



GRAPE-NEWS

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NRCG Welcomes New Director General



Director and staff of NRCG extend a very warm welcome to Dr. S. Ayyappan, who assumed charge as Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR, New Delhi on 1st January 2010.

An alumnus of UAS, Bangalore, Dr. Ayyappan joined as Scientist at CIFRI, Barrackpore in 1978. Since, then he has served ICAR institutes in different capacities such as Director, CIFA, Bhubaneswar (1996-2000), Director, CIFE, Mumbai (2000-2002) and DDG (Fisheries) (2002-2009).

Dr. Ayyappan has served in different capacities in several important committees viz. Chairman, High level Expert Committee for Development of Freshwater

Aquaculture in the country, Govt. of India; Chairman, Working Group on Fisheries for Eleventh Plan, Planning Commission; Chairman, Task Force on Aquaculture and Marine Biotechnology, Department of Biotechnology (2006-09) and Member of the Project Steering Committee on 'More Crop and Income per Drop of Water', Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India (2006-07). He is the member of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) Committee on Agriculture and Allied Sectors for the XIth Plan (2007-2012), Planning Commission, Govt. of India, 2009.

Dr. Ayyappan has been the Fellow of NAAS and has received many awards including ICAR Team Award, Special ICAR Award.

Director's Desk



There is a long list of chemicals used in agriculture crops for both edible and non-edible purpose at global level. This includes chemicals such as insecticides, fungicides, plant growth hormones, antibodies, herbicides, chemical fertilizers in terms of macro and micronutrients and many other chemicals which may attribute desirable effect in terms of total yield and quality of fruits in terms of size, shape, uniformity, sugars, acids, proteins, fats and fibres besides vitamins and minerals. However, their excessive use sometimes leads to toxicity in food. Toxicity of food also occurs as a result of industrial and other effluent contaminants in soil and water which is used for agriculture production. Keeping all this in view, one needs to know their safe level in the final agricultural produce in fresh and processed food and for that purpose, this produce has to be tested using appropriate analytical tools to find the safe level of these chemicals in final food product.

As a fallout of toxic chemicals viz. methomyl and monocrotophos in exportable grapes in EU market in

April-May 2002, EU gave direction to the Govt. of India to put up pesticide residue monitoring in exportable table grapes in position and as a result APEDA assisted NRC for Grapes to put National Referral Laboratory (NRL) with all the infrastructure in terms of building and equipments to monitor the pesticides and heavy metals. Considering continuous changes in food safety regulation in EU market after harmonization of list of pesticides among EU countries in September 2008, there is need to expand the scope of our present list of chemicals from pesticides to plant growth regulators and herbicides or their complete list of chemicals (550) used in EU as against 221 chemicals registered in India as per our Central Insecticide Board Registration Committee. However, this proposal of expanding list of chemicals for testing in nominated laboratories under NRL of NRC for Grapes will certainly cost more in view of its additional equipments and manpower required. This point has to be noted by all the stakeholders involved in grape industry.

(P. G. ADSULE)

Honours / Recognitions / Awards

Dr. R.G. Somkuwar received Krushiratna Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Memorial Krishi Puraskar- 2009 from Bhartiya Krushak Samaj at Nasik on 27th December 2009 for the

contribution in the field of viticulture. He also received 'Sahyadri Krishi Sanman - 2010' for contribution in field of agriculture extension in relation to grapes.

Transfer of Technology

Participation in Grape Growers' Seminars

- Dr. J. Sharma participated in growers' seminars and field visits organized by Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association at various places in Solapur, Oosmanabad, Latur region during 2-3rd October, Sangli region during 9-11th October and Nasik region during 22-23rd October 2009. Approximately 1900 growers participated in these seminars. He educated farmers on nutrient and disease interactions and water use efficiency.
- Dr. J. Sharma participated in growers' seminar and field visits and delivered lecture on 'Nutrient and irrigation management in grapes' organized by M/s Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. at Ugar (Belgaum) on 14th October 2009. About 350 growers participated.
- Dr. J. Sharma delivered lecture on 'Nutrient management in grapes' in growers' seminar organized by Gaonkari in 'Krishi 2009' at Nasik on 27th November 2009. About 150 growers participated.
- Dr. D. S. Yadav delivered a lecture on 'Pest Management in Grapes' during programme 'Technical guidance to the grape growers by NRCG experts' at Palsi, Tasgaon, Subhashnagar and Nasik on 21st December, 22nd December 2009 and 11th January 2010 respectively.
- Dr. A. K. Sharma and Mrs. S. Shalini participated in annual program of Vasant Rao Arve Foundation at Sangli on 16th January 2010 and delivered a lecture on 'Shelf life and processing of grapes'.

Field Visits and Guidance to Farmers

- Dr. G. S. Karibasappa visited M/s Bafna Farms, Deokarwadi Phata, Near Rohu, Tal. Daund to study growth and yield performance of Manjri Naveen, Fantasy

Seedless and NRCG hybrids on 25th December 2009, 18th February and 18th March 2010. Over bearing was observed in hybrid AH 2-8. Growers were recommended cane girdling and spray of SOP at the rate of 5g/L thrice in the fruiting season. Bunch regulation in hybrid AH 2-8 (Spin Sahebi x Black Monukka) was recommended.

