

Tour Report of Sh. T. P. Singh, Assistant commissioner (Oilseeds) and Smt. Arya Lekshmi, V., Senior Technical Assistant (Oilseeds) on participation in 23rd Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Rapeseed-Mustard, held at DUVASU, Mathura, UP



This tour was undertaken to attend 23rd Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Rapeseed-Mustard, held at DUVASU, Mathura, UP organized by ICAR-Directorate of Rapeseed-Mustard Research during 5-7th August, 2016. A brief tour report is given below:

The inaugural session started with lightening of lamp by the dignitaries. Dr. J. S. Sandhu, DDG (CS), ICAR, New Delhi was the Chief Guest of this Annual Group Meeting. The welcome speech was delivered by Dr. Dhiraj Singh, Director, DRMR, Bharthpur. He told that biotic and abiotic stresses along with growing conditions continuously challenging the production systems. Dr. B. B.Singh, ADG (OP), ICAR, New Delhi suggested to change the breeding programme and approaches as per the emerging challenges. He emphasized on the need of bringing the non-conventional areas, especially the rice fallows and peninsular region of the country under mustard cultivation. Dr. J. S. Sandhu, DDG (CS), ICAR, New Delhi had told about the importance of technological interventions such as hybrid and varietal replacement,

quality seed production and *Orobanche* management for improving mustard production and productivity in the country. Four publications were released by the dignitaries. Best performing centre awards were presented to CCSHAU, Hisar (Main center) and SKNCA, Jobner (Sub center) for 2015-16.



Lectures in key areas

The discussions were on enhancement of heterosis, Sclerotinia and Orobanche management, varietal replacement and GM crops. Emphasize was given to production of nucleus/breeder seed under mega seed project. Varietal demonstrations through front line demonstrations conducted in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were very successful and impressive. Conducting large number of demonstrations in potential areas of South India would enhance access to quality and high yielding seed with all production technologies. Discussions were also done on development of short duration, terminal heat tolerant varieties and good agronomic practices for enhancement of rapeseed-mustard production in southern India.

Planning and technical programme formulation

The appropriate date of sowing of seeds in different trials and proper monitoring of salinity trials were discussed. Suggestion has come to provide zero till drill and raised bed planters to some main centers of AICRP on Rapeseed-Mustard for mechanization of mustard based systems under conservation agricultural practices. Production issues of national importance along with location specific constraints were also discussed. Scientists should prepare disease distribution map and its correlation with weather parameters. There is need to monitor insect-pest scenario on oilseed crops with special emphasis on those in south India.

Breeder seed production

A presentation was made on detailed account of breeder seed production for the year 2015-16. It was informed that indents of 107.06 quintals of breeder seeds of 76 varieties of rapeseed-mustard were received from Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture, Govt.of India for breeder seed production. Against the indent of 107.06 quintals, 304.32 quintals breeder seed including carry over was produced indicating a surplus availability of 197.69 quintals. The status of registration of Rapeseed-Mustard varieties with PPV & FRA was also presented. Till date 37 varieties of Rapeseed-Mustard have been registered. The nucleus seed plots of their respective varieties should maintained properly for quality seed production. Varietal replacement rate should be increased through popularization of newly improved varieties. Issues of non-lifting of breeder seed were also presented and suggestion came to discuss this issue with DAC, GOI, New Delhi. A proposal came that the indenting agency should deposit at least 50% of the cost of breeder seed in advance to check the practice of non-lifting of breeder seed by different agencies. It was suggested to organize a meeting of Seed Corporation, seed production agencies and private seed companies to solve the issues with non-lifting of breeder seed.

Technology dissemination, management and impact analysis

The implementing agencies are conducting Front Line Demonstrations on Rapeseed-Mustard for dissemination of new technologies to farmers. For organizing

FLDs, adjoining villages of a panchayat have to be selected. Then PRA will be conducting for identifying the critical factors for low productivity. A group of multidisciplinary scientists should be involved in conducting FLDs.

Four hundred and fifty four FLDs on Rapeseed-Mustard were conducted by 20 cooperating centers in 55 districts across 13 states of the country under this project. Rajasthan had maximum (174) followed by Utter Pradesh (40) and Haryana (40) FLDs. One hundred seventeen FLDs were conducted on rapeseed and 337 on Indian mustard. All the demonstrations were conducted under whole package demonstrations in two different situations viz., irrigated (361) and rainfed (93). The productivity of Rapeseed-Mustard has been increased through FLDs. It was suggested to that FLDs should be conducted in different areas by identifying low, medium and high productivity levels so that critical factors contributing in productivity can be identified and accordingly strategies for dissemination of technologies can be prepared. Proper and precise feedback should be collected from different kind of farmers for better understanding of farmers for adoption of recommended technologies. The director of DRMR appreciated the cooperation of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare for providing large number of FLDs on rapeseed-mustard for the year 2016-17.

Centre wise allotment of FLDs on rapeseed-mustard for 2016-17

S.No.	Centre	Allotment
1	Khudwani	100
2	Kangra	20
3	Jammu	20
4	Hisar	20
5	Bawal	20
6	Sriganganagar	20
7	Ludhiana	50
8	Navgaon	20
9	Amity University	20
10	DUVASU, Mathura	100
11	ICAR-DRMR	450
12	RVSKVV,Morena	100
13	JNKV, Jabalpur	100
14	Kota	40
15	Pantnagar	40
16	Kanpur	20

17	Varanasi	30
18	Jobner	20
19	Nagpur	30
20	S.K.Nagar	50
21	Bhubaneshwar	15
22	Dholi	20
23	Berhampore	15
24	Kanke	30
25	CAU, Imphal	250
26	AAU, Assam	200
	Total	1800