December 2020

Visit of Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture Shri. Dadaji Bhuse to MPKV, Rahuri



December 7, 2020. Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, M. S. Shri. Dadaji Bhuse visited MPKV, Rahuri. Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan greeted him on his arrival and briefed about the significant achievements of the university. Shri. Prajakta Tanpure, Hon'ble Minister of State for Energy, M.S. and Shri. Popatrao Pawar, Hon'ble Executive President, Adarsha Gaon Samiti, M.S. accompanied him during this visit. Hon'ble Minister Shri. Dadaji Bhuse visited the Forage cactus farm, Cattle project, Vermicompost production unit, Watershed development project, Bamboo research project, Dryland fruits research project, Agriculture implements and machinery project, Processing laboratory and Biotechnology Centre in the university premises. Shri, Bhuse said that MPKV has completed 52 years of its establishment. The university has immensely contributed to the development of agriculture but hoped that we need to rise to the challenges today and work accordingly. Regarding bamboo, he said that the Bamboo Mission would benefit the farmers. The processing aspects of bamboo need to be capitalized. He expected that the university need to develop many more small tools and implements for the farmers as agriculture mechanization is very much needed. The Government is encouraging the farmers for fruit cultivation. For this purpose the farmers need to be trained on fruit processing, he said. Shri. Bhuse acknowledged the university's research particularly in sugarcane and pomegranate. He also interacted with the labourers during this farm visit. Shri. Popatrao Pawar informed that the Adarsha Gaon Yojana is supporting and funding MPKV's watershed development area of 953 ha. It would be an ideal project wherein huge quantity of water would be conserved in the soil. Besides research on soil carbon, soil fertility, soil



improvement would be conducted. Directors Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Registrar Shri. Mohan Wagh, Shiv Sena District Chief Shri. Raosaheb Khevere, Comptroller Shri. Vijay Kote, University Engineer Shri. Milind Dhoke, Associate Deans Dr. P. N. Rasal, Dr. D. D. Pawar, Dr. S. A. Ranpise, Dr. M. C. Ahire, District Supd. Agril. Officer Shri. Shivaji Jagtap and scientists were present on this occasion.

State Rectification of the second sec

Vice Chancellor Dr Ashok Dhawan visited Agriculture Colleges and Research Stations



December 17-18 and 29-31, 2020. Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan visited College of Agriculture, Muktainagar. Dr. Sudam Patil, Nodal Officer, College of Agriculture, Muktainagar and Oilseed Specialist, Oilseed Research Station, Jalgaon welcomed him and briefed about the progress. Dr. Dhawan interacted with the staff. Plant saplings were planted at the hands of Vice Chancellor Dr. Dhawan in the college premises. Dr. S. B. Kharbade, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Nandurbar and Dr. C. D. Deokar, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Dhule were present on this occasion.



Thereafter, Dr. Dhawan visited College of Agriculture, Dhule. Dr. C. D. Deokar, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Dhule welcomed him. Dr. Dhawan inaugurated the online teaching green room, polytunnel at Horticulture section of the college. He visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra crop cafeteria and various sections of the college. He also felicitated student Miss. Harshada Desale for securing first position in PG CET exam.



Dr. S. B. Kharbade, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Nandurbar greeted Vice Chancellor Dr. Dhawan during his visit to the college. Inauguration of shade net house, laser irrigation system, farm



of Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan.

Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan visited the College of Agriculture, Pune. Associate Dean Dr. S. D. Masalkar greeted him. Dr. Dhawan visited College of Horticulture, rain water harvesting structure, Agronomy farm, Mushroom production unit, biocontrol lab and other units of the college.



Dr. Rajendra Suryavanshi, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Karad welcomed Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan during his visit to the college. Dr. Dhawan visited the college library, farm and new created infrastructure of the college. He paid respect to the portrait of late Shri. Yashwantrao Chavan, first and former Chief Minister of Maharashtra.



Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan visited the Rajarshi Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj College of Agriculture, Kolhapur. Dr. Shivajirao Shinde, Associate Dean of the College welcomed him and briefed about the progress. He inaugurated the digital green classroom. He also visited the various sections of the college and interacted with the staff. Dr. Dhawan visited the Agriculture Technical School, Kolhapur and Agriculture Research Station, Radhanagri.