- Dr. P. G. Adsule, Dr. J. Sharma and Dr. D. S. Yadav visited vineyards and had discussions with growers under the consultancy project entitled 'Smooth trade of pesticides for the management of various diseases and insect pests in grapes' sponsored by M/s Du Pont, Gurgaon on 15th January, 5-6th February and 30th March 2010 at Sangli and on 12th January and 1st - 2nd February at Nasik. About 100 growers participated in each programme.
- Dr. Indu S. Sawant and Dr. S. D. Sawant surveyed vineyards of Thompson Seedless and Gulabi varieties at Dindigal, Cumbum and Odiapatty from 24-26th January 2010, discussed the problems with grape growers and Directors of the State Department of Horticulture and collected grape and soil samples for analysis.
- Dr. D. S. Yadav and Mrs. S. Shalini visited vineyards at Solapur and Tuljapur on 5-6th March 2010. Low to moderate level of mealybug and stem borer infestation was observed. Field sanitation like removal of weeds, pruned parts of plants etc. harbouring the pest stages to reduce the pest population were advised besides use of Imidacloprid drenching to manage mealybugs.
- Dr. D. S. Yadav and Mrs. S. Shalini visited Mr. Bafna, a progressive farmer's vineyard on 26th March 2010. There was a severe infestation by Spodoptera litura and Buch webbar in some of the grape plots. Pest control programmes with biocontrol formulations and chemicals are used in the vineyard.

Participation in Scientific Seminars / Symposia / Workshops / Meetings

- Mrs. S. Shalini attended a meeting conducted by APEDA at Sangli and Mumbai on 28th and 31st October 2009 respectively.
- Dr. G. S. Karibasappa, Dr. Indu S. Sawant and Mrs. S. Shalini attended a workshop on 'Leica Advanced Fluorescence Microscopy System for Live Cell Imaging'

conducted by Labindia Instruments Pvt. Ltd. on 4th November 2009 at Rajeev Gandhi Infotech Park, Hinjawadi, Pune.

- Dr. P. G. Adsule and Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay participated in National Seminar on 'Horticulture biotechnology' held at IIHR, Bangalore during 28-29th October 2009. Dr.

Adsule chaired the session on 'Regeneration and genetic transformation' whereas Dr. Anuradha was rapporteur for the session on 'Bioinformatics'.

- Dr. D. S. Yadav and Mrs. S. Shalini attended the interactive meeting of Mealybugs conducted at IIHR, Bangalore and NBAll, Bangalore on 5-6th December 2009.
- Dr. P. G. Adsule, Dr. G. S. Karibasappa, Dr. S. D. Sawant, Dr. R. G. Somkuwar, Dr. A. K. Upadhyay, Dr. D. S. Yadav participated in the XIXth Group Workers Meeting of AICRP on Subtropical Fruits (Grapes), held at Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Maharashtra during 14-17th December 2009. Dr. P. G. Adsule chaired all technical sessions of grape.
- Dr. Indu S. Sawant attended the two day interactive meeting on 'Tools and Machinery for Development of Horticulture' on 18-19th December 2009 at CPCRI, Kasargod and presented the needs of the Centre.
- Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay participated in workshop cum training on 'Bioinformatics applications in crop science' organized by Unit of Simulation and Informatics (USI), IARI, New Delhi during 21-23rd December 2009.
- Dr. Indu S. Sawant attended the AMAAS half yearly review meeting on 9th January 2010 at National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms, Mau.
- Dr. Indu S. Sawant and Dr. S.D. Sawant attend the

consultative meeting on 'Disease Diagnostics for Horticultural Crops' on 22-24th January 2010 at NRC for Banana, Trichy and presented the diagnostic requirements for grapes.

- Dr. A. K. Sharma attended a seminar on Food Processing Opportunities on 24-25th February 2010 at Sun and Sand Hotel, Pune. The seminar was jointly organized by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and NIFTEM.
- Dr. R. G. Somkuwar attended a National Conference on 'Production of Quality Seeds and Planting material - Health Management in Horticultural Crops' organized by Society for Promotion of Horticulture, Bangalore during 11-14th March 2010 at New Delhi.
- Dr. Indu S. Sawant attended the symposium on 'Advances in Plant Disease Management' on 12th March 2010 at IISR, Lucknow and presented a paper on 'Biological control of *Phytophthora* root rot in citrus and post-harvest decay in grapes by *Trichoderma harzianum* - success stories'.
- Dr. Indu S. Sawant attended the first annual progress review meeting of the Out Reach Programmes on 'Diagnosis and management of leaf spot diseases of field and horticultural crops' and '*Phytophthora*, *Fusarium* and *Ralstonia* diseases of horticultural and field crops' at NASC Complex, New Delhi, on 15-16th March 2010 and presented the annual progress report.

