

September, 2019

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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TRAINING PROGRAM "COTTON MEALYBUG MANAGEMENT"

Cotton Mealybug has emerged an important pest of the cotton crop and its increased infestation has also been observed during the current season as well. The Institute has thus planned to conduct one-day training program "Management of Cotton Mealybug" held on September 5, 2019, specifically for the field staff of Agri Ext Deptt, Punjab. 20 Agriculture Officers from the Agriculture Extension Department Punjab attended the program. The objective of the training program is to refresh and upgrade the knowledge of extension agents who will, in turn, guide the farmers for management of Mealybug. The training included lectures on biology, host plants and control measures of the Mealybug. Lectures on Insecticide Resistance Management and Effective Spray Application Techniques were

also delivered. Later, a practical demonstration of control in the field was also shown to the participants.

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan hoped that the knowledge gained at the Institute will benefit the extension officials who will ultimately guide properly for the effective management of Cotton Mealybug.





ICARDA COTTON PROJECT REVIEW

Dr. Abdul Majeed, Country Manager; Mr. Muhammad Arshad, Cotton Consultant and Ms Sameera Younas, Consultant, ICARDA visited CCRI Multan in connection with reviewing of activities under cotton project. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed about the cotton research and development activities at the Institute. The ICARDA team appreciated the research work conducted at the Institute for evolution of cotton varieties



SEMINAR "SUSTAINABLE COTTON PRODUCTION"

PCCC/CCRI Multan and Department of Entomology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad jointly organized Cotton Stakeholder Dialogue "Sustainable Cotton Production, its Decline Issues" on September 20, 2019 at UAF, Faisalabad. Syed Fakhar Imam, Chairman, Kashmir Committee & Progressive Cotton Farmer, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Vice Chancellor, University of

Agriculture Faisalabad, Dr. Khalid Abdullah, Dr. Zahid Mahmood attended the meeting. Cotton planners, researchers, expansionists, academicians, stakeholders and progressive farmers attended the meeting. The deliberations were to formulate strategy for sustainable cotton production in the country.



WORLD COTTON DAY

The 7th October has been designated by the WTO, FAO & ICAC for global celebrations as WORLD COTTON DAY to highlight the importance of cotton crop in the economies of the developing countries. Accordingly, PCCC / CCRI Multan has also planned to celebrate this day. CCRI Multan will hold a seminar inviting cotton researchers, planners and farmers to deliberate the importance of cotton crop and measures for its revival in areas where production is on the decline. An exhibition is also planned for

showcasing advanced lines, farm implements, pest control equipments, and beneficial insects. A preparatory meeting was held to invite proposals for celebrating World Cotton Day on October 07, 2019. Dr. Abid Mahmood, Director General Agri (Research) Punjab; Mr. Arif Makhdum, Cotton Connect Pakistan, Dr. Muhammad Nawaz A Malik, Mr. Waheed Akhtar, Kanzo AG, Mr. Abdul Rasheed Bhatti, Hashim Ali, WWF Pakistan, Lt. Col. S. Baqar Ahsan (Rtd), progressive grower from Lodhran, Dr. Sajid Farid, Mr. Tariq Javaid, FFC Multan and officials from CCRI Multan attended the meeting.

Proposals for highlighting importance of cotton crop in the economy were discussed and finalized for execution on World Cotton Day. The members also appreciated the initiative taken by the Institute for celebrating this day.

