

# MPKV HAPPENINGS

May, 2018



## **Agril. Minister Shri. Pandurang Fundkar passes away**

May 31, 2018. The Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, M. S. Shri. Pandurang alias Bhausahab Fundkar passed away in Mumbai. He was 67 years old. He represented Akola parliamentary constituency three times. He was elected to the Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha from Khamgaon in 1978 and 1980. He was also the leader of the Opposition in the legislative council. He was sworn on July 8, 2016 as a Cabinet Minister in the Government. A *shoksabha* was organized in the university to pay tribute to him. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha, Directors, Officers, Heads of Departments, staff and students were present on this occasion.

## **Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Zone-VIII organized**



May 5-7, 2018. An Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Zone-VIII, ATARI, Pune comprising of KVKs of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa states was organized at MPKV Rahuri. Dr. K. P. Viswanatha, Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri presided over the inaugural function. The chief guest Dr. A. K. Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. V. P. Chahal, ADG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune, Dr. S. Prabhukumar, Ex-Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, Dr. K. D. Kokate, Director, Extension Education and Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research were present on the dias. In his presidential address Dr. Viswanatha said that KVK model is the best model for technology assessment and refinement. KVKs have a major role to play for doubling farmers' income in the next four years, he said. Enough farm technologies are available but we need to reach the unreached. He further stated that KVKs need to popularize the best suited Integrated Farming System (IFS) models for sustainable income to the farmers. He also stressed the need for diversification in agriculture.

In his chief guest address Dr. A. K. Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New



Delhi said that extension is dynamic in nature and a non-static activity. Doubling of farmers' income is the foremost challenge before the scientists and extension professionals, he said. He highlighted the water use efficiency, the soil health and its sustainability for crop productivity. Dr. Singh stated the vision, mission and mandates of KVK. He said that KVKs need to showcase the best of technologies in their crop cafeteria. Besides, the output, outcome and impact of various activities need to be done regularly. In his presentation, he highlighted the significant ICAR programmes like Farmers FIRST, ARYA, *Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav*, *KSHAMTA*, *NARI* and *VATICA*. Dr. Singh in his address discussed on district agriculture contingency plans to be developed by KVKs, mobile apps, regular uploading of KVK activities on KVK portal, Farmers Producer Organizations, convergence of agencies and Green initiatives.

Dr. V. P. Chahal, ADG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi addressed on future roadmap for KVKs. He said that KVKs need to decide targets based on outcomes, making KVK commercially viable and providing quality facilities to the farmers. Dr. Chahal said that KVKs need to sensitize farmers on reducing cost of production. He focused on high value crops, on farm processing, implementation of innovative ideas, respect and protection of environment and team work of KVKs. Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune in his welcome and introductory remarks highlighted the significant activities of ATARI centre during the past year. Dr. K. D. Kokate gave a lucid presentation on the present scenario of agriculture and role of KVKs under changing circumstances. Dr. S. Prabhukumar in his address focused on the KVK system. Dr. P. B. Kharde, Officer Incharge, Communication Centre expressed vote of thanks, while, Dr. B. A. Deshmukh anchored the programme. Publications of ATARI, Pune 'Managing Farm Level Stress' and various KVKs including mobile apps were released on this occasion. The Directors of Extension Education of Maharashtra and Gujarat, 79 Heads and Senior Scientists of KVKs participated in the workshop. The KVKs presented their progress report and action plans during the technical sessions.



Earlier in the technical sessions chaired by Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, MPKV, Rahuri and Dr. N. P. Singh, Director, NIASM, Baramati various experts presented their institute's research achievements. Dr. N. P. Singh, Director, NIASM, Baramati (Technologies for abiotic stress management), Dr. S. D. Sawant, Director, NRC for Grapes (Technologies needed for Grape Industry), Dr. Jyotsana Sharma, I/C Director, NRC for Pomegranate (Promising pomegranate technologies for higher returns), Dr. S. Prabhukumar, Ex-Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru (Technology application through OFTs and FLDs), Dr. S. S. Gadge of NRC for Garlic and Onion (Onion and Garlic technologies of ICAR-DOGR), Dr. Navin Kumar of DFR, Pune (Promising technologies in Floriculture), Dr. A. D. Huchche of CCRI, Nagpur (Usable Citrus production and protection technologies), Dr. C. Ramarao of CRIDA, Hyderabad (Technology Demonstration component of NICRA), Mr. Matthews (Public Financial Management System-PFMS) made presentations and answered the queries of the KVK participants. The proceedings of the technical sessions were presented in the plenary session of the workshop.

### **Annual Review Meeting of Network Project on Sheep Improvement (NWPSI) & Mega Sheep Seed Project (MSSP)**



May 19-20, 2018. The Annual Review Meeting (2017-18) of Network Project on Sheep Improvement (NWPSI) was organized at MPKV, Rahuri in collaboration with ICAR-Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha presided over the inaugural function. Dr. Joykrushna Jena, Deputy Director General (Animal Science), ICAR, New Delhi was the chief

guest for the programme. Dr. R. S. Gandhi, ADG (Animal Science), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Arun Kumar, Director, CSWRI, Dr. Arjava Sharma, Director, National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Dr. Y. G. Fulpagare, Head, Department of ASDS were present on the dias. Dr. Jena in his address expressed concern about the declining rate of sheep in the country which is 9 per cent every year. Developing high productive breed of sheep is needed, he remarked. Scientists need to develop close housing system of sheep for commercial purpose, he said. Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha in his address highlighted the importance of sheep rearing for sustainable income to the farmers. Sheep rearing is a sort of ATM to the farmers, he said. Open grazing lands are decreasing every year, hence this aspect needs to be focused upon, he said. Dr. Gadakh gave the introductory remarks. Dr. Gandhi and Dr. Kumar also addressed the scientists. Dr. R. J. Desale anchored the programme, while, Dr. U. Y. Bhoite proposed thanks. Scientists across the country attended the meeting.



