

February, 2018

CENTRAL COTTON RESEARCH INSTITUTE, MULTAN



Pakistan Central Cotton Committee
Ministry of Commerce & Textile Industry
Old Shuja Abad Road, Multan, Pakistan

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) for Cotton Research & Development

i) WWF Pakistan and CCRI Multan

CCRI Multan inking an MoU with WWF Pakistan for jointly undertaking activities to develop and demonstrate sustainable practices to preserve natural attributes of cotton fiber at production and processing level. Both the partners will endeavor to involve each other in areas of mutual interest without any additional liabilities except as covered by this agreement. CCRI Multan will provide technical support to recommend appropriate cotton varieties with improved fiber quality characteristics, provide technical data of relevant research studies, translate research findings for dissemination among different supply chain actors from farm till ginning, provide technical support to develop and review standards for harvest and post-harvest practices, provide technical support to develop communication material, conduct trainings in collaboration with WWF-Pakistan on fiber quality preservation techniques for cotton supply chain actors, host seminars/workshops, and provide fibre testing facility as well. Whereas, WWF Pakistan will provide support for the technical resource persons/ trainers' boarding lodging and refreshment during trainings; as and when required, bear costs of producing communication material i.e. booklets, leaflets etc. pertaining to sustainable quality preservation techniques, organize seminars, workshops to focus the attention of relevant stakeholders' on sustainable fiber quality preservation techniques at different levels of supply chain.



ii) EMS R&D Solutions Ltd, England

Central Cotton Research Institute, 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 feasibility of growing naturally-grown colored cotton with its varying color shades, Skype meeting was organized between Mr. Ejaz Sheikh, Consultant, EMS R&D SOLUTIONS LTD, England, Prof Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture (MNSUA), Multan and Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan. 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 potential for developing naturally-colored cotton for development of 10-12 colors of Organic Colored Cotton (Cost, Time etc) for guaranteed successful outcome. CCRI Multan offered to participate in such collaborative arrangements for developing naturally-colored cotton with different color shades.



Extension of “Pak-US Cotton Productivity Enhancement Project – CCRIM Component”

The project “Pak-US Cotton Productivity Enhancement-CCRIM Component” has been extended for another one year i.e., January-December 2018. The project aims for evolution of cotton leaf curl virus (CLCuV) resistant varieties with the help of USDA cotton germplasm being provided under the project. The Institute will carry out activities i.e., USDA cotton germplasm having CLCuV resistance/ tolerance will be ratooned for the purpose of flower induction, ginning and fiber analysis of all the resistant/tolerant cotton germplasm, submission of two cotton varieties (One Bt and Non-Bt each) for testing under various agro-ecological zones in National Coordinated Varietal Trials (NCVT) of the PCCC to be conducted during 2018 -19, CLCuV infestation data will be recorded after 30, 60, 90 & 120 days after rationing, selfing of resistant/tolerant lines (Mac-07, DNWC-1324 and others) to get true-type seed, germplasm preservation at Cold Room of CCRI Multan for short, medium and long term.

Cotton Varieties of CCRI Multan for Cultivation in 2018 -19

Variety	Nature	Remarks
CIM-620	Non Bt.	Early Maturing, High Yielding & Highly CLCuV Tolerant
CIM-496	Non Bt.	Early Maturing with High Yield Potential For CLCuV Free Area
CIM-554	Non Bt.	High Yielding & CLCuV Tolerant
CIM-573	Non Bt.	Early Maturing, High Yielding & Highly CLCuV Tolerant with Best Fibre Traits
CIM-610	Non Bt.	Early Maturing & High Yielding
Cyto-124	Non Bt.	Highly CLCuV Tolerant With High Yield Potential
Bt. CIM-598	Bt.	Highly Tolerant To Jassid, Early Maturing With Desirable Fibre Traits
Bt. CIM-599	Bt.	Early Maturing With High Yield Potential
Bt. CIM-602	Bt.	Early Maturing With High Yield Potential With Wider Adaptability
Bt. Cyto-177	Bt.	Early Maturing With High Yield Potential
Bt. Cyto-178	Bt.	Early Maturing, High Yielding & High CLCuV Tolerant
Bt. Cyto-179	Bt.	Early Maturing With High Yield Potential & High CLCuV Tolerant
Bt. CIM-632	Bt.	Early Maturing With High Yield Potential & Highly CLCuV Tolerant

Note: All the varieties are suitable for Cotton Wheat rotation which could ensure the staple food and fibre requirements of the country.

“Cotton Mission 2025-Punjab”

A three-day consultative meeting on “Cotton Mission 2025” was held at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture (MNSUA) on February 20, 2018. Mr. Moazzam A. Sheikh, CEO, Sanifa Pakistan chaired the meeting. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan also attended meeting of the “Cotton Mission 2025-Punjab”. The matters discussed during the meeting included ways of working in developing a cotton seed variety / genotypes, current SOPs / benchmark / quality standard, identify the barriers to develop and bring the new germplasm with reliable and consistent performance, bring diversity in the existing germplasm to overcome the performance challenges, develop a strong pipeline of products with proper visibility and desired characteristics and use of biotechnology. All stakeholders including agri scientists, researchers, farmers, representatives of seed companies and cotton industry agreed upon devising a comprehensive strategy for betterment of cotton in collaboration with the government. The meeting identified the issues faced by the crop and considered short- and long-term proposals to solve these problems. Five groups were constituted for Cotton Mission 2025 including Cotton Production Group, Cotton Protection Group, Seed Marketing, Pest Harvesting & Value Addition Group and Seed Technology Group. On the second day of the meeting, seed technology and on the third day sessions of Cotton Production and Protection was held.