Human Resource Development

Deputation Abroad

Dr. A. K. Sharma attended three months training programme on 'Fermentation technology in horticulture (winemaking)' during 1st October to 31st December 2009 at Research Centre Geisenheim (Forschungsanstalt Geisenheim), Germany. This training was sponsored by NAIP under the HRD programme of Component I.

Training Programmes Organized

A training programme on 'Transfer of Technology for Production of Export Quality Grapes' was organized on 12-13th November 2009. Fifteen participants were benefited by the programme. The programme was sponsored by M/s Mahindra Shubhlabh Services Ltd., Pune. Dr. S. D. Ramteke coordinated the programme.

Training Acquired

Dr. G. S. Karibasappa attended training-cum-workshop of ZITMC held at Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur on 5-6th March 2010.

Training Given

- Dr. Indu S. Sawant and Dr. S. D. Sawant delivered guest

lectures on 'Biological control by *Trichoderma* in horticultural crops- success stories' and 'Disease management in horticulture crops' respectively, to M. Sc. students of Shivaji University, Kolhapur on 22nd February 2010.

- Dr. Indu S. Sawant and Dr. S. D. Sawant delivered invited lectures on 'Problems and Prospects of use of *Trichoderma* in management of diseases in fruit crops' and 'Disease forecasting based management of diseases of horticultural crops with special reference to grapes' respectively, on 13th February 2010 to the participants of Summer School training on 'Integrated pest and disease management in fruit crops in coastal ecosystem' at BSKKV, Dapoli.

हिन्दी कार्यशाला

संस्थान में 29 जनवरी 2010 को एक दिवसीय हिन्दी कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। श्री आर. पी. वर्मा, सहायक निदेशक हिन्दी शिक्षण योजना, ने हिन्दी कार्य के कंप्यूटरीकरण से सम्बन्धित विभिन्न सॉफ्टवेयर की जानकारी दी।

Meetings Held

Research Advisory Committee Meeting

The Twelfth meeting of the Research Advisory committee of NRC, Grapes was held on 17-18th March 2010 under the chairmanship of Dr. K. L. Chadha, Former DDG (Hort.), ICAR, New Delhi.

The Committee reviewed the progress of ongoing research projects along with the action taken report on the recommendations of previous RAC. They also had a round of the laboratories and farm to see the ongoing activities.

The Committee was taken to nearby M/s Bafna Farms to show the excellent performance of Manjri Naveen, a clone from Centennial Seedless which gets desired berry quality with minimum use of GA₃ as it is self thinning and has bold berries. They were also shown the performance of Fantasy Seedless, an introduced variety from USA, and found suitable for export. The Committee were shown the performance of both varieties on Dog Ridge and 110R rootstocks. They also interacted with some of the stakeholders on current issues.

Institute Research Committee Meeting

The mid-term meeting of Institute Research Committee of NRC Grapes, Pune was convened on 19-20th January

2010 under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director. The progress of the research projects along with the action taken report on the recommendations of previous IRC and RAC was presented by the project leaders. New project proposals were also presented.

Institute Management Committee Meeting

27th IMC meeting was held on 25th February 2010 under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director. Issues related to ongoing infrastructure activities and revenue generation were discussed.

Advisory Committee Meeting of NRL

Second Advisory Committee meeting of the APEDA-NRL was organized on 25th March 2010 under the Chairmanship of Dr C. D. Mayee, Chairman, ASRB. The other members who attended this meeting included Dr. S. P. Ghosh (Former DDG (Hort.), ICAR; Dr. A. G. Sawant (Former Chairman and Member ASRB) and Dr P. Dureja (Emeritus Scientist, Division of Agril. Chemicals, IARI). The Committee appreciated the time-bound implementation of the action points decided in the 1st meeting held on 4-5th August 2006.

Celebrations

Republic Day

The Centre celebrated Republic Day on 26th January

with joy and splendour. Dr. P.G. Adsule, Director, hoisted the flag.

Visitors

- A team of France delegation visited the Institute on 14th January 2010 to assess the progress made in trial on 'Evaluation of Cabernet Sauvignon grafted on different rootstocks' and 'Evaluation different wine varieties under Indian condition', a collaborative project of INDO-

FRANCE government.

- Mr. Rajiv Mehrishi, Additional Secretary, DARE and Secretary, ICAR, New Delhi visited the Institute on 27th January 2010.

Technical folders and Bulletins

- Importance of training system in grape cultivation (in Marathi). 2010. Somkuwar R. G. Extension Bulletin No. 5.
- How to raise grape vineyard. (in Marathi). 2009. Somkuwar R. G. Extension Folder No. 32.
- Preparation of nursery plants (in Marathi). 2010. Somkuwar R. G., Taware P. B., Upadhyay A. K. and Adsule P. G. Ext. Folder No. 33.

- Back pruning in Grapes (in Marathi). 2010. Somkuwar R. G., Upadhyay A. K. Sharma J., Ramteke S. D., Sawant S. D., Kulkarni N. S., Adsule P. G. and Taware P. B. Extension Folder No. 34.
- Manjri Naveen. 2010. Karibasappa G. S. Extension Bulletin No. 35.
- Red Globe. 2010. Karibasappa G. S. Extension Bulletin No. 36.

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