

MPKV HAPPENINGS

May, 2019

Joint AGRESCO-2019 meeting organized



May 29-31, 2019. The 47th Joint AGRESCO-2019 meeting of four State Agricultural Universities of Maharashtra was organized at MPKV, Rahuri in coordination with the Maharashtra Council of Agriculture Education and Research (MCAER), Pune. Shri. Chandrakant (Dada) Patil, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Revenue, M.S. and Pro Chancellor of SAUs was the Chief Guest for the concluding session. Dr. K. P. Viswanatha, Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri, Vice Chancellors of SAUs Dr. V. M. Bhale (Akola), Dr. A. S. Dhawan (Parbhani), Dr. S. D. Sawant (Dapoli), Shri. Eknath Davale, Principle Secretary, Agriculture, M.S., Shri. Mahendra Warbhuvan, DG, MCAER, Pune, Directors of MCAER Dr. Kausadikar and Dr. Shirke, Directors of SAUs Dr. Pharande, Dr. Gadakh, Dr. Waskar, Dr. Kharche, Dr. Haldankar, Dr. Ingole, Dr. Bhave, Dr. Patil, Dr. Narkhede, Dr. Mankar, Shri. Sopan Kasar, Registrar and Shri. Vijay Kote, Comptroller were present on the dais. In his address to the scientists, Shri. Chandrakant Patil appreciated the research contribution of SAUs for the farmers. He hoped that extension personnel need to take the transfer of technology to the farmers in mission mode approach. This approach would make the farmers smile, happy and would benefit them, he said. Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha in his introductory remarks assured that the SAUs are in forefront for solving the farmers problems. He briefed about the contribution of SAUs for agricultural development. Doubling of farmers income by 2022 is a major challenge before us, he stated. Shri.



Davale expressed the need for preparation of road map for future research by the SAUs. Also development of small tools and machinery for farm mechanization are needed, he said. Shri. Warbhuvan expected the need for participatory research by the SAUs. Dr. Gadakh gave the welcome remarks. The programme started by garlanding the portrait of late Minister of Agriculture Pandurang Fundkar. The rapporteurs of thirteen groups presented the proceedings. Dr. B. D. Bhakre anchored the programme, while, Dr. Kausadikar expressed thanks. Several varieties and recommendations were released in the Joint AGRESKO through the group deliberations. Shri. Patil inaugurated the agriculture exhibition organized on this occasion. Directors, Associate Deans, Heads of Departments, Associate Directors of Research, Crop Specialists, Breeders, scientists, staff and farmers attended the programme.

Earlier the Joint AGRESKO-2019 meeting was inaugurated in presence of all Vice Chancellors of SAUs, Directors of MCAER, NRCs and SAUs and scientists. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha presided over the programme. A Souvenir was released on this occasion.



MPKV released varieties

May 29-31, 2019. The 47th Joint AGRESCO-2019 meeting of four State Agricultural Universities of Maharashtra was organized at MPKV, Rahuri. Eight varieties, forty seven recommendations, one agricultural implement and five resistant sources for plant biotic and abiotic stress were released during this Joint AGRESCO-2019.

Fingermillet : Phule Kasari

Phule Kasari (KOPN 942) variety is released for cultivation in finger millet growing areas of Maharashtra state.

Salient features

- High yield.
- Medium Maturity group (100 - 110 days)
- Dwarf plant type
- Non lodging, high tillers
- Thick open panicle, long finger length.
- Brown seed colour
- Highly Resistant to finger blast, neck blast and resistant to node blast.



Groundnut : Phule Dhani (JL-1085)

A new Spanish bunch high yielding groundnut variety JL-1085 (Phule Dhani) developed at ORS, Jalgaon is released for cultivation in Maharashtra state during *kharif* season.

Salient features

- High yielding in rainfed condition
- Medium tall in height (30-35 cm).
- Sequential flowering.
- Three seeded pod (80%) with medium kernel are oblong-elongated,
- High oil content- 51%
- Early (109 days) and uniform maturity.
- Resistant to soil borne diseases, moderately resistance to foliar diseases and resistance to pest *Spodoptera* and thrips incidence under field condition.



Sugarcane : Phule 09057

The midlate maturing sugarcane variety CoM 12085 (Phule 09057) is recommended and released for jaggery purpose in Maharashtra for *suru* season.

