

MPKV HAPPENINGS

August 2019



Visit of Shri. Sharadchandraji Pawar to MPKV, Rahuri



August 29, 2019. Shri. Sharadchandraji Pawar, Hon'ble Member of Parliament and Former Union Minister of Agriculture, GoI visited the Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri. Dr. K. P. Viswanatha, Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri presided over the function organized on this occasion. Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Shri. Sopan Kasar, Registrar, Shri. Milind Dhoke, University Engineer and Associate Deans were present on the dais. In his address, Shri. Pawar expressed his happiness to visit MPKV after a long period and expressed satisfaction on the various activities of the university in education, research and extension education. He recollected the work and contribution of Mahatma Phule for the farmers and women education and further said that we are fortunate to have his great name to this university. We need to give more emphasis on allied sector like fishery for more economic gains to farmers. It is good that the youth are taking interest in farming but the dependence on agriculture need to be minimized, he added. Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha said that this is a long awaited and most memorable occasion. Shri. Pawar's contribution to agriculture is immense and we seek his further guidance. Dr. Viswanatha put forth the noteworthy contribution of MPKV and the economic impact analysis of eight crops. Dr. Pharande gave the introductory remarks and presented the education report. Dr. Gadakh presented the research and extension education report and expressed thanks. The ICAR Farmer FIRST programme woman farmer Mrs. Savita Nalkar of Chinchvihire village was felicitated at the hands of Shri. Pawar during the function. Dr. B. D. Bhakre, Head, Dept. of SS&AC anchored the programme. Earlier Shri. Pawar visited the exhibition organized at Agriculture Technology Information Centre, horticulture farm, Centre of National Dairy Development Board, Dairy farm, Integrated Farming System model of farmers Shri. Chandrakant and Shri. Uttam Adsure and Bamboo training centre.



Independence Day celebrated



August 15, 2019. The 73rd Independence Day of the nation was enthusiastically celebrated in the university. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha hoisted the national flag. In his address Dr. Viswanatha said that the independence of our nation was sought through the sacrifices of our freedom fighters. We need to remember their efforts and put our best for the progress of the country. The university has contributed to education, research and extension education. Students of our university have made spectacular achievements. MPKV has released eight new varieties, one implement and forty seven recommendations this year for the farmers. Significant impact of the university released varieties has been recorded in the income of farmers, he said. He further highlighted the role of extension of the university and outreach programmes like RKVY and ICAR Farmer FIRST programmes. He hoped that the integrated farming system model developed by MPKV would help in raising the farmers income. Shri. Sopan Kasar, Registrar gave an oath of tobacco ban on this occasion. The NCC students led by Prof. Sunil Fulsawange gave a salute on this occasion. Security Officer Shri. Gorakshanath Shete anchored the programme. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Comptroller Er. Vijay Kote, University Engg. Er. Milind Dhoke, Associate Deans Dr. P. A. Turbatmath, Dr. D. D. Pawar, Dr. S. A. Ranpise, Heads of Departments, Chief Scientist (Seed) Dr. A. V. Solanke, staff and students were present for the programme. A blood donation camp was organized at Dr ASCAE & T by NSS, NCC and District Hospital, Ahmednagar. Various units like Micronutrient laboratory, Sale counter, Pipeline, Office shade of Bamboo project and Vermicompost production unit of Cattle project were inaugurated at the hands of Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha on this occasion.



Phule Vikram chickpea variety released for Central Zone of India for mechanical harvesting purpose



August 27-29, 2019. The MPKV released chickpea variety *Phule Vikram* has been released for Central Zone of India (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat States) during the twenty fourth Chickpea Annual Group Meet held at Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi. This variety has been evolved from a cross of ICCV 10 x ICCL 87322, the breeding material received from ICRISAT, Patancheru (Telangana). *Phule Vikram* is suitable for mechanical harvesting because of tall growth habit and pods starting above 27.7 cm from ground level. Similarly, there are no any losses during mechanical harvesting and it also reduces the cost of production. It is resistant to major disease i.e. Fusarium wilt, it has potential upto 45.93 q/ha, whereas, it gives 22.65 q/ha.

average yield. The seed size of this variety is medium (21.6 g / 100 seeds) and it matures within 110 to 115 days. The release of this variety will definitely boost the chickpea production in the state as well as of the country. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha and Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research congratulated Dr. N. S. Kute, Chief Scientist, AICRP on Pulses Improvement Project and his colleague scientists for this achievement.

