

January, 2019

CENTRAL COTTON RESEARCH INSTITUTE, MULTAN



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

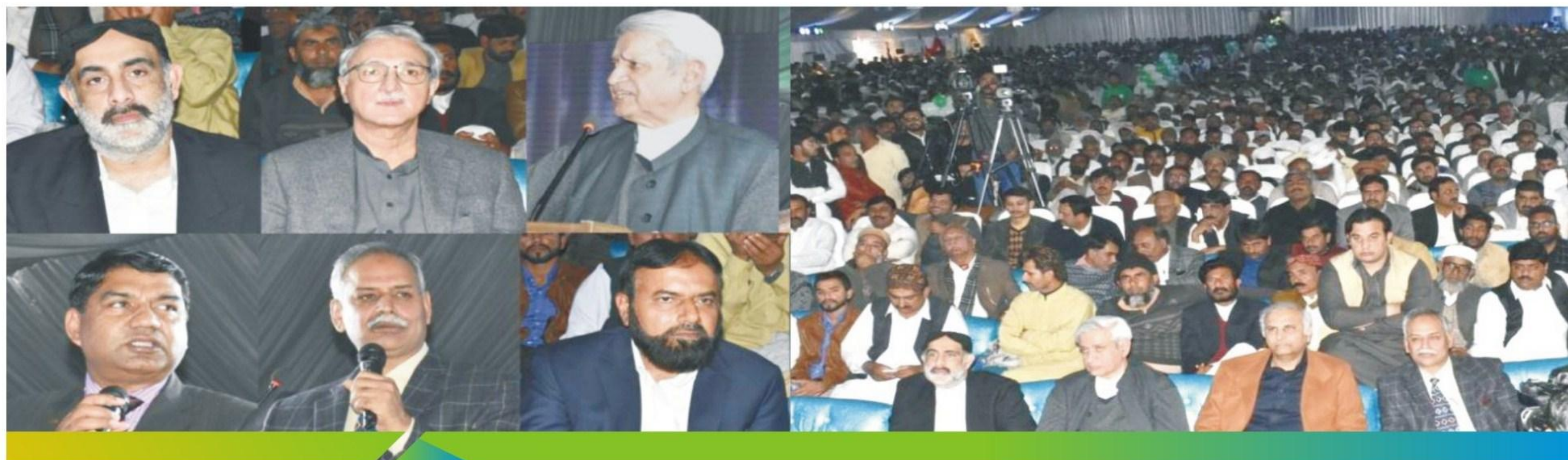
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.ccrim.org.pk

www.facebook.com/CCRIM.PK

National Cotton Seminar

Sahibzada Muhammad Mehboob Sultan, Federal Minister for Ministry of National Food Security & Research chaired the cotton seminar “Kapas Ugao, Maheeshat bachao, Zar-e-mubadila kamao” (Grow Cotton, Save Economy and Earn Foreign Exchange) held at Multan on January 07, 2019. The seminar was organized by Pakistan Kissan Ittehad and CCRI Multan in collaboration with Fatima Group of Companies. Syed Fakhre Imam, Member National Assembly, Syed Hussain Jahania Gardezi, Member Punjab Assembly, Mr. Khalid Mahmood Khokhar, Chairman Pakistan Kissan Ittehad, Mr. Khurram Javed Maqbool, Director Marketing and Sales at Fatima Group, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, MNSUA Multan; Dr. Khalid Abdullah, Cotton Commissioner, and Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan also attended the sessions. Mr. Jahangir Khan Tareen also participated as a Special Guest.



Sahibzada Mehboob Sultan, Minister for National Food Security while addressing the gathering, stated that all efforts will be made for achieving the target of 15 million bales of cotton production during the year 2019 through the measures proposed for area expansion, seed technology development, support measures and improved extension services. Federal Minister said that the foremost priority of our government is to increase the yield of cotton. We are focusing on formulating a strategy regarding increase in cotton cultivation areas and decrease in input cost. He said that planning regarding water conservation, train the cotton farmers with modern techniques, special focus on small farmers, to do away with complicated laws and upgrade them improve cotton mechanization and provision of best cotton seeds. Federal Minister further stated that federal and provincial research centers are working on cotton research and these centers have developed cotton varieties which would ward off leaf curl; a lethal cotton plant disease, succeeded against mealy bug which was so drastic a bug that wreaked havoc on cotton fields and in past incurred 2-3 million cotton bales loss. Moreover, these centers have worked on methods where water could be saved and mechanization of cotton picking. He further said that research centers would be strengthened with generous research funding.

Talks on various aspects of cotton production & marketing were presented by Dr. Khalid Abdullah, Cotton Commissioner, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, VC, MNSUA Multan; Dr. Saghir Ahmad, Director Cotton Punjab; Mr. Baig from Fatima Group of Companies, Ms Rabia Sultan, cotton grower from Kot Addu, Mr. Khalid Khokhar, President, Kissan Ittehad and Mr. Asif Majeed, President, Evyol Group.