Cotton researchers from public and private sector, academicians, and progressive farmers attended the meeting.



Pre-Season Insect Pests Survey

Mr. Junaid Ali Khan, Scientific Officer along with field staff of Entomology Section conducted field survey on February 20-21 and 28, 2018 for collection of samples for whitefly and other insect pests from vegetables in tunnels, nurseries and weeds in Khanewal (Perowal, Kacha Khu), Vehari (Mailsi, Dhanote, Karor Pacca), Bahawalpur, Lodhran and DG Khan districts. The team also advised for proper insect pests management.



Cotton Quality Survey 2017-18

Mr. Muhammad Ilyas Sarwar, Head and Mr. Danish Iqbal, Scientific Officer Fibre Technology Section of the Institute conducted Cotton Quality Survey of cotton crop 2017-18 in 09 cotton growing districts (Multan, Toba Tek Singh, Faisalabad, D.G. Khan, R.Y. Khan, Bahawalpur, Sahiwal, Lodhran and Jhang) of the Punjab province. The survey was conducted to ascertain the overall cotton fibre quality of the region grown commercially through lint sample collection from the cotton ginning factories of the respective areas. For the purpose 851 samples were drawn from 211 ginning factories. The surveyed results of fibre quality parameters were compiled and also shared with the concerned ginning industry and other stakeholders in the value chain.



Preparation of Annual Report 2017 and Plan of Work 2018

The scientists remained involved during month of February for compilation of results of various experiments conducted during crop season 2017. The compilation of results (progress of various experiments, statistical and fibre analysis) for the Annual Summary Progress Report 2017 was finalized and the report is at printing stage. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan also advised the scientists to plan and devise next year cotton research trials keeping in view the changing climate, pests and disease situation. Moreover, the experiments must also be planned for evolving cotton varieties with improved fibre characteristics which may especially lead to reducing the overall cost of production for the farmers for growing of cotton crop.

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Review Meeting of "Cotton Production Plan 2018-19"

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director, CCRI Multan attended the Production Plan Review meeting of "Cotton Production Plan 2018-19" held on 26.02.2018 under the chairmanship of Capt.(R) Muhammad Mahmood, Secretary Agriculture Punjab. A presentation was also given on "Cotton Production Plan 2018-19" by Ch. Abdul Ghaffor, Director Agriculture Coordination (Farms & Training), Punjab, Lahore. Dr. Zahid Mahmood proposed various measures for improvement and fine-tuning of cotton production technology brochures, stressed for continuation of off-season management of Pink bollworm and regular participation of scientists from CCRI Multan in farmers training programs organized by the Agriculture Extension Department.

Participation in International Cotton Conference

Ms Asia Perveen, Scientific Officer, Plant Physiology/Chemistry Section participated in the 13th Meeting of the Inter-Regional Cooperative Research Network on Cotton for the Mediterranean and Middle East Regions held in Luxor, Egypt from February 2-6, 2018. The meeting was jointly organized by the International Cotton Advisory Committee, USA. She also presented paper titled "Heat Tolerance in Cotton Cultivars: Physiological and Morphological Aspects" in the meeting. More than 250 researchers from various cotton growing countries attended the meeting.



Visit of Foreign Delegates

A delegation of academicians and researchers from Australia (Prof. Richard Trethowan) and UK (Prof. Chris Tapesel, Dr. Jacob Lage, Dr. Nickbird) and MNSUA Multan visited CCRI Multan. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed about the cotton research and development activities of the Institute to the participants. The visiting delegation commended the research contributions of the Institute in cotton research and development in the country.

Farewell Party

The officers of CCRI Multan arranged a farewell party for Ms Rehana Anjum, Senior Scientific Officer/Head, Cytogenetics Section who was transferred from CCRI Multan to CCRI Sakrand and Welcome Party was also arranged for Dr. Khyzer Hayat, Scientific Officer, Cytogenetics who has joined back his duty after completion of his PhD from Turkey. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan appreciated the commendable contribution of Ms Rehana in cotton research activities and hoped for her better future. Ms Rehana thanked the Director and staff for their cooperation and encouragement in conducting research programs.

Visit of Students

Student of BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Plant Breeding & Genetics) 8th Semester from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad along with Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kashif and Dr. Amir Shakeel, Assistant Professor; and Dr. Humaira Razzaq, Lecturer visited CCRI Multan on February 1, 2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the students about cotton R&D activities especially cotton varietal development program carried out at the Institute. Later, the class was visited fields and stores of the Institute.

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