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National Seminar on Biotechnological Intervention for Improving Quality and Enhancing Yield in Seed Spices

Harnessing Cutting Edge Science in the
Service of the Poorest of the Poor

Chief Guest :

Dr. C. D. Mayee,
Chairman, ASRB, ICAR, New Delhi

President of Inauguration :

Dr. H. P. Singh,
D.D.G. (Hort.), ICAR, New Delhi

On :

18th July, 2009

Venue :

NRC on Seed Spices, Tabiji Ajmer

Jointly Organised by :

National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Ajmer
Indian Society of Seed Spices, Ajmer
All India Crop Biotechnology Association, New Delhi
National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi

Supported By :

All India Crop Biotechnology Association, New Delhi
Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut

National Seminar on Biotechnological Intervention for Improving Quality and Enhancing Yield in Seed Spices

Welcome :

The organizing committee of the National Seminar on "Biotechnological Intervention for Improving Quality and Enhancing Yield in Seed Spices" is pleased to invite you to participate in the seminar at NRCSS, Ajmer on July 18, 2009.

Rational :

Seed spices crops specially cumin is very high risk crop due to its susceptibility to wilt, blight and frost and there is no source of resistance to these problems in the existing germplasm. Also the flower biology of most of the seed spices crops makes crossing and hybridization difficult, therefore modern and advanced tools of biotechnology must be deployed in order to achieve success in developing elite genotypes for superior quality and yield. This one-day seminar will provide an update of the existing status and future thrust in utilizing new biotechnological ways for the improvement.

Profile of Seed Spice Farmers :

India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of seed spices. Eighty percent of the seed spices are grown in the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat. Rajasthan is the country leader in the production of coriander and fenugreek while, Gujarat tops the country in the production of cumin and fennel. The seed spices are mostly grown in poor and marginal lands in the arid areas characterized by low rainfall and harsh climate. Typically the seed spice farmers has small land holdings and poor resource availability. They are usually small and marginal farmers, who eke out their livelihood. The small farmers are growing these high value crops. The crop production in seed spices is a risky venture due to various biotic and abiotic stresses experienced during the cropping season.

In the recent past great emphasis is being given to the quality and clean production of seed spices with emphasis on traceability. All this will be possible only when the best scientific tools are applied to the crop improvement and production technology.

Seminar Topics :

- Marker Assisted Selection
- Allele Mining
- Development of Transgenics in Seed Spices
- Use of Tissue Culture Techniques
- Other Arising Issues

Chief Lead Speaker :

Dr. P. Annad Kumar,
Project Director,
National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi

Speakers :

Eminent biotechnologists drawn from various biotechnology Institutes and Universities will be other lead speakers in their areas of specialization.

The Organizers :

- National Research Centre on Seed Spices (NRCSS)
- Indian Society of Seed Spices (ISSS)
- All India Crop Biotechnology Association (AICBA)
- National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology (NRCPB)

About the Organizers :

National Research Centre on Seed Spices (NRCSS) :

The NRCSS is a premier research organisation dedicated solely to the research and development of seed spices crops, viz. cumin, coriander, fennel, fenugreek, celery, ajowain, dill, nigella, anise and caraway. The centre has been established with headquarters at Ajmer, Rajasthan in 2000 under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The centre has grown to enviable position now and has made remarkable impact on the improvement of seed spices crops cultivation. In the endeavour of making

India as broad supply base for world market, the centre has always been in the fore front for developing farmer friendly production technologies, but due to some hurdles and difficulties in traditional breeding, modern and novel biotechnological approaches need to be utilized. This national seminar is organized to tap the existing knowledge to full potential for improving quality and enhancing yield in seed spices.

Indian Society of Seed Spices (ISSS) :

The ISSS is the professional society functioning from premises of NRCSS with the major objective of advancement of seed spices for improving the productivity and quality. The organization of this seminar is an effort of the society to provide a platform for use of biotechnological approaches for improving the seed spices productivity.

All India Crop Biotechnology Association (AICBA) :

The AICBA is an Industry association of the major companies engaged in agricultural biotechnology in India and is registered under the societies. One of the mandates of this association is to increase the use of biotechnology in research and development activities in crop science in India.

National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology (NRCPB) :

The NRCPB was established in 1985 to undertake research, teaching and training personnel in the modern areas of molecular biology and biotechnology. Since its inception, the centre has grown and has acquired high degree of scientific competence and established excellent research facilities. The centre is working towards achieving the national priorities of increased agricultural productivity and sustainability.

Article Submission:

Full text must be submitted in two hard copies and a soft copy on a CD or through E-mail attachment in MS word file

Poster session :

Poster session will be conducted concurrently with the sessions. For poster presentation, abstract not exceeding

200 words may be submitted in MS Word file to Dr. Y. K. Sharma, Chairman, Poster Presentation Committee, Email: yksharma.nrcss@yahoo.co.in, latest by 05.07.2009. The lunch and dinner on Saturday evening are an opportunity for stimulating discussion and networking.

Registration :

Registration is on a first-come basis. It is requested to register as early as possible since space is limited. The regular registration fee is Rs. 1000/-. For students & postdoctoral fellows the registration fee is Rs. 750/-. For registration contact to the organizing secretary.

Registration Deadline :

July 5, 2009

Souvenir :

A souvenir of invited lectures will be published and released at the time of inaugural session and given to each registered participant. Space is available for traders / manufacturers / publishers dealing with biotechnological equipments/ chemicals / books & Journals to give wider publicity of their products. The charges for full page will be Rs. 10,000 and for half page Rs.6000/-.

About the Venue :

The NRCSS is located on the Ajmer –Beawar road 13 km away from Ajmer railway station. Ajmer is well connected by trains and bus services from major cities. The nearest airport is at Jaipur, 130 km away from Ajmer.

Ajmer is situated in the heart of Rajasthan, the ancient capital city of King Prithviraj Chouhan, the Great Warrior. The city is also famous for the holy Dargah of Garib Nawaz Khwaza Moinudeen Chisti. The another place of pilgrimage tourism, located 18 km away from the city, is Pushkar, where the famous temple of Lord Brahma is located.

We look forward to seeing you at this exciting seminar !