Webcasting of Hon'ble Prime Minister's address at KVK, Mohol



December 25, 2020. The webcasting of Hon'ble Prime Minister's address to farmers was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mohol, Dist. Solapur. The farmers witnessed Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi releasing the second installment of PM *Kisan Samman Nidhi* to the farmers' bank account. Hon'ble Prime Minister also interacted with the farmers of various states during this programme

and addressed the nation on this occasion. The arrangements of the programme were made under the guidance of Dr. T. R. Walkunde, Head, KVK, Mohol.

Dr. M. C. Ahire elected as Vice President and Dr. S. D. Patil as Executive Counsellor of ISEE



December 15, 2020. Dr. M. C. Ahire, Associate Dean, Punyshlok Ahilyadevi Holkar College of Agriculture, Halgaon and Head, Department of Agriculture Extension and Communication, MPKV, Rahuri was elected as Vice President (West Zone) of Indian Society of Extension Education (ISEE), New Delhi. The elections for various posts of Indian Society of Extension Education were held



in online mode. Dr. Ahire secured more than 80 per cent votes for the post of Vice President of West Zone which comprised of states *viz.*, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Goa. Dr. S. D. Patil, Assistant Professor of Agril. Extension, College of Agriculture, Dhule was also nominated as Executive Counsellor of West Zone of ISEE during the declaration of result by Returning Officer. Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan, Directors Dr. A. L. Pharande and Dr. S. R. Gadakh congratulated Dr. Ahire and Dr. Patil for this achievement.

National Mushroom Day celebrated in Pune



December 23, 2020. The National Mushroom Day was celebrated at the AICRP on Mushroom, College of Agriculture, Pune. Dr. Anil Gaikwad, Former Mycologist, College of Agriculture, Pune guided on this occasion. He narrated the importance of mushroom in our diet. These advantages of mushroom need to be passed to the society, he hoped. The mushroom entrepreneurs need to go for production of *Dhingri* mushroom and other nutririch,

medically important and those which are produced in short period, he said. Dr. Bhaskar Barhate, Associate Professor of Plant Pathology cited the importance of mushroom and its various products. Many mushroom entrepreneurs shared their experiences and demonstrated their produce on this occasion. Mrs. Minoti Dhawale anchored the programme. Dr. Ashok Jadhav, Mycologist, AICRP on Mushroom and Shri. Namdev Desai took efforts for organizing the programme.

Celebration of World Soil Health Day 2020



Celebration of Kisan Din

December 5, 2020. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mohol, Dist. Solapur organized the World Soil Health Day 2020 on 5th December, 2020 at Vadval, Tal. Mohol, Dist. Solapur with the theme "Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity" in collaboration with State Agriculture Department, Maharashtra. Subject Matter Specialists of KVK, Mohol guided the farmers on this occasion.



December 23, 2020. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mohol, Dist. Solapur celebrated the *Kisan Din* on 23rd December, 2020 at Pokharapur, Tal. Mohol, Dist. Solapur. During this event, lectures, group discussion and field visit to farmers field were organized.

CAAST-CSAWM programme activities

The Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST) on Climate Smart Agriculture and Water Management (CSAWM), MPKV, Rahuri had organized various need based online training programmes for the farmers, students and scientists, faculty during the lockdown period in view of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic situation.

Celebration of World Soil Day on farmers field at Buchkewadi village



December 5, 2020. The Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology for Climate Smart Agriculture and Water Management, MPKV, Rahuri celebrated the World Soil Day on on farmers field of Buchkewadi village of Junner Tahsil, Dist. Pune. Vice Chancellor Dr. A. S. Dhawan chaired the programme. Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principal

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Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri



Investigator, CAAST-CSAWM, Dr. A. A. Atre, Professor of Soil Water Conservation and Engineering, Dr. R. P. Andhale, Associate Professor of Agronomy, Dr. S. S. Sadaphal, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Extension, Research Associates Dr. Anjali Musmade (IT), Dr. Shubhangi Ghadge (AE&C)) and Dr. Sevak Dhenge (Social Science) and *Sarpanch* of Buchkewadi village Shri. Gaikwad were present for the programme. More than 30 farmers attended the programme. Dr. Dhawan guided on importance of soil as a media of crop and food grain production. So, conservation of this natural resource on sustainable basis is important for the fulfillment of hunger of future generation. Reduction in land degradation would affect agricultural production, he stated. Dr. Pharande enlightened the audience about soil biology, soil organic carbon and its importance in maintaining soil health. A healthy soil produces healthy generation and soil conservation is becoming serious issue nowadays, soil is not a waste material but it is wealth, he said. Research Associate Dr. Nilam Kondvilkar (Soil Science) coordinated the programme and vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Sadaphal.

