



ICAR-CIRCOT

e-News



Global Excellence in Cotton Technology

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New Project Initiated

- The Corpus Fund of ICAR has approved a project entitled 'Development of a comprehensive model for complete mechanization of cotton harvesting and pre-cleaning for Indian conditions'. The project is approved under the Viksit Bharat Project (VBP) Scheme with a budget allocation of Rs. 100 lakhs for a period of 3 years (2025-2028).

Industry - Interface Meet

- A stakeholders meeting was held under the chairmanship of Dr. S. K. Shukla, Director, ICAR-CIRCOT, on March 21, 2025 during the AICRP on Cotton Annual Group Meeting, to discuss about benchmarking of ginning percentage in variety identification and release. Three private breeders, ICAR-CIRCOT and ICAR-CICR officials participated in the meeting.

Publications

1. Murmu, S., Chaurasia, H., Rao, A.R., Rai, A., Jaiswal, S., Bharadwaj, A., Yadav, R. and Archak, S., 2025. PlantPathoPPI: An Ensemble-based Machine Learning Architecture for Prediction of Protein-Protein Interactions between Plants and Pathogens. Journal of Molecular Biology, p.169093.
2. Kautkar, S., Pandiyan, K., Dhakane-Lad, J., Jalgaonkar, K., Patil, S. and Jagajanantha, P. (2025). Cotton Grading: Methods, Key Parameters, Challenges and Scope for Improvement. Vigyan Varta, 6(3): 21-24.

Human Resource Development

1. Dr. Kanika Sharma, Scientist attended ICAR sponsored 10 days short course on "Advances in Hydrogen Production for Clean Energy and Environment" at ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal during March 17-26, 2025.

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Expert/Invited Talk/Guest Lecture

1. Dr. N. Vigneshwaran, delivered a lead talk (Online) on “Nanoformulations: Enhancing Efficacy and Ensuring Quality Control for Improved Crop Management” on February 20, 2025 during the International Conference - OHPGPR 2025 (International Conference on One health perspectives in Global Plant Protection Research) organized by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore.
2. Dr. N. Vigneshwaran delivered an invited talk (online) on “Nanocellulose from lignocellulosic biomass: Synthesis, Characterization and Applications” as a Guest Speaker on February 28, 2025 during the National Training Program on “Recent advances in microbial conversion of lignocellulosic biomass into value-added products” organized by ICAR-NBAIM, Mau.
3. At the National Workshop on ‘Cotton yield improvement through HDPS’, organised by ICAR-CICR on March 07, 2025, Dr. S. K. Shukla chaired the Panel Discussion on the topic, “Challenges in Mechanization in Cotton”. Dr. V. G. Arude was panelist in the discussion and delivered a talk on “Challenges and strategies for successful mechanization of cotton harvesting in India”. Dr A S M Raja co-chaired a session on “Cotton Mechanization”, during the workshop.
4. Dr. A.K. Bharimalla presented on ‘Women in agri-business: The driving force behind agricultural transformation and sustainability’ as a keynote speaker, during the Global conference on “Innovations to impact:: Gender transformative approach for sustainable agri-food system (IIGASA-2025), held during March 08-10, 2025 at ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
5. Dr. Jyoti Dhakane-Lad, delivered a lecture (in virtual mode) on “Role of ICAR-CIRCOT ABI: In Fostering Agri-startups” on March 10, 2025 during the 21 days Summer School Program on “Developing Value Chain in Onion and Garlic: Prospects for Agri Startups” organized by ICAR-DOGR, Pune for potential entrepreneurs, startups, FPOs, farmers and students.
6. Dr. N. Vigneshwaran delivered an invited lecture (online) on “Microbial electrolysis cell (MEC) for efficient production of hydrogen gas from biomass” on March 21, 2025, in the 10 days short course on “Advances in Hydrogen Production for Clean Energy and Environment” conducted by ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal.
7. Dr. Himanshushekhar Chaurasia, delivered an invited lecture on "Web App Development using Streamlit" in the CAFT Training Program “Tools and Techniques for Artificial Intelligence based Web Application Development in Agriculture” on March 21, 2025 at ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi.

Skill Development Programmes

1. Five-day training programme on 'Best Production Practices, Processing of Cotton and Value Addition to Cotton By-produce' was conducted for agriculture officers from the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment, Krishi Bhavan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha at ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai during February 28 to March 04, 2025. Ten trainees including four females attended this programme.
2. A 5-day training programme sponsored by SMART District Implementation Unit (DIU), Akola on 'Basics of cotton grading and processing' was organized by ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai in collaboration with Main Cotton Research Station, Navsari Agricultural University (NAU), Surat during March 03-07, 2025 at the Regional Quality Evaluation Unit of ICAR-CIRCOT, Surat, Gujarat. Eleven participants, including five females attended this programme.
3. A three-day training programme for students under SCSP Scheme on 'Ginning Technology and Cotton Grading' was organized during March 03-05, 2025 at GTC, Nagpur. Fifty students including 44 females participated.
4. Six-day training programme for farmers of Global Green, Subarnapur, Odisha was organized during March 3-8, 2025 on 'Best Production Practices, Processing of Cotton and Value-addition to Cotton By-produce' at GTC, Nagpur. Total 23 progressive farmers participated in the training programme.
5. Three-day training programme for progressive farmers from Sabuja Sathi FPCL, Subarnapur, Odisha was organized during March 20-22, 2025 on 'Best practices for organic cotton production and post-harvest processing of cotton'. Total 25 farmers (including 8 female) participated.
6. Three-day Special Training on 'Smart Textiles and its Application' for students of Woxsen School of Arts and Design, Hyderabad, Telangana was organized during March 26-28, 2025 at ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai. Total of 21 students including 18 females attended this programme.



International Women's Day celebration on 28th March, 2025



Kisan Mela

CITI-CDRA, Nagpur in collaboration with Ginning Training Centre, Nagpur organized Kisan Mela at Auditorium, NBSS & LUP, Nagpur on March 16, 2025. Total 200 farmers participated in the program. Dr. C.D. Mayee, Former Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi, Dr. S.K. Shukla, Director, ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai, Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, Dr. A.L. Waghmare, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development, Nagpur, Shri. Ravindra Manohare, District Superintending Agriculture Officer, Nagpur, and Shri Prashant Mohota, Chairman CITI-CDRA Committee & MD Gimatex Industries Hinganghat, Nagpur graced the occasion.



Training programme for progressive farmers from Sabuja Sathi FPCL, Subarnapur, Odisha during March 20-22, 2025 on 'Best practices for organic cotton production and post-harvest processing of cotton' at GTC, Nagpur



Training programme for Students under SCSP Scheme on 'Ginning Technology and Cotton Grading' during March 3-5, 2025 at GTC, Nagpur



ICAR-CIRCOT team visited M/s. Punrav Resources Pvt Ltd., Raipur on March 29, 2025 regarding biochar production from various agro-residues and biomass torrefaction plant..



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