

CCRI NEWS

Central Cotton Research Institute Multan.



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

[ccrim.pk](https://www.facebook.com/ccrim.pk) ccri.gov.pk

World Cotton Day Celebrations

The year 2019 led to launch the initiative of declaring World Cotton Day by the ICAC and WTO, followed by events and celebrations around the world commemorating the importance of cotton crop. Hopefully, the 7th October will soon be declared as the UN World Cotton Day. All of us dedicated to the cause of cotton improvement should be happy with such an international acknowledgement and recognition of cotton crop.

Pakistan being a leading cotton producing country holds responsibility to showcase solidarity with world cotton community. Cotton is not only the lifeline for Pakistan's economy but also has a unique association with mankind. Cotton plant is used in many ways. The lint is used in hundreds of items other than clothing; from currency notes to sails of floating ships or ropes of the anchored ship, seed for cooking oil and meal for livestock; sticks for making boards or burning in stoves and trash as fuel for kilns. It does not stop here and protein is extracted for human and animal consumption and linters to blend manmade fiber and so on so forth.

World Cotton Day celebrations on 7th October primarily aims to educate target audiences on the many advantages of cotton from its qualities as a natural fiber to the many benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption around the world. There are countless ways we can show support for the world's most natural fibre and participate in programs for awareness of community and dissemination of information about the importance of cotton. The program or event could be a seminar, debate, posters or brochures on importance of cotton highlighting farmers and industry perspective and also recognizing people who contributed in cotton improvement.

CCRI, Multan is also going to celebrate this day with full enthusiasm. The program will encompass with a cotton walk, farmers' gathering, exhibition stalls, school-children participation in debates, viewpoints from industry and other stakeholders on the importance of cotton crop.

CCMG Meeting

The 3rd meeting of the Cotton Crop Management Group for the crop season 2020 was held at CCRI Multan under the chairmanship of Mr. Nauman Ahmad Langrial, Minister for Agriculture Punjab. Mr. Wasif Ali Khurshed, Secretary Agriculture Punjab and Mr. Saqib Ali Ateel, Secretary Agriculture, South Punjab also co-chaired the meeting. Agriculture officials, representative from pesticide and seed companies, farmers association attended the meeting. Cotton crop condition, insect pests and disease situation, irrigation water availability and other matters related to provision of subsidy on whitefly specific pesticides, seed, and fertilizers, farmers training programs, crop management under rains, were discussed in detail. Representatives of Pesticide companies assured the required quantity of cotton-pest specific pesticide during the remaining cotton season. Farmers organization complained about the loadshedding, extra billing, low quality pesticides and their mixing, seed quality and germination problems hampering cotton productivity. Agriculture Minister Punjab assured the farmer members for redressal of issues pertaining to cotton production and marketing, pesticide quality, prices and availability for enhancing the cotton production.

An honorary shield was also awarded to Prof Dr Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, MNSUA Multan from CCRI Multan, upon receiving award of 'Tamgha-e-Imtiaz'.



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Mr. Ali Arshad, Additional Secretary (Task Force), Agriculture Department Punjab chairing the Technical Advisory Committee meeting held at CCRI Multan on 27.08.2020.

Mr. Bilal Israel, Chairman, Cotton R&D Board, Punjab; Dr. Saghir Ahmad, Director Cotton Punjab; Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan along with other representatives and officials attended the meeting. The Committee devised management strategy of cotton crop during the next fortnight.



Visit of Chairman, Cotton Research & Development Board, Punjab

Mr. Bilal Israel, Chairman, Cotton Research & Development Board, Punjab visited cotton fields at the Institute. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed about the performance of upcoming strains. Mr. Bilal Israel appreciated the research work conducted by the Institute in the field of varietal development and introducing mechanical cotton picking.





Farmers Advisory Committee Meeting

The Farmers Advisory Committee (FAC) of CCRI Multan held a meeting to devise cotton crop management strategy for the fortnight of September 15-30, 2020. The Committee reviewed the overall cotton crop condition and opined that the intensity of whitefly was observed more in cotton growing areas. The cotton crop development is at full stage now with maximum number of fruit bearing. The Committee advised the farmers to continue applying fertilizer and irrigation to the cotton crop at this stage. September is the crucial month for cotton crop and efforts should be made to save each single boll. Farmers were also advised for adopting clean picking practices in areas where picking has started.



Visit of Cotton Classers from PCSI, Multan

A group of 14 Classers from Pakistan Cotton Standards Institute (PCSI) Multan led by Mian Muhammad Nasir Ali, Officer Incharge, PCSI Regional Office Multan visited CCRI Multan on September 15, 2020. The trainees were briefed about various activities carried out by the Institute. Later the participants visited cotton fields, stores and labs at the Institute.



Meeting of Punjab Seed Corporation

Meeting of the Punjab Seed Corporation for Procurement of Kharif Crops held at Lahore under the chairmanship of Dr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Managing Director, Punjab Seed Corporation. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director, CCRI Multan attended the meeting and apprised the house about cotton crop situation in the Punjab province. He also stated the situation of insect pests and disease and the advisory program carried out by the Institute.



Pink Bollworm Project Meeting at Faisalabad

A meeting of the Pink Bollworm Project funded by the PARB Punjab held on 08.09.2020 under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Jalal Arif, Entomology Department, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. Dr. Rabia Saeed, Head, Entomology attended the meeting.





Annual Review of Cotton Experiments

The performance of research trials conducted by the Plant Breeding & Genetic Section and Cytogenetics Section during the cotton season 2020 was reviewed. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan along with all the scientific and technical staff visited experimental blocks, greenhouse and laboratory work. The respective Sectional Head briefed about the results of studies conducted. The research and development activities focused on climate resilient varieties, insect pests & disease tolerant varieties, excellent fibre quality and yield characteristics, colored cotton program. The experiments on high density trials was also reviewed. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan stressed the scientists for evolution of varieties with desirable fibre characteristics, high yielding with low inputs requirements. He stated that the coming varieties have potential to uplift cotton production in the country.



Central Cotton Research Institute, Old Shuja Abad Road, Multan

Phone: 92-61-9201128, Fax: 92-61-9200342,
Web: www.ccri.gov.pk Email: ccri.multan@yahoo.com