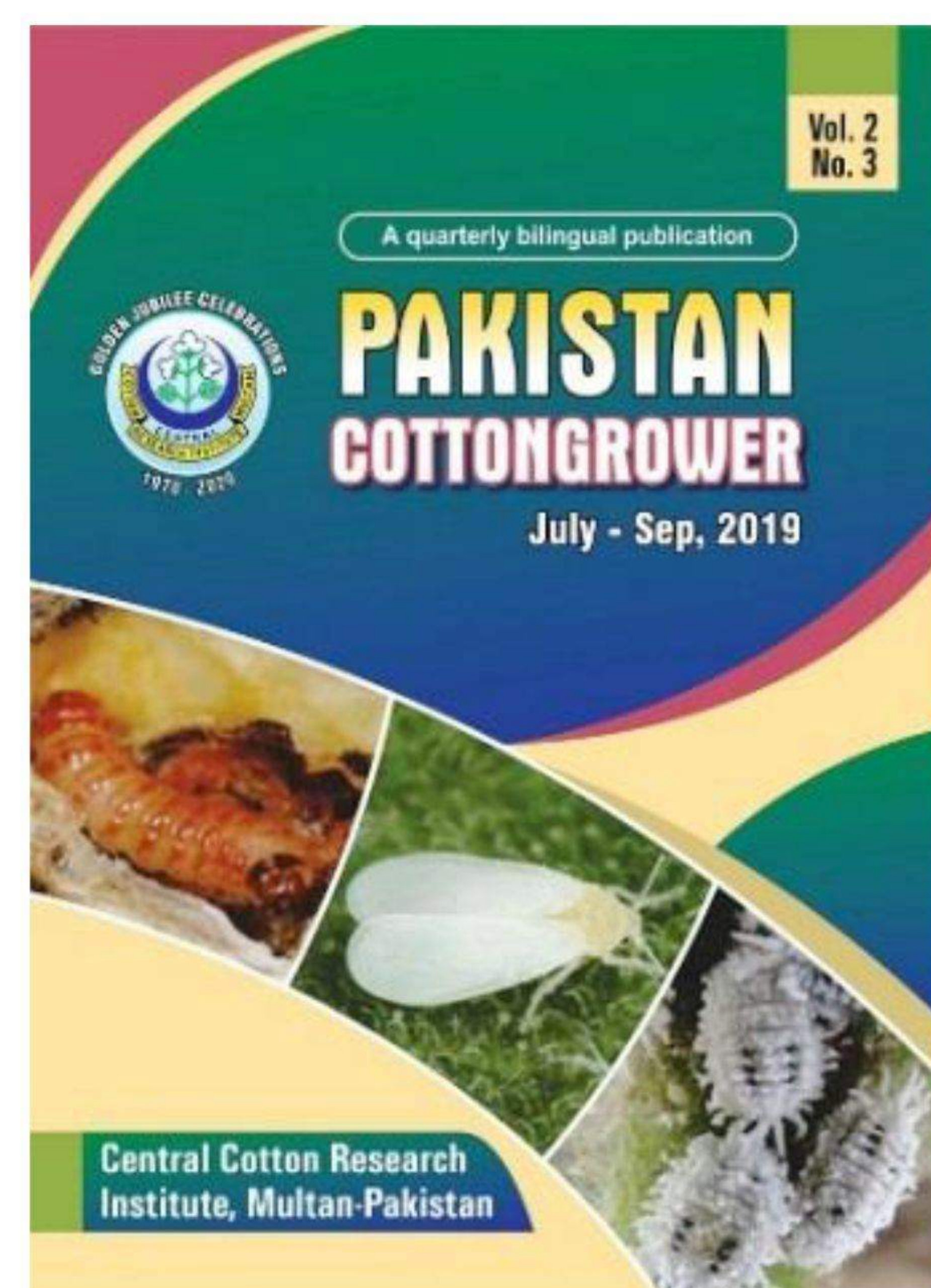
TRAINING PROGRAM "CLEAN COTTON PICKING"

CCRI Multan in coordination with WWF Pakistan, BCI Pakistan and Department of Agriculture Extension Punjab organized a seminar "Clean Picking and Better Cotton Production" at Chak 4 Faiz, Dera Muhammad Ishaq -Numberdar, Shujbad Laar Road, Multan on 23.09.2019. Cotton farmers of the areas participated in the seminar. Lectures on clean picking, storing and transportation were imparted.



PUBLICATION OF PAKISTAN COTTONGROWER

The third edition of the Pakistan Cottongrower have been published. English articles included use of biopesticides, cotton plant mapping, potassium deficiency in cotton, and factors affecting low per acre yield of cotton in Pakistan.



While, Urdu articles included hazardous effects of pesticide application, whitefly control, evolution of natural colored cotton, clean cotton picking, fibre properties, and brief report on training program about Cotton Mealybug management.

The publication is being disseminated to the cotton growers, researchers, academicians, planners and agriculture students. The journal is being published for the guidance of cotton farmers in cotton crop management and articles are published according to the specific quarter.

VISIT TO FARMERS' FIELDS

Dr. Zahid Mahmood Director CCRI, Multan visited trials of high yielding cotton varieties/strains developed by CCRI, PCCC at different location of Punjab. Almost all cotton varieties/strains performing very well at Rahim Yar Khan and

Bahawalpur Districts. The performance of the cotton varieties i.e., CIM 785 GH-Himalia GH-Sultan and Cyto 535 shows potential to increase cotton production in the country.



VISIT OF COTTON FIELDS

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI, Multan visited trials of high yielding cotton varieties/strains developed by CCRI, Multan at different locations of Punjab. Almost all cotton varieties/strains performing very well at Lodhran and Bahawalpur districts. The farm of Mr. Abdul Rehman and Col. Baqir, Lodhran, the cotton crop was managed properly, however, whitefly and Pink bollworm damages were observed. Mr. Zubair Farm's cotton got a maximum height of more than 8 feet.



VISIT OF FAO DELEGATION

The delegation from FAO comprising Ms Jessie Fagan, Decent Rural Employment Consultant; Ms Ariane Genthon, Child Labour Expert; Dr. Shakeel Ahmad Khan, Seed Sector Consultant and Mr Jam Muhammad Khalid, Participatory CSA Extension Specialist visited CCRI Multan.

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed about cotton research and development activities carried out by the Institute. The visitors appreciated the research work conducted especially in evolution of colored cotton varieties.



KASHMIR SOLIDARITY DAY

Following the directives from the Federal Government, the staff of CCRI Multan also observed the Kashmir Solidarity Day on Friday, the August 30, 2019. Slogans and banners were prepared against the imposition of Article 370 in Indian Occupied Kashmir. A walk was organized in favour of Kashmir as well.



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