As new segments of maize for human consumption such as sweet corn and baby corn, etc. are emerging, these developments are expected to drive up the demand for the sweet corn and baby corn in periurban horticultural production systems. The cobs of sweet corn are high in sugar compared to field corn and eaten roasted or boiled, it tastes very good and has high demand in periurban and urban areas. One of the major constraints with its successful production is the standardization of nursery raising techniques for the crop. This is especially so because sweet corn seed being rich in sugar often succumb to attack of pathogenic fungi compounding with erratic germination under field conditions, this results in poor crop strands and thus loss of high value seeds.

Institute of Horticulture Technology known for developing crop production modules especially under protected conditions have successfully standardized the modern technique of raising plug nursery of sweet corn.

The “V” type transplants were raised in sterilized soilless media in the nursery greenhouse, hardened seedlings were transplanted in the field. In the protected conditions the nutrigation recipe developed and standardised for the seedlings were applied at different intervals resulting in healthy and uniform sweet corn seedlings. The seedling production could be timed according to the predictive market demands as with this technology seedling can be produced round the year.

With this technology every high value seed established into a healthy plant which resulted in a uniform crop stand. Sweet corn cobs for fresh market are harvested at high sugar and high moisture stage, therefore the perishability of the produce like most other vegetables calls for its quick marketing. It is for this reason that the cultivation of sweet corn in the peri urban areas around big cities and metros is catching up.

Complete Crop Production Module from raising of nursery to the harvesting of Sweet Corn standardized by IHT.

Innovative Sweet Corn Production Technology to Boost Peri Urban Horticulture

www.iht.edu.in
IHT Gets a Perfect Ten from Students of Mewar University

Institute of Horticulture Technology offered one month training programme on “Experiential Learning in Hi-Tech Horticulture” to B.Sc. (Agri) students of Mewar University Rajasthan. The training programme was organized on three dimensional model e.g. enhancing knowledge base through “Interactive Lectures”, experiential learning through “Hand on Training” and “Exposure Visits”.

At the end of the 30 days training programme, the trainees were provided with the feedback forms containing questions pertaining to level of satisfaction on various accounts, 18 students out of 21 graded our training programme perfect and awarded ten out of ten marks to the overall performance and standards maintained at IHT, three trainees graded our programme above eight out of ten. This not only validated our methodology but also complimented the whole team of faculty and supporting staff as well as state of the art infrastructure and training facilities that we have at IHT.

Feedbacks of Trainees

- It's our Pleasure to be in the IHT, I never forget this one month in my entire life. In the IHT the faculty is pretty awesome.

(Mohd Sharaz Khan, Student, Mewar University)

- हमें यहाँ नये सूझाव मिले, हम आई.एच.टी. का अपनी तरफ से धन्यवाद करते हैं।

(Kavnr Lal Verma, Farmer, Rajgarh MP)
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IHT conducted 13 training programmes of different durations during May and June for the benefit of farmers, extension officials and students. Some snap shots of the training programmes are given hereunder:

High Lights of Training Programmes during May and June 2016

Farmer batches receiving interactive lectures at IHT Wi-Fi enabled multimedia class rooms. Farmers knowledge base is built so that they can understand the Hi-Tech Horticultural production techniques at our Technology Park and customize them at their own farming situations.

Farmers get demonstration on innovative method of making small bunches of the produce of leafy vegetables like coriander, mint, fenugreek and Palak etc. through a low cost Innovative binding machine (right) introduced by IHT.

Dendrobium- A tropical orchid prompts farmers to take down notes on its protected cultivation in the shade nets house at IHT Technology Park.

How to start a meadow orchard of guava being demonstrated to the farmers at Technology Park of IHT.
Tips to Farmers

- July- August is the time to plant new fruit trees of citrus, guava, mango, Jamun and other evergreens. Obtain quality planting material from a standard and certified nursery.
- Sow vegetables like Okra, cucurbits, cow pea, cluster beans and Chaulai in rainy season
- Take care of drainage system in the open field cultivation
- Be prepared for control of fungal diseases those appear during rainy season
- Time to start marigold crop