Students success in ICAR SRF exams

August 5, 2019. The students of College of Agriculture, Pune achieved a remarkable success in the ICAR's Senior Research Fellowship exams-2019 conducted at the national level. The students Mahesh Jadhav and Siddharth Kale ranked first in Agril. Entomology and Soil Science and Agril. Chemistry subjects, respectively. Mohammad Shamnaz stood second in Biotechnology, while, Parth Jadhav ranked 55th in Soil Science and Agril. Chemistry subject. The students Vivek Raut (Agronomy), Rajkumar Meena (SS7AC), Kavi Bharati (Agril. Economics), Ramanna Vannkatti (Horticulture), Pawan Nakhate (SS&AC), Snehal Chaudhary (Genetics and Plant Breeding) also excelled in the ICAR SRF national exams. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha, Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. P. N. Rasal, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Pune and Dr. S. D. Masalkar, Principal, College of Horticulture, Pune congratulated the students.

University Sale Counter inaugurated



August 15, 2019. The University Sale Counter was inaugurated at the hands of Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha on the occasion of Independence Day. Dr. Viswanatha said that the university is spread over ten districts of Maharashtra and comprising of twenty seven research stations. MPKV has released prominent varieties/hybrids, improved implements and recommendations for the farmers since its establishment. The university branded Phule Seed along with bio pesticides, bio fertilizers, seedlings, grafts, bakery and processed products have a huge demand by the farmers. Thus, this Sale Counter would cater to the needs of farmers, he hoped. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research said that the university has planned for twenty seven such centres in its jurisdiction. All the university products including the publications, tools, bamboo handicrafts would be made available at the Sale Counters. Dr. A. V. Solanke, Chief Scientist, Seed hoped that the Sale Counter would benefit the farmers because it would save their time and energy. Dr. P. S. Behelekar would act as a Marketing Officer of the university. A marketing chain would be developed in which Sales representatives would be nominated for each district. Discount would be given to Farmers Groups and Private Agencies for purchasing these products in bulk. Associate Deans Dr. P. A. Turbatmath, Dr. D. D. Pawar, Heads of Departments, Officers, scientists and staff were present on this occasion.

University Bakery unit strengthened



August 27, 2019. Dr. K. P. Viswanatha, Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri inaugurated the advanced machinery at the Bakery Unit of MPKV, Rahuri. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Dr. S. A. Ranpise, Associate Dean, LAE and Heads of Department were present on this occasion. Dr. U. D. Chavan, Head, Department of Food Science and Technology (FST) briefed about the new machinery installed at the Bakery unit. He appraised of the various training programmes conducted by the Dept. of FST and technical assistance to the young

entrepreneurs to start their bakery units. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha assured support for running the bakery and hoped for expanding the sale of these bakery products. Dr. Gadakh also congratulated the FST team for taking efforts in rejuvenation of the unit. Dr. Sudhir Lande proposed vote of thanks.

Awareness programme of *Jalshakti Abhiyan* launched



August 5, 2019. An Awareness programme of *Jalshakti Abhiyan* was launched at MPKV, Rahuri in coordination with the Department of Agriculture and Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education presided over the programme. Dr. Gadakh in his presidential address hoped for activities like roof water harvesting, renovation of water bodies and adoption of insitu soil moisture techniques. He emphasized on more crop per drop of water and called for water budgeting. Prof. M. N. Desai,

Manager, Agriculture Technology Information Centre welcomed the dignitaries. Shri. Vilas Nalage, DSAO, Ahmednagar in his introductory remarks said that the *Jalshakti Abhiyan* is an ambitious programme of the Central Government and eight districts of Maharashtra state have been selected for this purpose. Awareness on importance of water, its conservation, efficient utilization need to be done in this *abhiyan*. Shri. Mahendra Thokle, TAO, Rahuri, Dr. Sambhaji Nalkar, Head, KVK, Babhaleshwar, Dr. Kaushik, Head, KVK, Dahigaonne, Dr. P. B. Kharde, Officer Incharge, Communication Centre and scientists, staff of Agriculture Department were present on this occasion. Dr. Desai anchored the programme, while, Dr. B. A. Deshmukh proposed thanks.