Salient features

- Midlate maturing variety, recommended for *suru* season.
- Recommended for Jaggery making in Maharashtra State.
- Resistant (R) to smut, Moderately susceptible (MS) to red rot and Moderately resistant (MR) to wilt.
- Resistant to foliar diseases (Rust, brown spot, Pokka boeng) under natural conditions.



Cotton : Phule Mahi (RHB-1122)

Extra long staple inter specific cotton hybrid Phule Mahi is recommended and released for cultivation in irrigated condition of Central Zone of India (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujrat) and South Zone of India (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu).

Salient features

- Long staple cotton.
- Moderately resistance reaction to Alternaria Leaf Blight and disease free reaction to Bacterial Leaf Blight and Grey mildew.
- Tolerant to sucking pests and bollworms.
- Recommended for Central zone of India comprises state of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. South zone of India comprises states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.



Ber : Phule Shabari (SLB-26)

Ber cv. Phule Shabari having attractive yellowish green colour, oval shape fruits, sugar: acid blend, higher yield, maximum shelf life and tolerant to fruit borer and powdery mildew is recommended and released for cultivation in Maharashtra.

Salient features

- Trees are semi-spreading in nature with dark green foliage.
- Period from flowering to harvesting 150-175 days.
- Fruits are medium in size (5.52 g).
- Fruit yield/tree (26.01 kg/tree).
- Fruits are having attractive yellowish green colour, oval shape, surface is smooth.
- Acceptable on the basis of quality, shape, yield, sugar: acid blend and shelf life.
- Tolerant to fruit borer and powdery mildew disease.



Fenugreek : Phule Kasturi

The fenugreek variety Phule Kasturi with red leaf margin, more branching as well as green yield is recommended and released for cultivation in Maharashtra.

Salient features

- High yield (110.15 q/ha)
- Yield increase over Cv. Methi Extra Bold (15.01%) and RMT-1 19.92%)
- Green colour foliage with red leaf margin.
- Moderately resistant to powdery mildew, damping off and leaf miner.
- Rich source of vitamin A and dietary fibre



Double Bean/Lima Bean : Phule Suvarn

The double bean (lima bean) variety Phule Suvarn having higher pod yield, slightly curved green pods with bold grain size is recommended and released for cultivation in Western Maharashtra.

Salient features

- Average yield (132.66 q/ha)
- Yield increase over local variety by 26.51 %
- Pods are slightly curved, green in colour with bold grain size.
- Moderately tolerant to bean common mosaic virus disease
- Moderately resistant to aphids





Tuberose : Phule Rajat (GK-T-D-1)

The double type tuberose variety, “Phule Rajat” (GK-T-D-1) having uniformly distributed 50-60 attractive white flowers on spike with fragrance and more vase life is recommended and released for cultivation in Western Maharashtra.

Salient features

- More vase life.(10-11 days)
- Uniformly distributed white flowers on spike with fragrance (50- 60)
- Appropriate spike length (70-80 cm)
- Rachis length is 50 percent of the spike length
- Non lodging.



Farm Machinery

Phule Hydro-Mechanically Controlled Weeder

Tractor Operated Phule Hydro-Mechanically controlled Weeder for Inter – Row Cum Intra – Row Weeding in Orchards is recommended and released.

Salient features

- Easy extend and retract of the rotary unit by swiveling action of hydro-mechanically controlled sensor. Hence, no need of ultra light sensor based movement of the arm.
- Wrap around frame will give upfront visibility to the operator. Mechanical linkages with hydraulic mechanism has been used hence the cost of the machine is reduced significantly.
- Suitable for inter-row as well as intra-row weed removal in orchards



Resistant Source for Biotic and Abiotic stress

1. The cotton genotype AKH -13-51 is recommended as resistant source against jassid on the basis of jassid infestation, morphological and biochemical traits.
2. The *rabi* sorghum line RSV 1188 is recommended as a shootfly resistant source on the basis of morphological characters, biochemical traits and dead hearts percentage.
3. The rice genotype RDN -114 having long bold grain type, dwarf plant structure and midlate maturity is recommended as a donar for resistance to leaf blast disease.
4. The rice genotype RDN -146 having short slender grain type, medium plant structure and late maturity is recommended as a donar for resistance to leaf blast disease.
5. The rice genotype RDN -188 having medium slender grain type, dwarf plant structure and midlate maturity is recommended as a donar for resistance to leaf blast disease.

