इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ़ हॉर्टीकल्चर टेक्नोलॉजी
Institute of Horticulture Technology
Recognised by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
ISO 9001 : 2008

Monthly Newsletter I.H.T
Newsletter
February 2019 Volume 2 no.2

Contents

JOURNEY TOWARDS ORIGIN - SAVE TRADITIONAL LOCAL MANGO VARIETIES

Many traditional local mango varieties, vanishing owing to various factors like several development works, including road and highway widening and building projects. Today, Dakshina Kannada Zilla Panchayat of Karnataka has made use of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to conserve them.

"The Department of Horticulture, under panchayat, has raised 2,150 grafted seedlings of 15 local varieties at its Thumbe nursery under MGNREGA. The one-and-half-year-old seedlings are ready for sale to MGNREGA card-holders. The local names of the varieties developed are Chinakumbari, Rasalu, Betta Tukra, Mundappa, Puli Kukku, Ameen, Nekkare, Mundodi, Gili Mavu, Kadri, Mulubagilu, Bellare, Angadi Mavu, Varanasi and Narayana Kini. The grafted saplings will not lose the original properties of a variety. Because scion from the indigenous variety is grafted with the stock plant. Later the scion itself grows as the sapling retaining the original characteristics, a department official said. After learning about Mr. Bhat's conservation efforts, former Chief Executive Officer of the panchayat M.R. Ravi had taken the initiative to raise their seedlings under the MGNREGA."

TRAININGS AT IHT

Training Program on “Urban Landscaping” for Andaman & Nicobar Farmers

The agro-climatic conditions of Andaman and Nicober Islands are congenial for the horticultural crops like Fruits, Spices and Flowers. The Islands being biodiversity rich one, are the veritable treasure house of valuable medicinal aromatic and dye herbs, trees & shrubs. This month one training was conducted at IHT main campus at Greater Noida w.e.f. 4th to 8th February, 2019. It was a five day program and covered almost every aspects of garden and landscape designing. Participants were explained well on plant multiplication and propagation, raising of good quality nursery etc.

Well-known and highly competent faculties were involved in this training program. Detailed information about Design of Garden Components like shrubbery, hedges, Arches, Pergola and edges was discussed during the training. Farmers and accompanying officers appreciated the program the most also expressed their interest for future courses as well.

Officers and Progressive Farmers from Andaman & Nicobar participating in various activities during hands on training

Training Cum Exposure Visit Program for RHAC, Assam farmers

One Training Cum Exposure Visit Program was conducted on Protected Cultivation with Special reference to Organic Farming for farmers and officers of Assam. It was a three day program started from 21st February, 2019. Trainees were welcomed by Director IHT who briefly spoke about the IHT and about the importance of exposure visit to enhance knowledge to mitigate problems of the farmers. Post-inaugural participants were taken to National Center of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad. There they were welcomed by the Director, NCOF and then scientists guided them to show various organic inputs, their preparation and use in agricultural field. Dr. V. K Verma, Scientist explained about Green Logo and Organic Logo.

"Waste decomposer" made by NCOF is a boon to agriculture in his century. It is extremely good for crop production, soil health management and even good for controlling pathogen attacks. A 30 gms vial decomposes bio-waste of more than 10000 metric tons just in 30 days. Dr. Pooja Kanaujia, Scientist, explained all details about waste decomposer. Trainees were taken to Center of Excellence For Vegetable, Gharaunda on the next day. Centre of Excellence for Vegetables in Gharaunda of Haryana's Karnal district is the first Indo-Israel agricultural project in the country. The strawberry cultivation under mulching was a point of attraction where participants gathered knowledge about its cultivation and they understood that alternative way of income. Marigold cultivation was one itinerary in this visit, where trainees gathered information about additional income and benefit from this crop.

Interactive lecture session

Farmers of Assam during visit to National Centre of Organic Farming

Training of farmers from Nagaland

Central Institute of Horticulture selected IHT for training and exposure visit for farmers from Nagaland. On this context, a team of seventeen farmers along wiith one horticulture officer arrived on 24th of this month and impart in a four days training program on “Modern Horticultural Practices with Special Reference to Protected Cultivation and Micro Irrigation”. Participants were introduced to various kinds of greenhouses right from low cost zero energy NVPH to fully automated greenhouse. Coloured capsicum and tomato cultivation under polyhouse were points of interest. Vegetable scientists of IHT explained plug type nursery development to prepare healthy, disease free seedlings; intercultural operations of greenhouse vegetables to achieve optimum quality production and enhance income. They were demonstrated the way to maintain and increase soil health through composting and through waste management through vermicompsting.

Farmers and officers were delighted to know that on farm resources can help them not only in minimizing investment but also enrich their soil, environment and flora & fauna. Participants were also explained various micro-irrigation systems in detail, more emphasis were given on maintenance and cleaning of drippers. We have received decent feedback from the farmers. They have thanked our institute for conducting these type of training and exposure visit program.

