IARI Alumni Association (IAA)

&

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)

Speaker: Prof. Kadambot Siddique

Hackett Professor of Agriculture Chair & Director
The UWA Institute of Agriculture University of Western Australia (UWA), Crawley WA 6009, Australia

Join Zoom Meeting

Topic: 'Innovations in Adaptation to Climate Change in Dryland Agriculture'

Meeting ID: 873 6679 2581, Passcode: 562785

Chairman: - Dr. R.S. Paroda
President, IARI Alumni Association

At 3.00 pm on April 28, 2026

Venue

Dr. B.P. Pal Auditorium, IARI, New Delhi

Brief CV

Prof. Kadambot Siddique has more than 35 years' experience in agricultural research, teaching and management in Australia and overseas. He has developed a national and international reputation in agricultural science especially in the fields of crop physiology, production agronomy, farming systems, genetic resources, breeding research in cereal, grain and pasture legumes and oilseed crops.

He has conducted research on adaptation of crops to water deficits and the phenological, morphological, physiological, biochemical and genetic traits that enable crops to cope with various abiotic stresses. As a result of Professor Siddique's personal research and with others with whom he collaborates, Australia has become one of the major grain legumes exporting nations in the world. Professor Siddique's pioneering research on chickpea has contributed enormously to the Australian chickpea industry, which is currently valued at more than $1 billion per annum.

Professor Siddique is recipient of several national and international awards and to name a few: In 2025, Professor Siddique was awarded the 2024 Crawford Fund Medal; and Honorary Doctor of Science (DSc) (*honoris causa*) from Kerala Agricultural University, India; Western Australian Scientist of the Year 2023 by the Western Australian Government; 2019- Friendship Award from the Chinese Central Government (the highest award for a foreign expert) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to agricultural science and education in China; designated by United National FAO as Special Ambassador for the International Year of Pulses 2016.

Professor Siddique is a Fellow of: The World Academy of Sciences; Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering; Australian Agricultural Institute; National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Pakistan Academy of Sciences and African Academy of Sciences.

He has published >1000scientific papers, books and book chapters. Google Scholar h-index of 148 and 81,204 citations (28 December 2025).

He has developed an extensive network of scientists within Australia and a diverse range of countries overseas (China, India, Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Malaysia, East Timor, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Europe, Canada, USA).

Title: Innovations in adaptation to climate change in dryland agriculture

Summary

The agricultural region in southern Australia has a Mediterranean-type climate, characterised by winter dominant rainfall and hot, dry summers. Most crops are sown in autumn and harvested in late spring or early summer. Agricultural production in much of the region contends with hostile soils, low rainfall, and inter-seasonal rainfall variability, with terminal drought and heat stress in spring causing the greatest reduction in yields. In addition, global climate change is already impacting southern Australia through lower average winter rainfall and higher temperatures. Despite these constraints, agricultural production increased during the twentieth century due to improved agronomic practices, new varieties, and diversification of farming systems. However, climate change threatens future production levels in the region through increased risk of prolonged drought, higher average temperatures, particularly during the critical stages of flowering and grain filling, and more extreme temperatures. With high seasonal variability it is essential that maximum grain yields are achieved in average and better seasons. Crop simulation models have been widely used to assess the impact of climate change, but the lack of adequate experimental data hinders the accuracy of predictions. The greatest advances in addressing the challenge that climate change presents will come from research leading to a better understanding of crop physiology, agronomy and genetics that can enhance further improvements coupled with innovative farming systems. This research is needed now to develop crops adapted to the future climate in targeted growing regions. The implications of climate change and adaptation strategies such as, policy agronomic management, farming systems and crop breeding will be discussed in relation to future improvements in water use efficiency and food production in dryland ecosystems.

Tentative Programme

Date: April 28, 2026

Venue: Dr. B.P. Pal Auditorium, IARI, New Delhi-110012

15:00 hrs - Welcome	: Dr. Anil K. Singh *Secretary, IAA*
15:05 hrs - Opening remarks	: Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao *Director, IARI & Chief Patron, IAA*
15:10 hrs - Introduction of the Speaker	: Dr. R. C. Agarwal, *Vice President, IAA*
15:15 hrs – Lecture on: 'Innovations in Adaptation to Climate Change in Dryland Agriculture'	: Prof. Kadambot Siddique : *Hackett Professor of Agriculture* : *Chair & Director (UWA)* *Australia*
16:00 hrs - Interactive session *With faculty & students*	: Moderator-Dr. Anupama Singh *Dean & Joint Director (Edn.), &* *Patron, IAA*
16:50 hrs – Chairman's address & Felicitation of Speaker	: Dr. R. S. Paroda *President, IAA*
17:00 hrs - Vote of Thanks	: Dr. R. R. Burman *Treasurer, IAA*

TEA

Dr. R.S. Paroda
President, IAA

Prof. Kadambot Siddique
Speaker

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao
Director, IARI