Maharashtra Day celebrated

May 1, 2019. The university celebrated the 59th Maharashtra Day and International Labour Day 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 Maharashtra state has a rich history, tradition and leaders like Yeshwantrao Chavan contributed to its development in the earlier phase. The state has significantly contributed to the nation's development. We are also celebrating the International Labour Day. MPKV has completed its fifty years of successful journey. During these years the university has made



significant contribution to education, research and extension education. The university developed varieties and technologies have resulted in higher crop production and higher income to the farming community, he said. Dr. N. Barathi, Director, Growmore Biotech Ltd., Hosur, Tamilnadu, Dr. A. C. Lakshmana, IFS (Retd.), Former Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka, Dr. K. V. Laxmanmurthy, Retd. IFS, Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Shri. Sopan Kasar, Registrar, Shri. Vijay Kote, Comptroller, Shri. Milind Dhoke, University Engineer, Associate Deans Dr. P. A. Turbatmath, Dr. D. D. Pawar, Dr. S. A. Ranpise, Heads of Department, university scientists, staff and students were present in large number. The programme was

anchored by university Security Officer Shri. Goraksha Shete.

Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha conferred the honorary rank of Colonel



May 22, 2019. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha was conferred the honorary rank of Colonel (NCC) in the grand Investiture ceremony jointly organized by Dr Annasaheb Shinde College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology and 17 Maharashtra Battalion NCC (Aurangabad Group) at MPKV, Rahuri. This honorary rank was conferred to Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha by Maj. Gen. Gajendra Prasad, YSM, VSM, Add. DG (NCC), Maharashtra Directorate, Mumbai. In his acceptance speech Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha thanked the NCC for conferring upon him this prestigious honorary rank of Colonel and further said that it is a great pride for him. It is not only an honour for me, but all my university, college staff, faculty and students, he said. He said that the NCC is the biggest youth organization in India and its motto is unity, discipline, national integration and self discipline. The NCC through these nine decades has worked for innovativeness, disaster management and given a helping hand to people in distress. Its role in nation building is enormous. MPKV has organized a National Integration Camp and also social service camps. The university is in association with the NCC and assured it all support. Maj. Gen. Gajendra Prasad in his conferment address briefed about the important role played by the NCC in developing its students into good citizens. He congratulated the Vice Chancellor for the honorary rank and said that we are proud of MPKV's service to the farmers. He handed the baton and parchment to Vice Chancellor. At the outset Group



Commander Brig. S. S. Mohite introduced the Chief Guest. Dr. D. D. Pawar, Associate Dean, DrASCAE&T gave an introduction of Vice Chancellor. Dr. R. N. Kenghe anchored the programme, while, Registrar Shri. Sopan Kasar proposed thanks. Col. Jeevan Zhende of Ahemdagar 17 Maharashtra Batallion, Dr. A. L. Pharande, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Shri. Vijay Kote, Comptroller, Shri. Milind Dhoke, University Engineer, Associate Deans Dr. P. A. Turbatmath, Dr. S. A. Ranpise, Heads of Department, university scientists, staff, NCC cadets and students were present in large number.

Regional prekarif training programme organized



May 2, 2019. A Regional prekarif training programme for Pune division was organized in the university in coordination with the State Department of Agriculture, M.S. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha presided over the programme. Shri. Suhas Divse, Commissioner, Agriculture, M. S. was the chief guest. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education, Shri. Vijaykumar Ghawate, Director, Extension and Training, Shri. Vijaykumar Ingle, Director, Quality Control and Inputs, Dr. P. N. Pogle, Director, Horticulture, Shri. Kailas Mote, Director, ATMA, Shri. Dilip Zhende, JDA, Pune and Shri. Vilas Nalage, DSAO, Ahmednagar were present on the dais. Vice Chancellor Dr. Viswanatha in his address stressed the need for preparedness of monsoon. The Department of Agriculture is a bridge between the farmers and SAUs. We are encountering new problems like pink bollworm of cotton, fall army worm of maize and white grub of sugarcane. Hence, wide spread awareness on its control measures is needed to be taken. The integrated farming system components are required for avoiding dependency on monocropping and assurity of income to the farmers, he said. He further concluded that an Agriculture Officer need to be a Family Doctor for the

