

Agripreneurship Development Program on "Development of Smart Snacks with Millets: A Wholesome Revolution"

The ZTM BPD Unit, in collaboration with the Division of Food Science and Postharvest Technology, successfully organized a six-day Agripreneurship Development Program titled "Developing Smart Snacks with Millets: A Wholesome Revolution" at ICAR-IARI from 15 to 19 June 2026. The program was inaugurated on 15th June 2026 in the gracious presence of Dr. R.S. Padaria, Honourable Joint Director (Extension). Designed by Course Coordinator Dr. Akriti Sharma and Course Directors Dr. Dinesh Kumar and Dr. Shalini Gaur Rudra, the curriculum was crafted to equip participants with comprehensive knowledge of the millets value chain, including processing techniques, economic viability, and scalable technologies suited for small-scale enterprises. The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from 27 trainees representing 14 states across India, including students, working professionals, and homemakers.



The training agenda featured expert-led lectures, immersive hands-on sessions, and interactive discussions by eminent food processing specialists. Participants visited Ancient Golden Mills in Najafgarh and engaged with successful entrepreneurs Mr. Ankur Singh, Ms. Palak Arora, and Ms. Himani Budhiraja, gaining practical insights into establishing millet-processing

enterprises. These interactions provided real-world exposure to the challenges and opportunities in the agri-food sector.

The valedictory session on 19th June 2026 was graced by Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director of ICAR-IARI, who congratulated participants on successfully completing the training and highlighted the immense business potential of millets. He encouraged aspiring agripreneurs to learn from successful startups and adopt innovative approaches for building sustainable enterprises. He emphasized that millet-based products can significantly contribute to nutrition, value addition, and income generation while strengthening agri-businesses. Dignitaries unveiled the training manual during the event, and Dr. Akriti Sharma offered a vote of thanks. The program received highly positive feedback, with participants expressing confidence in applying their learned skills to develop millet-based startups, further strengthening millet entrepreneurship in the agri-food sector.





Trainings

Division of Food Science and Postharvest Technology
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi-110012

Trainings organized: ADP for Agripreneuers

S. No.	Date	Name of the Trainings	Participant Applied	Funded by
1.	22 to 27 August, 2022	Processing techniques of Horticulture & arable crops	13	DST Pusa Krishi
2.	21 to 25 November, 2022	Processing of millets and alternative foods	15	DST Pusa Krishi
3.	20 to 24 March, 2023	Value addition technology for millets	34	DST Pusa Krishi
4.	04 to 08 December, 2023	Processed Food Products from Millets	29	DST Pusa Krishi
5.	15 to 20 January, 2024	Novel processing techniques for horticultural and arable crops	19	DST Pusa Krishi
6.	5 to 10 August, 2024	Innovative processing technologies and functionalized food products	31	DST Pusa Krishi
7.	8 to 13 September, 2025	Recent Avenues in Food Processing for Agri-tech Startups	34	DST Pusa Krishi



ADP Trainings on Millets processing



ADP Trainings on Novel Processing Techniques for Horticultural and Arable Crops

Trainings organized: Under projects (off-campus)

Name of the Trainings	Duration	No. of Trainees	Funding Agency
Preservation of ber fruits and visit to processing units.	2 days/13-15 March, 2024	40	DSIR
Custard apple pulp drying and powder preparation and visit to custard apple processing units	2 days/19-21 March, 2024	40	DSIR
Training Programme on Processing and Value Addition of Agri-Products	2 days/14-15 March, 2024	28 (SC Farmers)	SCSP Plan
Training Programme on Processing of shelf stable Ready-to-Eat plant based products cum seed distribution day	2 days/25-26 April, 2024	28 (SC women Farmers)	SCSP Plan
Training Programme on Novel Processing Techniques for Horticultural and Arable Produce cum seed distribution programme	2 days/11-12 September, 2024	55 (SC women farmers)	SCSP Plan
Processing Techniques for Horticultural and Arable Crops	2 days/13-14 October, 2025	100 (SC women Farmers)	SCSP Plan
Processing and Preservation of Horticultural and Arable Produce	2 days/12-13 May, 2026	250 (SC farmers)	SCSP Plan



Training under SCSP plan in Uttarakhand



Training cum seed distribution day under SCSP plan

Glimpses of Trainings



ADP trainings on functionalized food products



ADP trainings on Millets processing



Interaction with trainees



Exposure visit of farmers of Bihar



Off Campus trainings on value addition of agriproducts



Hands on training for Millet based cookies to Government School Teachers



World Food day on 15-16 Oct, 2024



Winter school on Recent Advances in Food Processing Technologies for Agri-Horti Produce (15 Jan-5 Feb, 2025)