

INDIAN AGRONOMY NEWS

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Golden Jubilee National Symposium on Conservation Agriculture and Environment Organized at BHU, Varanasi

Indian Society of Agronomy organized the Golden Jubilee National Symposium on Conservation Agriculture and Environment at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi during 26-28 October, 2006. The Symposium was inaugurated by Dr C.D. Mayee, Chairman, ASRB in the presence of a galaxy of scientists including Dr Panjab Singh, Vice Chancellor, BHU, Varanasi; Dr D.P. Singh, Vice Chancellor, JNKVV, Jabalpur and President, Indian Society of Agronomy; Dr S.R. Singh, Director, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, BHU; Dr IPS Ahlawat, Secretary, ISA; and Dr Kalyan Singh, Head, Department of Agronomy, BHU and local Organizing Secretary of the Symposium. The various speakers highlighted the impor-



Dignitaries at the inaugural function of Golden Jubilee National Symposium held at BHU, Varanasi

tance of conservation agriculture in view of the several emerging problems related to resource degradation and environmental concerns. Eminent Agronomists were awarded by the ISA for their outstanding contributions.

The first Dr N.K. Anant Rao Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr S.C. Modgal on the topic "India's energy security turns green". Six technical sessions were held on the following themes: (i) Conservation tillage and crop establishment techniques, (ii) Rainwater management and water saving technologies, (iii) Crop diversification and integrated farming systems, (iv) Emerging trends in nutrient management, (iv) New paradigms in weed management, and (vi) Reorientation of agricultural education. Dr. Panjab Singh delivered a plenary lecture on 'Agriculture and India Today', in which several policy issues for improvement of the dismal agricultural scenario in the country were highlighted. Dr. Ambika Singh also presented a plenary lecture on 'Fifty Years of Indian Society of Agronomy'. The Symposium was attended by a record number of over 400 Agronomists.

Major recommendations from the various deliberations are given below:

- Resource conservation technologies

should form an important component of the regional strategy for sustainability of natural resources.

- A holistic approach should be followed for improving water productivity of rainfed and irrigated cropping systems.
- Crop diversification should consider price policies of farm commodities in relation to cost of cultivation, import duties and resource availability; and it should not be at the cost of food security.
- Improving system efficiency through introduction of suitable intercrops as pulses and oilseeds may be a good tool to increase farm income. Further, introduction of legumes and other high value crops once in 3 years in the system is a good alternative to address certain weed and pest problems on one hand and ensuring higher productivity on the other.
- Ecological approach in weed management should be adopted for environmental safety and sustainability. Herbicide resistance crops and allelopathy will play major role in weed management.
- Reorientation of agricultural education with the new technology, value addition, skill orientation and competency development.

INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2005-2006

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APPOINTMENTS

Prof. B. Chandrasekaran assumed charge as Director of Research, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 10th March, 2006.



Prof. A.K. Singha Roy joined as Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Pundibari, Cooch Behar, West Bengal on 1st November 2006. Prof. Roy was born on 2nd January 1957, and did his graduation (1976), post-graduation (1979) and Ph.D. (1989) from BCKVV. During last 26 years of service, Prof. Roy held various positions in BCKV and UBKV including Head, Department of Agronomy and Dean, Students' Welfare. He guided 7 M.Sc. and 2 Ph.D. students.



Prof. P.K. Mahapatra joined as Dean, College of Agriculture, OUAT Bhubaneswar. Born on 1st June 1949, Prof. Mahapatra served as Head, Division of

Agronomy at the same university for a period of 5 years. He has specialized in dryland Agronomy and water management. He has guided 17 PG students and published more than 50 research papers in national and international journals. He was elected Fellow of Indian Society of Agronomy during 2004.

AWARDS AND HONOURS



Dr A.V. Ramana, Associate Professor of Agronomy, Agricultural College, Naira, Srikakulam has been awarded University Meritorious Teacher Award of Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural

University Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. The award was presented for his outstanding accomplishments in the 38th Annual Convocation of the University held on 4th September, 2006.

Prof. G.D. Singh, Director Extension, Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner was conferred Bharat Excellence Award and

Gold Medal by Friendship Forum of India for excellence in his field of activity, international understanding and agricultural research. The award was presented on 29th July, 2006 at a function organized at India International Centre, New Delhi.

