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CENTRAL COTTON RESEARCH INSTITUTE, MULTAN

Pakistan Central Cotton Committee
Ministry of National Food Security & Research
Old Shuja Abad Road, Multan, Pakistan

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Exposure Visit of Master Trainers and Cotton Farmers from Sindh

A group of 24 Master Trainers and 22 small farmers from WWF-Pakistan, Nara Canal, District Khairpurmirs, Sindh visited CCRI Multan on 10.12.18 and 24.12.18 respectively. The Master Trainers group was supervised by Mr. Ghulam Hussain Mallah under the WWF-Pakistan' 3-year project "Indus Ecoregion Community Livelihood Project (IECLP)". The exposure visit aimed to provide cross learning of farming practices to farmers for its replication at the ground level. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director, CCRI Multan briefed the delegation about cotton research and development activities carried out by the Institute. Cotton production technology material prepared in Urdu and English languages was also distributed among the members for their guidance. The delegation later visited laboratories, experimental cotton fields and mechanical cotton picker.



Cotton Research & Development Board Meeting

A meeting of the Cotton Research & Development Board of Punjab held the Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan on 24-12-2018 under the chairmanship of Mr. Sohail Mehmood Harral, Chairman, Cotton Research & Development Board, Multan. The meeting deliberated upon cotton research and development activities during the year 2018 and measures to be adopted in 2019 crop season in the Punjab province. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan attended the meeting and apprised the house



on the collaborative efforts for the development of Cotton Production Plan, training programs for field staff of Agriculture Extension, Pest Warning Departments, private pesticide/seed industry, NGOs and especially the farmers conducted by the Institute during the period. He further apprised that such collaborative programs must also be continued during the coming season for the betterment of cotton crop in the province.

Collaborative Program on Colored Cotton

CCRI Multan is working for the development of colored cotton on regular basis and the scientists have successfully evolved colored cotton with a staple length of 28mm and beyond with different color shades (light brown, brown, light green and dark brown). To explore the feasibility of growing naturally-grown colored cotton with its varying color shades, Mr. Ejaz Sheikh, Consultant, EMS R&D Solutions Ltd., England, visited CCRI Multan on 28.11.2018. Mr. Ejaz Sheikh who is working on a project “Water Pollution Prevention” with an objective of preventing water-borne diseases, preserving fast receding precious resource of drinkable water by using less and preventing



contaminated water going back into water bed to pollute the rest, reducing pollution, global warming and carbon footprint, earn Pakistan and community prestigious place in the world. While, exploring the potential for developing naturally-colored cotton for development of 10-12 colors of Organic Colored Cotton (Cost, Time etc) for the guaranteed successful outcome. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director, CCRI Multan offered to participate in such collaborative arrangements for developing naturally-colored cotton with different color shades. Mr. Ilyas Sarwar, Head, Fibre Technology Technology briefed about various quality testing phases for colored cotton production. Mr. Ejaz Sheikh was impressed with the research & development work related to colored cotton and hoped that mutual collaboration will benefit in exploring more colors as well as the market for the colored cotton.

Inspection of Field Performance of Approved Cotton Varieties

Mr. Asif Rasool, Deputy Director, FSCRD, Multan inspecting field performance of approved cotton varieties for tagging by the Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department. The sixteen cotton varieties including 08 Bt varieties e.g., Bt.CIM-598, Bt.CIM-599, Bt.CIM-600, Bt.CIM-602, Bt.CIM-632, Bt.Cyto-177, Bt.Cyto-178, Bt.Cyto-179, and eight non-Bt varieties e.g., Cyto-124, CIM-554, CIM-620, CIM-707, CIM-496, CIM-610, CIM-506, CIM-534. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director, CCRI Multan along with Breeding and Cytogenetics researchers are also accompanied.



Visit of Director, Foreign Linkages "China Farm Good Seed", China

Mr. Xu Zhiyong, Director of Foreign Linkages "China Farm Good Seed", Hubei, P.R. China along with other delegates including Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed, Dean, FAS, MNSUA Multan, Dr. Tassawar Hussain Malik, Director Research PCCC and Mr. Shafiq ur Rahman, Kissan Seed Corporation visiting laboratories, meteorological observatory, cold room and cotton fields at the Institute. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the delegates about cotton varietal development program, storage of germplasm on the short and long-term basis, and performance of promising lines at the Institute. The visitors appreciated the research work.



Visit of Various Dignitaries

Nazeer Ahmad Khan Baloch, MPA, Lodhran

Mr. Nazeer Ahmad Khan Baloch, MPA (PP-228), Lodhran, Peer Raza Shah Gillani, Chairman, Union Council, Lodhran, Mian Muhammad Kamil Jhandheer, Chairman, Union Council, Lodhran visited CCRI Multan on 01.12.2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed about the cotton varietal developmental program at the Institute. Mr. Nazeer Baloch, MPA appreciated the research work.



Delegation from Pakistan Kissan Ittehad

Mr. Khalid Khokhar, President, Pakistan Kissan Ittehad and Mr. Asif Majeed, President, Evyol Group visited CCRI Multan on December 21, 2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the visiting delegate about activities of the Institute for cotton research and development. Moreover, the team also proposed various measures for enhancing cotton productivity as well as supporting farmers in the country.



CEO, Arysta LifeScience, Pakistan

Mr. Ali Naeem, Chief Executive Officer, Arysta LifeScience Pakistan along with company delegation visited CCRI Multan on 07.12.2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the delegation about cotton research and development activities. Later, they visited cotton fields, reviewed performance of mechanical cotton picker at the Institute.

Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar MNA, Multan

Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar MNA (NA-155) Multan, Chief Whip, National Assembly of Pakistan, visited CCRI Multan on 22-12-18. Dr. Zahid Mahmood briefed about the cotton varietal developmental program, field of upcoming cotton varieties and performance of mechanical cotton picker at the Institute.



Performance Review

PARB Projects

Mr. Abdul Rehman, Research Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, PARB, Lahore visited CCRI Multan on 28.11.18 to review the performance of PARB-funded projects.. Dr. Rabia Saeed, Head, Entomology presented the detailed briefing on research and development activities.

Mechanical Cotton Picker

Mr. Ghulam Siddique, Director, Agricultural Mechanization Research Institute (AMRI), Multan reviewing the performance of Mechanical Cotton Picker at CCRI Multan on 20.12.2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefing the team about the performance of the picker.



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