farmers in understanding their problems and giving solutions and also reaching the unreached. Shri. Divse in his address emphasized the role and responsibilities of officers of Agriculture Department and expected for more dedicated work from them. He said that since training is an integral part of Extension agencies, it need to be taken seriously. He briefed on the preparedness, mitigation, response, evaluation and monitoring aspects. Our plan should be based on facts, figures and evidence, he said. Dr. Gadakh briefed about the research work of the university. Shri. Zhende gave the introductory remarks. Shri. Nalage anchored the programme. University scientists guided the officers of Agriculture Department during the one day training programme.

DG, MCAER, Pune visited MPKV, Rahuri and ICAR Farmer FIRST prog.



May 13-14, 2019. Shri. Mahendra Warbhuvan (IAS), Director General, Maharashtra Council of Agriculture Education and Research (MCAER), Pune visited MPKV, Rahuri. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. P. Viswanatha briefed him about the educational, research and extension education activities of the university. Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research and Extension Education presented the significant research accomplishments. Shri. Sopan Kasar, Registrar presented the

administrative status, Shri. Vijay Kote, Comptroller presented the financial status, Shri. Milind Dhoke, University Engineer presented the development works and Dr. P. A. Turbatmath, Associate Dean, PGI presented the education activities. Shri. Warbhuvan expressed satisfaction about the progress of activities and assured to fill the vacant positions. Dr. Harihar Kausadikar, Director, Education and Research and Dr. V. S. Shirke, Director, Extension of MCAER, Pune participated in the discussion. They visited the various research projects at CC, Rahuri.



May 14, 2019. Shri. Warbhuvan, DG, MCAER, Pune along with Dr. S. R. Gadakh, Director of Research, MPKV, Rahuri, Registrar Shri. Sopan Kasar and Directors of MCAER Dr. Kausadikar and Dr. Shirke visited the Chinchvihire village where the integrated farming system model is being implemented under the ICAR Farmer FIRST programme. Dr. P. B. Kharde, PI, ICAR FFP briefed them about the project and activities implemented. They visited

the Dal mill operated by the women Self Help Group. Further, they visited the bajra, tur crop demonstrations, backyard poultry, goat and cattle farm of participant farmer Shri. Anil Nalkar and pomegranate orchard of participant farmer Shri. Machindra Shete. Finally they had interactions with the ICAR FFP participant farmers.

Training on Python programming in Climate Smart Agriculture organized



May 4-5, 2019. A two day training program on Python programming in climate smart agriculture was organized by the Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST) for Climate Smart Agriculture and Water Management (CSAWM) project, MPKV, Rahuri. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. D. D. Pawar, Associate Dean, Dr. ASCAE&T, MPKV, Rahuri. Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, PI, CAAST, CoPIs Dr. M. G.

Shinde, Dr. A. A. Atre, Dr. Sachin Nalawade, Dr. B. K. Gavit and Er. Gajanan Kothawade, Data Scientist, Quantela Inc., Bangalore (India) were present. Dr. S. A. Kadam anchored the programme and also proposed vote of thanks. Trainees participated in this programme.

Exposure visit to Vaishnavdham (Buchkewadi) village organized under CAAST project



May 6, 2019. The CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri had organized a visit on Agro climatic networking at Vaishnavdham (Buchkewadi) village, Tal. Junner, Dist. Pune. On this occasion NABARD's Deputy Manager Dr. Ushamani, Assistant Manager Mr. Sachin Kamble, Mr. Nilesh Jondhale, Shri. Venkatesh Shete, Lupin Foundation, Mr. Chakradhar Borkute, Director of e-innovation technologies Pvt. Ltd, Dr. S. D. Gorantiwar, Principal Investigator, CAAST project, Co-PIs

Dr. M.G. Shinde, Dr. A. A. Atre, Dr. S. A. Kadam, *Sarpanch, Upsarapanch*, all the Grampanchayat members, villagers, farmers and ten Research Associates from CAAST-CSAWM project were present. During the exposure visit officers of NABARD and Lupine, progressive farmers and scientists from MPKV, Rahuri visited the farm pond, cropping system, crop varieties, horticulture field, poultry, dairy, fisheries, organic fertilizer project and vermi composting project at Buchkewadi village.

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