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CENTRAL COTTON RESEARCH INSTITUTE, MULTAN

Pakistan Central Cotton Committee
Ministry of Commerce & Textile Industry
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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Cotton Crop Management Group Meeting

1st meeting of Cotton Crop Management Group (CCMG)-2018 was held at CCRI Multan on April 4, 2018 under the chairmanship of Cap. (R) Muhammad Mahmood, Secretary Agriculture Punjab. Ms Benish Fatima, Additional Secretary, Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan, representative from agriculture research, extension, education, federal plant protection, seed certification, canal irrigation, MEPCO, Pakistan Meteorological Department, All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, pesticide associations, and progressive farmers attended the meeting. The scientists of CCRI Multan were involved in various sub-committees formed for devising recommendations, weekly advisory for farmers, drafting and circulation of minutes and issuance of letters to the concerned departments and follow up for implementation of decisions taken in the meeting.



The sowing of cotton crop was targeted at 6.00 million acres with a production of 10.00 million bales during crop season 2018-19 for the Punjab province. Secretary Agriculture Punjab stated that subsidy will also be provided on DAP and all phosphatic fertilizers. Moreover, efforts will also be made to ensure timely inputs supply to the farmers. Committees including Irrigation Department and MEPCO officials were formed for supply of canal irrigation water and electricity at the critical stage of plant growth. Extensive farmers training campaign, weekly mega farmers' gatherings in collaboration with fertilizer and pesticide sector were also planned to be carried out during the season. Secretary Agriculture also announced the Cotton Yield Competition-2018 for the farmers and stated that cotton prices will also be better during the season and all stakeholders must work united for enhancing cotton productivity in the province.

Dunya Kissan Dost Mela

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan co-chairing the Technical Session of Agricultural Expo & Conference on 2nd day of "Dunya Kissan Dost Mela" at BZU, Multan. He also briefed the visiting honorable delegates Mr. Jamshed Ahmed Dasti, MNA, Syed Javed Hashmi, Mr. Ehsanuddin Qureshi, MNA, progressive cotton growers & other visitors at CCRI Stall.



Malik Muhammad Rafique Rajwana, Governor of the Punjab along with Syed Javed Ali Shah, Federal Minister for Water Resources, and Prof. Dr Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, MNSUA Multan visited stall of CCRI Multan at the occasion of "Dunya Kissan Dost Mela - Agricultural Expo & Conference 2018" held on March 30, 2018 organized by Dunya TV and Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan. Mr. Sajid Mahmood, SO, Technology Transfer Section of the Institute briefing the honorable guests about cotton research and development activities carried out by the Institute.



Seminar "Profitable Cotton Production"

Fauji Fertilizer Company (Pvt) Ltd organized series of seminars "Profitable Cotton Production" at Vehari on 5th 10th April, 2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan delivered talk on "Cotton varieties and their characteristics" and Dr. Rabia Saeed, Head, Entomology talked about "Insect Pests Management". Progressive farmers of the area attended the programs.



Visit of CEO, SWRDO, Rajan Pur

Mrs Narjis Ashfaq, Chief Executive Officer, Sangtani Women Rural Development Organization (SWRDO), Rajan Pur visited CCRI Multan on April 12, 2018 with regard to finalization of collaborative activities for initiation of Better Cotton Production Program and training of farmers in district Rajan Pur. Dr. Khalid Abdullah, Vice President PCCC; Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan and Dr. Fiaz Ahmad, Coordinator (Punjab), BCI Project also present.



Insect Pests Survey

Mr. Junaid Ali Khan Dahi, Scientific Officer Entomology conducting field survey on April 2, 2018 in Khanewal, Mianchannu, Chichawatni, Kamalia, Rajana, Faisalabad for the collection of Whitefly, PBW & ABW including other Insect pests from Vegetables, Tunnels & Nurseries. Recommendations were also given to growers for control of insect pests.



Seminar "Care the Natural Fibre Farm to Fabric"

Mr. Ilyas Sarwar, Head, Fibre Technology Section giving talk "Importance of Cotton Fibre Parameters with Special Reference to Processing" in a seminar "Care the Natural Fibre - Farm to Fabric" organized by WWF-Pakistan on March 30, 2018 at University College of Textile Engineering, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan.



Training of Farmers "Pakistan Farmers Forum"

The team of scientists from CCRI Multan comprising Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director; Dr. Muhammad Idrees Khan, Head Plant Breeding and Mr. Junaid Khan Dahi, Scientific Officer Entomology visited the farmers gathering at 124/7-ER, Mian Channu organized by the "Pakistan Farmers Forum" on 07.04.2018. Farmers were guided about cotton varieties and their features and insect pests management. Nawab Farahatullah Khan, Chairman of the forum appreciated the role of scientists for farmers' guidance.



Training Program for C-4 countries

Pakistan, being 4th largest cotton growing country, has offered a 15-days training program under Technical Assistance for C-4 countries. The visit of 12 delegates from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Benin (4 Ambassadors and 8 scientists or high officials) started from April 22 to May 5, 2018. Pakistan intends to introduce cotton value chain and showcase expertise and achievements to the participants to explore

future partnership in technical assistance in identified areas. The scientists of CCRI Multan will impart training to the visiting delegates in areas of integrated pest management, cotton leaf curl virus management, cotton wild species and germplasm and fibre properties and testing. The participants will also visit cotton research, education and extension institutions, ginning, spinning and textile units of the area, and seed / pesticide associations.

Training Program “GMO, FLO/Organic Standards”

CCRI Multan organized one-day training program “GMO, FLO/Organic Standards” the April 16, 2018 for the contracted farmers from Basti Jandheerwala, Bara Salata, Muzafargarh and representatives of South Asian Sourcing (SAS) Pvt. Ltd., from Sialkot and Islamabad. The SAS established supply chain from farms to the warehouse and comply with the International Fair Trade Standards (proof of Non GMO, trade name of fertilizers, pesticides and production technology for growing non-GMO cotton to enhance yield). The SAS has sub-contracted a Ginning Unit and plan to engage a Knitting unit for Socks/Hosiery as additional Entity under FLO certification process. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the participants about cotton varietal development, production technology, cultivation of GMO cotton and parameters of producing organic cotton in the country. The scientists of CCRI Multan also gave lectures on various aspects of cotton production technology. The participants were later visited field and laboratories of the Institute.



Inauguration of Wheat Harvesting 2018

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan inaugurated the wheat harvesting with traditional sickle and later by harvester at the farm of CCRI Multan. He stated that CCRI Multan being the role model for farmers in improving farm productivity will continue playing its role in enhancing agriculture production.



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