Dr. Gadakh visited KVK, Mohol and Ajnale pomegranate village



August 2, 2019. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mohol. He was accompanied by Dr. Vijay Amrutsagar, Chief Scientist and ADR, NARP, Solapur. Dr. T.R. Walkunde, Incharge, Head, KVK, Mohol briefed about the KVK activities. Dr. Gadakh instructed to initiate active demonstration units of fruit crops, poultry and goat rearing unit, dal mill and jowar processed products, fruit beverages etc. He also visited the village Ajnale, a pomegranate village of Sangola

tahasil of Solapur district. He visited the orchards of farmers Shri. Mahadev Lade, Shri. Pandurang Lade and Shri. Nitin Yelapalle. Mr. Rajaram Patil, the first innovator of pomegranate orchard of the village briefed about the history of pomegranate and present status of the village. Mr. Ajay Dighe, SMS (Agril. Extn.) explained about the success of Ajnale. Mr. Prabhakar Chandane, Chairman, *Akhil Bhartiya Dalimb Sangh* welcomed Dr. Gadakh and acknowledged the technical interventions provided by MPKV to the pomegranate growers of the state. Dr. Gadakh briefed about the research in new crops and their production practices. Shri. Arjun Kollale, *Sarpanch* of the village expressed thanks.

Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ATARI, Pune visited KVK, Mohol



August 19, 2019. Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ATARI, Pune visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mohol. He was accompanied by Dr. DVS Reddy, Pr. Scientist, ATARI, Bengaluru. Dr. Singh inaugurated the display board of the plan layout of KVK instructional farm. Trees were planted at the hands of the dignitaries. Dr. T. R. Walkunde, I/C Head of KVK welcomed the dignitaries. Mr. K. A. Jadhav, SMS (Hort.) briefed about the fruit crop cafeteria, mother orchard block, dragon fruit demo plot, lawn and ornamental plants for beautification. Mr. N. B. Jadhav, Farm Manager explained about the fruit and forest species at the KVK instructional

farm. Dr. Lakhan Singh appreciated the initiatives of the KVK and gave suggestions for demonstration units. Dr. Reddy hoped that these activities will benefit the farmers. Dr. L. R. Tambade, Head, KVK, Solapur-I, Mr. A. G. Dighe, SMS (Agril. Extn.) and staff of KVK, Mohol were present during the visit.

Crop demonstrations organized under ICAR Farmer FIRST programme

August 2019. Various crop demonstrations have been organized at Chinchvihire and Kangar villages under the ICAR Farmer FIRST programme. The demonstrations comprises of Bajra (*Dhanshakti* and *Adishakti*), Red gram (*Phule Rajeshwari*) and Rabi Sorghum (*Panchasutri* - Insitu soil moisture conservation technology and varieties as per soil types).



CAAST-CSAWM programmes

Participation in the first Annual Review Workshop of NAHEP



August 5-6, 2019. The first Annual Review workshop of NAHEP was organized at NAAS Complex, New Delhi. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha participated in the review workshop. Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principle Investigator, CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV Rahuri and Dr. A. A. Atre, Procurement Officer, CAAST-CSAWM project participated as the project representatives. Two Research Associates of the project viz., Dr. P.B. Kale and Dr. M.N. Baviskar demonstrated the

innovative outcomes of the project. Shri. Kailash Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi and Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR, New Delhi addressed the participants. The innovative activities of CAAST-CSAWM project viz., Auto Phule Irrigation Scheduler, Phule Pest and Disease Management Application and Soil Moisture Sensors were demonstrated to the dignitaries. Dr. Gorantiwar presented the annual progress of the project. Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha assured full support to the project. Experts of NAHEP appreciated the progress of project and conveyed best wishes.

National Workshop on Protected Cultivation: Opportunities and Challenges organized



August 27, 2019. A one day National Workshop on Protected Cultivation: Opportunities and Challenges was organized by the Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST) for Climate Smart Agriculture and Water Management (CSAWM), MPKV, Rahuri. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha presided over the function. Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research were present for the programme. In his presidential address Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha highlighted

the benefits associated with protected cultivation and its role in meeting the global food demand. Dr. Pharande delivered the welcome speech. Dr. Gadakh also expressed his remarks. Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principal Investigator, CAAST-CSAWM project gave the introductory remarks and briefed about the objectives of the workshop. Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-PI expressed thanks. Er. Mangal Patil, Research Associate (IDE) anchored the programme. The experts Dr. Sanjay Narute guided on cultivation practices for protected cultivation, Dr. Mukesh Shukla on safe and residue free plant protection for protected cultivation, Mr. Chetan Dedhia on protected cultivation structures and selecting right cladding material and Er. Sandeep Dere on opportunities and marketing of agricultural produce from protected cultivation. The Heads of the Departments, scientists, staff, farmers and students were present on this occasion.