Dr K.S. Dadhwal, Head, Division of Soil Science and Agronomy, CSWCRTI, Dehradun has been elected Fellow of the Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservationists for his outstanding contributions in conservation and management of natural resources. He was conferred this honour on 11th October, 2006 at Pune during the National Conference of the Association.

ISA AWARDS (2003-2004)

Dr P.S. DESHMUKH YOUNG AGRONOMIST AWARD (2003)

Dr M.L. Jat, Scientist (SS), Project Directorate for Cropping Systems Research, Modipuram, Meerut

BEST Ph.D. THESIS AWARD (2003)

Dr Esther Shekinah, Scientist, (Agronomy), Division of Crop Production Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore 641 007

BEST Ph.D. THESIS AWARD (2004)

Dr Rajendra Lakpale, Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur

ISA LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (2004-06)

Dr Panjab Singh

ISA GOLD MEDAL (2003)

Dr Dhyana Pal Singh
Dr Ram Pal Singh Ahlawat

ISA GOLD MEDAL (2004)

Dr Sisir Kumar Mukhopadhyay
Dr Masood Ali

ISA FELLOW (2003)

Dr Anil Kumar Dahama
Dr Mukhtar Singh Gill
Dr Ankush Shrirang Jadhav
Dr Gurbachan Singh
Dr K.P. Singh
Dr Upendra Nath Verma

ISA FELLOW (2004)

Dr Amarjit Singh Bali
Dr Badrul Hasan
Dr G. James Martin
Dr Prafulla Kumar Mahapatra
Dr Ram Pratap Singh
Dr Shyam Sundar Mondal

UBKV dedicates a Seminar Hall in memory of Prof. B.N. Chatterjee

Professor B.N. Chatterjee Memorial Hall was inaugurated on 27th December, 2006 at the UBKV, Pundibari by Prof. M.K. Majumdar, Vice Chancellor of the University. The hall was established in the Department of Agronomy with the fund received from ICAR Development Grant in the memory of renowned agricultural scientist and Agronomist of international repute.

Ph. D. THESES

Y. Ramakrishna, Studies on integrated nutrient management and water regime on crop productivity of rice and wheat. IARI, New Delhi (Chairman : Dr Subedar Singh)

Ramavatar Jat, Response of pigeonpea + groundnut cropping system to sulphur in conjunction with organic manure. IARI, New Delhi (Chairman : Dr IPS Ahlawat)

Ajay Kumar, Moisture conservation and nutrient management studies in pigeonpea + mungbean intercropping system under rainfed conditions. IARI, New Delhi (Chairman : Dr K.S. Rana)

J.P. Teterwal, Moisture conservation and nutrient management studies in sole and intercropped pearl millet under rainfed conditions. IARI, New Delhi (Chairman : Dr K.S. Rana)

Rajeev Bharat, Bio-efficacy of various herbicides on isoproturon-susceptible and resistant biotypes of *Phalaris minor* and other weeds in wheat and its residual effect on succeeding cucurbits. SKUAST, Jammu (Chairman: Dr Dileep Kachroo)

Meenakshi Gupta, Studies on growth and yield dynamics of wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) in response to tillage, fertility levels and N-splitting in basmati rice (*Oryza sativa*) based cropping system. SKUAST, Jammu (Chairman : Dr A.S. Bali)

Hargilas, Studies on organic farming of rice-wheat cropping system. IARI, New Delhi (Chairman: Dr S.N. Sharma)

BOOK REVIEWS

Principles and Practices of Water Management – S.C. Panda, 2003, pp. 345. Price: Rs. 695.00/ US\$ 46.00. Agrobios (India), Agro-House, Behind Nasrani Cinema, Chopasani Road, Jodhpur 342 002.

This book is written to serve as a reference book for the students of agriculture, agricultural engineering and field practitioners. The book fills the need for an up-to-date comprehensive text on irrigation water management for the students at under-graduate and post-graduate levels. The regional cropping systems under irrigated and non-irrigated tracts are incorporated in this book.

The coverage of eighteen chapters brings out different aspects of irrigation including soil-plant-water relationships, evapo-transpiration, water requirement of crops, drainage, water quality, watershed management etc.

