थापन by Kulkarni NS, Mani M, Sarika Gawde and Banerjee K, 2009 Extension Folder No. 28.
3. द्राक्षगुवत्तेसाठी संजीवकांचा व इतर गोष्टींचा वापर by Ramteke SD, Somkuwar RG and Adsule PG, 2009, Extension Folder No. 29.
4. Use of bioregulators and other inputs for quality grape production by Ramteke SD, Somkuwar RG and Adsule PG 2009, Extension Folder No. 30.
5. क्रिप्टोलाइम्स भुंगेरेंचा वापर व उत्पादन by Kulkarni NS, Mani M, Sarika Gawde and Banerjee K, 2009, Extension Folder No. 31.

Published by : Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director

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Printed at : Flamingo Business Systems, Tel. : 020-24214636, Email : flaminbs@vsnl.com, flamingo.b.s@gmail.com