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CENTRAL COTTON RESEARCH INSTITUTE, MULTAN



Pakistan Central Cotton Committee
Ministry of National Food Security & Research
Old Shuja Abad Road, Multan, Pakistan

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Community Level Awareness Raising Seminars on FPRW at CCRI Multan on 27-28 Feb 2019

The International Labour Organization (ILO) in collaboration with CCRI Multan organized two-days' workshop "2-Community Level Awareness Raising Seminar on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW)" for cotton growing communities (farmers, workers and their families) from February 27-28, 2019. Mr. Usman Aslam, representative from INDITEX, Mr. Ejaz Ahmad, representative from CIWCE, Ms Jamila Nawaz, FAO, Mr. Ijaz Ahmad, Mr. Faisal Iqbal and Dr. Javed Iqbal, Resource Persons from ILO attended the workshop. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan chaired the session. More than 100 farm labourers, cotton farmers and their families attended the program. The speakers deliberated upon decent work, equality without any discrimination of basic human rights, (worker's health and well-being), issues of forced labour, child labour and low-paying for women. The workshop emphasized for capacity building of the key actors involved in the cotton supply chain and awareness raising on fundamental principles and rights at work (FPRW) that essentially includes child and forced labour for the cotton growing communities (farmers and workers) emerged as one of the common recommendation.



TRAINING PROGRAMS

Cotton Farmers of WWF-Pakistan, Shuja Abad

CCRI Multan organized a one-day training program on February 25, 2019 for the contracted cotton farmers of WWF-Pakistan. Around 100 cotton farmers from Shuja Abad attended the program. Lectures about cotton plant nutrition management and best agronomic practices for cotton production were delivered. Later, the farmers also visited fields and farm machinery at the Institute.



Cotton Classers of PCSI, Multan

CCRI, Multan organized one-day training program on Feb 14, 2019 for the Cotton Classers of Pakistan Cotton Standards Institute (PCSI), Multan. 19 Cotton Classers attended the program. Lectures on cotton production technology, best agronomic practices and fibre quality improvement were delivered.



Master Trainers of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan

CCRI Multan organized 2-days training program on Cotton Production Technology for the Master Trainers of Agriculture Extension and Research officials from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces from February 12-13, 2019. A total of 13 trainees (6 from KPK and 7 from Balochistan) attended the program. Lectures were delivered on profitable agronomic practices, varietal development, nutrient management, insect pests & disease management, fibre testing, and ways and means for technology transfer to the growers. Moreover, implements used in cotton production system including mechanical cotton picker were also introduced to the trainees. A training guide and brochures on cotton production technology were also distributed among participants. Later, the participants also visited laboratories, experimental farm, stores & ginneries, meteorological station, and cold room chamber.



Visit of Agriculture Experts

Dr. Muhammad Anjum Ali, Director General Agriculture (Extension), Punjab and Dr. Zahoor Ahmad, former Director CCRI Multan visited cotton fields at the Institute on February 6, 2019. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefing about the cotton field specified for mechanical picking. The

visiting officials appreciated the cotton research and development activities and introduction of mechanical cotton farming at the Institute.



Visit of Member National Assembly, Khanewal

Mr. Muhammad Khan Daha, MNA from Khanewal visited CCRI Multan on Feb 15, 2019. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan apprised about the cotton research and development activities carried out by the Institute. Ch. Gohar Ali, Progressive grower also present on the occasion.



“1st Organic Cotton Bale & Supply Chain” meeting

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan attended the “1st Organic Cotton Bale & Supply Chain” meeting organized by WWF Pakistan on 30.01.2019 at AA Cotton Industries, Sadiq Abad. WWF-Pakistan is implementing Organic Cotton Production project in three districts of Balochistan in collaboration with Agriculture Extension Department Govt. of Balochistan since 2016. CCRI Multan also contributed in the provision of non-GMO seed for planting in Balochistan and endures to cooperate with WWF for organic cotton production in future as well.



Retirements

A farewell party was organized in honor of Mr. Abdul Sattar and Mr. Muhammad Siddique, Laboratory Attendant, Plant Breeding & Genetics Section. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan appreciated the hard work and dedication of both the officials and wished well for their future. Dr. M. Idrees Khan, Head, Plant Breeding & Genetics also lauded the services rendered by the officials. Souvenirs and gifts were also presented to the retiring officials by the sectional staff.



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