Cropping and Farming Systems - S.C. Panda, 2004, pp. 431. Price: Rs. 795.00/ US\$ 53.00. Agrobios (India), Agro-House, Behind Nasrani Cinema, Chopasani Road, Jodhpur 342 002.

This book is written to serve as reference book for the students of agriculture, veterinary, soil conservation and field practitioners. This book will be of immense use in imparting knowledge on the basic principles and applied aspects of farming systems for students, teachers, scientists, extension workers and professionals engaged in agricultural development.

The coverage of 22 chapters brings out all aspects of cropping and farming systems, which includes introduction, importance of agriculture, cropping systems (cs), evaluation of CS, interrelationships in intercropping systems, dryland agriculture, cropping patterns in irrigated and rainfed conditions, farming systems, farming system research (FSR), types of FSR, methodology, components of FS, FSR in India and abroad, IFS under varying situations, FSR for different situations, study of allied enterprises, IFS models under agro-ecosystem, achievements and IFS models in Orissa, role of sustainable agriculture on FS, general findings and conclusions.

Dryland Agriculture - S.C. Panda, 2004, pp. 369. Price: Rs. 990.00/ US\$ 66.00. Agrobios (India), Agro-House, Behind Nasrani Cinema, Chopasani Road, Jodhpur 342 002.

This book is written to serve as a reference book for the students of agriculture, veterinary, soil conservation and field practitioners. This book will be of immense use in imparting knowledge on the basic principles and applied aspects of dryland farming for students, teachers, scientists, extension

workers and professionals engaged in agricultural development.

The coverage of 22 chapters brings out all aspects of the dryland agriculture, which includes introduction, history of dryland agriculture, dryland agriculture and its characteristics, problems of crop production, moisture stress and conservation, cropping systems, agroforestry and social forestry, crop ecology, cropping patterns in irrigated and rainfed conditions, assessment of agronomic interactions, drought and agricultural drought, watershed management, development of dryland agriculture in India, researches in dry farming for increasing productivity, soil salinity in drylands, management of pasture lands in the arid and semi-arid regions, wasteland management, soil fertility and fertilizer use, weed management, diseases of dryland crops and their management, role of sustainable agriculture, and general recommendations, future prospects and conclusion.

Crop Management and Integrated Farming - S.C. Panda, 2006, pp. 603. Price: Rs. 1500.00/ US\$ 75.00. Agrobios (India), Agro-House, Behind Nasrani Cinema, Chopasani Road, Jodhpur 342 002.

This book is written to serve as a text book for the students of agriculture, veterinary, soil conservation and field practitioners. This book will be of immense use in imparting knowledge on the basic principles of crop production and applied aspects of integrated farming systems for students, teachers, scientists, extension workers and professionals engaged in agricultural development.

The coverage of 21 chapters brings out all aspects of crop management and integrated farming, which includes introduction, importance of agriculture, factors affecting crop production, systems of crop production, classification of crops, production technology of crops - cereals, millets, pulses, forage, oilseeds, fiber, sugar, narcotics, root and tuber, fruits and vegetables crops, plant protection, crop sequence and research findings, IFS under varying situations, FSR for different situations, enterprises of FS, IFS models in Orissa, future guidelines and conclusion.

Soil Management and Organic Farming - S.C. Panda, 2006, pp. 462. Price: 990.00/ US\$ 50.00. Agrobios (India), Agro-House, Behind Nasrani Cinema, Chopasani Road, Jodhpur 342 002.

This book is written to serve as a text book for the students of agriculture, veterinary, soil conservation and field practitioners. This book will be of immense use in imparting knowledge on the basic principles of soil fertility management on crop production and applied aspects of integrated farming systems for students, teachers, scientists, extension workers and professionals engaged in agricultural development.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ORGANIC FARMING

PROM Society, Udaipur in collaboration with MPUAT and MLSU, Udaipur is organizing "International Symposium on Organic Farming and Renewable Sources of Energy for Sustainable Agriculture" from 19th-21st November, 2007 at Udaipur, Rajasthan. For details, please visit website www.promsociety.org and www.mpuat.ac.in or contact Dr M.K. Porwal, Organizing Secretary, Department of Agronomy, Rajasthan College of Agriculture, Udaipur, Phone : 0294-2417374(O), 2466269(R), Fax: 2418976, 2420474, (M) 9413218331.

