



भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

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मिसिल सं. 15/5/2016- बीज दिनांक -19.04.2018

Subject: Approval and Comments of SMD on the proceedings of the RAC meeting of the ICAR-IARI, New Delhi – reg.

The RAC meeting of IARI was held on December 21-22, 2017 at Dr. M. S. Swaminathan Library Conference Hall under the Chairmanship of Dr. P.L. Gautam, Former Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Authority, New Delhi, Govt, of India. The other members who attended the research review were: Dr. C.L. Acharya (Former Director, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal); Dr. B. Mishra, former VC SKUAST, Jammu; Dr. S. P. Ghosh, former DDG (Hort.), Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary, APAARI; Sh. Ojing Aje, Arunachal Pradesh; Dr. K.V. Prabhu, Joint Director (Research) and Member Secretary, (RAC); Joint Director (Education), Joint Director (Administration), Heads of Divisions & Regional Stations, In-charge of Units, Comptroller and Principal Scientist (RPM-PME) also participated in the meeting. The RAC members namely, Dr. P.K Joshi, Dr. K.R. Koundal and DDG (Crop Science), ICAR could not attend the meeting. The salient recommendations along with comments of SMD are placed below for kind perusal and necessary action:

1. More emphasis needs to be laid on strategic research of national and international importance including nutritional quality enhancement in addition to the applied research on technological innovations. The material/knowledge generated should be shared	Agreed
and international importance including nutritional quality enhancement in addition to the applied research on technological innovations. The material/knowledge generated should be shared	Agreed
with the stake holders.	
2. Germplasm with unique trait not known earlier should be registered for its wider utilization.	Agreed
School of Horticultural Sciences	
1. There is need of involvement of geneticists/molecular biologists with horticulturists to assist in marker assisting breeding in otherwise difficult and time taking breeding of perennial horticultural crops. There should be a strong linkage with basic sciences group for strategic research with IIHR (Bangaluru) and	
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	NEH regions for promoting scientific cultivation of citrus fruits.	
2.	The Division of FHT should concentrate crop improvement	Agreed
	research mainly on their strength crops, namely, mango, citrus and	Agreed
	grapes. New crops in horticulture may be tested under protected	
	structures for increased water and nutrient use efficiency.	
3.	Emphasis on rootstock breeding in mango (dwarfness, salinity	Agreed
	tolerance), citrus (Phytophthora rot resistance), grape (salinity and	
	stress tolerance) and guava (wilt tolerance) be made. Wild species	
	in mango and guava should be studied / tried for possible use in	
	breeding programme.	
	Tangerine orange varieties showing promise should be promoted	Agreed
	for commercial cultivation in north India. Efforts should be made	
	to standardize integrated nutrient and disease management	
	strategies in different fruit crops using bio-fertilizer, bio- pesticides	
	and bio-control agents.	
5	In Floriculture CAD laboratory should be established. Landscape	Agreed
3.	part needs to be strengthened. Water Conservation is to be looked	
	into among the landscaping activities.	
6.	IARI being a premier institute, possibilities may be explored of	Not Agreed
	economically viable Agro tourist model blended with socio	
	cultural activities as these are required for generating awareness of	
	environment, sustainability etc.	
7	Sharda melon type of cucurbits should be tested in Kinnaur and	A
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	other cold desert areas of HP and J & K.	
8.	Developing facilities for large scale multiplication of healthy	Agreed
8.	planting material in different perennial horticultural crops.	Agreed
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3 4 5 5 6 6 7 7 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	Study on taxonomy of insects based on molecular analysis is not required except the one when we are studying within species variation or biotypes. It was suggested to rely on morphological data for such work. Funding from MOEF for studies on invasive pests such as Tutal absoluta may be explored. The findings on neck blast disease in rice needs to be up scaled. The observations on Brown plant hopper (BPH) outbreak study should also include insect threshold levels and other parameters besides number of rainy days. The molecular diagnostics-PCR and LAMP technology work should be used for making inference on epidemiological studies. For banana certification, Jain Irrigation, Jalna may be contacted for licensing IARI technology, as they are the major producer of tissue culture banana plants. Presence of khapra beetle, a storage pest, is a trade barrier. The scientists should work out the permissible Phosphine dosage required for control of Khapra beetle. For making formulations consisting of pine oil and eucalyptus oil to control whitefly, methodology should be worked out.	Agreed
	It was suggested to have practical problem solving basis for any such barcode based study of the penicillium isolates or any other study.	Agreed
	Presently the Soil Health Card (SHC) being given to the farmers is only a soil fertility status as soil health is an attribute of physical, chemical and biological properties. Organic carbon also represents biological activity as well. For soil physical status onetime determinable values of soil texture, infiltration rate, available water capacity (AWC) and bulk density may be included to make it complete Soil Health Card providing information on water entry in to the soil profile, water availability, resistance to root growth and proliferation, besides nutrient status. This is essential for increasing input use efficiency. Efforts should be made in this direction to include these parameters in the SHC.	Agreed
	Research on solution oriented innovative approaches in identification of microbes/microbial consortia for rapid and efficient decomposition of sewage sludge/urban/rural biowaste/garbage and industrial affluent should find top priority for conversion of waste to wealth for enhancing soil health. Extensive work on study of root architecture of different crops in the field should be initiated with an objective to increase water and nutrient use efficiency. Water and nutrient use efficient cultivars may be evaluated for different magnitudes of abiotic stresses.	Agreed

	 The national phenomics facility should be efficiently utilized for gene tagging/QTL identification related to input use efficiency, abiotic stress(es) management and other requirements of significant importance and also should be made available to other research organizations. The donors/genotype(s) identified for possessing novel characteristics should be registered for their utilization by all the stakeholders. 	Agreed
VI.	School of Social Sciences	
	Efforts should be strengthened for imparting trainings for entrepreneurship development and follow up should be documented.	Agreed
	2. Case study should be conducted for farmer producer companies employing different market channels with more emphasis on	Agreed
	perishable horticultural produce. 3. Technology assessment programmes should be conducted in different regions involving regional stations and farmer's feedback should be documented.	Agreed
	The scientists should develop MNE framework for assessment of technologies.	Agreed
	5. To reduce the food loss, holistic value chain research should be conducted.	Agreed
VII	Post Graduate School	
	RAC opined that ICAR should be approached for provision for utilizing HRD funds for-	Agreed
	 (i) Post Doctoral fellowship and international visits by scientists; (ii) Dedicated overseas-associateship programme for faculty upgradation and 	
	(iii)One time seed grant for newly joined scientists.2. The course on International Agriculture should be renamed to International Agriculture Development.	Agreed
	3. There is lack of knowledge about agriculture legislation. A course may be started on it.	Agreed
VIII	Administration/ Finance	
	For deploying/selecting human resource for IARI, Assam, persons should be selected having work experience of those areas. Changes made in financial management for its betterment during	Agreed
	2. Changes made in financial management for its betterment during the last year should be presented. The possibility of application of signing cheques through mobile based app may be worked out.	Agreed
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Assistant Director General (Seed)