

July, 2018



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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Visit of Agriculture Minister Punjab

Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, Minister for Agriculture, Punjab visited CCRI Multan on 06.07.2018. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed about activities and achievements of the Institute. Later the Minister also visited various departments i.e., Fibre Technology, Entomology and Transfer of Technology. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan explained that the Fibre Technology Section test/analyze > 100,000 lint samples annually with state-of-the art advanced equipments including High Volume Instrument (HVI). Dr. Rabia Saeed, Head, Entomology briefed about insect pest management, insecticide resistance and Pink bollworm management programs. Mr. Sajid Mahmood, Transfer of Technology explained about farmers training programs, TeleCotton, print and electronic media and production of pamphlets. The Minister appreciated role of CCRI Multan for excellent coordination and liaison with stakeholders including grower and the industry.



Training Program for Agriculture Research & Extension officials from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochsitan

CCRI Multan organized two-days training program on Cotton Production Technology for the agriculture research & extension officials from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochsitan provinces on July 17-18, 2018. Ten officials attended the program. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the participants about cotton research and development activities carried out by the Institute. Lectures on cotton agronomy, varietal development and plant protection were also delivered to the participants.

Moreover, participants also visited laboratories and cotton field experiments planted by various sections of the Institute as well. They also appreciated the research work conducted by the Institute and extending training facility to the researchers from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.



3rd Cotton Crop Management Group (CCMG) Meeting

The 3rd meeting of the CCMG was held at CCRI, Multan on 06.07.2018 under the chairmanship of Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, Minister for Agriculture, Punjab. Current cotton crop situation was discussed. Cotton area was targeted at 6.00 million acres with a production of 10.00 million bales for 2018-19. Cotton has been sown on an area of 5.659 million acres against 5.073 million acres during same period last year in the Punjab, which is 11.55% more than last year. Inputs supply position was anticipated satisfactory. Farmers complained about shortage of irrigation water, excessive electricity billing and higher prices of pesticides. Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, Minister for Agriculture Punjab assured the farmers to solve issues related with cotton production. He stated that the government is spending billions of rupees under Kisan Package for enhancing crops productivity. He stated that government is now taking measures for construction of dams for ensuring water availability for future requirement. He also stated that committee comprising of APTMA, Ginners and Farmers will be formed to formulate policy for supporting cotton farmers.



Dr. Wasif Khurshid, Secretary Agriculture Punjab; Ms Benish Fatima, Additional Secretary (Task Force), Agriculture Department, Government of the Punjab, Dr. Khalid Abdullah, Cotton Commissioner, MNFSR, Islamabad; Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI, Multan; Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, MNSUA, and all other cotton stakeholders attended the meeting.

Technical Working Group Meeting

A meeting of the Technical Working Group was held at AARI Faisalabad on 04.07.2018 under the chairmanship of Ms Benish Fatima, Additional Secretary (Task Force) to discuss and finalize pesticide recommendations for the current cotton crop season. Dr. Rabia Saeed, Head, Entomology CCRI Multan attended the meeting and presented list of pest-specific pesticides recommended for cotton crop during the season. She also stated that the Institute is conducting Insecticide Resistance Management for testing efficacy of pesticide against pests and most effective pesticide are recommended to the cotton growers for spray application. Moreover, she also informed about the training programs conducted by the Institute for the field staff of Agriculture Extension & Plant Protection Staff as well as for the farmers, for management of Pink bollworm especially installation of PB Ropes in the field.



Training Program for the Field Officers of Pesticide/Seed Industry

CCRI Multan organized one-day refresher course/training program for the field staff of pesticide, seed industry & NGOs on 23rd July, 2018. Scientists of CCRI Multan delivered lectures on cotton agronomy, varietal development, insect pests management, cotton diseases, plant nutrition and soil health management. A field demonstration for PB Rope installation was also held. Printed material including training manual, brochures on insect pests & their management was also distributed among trainees. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the trainees about latest cotton research & development activities carried out by the Institute. He further stated that such knowledge sharing interactive programs will help not only understand field-orient cotton production problems but will lead to the proper solutions as well with the assistance from cotton researchers.



Cloth Production with Naturally-Grown Colored Cotton

CCRI Multan initiated custom spinning of naturally-grown colored cotton in coordination with textile industry. Lint samples of three different shades (light brown, dark brown, creamy white) of naturally grown colored cotton were spun separately and fabric was knitted with different colored pattern by blending shades. The different shades of yarn obtained from the process were properly knitted into

fabrics. The color of this fabric was sustained and fabric appearance and feeling touch was better than the fabric applied with synthetic dyes.



PB Rope Installation Day at CCRI Multan

The scientists and field staff participated in installation of PB Ropes @ 120 per acre in different cotton fields of CCRI Multan on July 10th for the management of Pink bollworm.



Farmers Field Day

CCRI Multan organized Farmers Field Day at Village Peer Jaggi Mor, Ch. Farooq Molathia Farm, Kot Addu on July 31, 2018. Around 50 farmers of the area attended the program. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan advised the farmers for proper application of inputs especially recommended dose of pesticides against pests. Moreover, he also advised that cotton crop is bearing fruit and at this stage of crop, farmers must apply fertilizers judiciously. Dr. Muhammad Idrees Khan, Head Plant Breeding and Mr. Sajid Mahmood, SO, Transfer of Technology Section also accompanied.



Central Cotton Research Institute, Old Shuja Abad Road, Multan

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