

Farmer's Interest Group and Kisan Diwas organized at ICAR-IARI, Regional Station, Shimla

A farming system extension visit was organized at "Kyar" and "Panesh" village of district Shimla on 8th March, 2018 to look the performance of Barley variety BHS400 and BHS380, respectively. The performance of these varieties as compared to the Local variety grown by the farmers and that of the recommended and demonstrated line sown method as compared to sowing by broadcasting was very good. Farmers were happy with the new varieties of barley recommended and the line sown method (compared to broadcasting) demonstrated under the improved farming system technique. The women farmers of Kyar village were interested to know the other wheat and barley varieties released by IARI, Regional Station, Shimla. So, one day farmer's interest group and Kisan Diwas was organized on 15th March, 2018 to create awareness about recent high yielding varieties of wheat and barley developed for Northern Hill Zone. Dr K.K Pramanick, Head of the station, welcomed the women farmers at IARI, Regional Station, Tutikandi Centre and narrated about the importance of wheat and barley for this region. The women farmers were also educated about the crossing programmes followed and how a variety is developed. They were educated about the importance of using scientific methods of cultivation like improved varieties, line sowing and recommended fertilizer dose. The visit to glass house to show yellow rust disease of wheat and barley and how screening programme is done for getting disease resistant varieties was highlighted. This was followed by the field visit showing demonstration block and different Station and Co-ordinated trials. The farmer's group showed keen interest for adopting varieties of ICAR-IARI Shimla. This programme was co-ordinated by Dr Dharam Pal and Dr Madhu Patial who addressed the issues of wheat and barley cultivation, respectively to the farmers. In addition, Dr K.K Pramanick (Head of the station) and Dr A.K. Shukla (Incharge, Dhandha farm) also answered queries related to horticultural crops and diversifications.

Dr K.K.Pramanick
Head of the Station