RETIREMENTS



Dr G.D. Singh, Director, Extension, Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner retired on 31st July 2006. He is a life member of ISA since 1975, and acted as Councillor and member of Editorial Board. He was elected Fellow, ISA in 2002, and awarded Bharat Excellence Award and Gold Medal from Friendship Forum of India in 2006.

The Indian Society of Agronomy wishes Dr Singh a long and happy retired life. (Address: Director, Subodh T.T. College, C/o Subodh Education Society, Sikar, Rajasthan; Ph. 09414603945).



Dr A.S. Gill, Principal Scientist, IGFRI, Jhansi retired from service on 30th November 2005. He joined ICAR in 1967 as Research Assistant at IGFRI, and served as Assistant Agronomist at PAU, Ludhiana; Junior/Senior Agronomist and Principal Scien-

tist at IGFRI/NRCAF, Jhansi. He was Head, Crop Production Division, IGFRI and also acting Director, NRC for Agroforestry. He was Principal Investigator, IDRC, Canada-aided research project on agroforestry during 1990-94. He had advanced training in USA (dryland forages) and China (Farm forestry), and was expert to the Government of Vietnam during 1987-89. To his credit, there are more than 750 research publications in national and international journals.

The Indian Society of Agronomy wishes Dr Singh a long and happy retired life. (Address: Nihal Niwas, Friends Colony, Gwalior Road, Jhansi-284 003, UP; Ph. 0510-2445022, 9450926705, E-mail: asgill2a@yahoo.com)



Dr R.C. Gautam, Principal Scientist, Division of Agronomy, IARI New Delhi retired on 31st July, 2006. Dr Gautam was born on 5th July 1944 at Barhan, Agra and served as Lecturer (1964-65) at PAU, Ludhiana. Thereafter, he joined Division of Agronomy, IARI and served in various capacities including Professor and Head of the Division. He was acting Dean & Joint Director (Education), PG School, IARI during 2002-06. Dr Gautam received several awards for his outstanding contributions including the 'Bharat Ratna Dr C. Subramanyam Award' of ICAR for the biennium 2004-05. He was Organizing Secretary, 2nd International Agronomy Congress during 2002. He guided 6 M.Sc.

and 16 Ph.D. students; and published more than 100 research papers in national and international journals.

The Indian Society of Agronomy wishes Dr Gautam a long and happy retired life.



Dr Mangal Prasad, Professor of Agronomy, IARI, New Delhi retired on 31st July, 2006. Born on 10th July 1944 at Allahabad, U.P., Dr Prasad served at CRRRI, Cuttack (1976-81); CTCRI, Regional Centre, Bhubaneswar (1981-85); and IARI, New Delhi (1985-2006). He occupied the position of Professor of Agronomy from 2001 to 2006. He published more than 70 research papers and was awarded Dr SS Bains Memorial Award of IARI (1974) and FAI Silver Jubilee Award (1980).

The Indian Society of Agronomy wishes Dr Prasad a long and happy retired life. (Address: Flat No. 145, Pocket 1, Sector 23, Rohini, New Delhi-110 085, Ph. 011-27056697, 9818584459)

OBITUARY



Dr M.M. Hosmani, a renowned Agronomist and former Director (Extension), University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad breathed his last on 14th October, 2006. Dr Hosmani was born on 16th October, 1940 and served at UAS, Dharwad for many

years. He published more than 150 research papers and authored 26 books. He was working as Editor of 'Annadata' a Kannada farm journal till his end.

The Indian Society of Agronomy expresses condolences to the bereaved family and prays to the Almighty God that the departed soul rests in peace.

LIFE MEMBERS OF ISA (2006)

Ramdev Sutaliya, Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh
Anupma Kumari, Patna, Bihar
C.S. Singh, Ranchi, Bihar
A.K. Sinha, Ambikapur, Chhattisgarh
Bhagwat Singh Rathore, Kutch, Gujarat
R.S. Chhokar, Karnal, Haryana
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