Interactive lecture session during training

Various hands of experience activities at Technology Park

Self-Sponsored Trainings

Undergraduate students of Junagadh Agricultural University attended two different training course namely "Production Technology of Greenhouse Vegetable Crops" and "Production Technology of Cut Flowers in Greenhouse". The students were trained on the modern farming technologies in flower crops like Cut rose, Gerbera, Chrysanthemum and Dendrobium under polyhouse condition. Students learnt about greenhouse vegetable crops were also expressed their satisfaction and more eagerness to learn about greenhouse environment control.

Hydroponics, an alternate growing system i.e. growing plants in soil less media with the help of nutrient soultion. Nowadays, it is a growing area of commercial food production and also is used for home food production by hobbyists. Participants in this training program, learnt about the state-of-the-art techniques for producing food in a controlled environment in soilless setting with precise dosage of nutrient. Through seed sowing, preparation of nutrient solution, harvesting and post harvest preparation during hands on training participants learnt about plant behaviour, maintenance of quality nutrient and water.

Organic grower from Sri Lanka attended training to get acquainted with polyhouse construction and management in reference to vegetable production & hydroponics. He has expressed his best wishes and eagerness to make grower for up skilling Sri Lanka aware about the importance of tarining

Workshop on “Commercial Soilless Hydroponic Farming”

Two days workshop on hydroponic was delivered on 22nd and 23rd February, 2019. Hydroponics, by definition, is a method of growing plants in a water based, nutrient rich solution. Hydroponics does not use soil, instead the root system is supported using an inert medium such as perlite, rockwool, clay pellets, peat moss, or vermiculite. The basic premise behind hydroponics is to allow the plants roots to come in direct contact with the nutrient solution, while also having access to oxygen, which is essential for proper growth.

Nowadays people are getting interested to Hydroponic and modern horticulturists also has some inclination towards this alternative way of farming as it can be grown in any geographical location and does not need soil. Vertical farming is also possible in hydroponic which leads to gain more production from less land. Entrepreneurs from Delhi and Telangana participated in this program. They expressed their eagerness to get a training for longer period from the institution.

Hydroponic - an alternate crop production system at Technology Park

Exposure Visit of Gujarat Farmer

Exposure visits enable farmers from different regions to interact with and learn from each other, allowing them to view practical examples of successful integration of sustainable practices in farming communities like their own. In this context, Institute of Horticulture Technology organized a one-day program on 20th February, 2019

Fifty participants of Kheda district, State Gujarat underwent this one day intensive visit programme at main campus IHT, on the Topic “Modern Horticultural Practices”. The programme was well received as it was kept knowledge based supplemented with exposure visit. The Participants were offered the opportunity of one to one discussion with the instructors for discussing the queries. The education level of the participants being was good.

Farmers visiting innovative technologies used in horticulture

PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT – KEY TO THE HEALTHY HORTICULTURE PRODUCE

With rapidly changing climatic conditions, there is evidences that farmers are facing many challenges including plant care, new diseases and pests. The soil nutrient status and the management of pests are very important for successful crop production. Plant Clinics have a great role to play in addressing the gap and play a key role in helping farmers overcome the challenges.

Plant Clinics provide a meeting place for trained plant health advisors, known as plant doctors and the farmers they aim to serve. Plant clinics are not operated by plant wise, but rather by local extension officers who are well trained in the relevant techniques and skills to run a plant clinic. They provide diagnosis and advice on any problem and any crop.

Owing to this importance IHT conducted a capacity-building program for Officers of Department of Horticulture, Himachal Pradesh from this year. The trainees were made aware about the importance, layout and requirements of plant health clinic. Various interactive lectures by eminent experts on insect, disease, virus management was an important part of the training.

Soil plays a pivotal role on plant health, hence peer knowledge about soil, its amendment and management is required to make a balanced nutrition for crops. Participant officers were provided hands on training in soil analysis with STFR (Soil Testing & Ferti Recommendation) developed by IARI, Pusa, New Delhi.

FUTURE PROGRAMMES FOR MARCH 2019

Sr. No.	Courses	Duration
1	Production Technology of Greenhouse Vegetable Crops	3, 5 and 6 Days
2	Production Technology of Cut Flower in Greenhouse	3 and 5 Days
3	Mushroom Production	3 Days
4	Commercial Hydroponic	3 Days

इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ़ हॉर्टीकल्चर टेक्नोलॉजी
Institute of Horticulture Technology

ISO 9001 : 2008

Recognised by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

42A, Knowledge Park III, Greater Noida - 201310, Uttar Pradesh
Telephone: 011- 46604988, website: www.iht.edu.in, Email: enquiry@iht.edu.in, training@iht.edu.in