Scientific visit to Climate Smart Buchkewadi village



December 5, 2020. The CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri had organized a scientific visit to Climate Smart Buchkewadi village, Tal. Junnar, Dist Pune. On this occasion Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan, Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. G. R. Chintala, Chairman, NABARD, Mrs. Usha Mani, NABARD, Shri. Sachin Kamble, NABARD, Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principal Investigator, CAAST-CSAWM, Dr. A. A. Atre, Professor and team member, CAAST-CSAWM, Dr. R. P. Andhale, Associate Professor and Team member, CAAST-CSAWM, Dr. S. S. Sadaphal, Assistant Professor and Team member, CAAST-CSAWM, Officers of LUPIN Foundation, Pune and Innovation Ltd, Pune, *sarpanch*, deputy *sarpanch*, Grampanchayat members, villagers, farmers and Research Associates Dr. Shubhangi Ghadge, Dr. Sevak Dhenge, Dr. Nilam Kondvilkar and Dr. Anjali Musmade were present on this occasion. During the visit Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan guided the farmers. Dr. Pharande explained the importance of the soil conservation during the crop cultivation. Dr. Gorantiwar briefed about the project activities. MPKV publications *Krishi Darshani* and *Shri Sugi* were distributed to the farmers. In this exposure visit scientists and farmers visited the IoT based soil moisture sensor unit, demonstration plots of wheat, onion and chickpea, watershed unit, organic fertilizer unit, horticulture field and automatic weather station.



Webinar on Agricultural Education Day-2020 organized



December 3, 2020. A one day webinar on Agricultural Education Day-2020 was organized by CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri. Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture presided over the function. Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principal Investigator, CAAST-CSAWM was the Convener of this event. Dr. R. P. Andhale, Associate Professor of Agronomy and Organizing Secretary welcomed the dignitaries

and introduced the Chief Guest with a brief preamble of the webinar. Dr. Pharande addressed the students and shared his personal experiences in the field of Agricultural Education. He further highlighted the success stories in agriculture sector. Dr. P. N. Rasal, Associate Dean, Post Graduate Institute, MPKV, Rahuri and Dr. M. G. Shinde, Professor of Soil Water Conservation Engineering, Dr.ASCAE & T addressed the students and provided valuable information regarding agriculture and its allied subjects and the opportunities and avenues for them. They also emphasized the need for proficient and skilled human resource in the agricultural and allied sectors. Research Associates Dr. Prashant Kale, Dr. Nandlal Deshmukh and Er. Mohasin Tamboli were the programme coordinators for this event. Dr. Kale proposed the vote of thanks.

December 3, 2020. The Punyshlok Ahilyadevi Holkar College of Agriculture, Halgaon had also organized an online programme on Agricultural Education Day. On this occasion Dr. M. C. Ahire, Associate Dean of the college and Head, Department of Agriculture Extension and Communication said that thousands of students are completing agriculture education every year. These students have many opportunities to excel in agriculture related professions. These new entrepreneurs would be of help for progress of agriculture and farmers, he said. Dr. Suraj Gadakh and progressive farmer Shri. Vishwasrao Galgate shared their experiences on dairy business and future agriculture, respectively. Dr. Sakhechand Anarase welcomed the guests. Mrs. Anjali Deshpande proposed thanks. Students and staff of the college participated in this programme.

Online training programme on Writing Research papers for high impact factor journals and Effective proposals organized



December 15-17, 2020. A three day online training programme on Writing Research papers for high impact factor journals and effective proposals was organized by CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri. The training session started with preamble by Organizing Secretary Dr. M. C. Ahire, Associate Dean, Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar College of Agriculture, Halgaon and Head, Department of Agricultural Extension and



Communication. Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, PI, CAAST- CSAWM was the Convener and Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-PI, CAAST-CSAWM was the Co-Convener, Dr. M. B. Dhadwad, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Extension and Dr. S. S. Sadaphal, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Extension and CAAST-CSAWM Team Member were the Joint Organizing Secretaries of the training programme. Dr. Sudhir Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Atmospheric and Ocean Studies, University of Allahabad delivered lecture on how to find five year impact journals and structures of research papers, Mr. U. U. Bhale, Director, UDYAM Info Solutions Pvt. Ltd. delivered lecture on funding sponsoring agencies for research projects, Dr. Manisha Paliwal, Professor, VAMNICOM, Pune delivered lecture on research project development, Mr. Thomas Viviane, Former Faculty, College of Agriculture, Pune delivered lecture on language of scientific writing: how to avoid common mistakes in writing, Dr. S. K. Wadkar, Assistant Professor, VAMINICOM, Pune delivered lecture on project design and proposal writing, Dr. Syed Fajal Rahiman Khadri, Head and Director, IQAC, Department of Geology Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati delivered lecture on how to avoid plagiarism and editing process.