Training programme on Applications of Advanced Python Computations in Climate Smart Agriculture organized



August 1-3, 2019. A three day training programme on Applications of Advanced Python Computations in Climate Smart Agriculture was organized by CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri. In the inaugural address Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principal Investigator, CAAST-CSAWM project briefed the importance of the advanced python computations for agriculture domain. Dr. S. A. Kadam, IT Officer and Organizing Secretary, CAAST-CSAWM explained the various problem statements of Python programming in irrigation and water

requirement with introduction of expert. Er. Gajanan Kothawade, Data Scientist, Quantela Inc, Bangalore, Dr. Pramod Popale, Asst. Prof., Dept. of IDE, all the Research Associates of CAAST-CSAWM, RKVY-IWRAS and twenty five students were present. Er. Kalpesh Borase Research Associate (WRE) anchored the programme, while, Er. M. A. Tamboli, Research Associate (Computer Apps.) expressed vote of thanks.

Training programme on IoT applications and advanced technologies for CSA and WM



August 19, 2019. A one day training programme was conducted by CAAST-CSAWM project on IoT applications and advanced technologies for CSA and WM at Dr. ASCAE&T, MPKV, Rahuri. Dr. S. M. Nalawade, Organizing Secretary gave a brief introduction about the training programme. The Guest faculty Er. Hare Krishna Singh from Qualden Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Dr. S. B. Nandgude, Professor of SWC and Dr. M. S. Mane, Professor of IWM were present for this programme. The first half of the day followed with detailed presentation

on various aspects of IoT applications. Students were understood the concept of IoT, advanced technologies and its applications in agriculture sector. They were engaged with the demonstration of IoT based phule soil moisture and automatic pump controller application. Er. Nawale T.L, Research Associate (E&TC) anchored the programme, while, Dr. G. B. Bhanage, Research Associate (FMP) expressed vote of thanks.

Training programme on Precision Irrigation Water Management organized at Pune



August 20-21, 2019. A two day training programme on Precision Irrigation Water Management was organized by CAAST-CSAWM project by Sub-Campus, College of Agriculture, Pune. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. S. B. Shinde, Professor of Agril. Extension. Dr. Jayashree Pachpute, Organizing Secretary and Co-PI gave a brief introduction on different topics of precision irrigation water management to be presented during the training programme. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha distributed the certificates to the trainees during the valedictory function.

Training programme on Data loggers and sensors in CSA and WM organized



August 20-22, 2019. A three day training programme on Data loggers and sensors in CSA and WM was organized by the CAAST-CSAWM project at MPKV, Rahuri. The training program started with the welcome address and the introduction of Guest faculty by Dr. S. M. Nalawade, Organizing secretary. Er. Nawale T. L, Dr. G.B Bhanage, Er. Sujata Jawale, Er. Prasad Jawale guided the trainees. The programme was attended by 20 participants.

Participants trained on Climate Resilient Agriculture and Smart Technologies



August 26-30, 2019. A training programme on Climate Resilient Agriculture and Smart Technologies was organized by CAAST-CSAWM project at CC, Rahuri. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-convenor and Co-PI who briefed about the different topics of Climate Resilient Agriculture and Smart Technologies to be covered during the training programme. Dr. R. P. Andhale, Organizing Secretary guided the participants about

importance of climate smart technologies and its applications in the field of agriculture. During this training programme different topics were covered such as Remote sensing and GIS, Irrigation scheduling of important field crops, Protected cultivation, Organic farming, Integrated farming system models, Abiotic stress research facilities and Livestock management in context of climate change. Dr. Vaibhav Malunjkar and Dr. Prashant Kale, Research Associates anchored the programme, while, Dr. Snehal Kanade and Dr. Suraj Misal, Research Associate gave vote of thanks.

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