Visit of Agriculture Officials from Balochistan

Dr. Muhammad Javaid Tareen, Director General Agriculture (Research), and Mr. Inam ul Haq, Director General Agri (Extension) Quetta, Balochistan visited CCRI Multan on 17.01.19. Dr. Saghir Ahmad, Director Cotton Punjab and Mr. Habib ur Rahman, Technical Manager, Bayer CropSciences Multan also

participated. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the guests about cotton research and development activities carried out by the Institute. He stated that CCRI Multan organized training programs for agriculture researchers, extensionists and farmers of Balochistan every year. He also hoped that CCRI Multan will further accelerate collaborative programs. Moreover, PCCC has also established Cotton Research Stations at Lasbela and Sibbi in Balochistan for cotton crop development.



Dr. Muhammad Javed Tareen, Director General Agriculture Research Balochistan said that a joint working group of cotton experts from Punjab and Balochistan would be formed soon to bring improvement in cotton research and cultivation in Balochistan. Dr. Javed Tareen said there existed opportunities in Balochistan for cotton research and development and underlined the need for effective liaison between experts from both provinces at provincial level. Mr. Inamul Haq, Director General Agriculture Extension Balochistan said that CCRI Multan can play an important role in guiding and training Balochistan farmers to get good cotton yield. He further stated that Agriculture Department Balochistan would take practical steps to benefit from expertise of CCRI Multan scientists. He said that all out efforts would be made to increase cotton sown area in Balochistan.

Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan offered to hold training programmes for guidance and training of Balochistan farmers and reiterated commitment to make all out efforts to meet the 15 million bales cotton production target given by Prime Minister Imran Khan for the year 2019. He further informed that the upcoming cotton varieties are being evolved keeping in view the change in weather behaviour. The delegation also visited different parts of CCRI Multan, experimental fields and witnessed demonstration of mechanized picking of cotton.

Cotton Production Plan 2019-20

Miss Benish Fatima, Additional Secretary Task Force, Agriculture Department, Punjab chaired the meeting about the finalization of Cotton Production Technology 2019 -20 at AARI, Faisalabad on 16-01-19. DG Research (Punjab), Directors CCRI Multan, CRI Multan, RARI, Director Coordination Punjab,

Academicians, Scientists of Basic and Adaptive Research Punjab, Extension, Pest Warning, PCPA, Seed corporations, state dept. representatives attended the meeting and gave their valuable suggestion to improve the cotton Production Technology for the cotton crop season 2019-20. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan attended the meeting and suggested measures to be adopted for the cotton productivity enhancement during the crop season. He also suggested that collaborative programs for cotton farmers training and management of Pink bollworm & cotton whitefly campaigns must also be continued during the current season for cotton productivity enhancement in the province.



Visit of Ms Rabia Sultan, Progressive Cotton Farmer Multan

Ms Rabia Sultan, progressive cotton farmers from Kot Addu, Muzafargarh visited CCRI Multan on 08.01.2019. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed her about the cotton research and development activities carried out at the Institute. Dr. Khalid Abdullah, Vice President, PCCC also accompanied. Later, she visited cotton field for mechanical cotton picking, entomological and fibre technological laboratories of the Institute.



Visit of Delegation from SIA Foundation

A delegation from Sustainability, Innovation, Advocacy (SIA) Foundation, Karachi visited CCRI Multan on 29.01.2019. The delegation comprises Mr. Imran Asghar, Head of Sustainable Raw Materials; Mr. Ali Asghar, Head of Information Technology & Social Media; and Mr. Murtaza Tajri, Head of Impact & Communication. The SIA Foundation is working on producing organic cotton with non-GMO seeds through a trial project in Uthal, Balochistan on an area of 12 acres. The organization now intends to expand



organic cotton cultivation in the province. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan briefed the delegation about cotton research and varietal development program carried out at the Institute.

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 provision of non-GMO seed for planting in Balochistan and endures to cooperate with WWF for organic cotton production in future as well.



Training Program “Leadership Skills”

CCRI, Multan organized one-day training program "Leadership Skills" on 28.01.19. Mr. Habib ur Rehman, Regional Technical Manager, BayerCrop Science Pvt Ltd., Multan was the resource person. Cotton scientists from the CCRI Multan, CRS, Sahiwal, and CRS Ghotki attended the program. Prizes were also distributed among winners of the competition. Dr. Zahid Mahmood, Director CCRI Multan also presented an honorary shield to Mr. Habib ur Rehman for conducting an effective training program for the scientists of CCRI Multan.



Central Cotton Research Institute, Old Shuja Abad Road, Multan

Phone: 92-61-9201128, Fax: 92-61-9200342,
Web: www.ccrim.org.pk Email: ccri.multan@yahoo.com