Dr. P. S. Pandey, ADG (EP&HS), ICAR, New Delhi was the chief guest for valedictory function. Vice Chancellor Dr. A. S. Dhawan chaired this programme. Dr. Gorantiwar briefed about CAAST-CSAWM. The review of the training programme was taken by Dr. M. C. Ahire. Dr. S. B. Nandgude, Nodal Officer, ICAR introduced the chief guest. Dr. Pandey guided and enlightened the participants on importance of capacity building of faculty and students, different high impact journals in the field of agriculture and allied subjects, human resource development and funding from support agencies. Dr. Dhawan in his presidential address focused on need of scientific writing for high impact factor journals. The overall training programme was coordinated by Research Associates Dr. Shubhangi Ghadge and Dr. Sevak Dhenge. Dr. Sadaphal anchored the programme and Dr. Shinde proposed vote of thanks.

Online training programme organized on Crop Weather Modeling Tools for CSA



December 21-25, 2020. A one week online training programme on Crop Weather Modeling Tools for Climate Smart Agriculture was organized by CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri. At the outset Dr. R. P. Andhale, Associate Professor, Agronomy, Co-Nodal officer, GKMS Project and Member, CAAST-CSAWM welcomed and introduced the dignitaries. Dr. J. D. Jadhav, Director, CAFT, Head, Department of Agrometerology, Nodal Officer, GKMS and FASAL Project and Member, CAAST-CSAWM felicitated the Expert speaker Dr. R. H. Patil, Head, Department of Agrometerology, Nodal Officer, GKMS and FASAL Project, College of Agriculture, Dharwad, Karnataka, Dr. N.

R. Patel, Scientist, Agrometeorology, Agriculture and Soil Department, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (ISRO), Govt. of India, Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Director, Directorate of Crop Management, TNAU, Dr. Prabhjyot Kaur Sidhu, Senior Agrometeorology and Head, Department of Climate Change and Agricultural Meteorology, PAU, Ludhiana, Dr. S. K. Bal, Principal Scientist and Project Co-



ordinator, AICRP on Agrometeorology, CRIDA, Hyderabad, Dr. Saon Banerjee, Professor and Head, Dept. of Agril. Meteorology and Physics, AICRP on Agrometeorology, BCKV, Kalyani, Nadia, W.B., Dr. N. Subash, Principal Scientist, Cropping System and Natural Resource Management, ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research (ICAR-IIFSR) Modipuram, Meerut, U.P. and Dr. K. N. Singh, Head, Division of Forecasting and Agricultural Systems Modeling, ICAR-IASRI, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute Library Avenue, PUSA, New Delhi and Dr. Shirish Ravan, Head, Beijing Office, UN-SPIDER Programme of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria. Dr. S.D. Gorantiwar, PI, CAAST-CSAWM briefed about importance of Crop Weather Modeling Tools for Climate Smart Agriculture. The experts from various institutions guided all faculties as well as students during the entire training programme.

The programme was attended by Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashok Dhawan, Chief Guest Dr. K. K. Singh, Head, Agromet Advisory Services Division and Scientist, Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Mausam Bhawan, New Delhi, Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, PI, CAAST-CSAWM Project and Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-PI, CAAST-CSAWM Project. The programme concluded with presidential address by Dr. Ashok Dhawan in which he highlighted the importance of crop weather modeling for climate smart agriculture. The programme ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Jadhav. The overall programme was coordinated by Research Associates Dr. Snehal Kanade and Dr. Vaibhav Malunjkar.