## 46<sup>th</sup> Joint AGRESCO organized

May 24-26, 2018. The 46<sup>th</sup> meeting for Joint Agricultural Research and Development Committee of four SAUs of Maharashtra was organized by Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkarni Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli in co-ordination with MCAER, Pune. The meet was inaugurated by Dr. M. C. Varshneya, Former Vice Chancellor, Kamdhenu University, Gujarat. Dr. B. Venkateswarlu, Vice Chancellor, Vasant Rao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani presided over the function. Vice Chancellors of SAUs Dr. K. P. Viswanatha (MPKV, Rahuri), Dr. Tapas Bhattacharya (DBSKKV, Dapoli), Dr. Vilas Bhale (Dr. PDKV, Akola), Shei. Ravindra Jagtap, Director General, MCAER, Pune, Dr. S. Jahagirdar, Member, Executive Council and Directors were present on the dias. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research presented the various crop production technologies, varieties and farm implements. In all MPKV released 40 crop production technologies, 5 varieties and 1 farm implement.

### 1. Cotton: Phule Chetana (RHB-1014)

- High seed cotton yield (17.32 q/ha)
- Extra long staple cotton (staple length: 36.2 mm )
- Resistant to Alternaria Leaf Blight and White fly and tolerant to jassides and bollworms.
- Recommended for Egyptian cotton growing area of Maharashtra under irrigated condition.



### 2. Chickpea : Phule Vikrant

- High yield 20 q/ha
- High Yield potential (41 q /ha)
- Yellowish brown, medium size seeds
- Maturity period : 105-110 days
- Resistant to *Fusarium* wilt



### 3. Banana : Phule Pride

- High yield (22 kg /plant)
- Dwarf variety ( Height 1.53 m)
- Early maturing (320 days)
- Resistant to lodging, pseudostem break, bunch break
- Tolerant to leaf spot (Sigatoka) disease



### 4. Papaya : Phule Vijaya

- Average Yield - 46 kg/plant ( 81 tonn /ha)
- Quantitative resistance against papaya ring spot virus disease
- Firm, attractive, yellow pulp
- Resistant to lodging, pseudostem break, bunch break
- Tolerant to leaf spot (Sigatoka) disease



### 5. Cherry tomato : Phule Jayashree

- Average Yield : 53 t/ha
- Indeterminate type
- Attractive orange red colour, round and juicy fruits
- Moderately resistant to viral diseases like leaf curl and spotted wilt



### 6. Phule Raw Mango Cutting Machine

- Output capacity : 40 – 60 kg/hr
- No black colour on cut portion of raw mango
- Easy to operate
- Labour saving over traditional method : 54%



### World Honey Bee Day celebrated



May 20, 2018. A One day training cum workshop on Importance of honeybees in crop pollination was organized by the Department of Entomology at MPKV, Rahuri on the occasion of World Honey Bee Day. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha presided over the function. Shri. Dinkar Patil, Progressive Honey Producer farmer, Latur was the Guest Speaker. Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of

Agriculture, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research, Dr. U. B. Hole, Head, Department of Entomology, Shri. Bhausaheb Barhate, PD, ATMA, Ahmednagar were present of the dias. In his address Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha said that honey bee is nature's gift to mankind. About 80 % pollination of crops is done by honey bees, hence we need to protect and conserve them. The crop production could be increased through apiculture, he said. Shri. Dinkar Patil in his address said that honey bee is a friend of human beings. Apiculture can provide employment opportunities. There is a huge demand for honey products, hence adoption of commercial apiculture is needed, he said. Dr. Pharande, Dr. Gadakh and Shri. Barhate also guided on this occasion. Dr. U. B. Hole gave the welcome and introductory remarks. Dr. Pallavi Palande anchored the programme. Staff, students and farmers were present in large number for the programme.



## Maharashtra Day celebrated



May 1, 2018. The Maharashtra Day and International Labour Day was organized at Central Campus, MPKV, Rahuri. The flag hoisting was done at the auspicious hands of Vice Chancellor Dr. K.P. Viswanatha. On this occasion Dr. Viswanatha said that the university is celebrating its Golden Year of its establishment. Also we need to focus on doubling of farmers income as per the mandate of central government. The

University has evolved new crop varieties, farm implements and crop production technologies for farming community and other stakeholders, he said. Further, he hoped that with the collaboration of Department of Agriculture, these technologies need to reach the farmers. Dr. K. D. Kokate, Director of Extension Education, Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean (F/A), Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research, Dr. D. D. Pawar, Registrar, Shri. Vijay Kote, Comptroller, Shri. Milind Dhoke, University Engineer, Heads of Department, university scientists, staff and students were present in large number. The programme was anchored by university Security Officer Shri. Goraksha Shete.



**Publisher :** Dr. K. D. Kokate, Director of Extension Education

**Editors :** Dr. P. B. Kharde, Officer Incharge, Communication Centre  
Dr. S. S. Sadaphal, Assistant Professor, Communication Centre