

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIP-LED EXTENSION WITH PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

Workshop on IARI-VO partnership programme on 8th October, 2015

A partnership-based extension programme was initiated by IARI with 29 Non-Government Organizations or Voluntary Organizations (VOs) from 11 states in the year 2009-10 for diffusion of IARI technologies all over India and technology baskets with seed, NRM and Plant Protection technologies are offered for demonstration, assessment, dissemination and replication across varied social, economic and agro-climatic situations of India. Two review workshops are organized each year before kharif and Rabi season to assess the performance of each VO partner in fulfilling the goal of the programme, to assess the quality of the technology offered and the extent of year-wise success of each technology in different weather condition. This year, a one-day workshop with VOs was organized, with the guidance of the Director, IARI, New Delhi, to review the performance of IARI technologies and the partners for the rabi season of 2014-15 on October, 08 at IARI, New Delhi. 27 VOs from 11 states of India attended the workshop conducted in the presence of Dr. Ravinder Kaur, PD, WTC and Dr. J. P. Sharma, Joint Director (Extension). Dr. S. L. Mehta, former Vice Chancellor, MPUAT, Udaipur was The Guest of Honour of the workshop. The day long deliberation revealed that, IARI technologies, especially the seeds of different crop varieties including wheat, oilseeds, pulses and vegetables are far superior to the prevalent local varieties in terms of yield, farmer's satisfaction and market friendliness. Despite unseasonal rain and hailstorm that devastated the rabi crop of many states, On an average, the yield of IARI wheat varieties namely, HD-2932, HD-3086, HD-3059 and HD-2967 were reported to be up to 58.43 q per ha, 58 q per ha., 52.50 q per ha. and 51.80 q per ha., respectively and the per cent increase of their yield over local varieties considered as checks were 27.22 per cent, 37.50 per cent, 94.05 per cent and 98.70 per cent, respectively at the farmer's field under the supervision of VO partners of various states. 51.86 per cent increased yield over local varieties were also recorded for mustard variety Pusa Vijay and for Pusa Tarak it was 37.87 per cent. Encouraging yield was also recorded for carrot, Pusa Rudhira (240 quintals per hectare) and pea variety, Pusa Pragati (up to 212 quintals per ha. – a 28.89 to 34.85 per cent increase over local check). Apart from yield, resistance to abiotic stresses like lodging, salinity and waterlogging in wheat variety, appearance of produce, consumer preference, market acceptability and advantage of short duration encouraged many farmers to produce or retain seeds of varieties. This adds to the increasing number of farmer to farmer transfer, procurement of IARI crop variety seeds by private and government organizations and burgeoning demand to establish local seed production facilities for Pusa crop varieties far and wide. Such examples put the Institute in a position to lead the country in future in farmer-friendly technology for climate smart agriculture and food security in disadvantaged area.



VO-JD (Extension) addressing delegates from Voluntary organization partners



VO-Guest of Honour interacting with delegates



VO-Dr. R. C. Chaudhary sharing his experience of Rabi crops