Online training organized on Adaptive measures for efficient utilization of irrigation Water



December 28-30, 2020. A three day online training for trainers on Adaptive measures for efficient utilization of irrigation water on farm was organized by RKVY- IWRAS and CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri. *Rythu Sadhikara Sanstha* (RySS)-Andhra Pradesh is a Community -Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) Programme of the Government of Andhra Pradesh with a

mandate to plan and implement programmes for the empowerment and all round welfare of farmers. The programme is working on several aspects of farming and farmer communities. One of the objectives of RySS is to systematically reduce the use of water and thereby increase water use efficiency. The web and mobile based applications developed by RKVY-IWRAS and CAAST-CSAWM of MPKV, Rahuri have a definite role to address these objectives of RySS. Keeping this in view, the training was aimed to help the trainers of RySS for improving the water use efficiency and precision application of irrigation water to different crops under APCNF project of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Total 93 participants were benefitted from this training. Focus of the training was on different technologies for efficient use of water, Sprinkler irrigation method for efficient use of irrigation water, Micro irrigation methods for efficient use of irrigation water, Irrigation scheduling for sprinkler and micro irrigation, Mobile and



web-based applications: Phule Jal, Phule Irrigation Scheduler for irrigation scheduling of different crops and Auto Phule Irrigation Scheduler for automatic operation of pump; and Care and maintenance of drip and sprinkler irrigation system.

The training programme was followed with the valedictory function in which Mr. T. Vijay Kumar, I.A.S. (Retd.), Executive Vice Chairman, AP *Rythu Sadhikara Sanstha* and Ex-Officio Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh was the Chief Guest. Vice Chancellor Dr. A. S. Dhawan chaired the function. Mr. Somnath Choudhury, Senior Consultant, NABCONS, New Delhi was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Zakir Hussain, Thematic Head-Climate Change and livelihoods RySS, Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP) extended the vote of thanks. Dr. M. A. Patil, Research Associate (IDE), Dr. Rajani Salunkhe and Er. Dattatray Pawar, Research Associates (Agril. Engg.) and Er. Nikhil Duggad, Research Associate (CSE), RKVY-IWRAS, MPKV, Rahuri were the Programme Coordinators. Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-PI, CAAST-CSAWM and Dr. Mangal Patil, Research Associate (IDE) anchored the programme.

Workshop on Heralding the next Decade: Emerging Trends, Opportunities and challenges in Irrigation Water Management organized



December 31, 2020. A one day workshop on Heralding the next Decade: Emerging Trends, Opportunities and challenges in Irrigation Water Management was organized on the theme "Entering New Decade" by RKVY-IWRAS and CAAST-CSAWM of MPKV, Rahuri. Dr. K. Yella Reddy, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, ANGRAU, Andhra Pradesh and Vice President,

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, New Delhi was the key note speaker and delivered a talk on the topic "Heralding the Next Decade: Emerging Trends, Opportunities and Challenges in Irrigation Water Management". Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-PI CAAST-CSAWM welcomed and introduced Dr. Reddy. Dr. Reddy focused on global to farm level scenarios, challenges and opportunities in irrigation water management, components of water use efficiency, the aspects of irrigation water management at farm level, National Water Policies, Climate adoption initiatives, linkages between different water sources in an irrigation system, Irrigation demands and canal supply balance, working of Village Knowledge Centres, importance of irrigation water measurements and its key aspects and importance of micro irrigation. Dr. Zakir Hussain, Thematic Head-Climate Change and livelihoods RySS, Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP) extended the vote of thanks. Dr. M. A. Patil, Research Associate (IDE), Dr. Rajani Salunkhe and Er. Dattatray Pawar, Research Associates (Agril. Engg.) and Er. Nikhil Duggad, Research Associate (CSE), RKVY-IWRAS, MPKV, Rahuri were the Co-ordinators. Dr. M. G. Shinde, Co-PI, CAAST-CSAWM and Dr. Mangal Patil, Research Associate (IDE) anchored the programme. Total 93 faculty and students participated in this workshop.



Demonstration organized on Mobile based Soil Test Kit



December 18, 2020. The CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri and Department of Soil Science and Agril. Chemistry under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) of ICAR had organized demonstration of Mobile based Soil Test Kit at Department of SSAC, MPKV, Rahuri. In this demonstration Dr. Ritu Thakare, Associate Professor, Dr. V. S. Patil, Associate Professor, Dr. A. G. Durgude, Assistant Professor of SSAC, Dr. B. K. Gavit, Associate Professor, Dept. of SWCE, Research Associates Dr. Nilam Kondvilkar, Dr. Anjali Musmade, Dr. Mangal Patil and Er. Shraddha Warale, Faculty of university and Ph. D. students of MPKV, Rahuri were present. The project team of Foundation for Environmental Monitoring, Bangalore presented mobile based soil test kit developed by them. This system is capable to detect available/total nutrient status in soil. They discussed principle and standard operating procedure of the system with the participants. After that they demonstrated some soil samples for available soil nutrients and compared their results with traditional laboratory procedures. Overall, the demonstration was very useful and informative.



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