

DDG (Agril Extension), ICAR Inaugurated the Farmer's Fair at KVK Beed (Maharashtra) on 20th January, 2018

Farmer's Fair was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ambajogai, Beed on 20th January, 2018. The mela and hydroponic - azolla feed production unit, agricultural technology information center and agriculture entrepreneurship exhibition were inaugurated by Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (Agril Extension), ICAR, New Delhi. In all 20 entrepreneur farmers participated. In inaugural speech, the Chief Guest said that KVKs working under administrative control of Deendayal Research Institute have given more focus on serving the farming community for making them self depend. He appreciated the efforts of KVK for promoting micro-irrigation through drip irrigation and sprinkler system, developing skill among rural youths for starting their enterprises. Farmer's Producer Companies have great potential to work in the district in future. Farmers should use soil health card information. The KVK is an ideal model for doubling the farmers' income through crop diversification, enterprises creation, organizing farmers, etc. A book on '**Achievements of Women Empowerment**' was also released. About 1000 farmers and farm women attend the program.

Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune gave more focus on identifying problems, issues, alternative solutions, having benchmark data, laying out different interventions in cluster of villages for their socio-economic development. The KVK has visibility and reached to un-reached in rural areas of the district.

Prof. Sangita Thombre, MLA guided the farmers for getting the benefit of different developmental schemes. Sericulture is included in the employment guarantee scheme and the farmers of Beed district are being benefitted. In near future scheme on processing of sericulture will be set up for the farmers in the district. Further she said that, the solar power pump scheme will try to convert on subsidies bases for the benefit of farmers with natural energy conservation. On this occasion, the MLA announced to give Rs. 10 lakh for creating auditorium facility at the KVK for farmers programs.

Dr. P. G. Ingole, Director Extension Education, VNMKV, Parbhani gave information about different extension programs and services implemented for the dissemination of agricultural technology. PD, ATMA, Beed, informed about organic farming and other scheme, programs implemented among the farmers fields. He, appealed to adopt the organic practices for reducing production cost. In order to overcome the problem of cotton pink bollworm, he provided guidance on managing the problem.

In presidential address, Shri Abhay Mahajan, Organizing Secretary, DRI said that planning of land and water is essential for everyone. KVK will play important role for technology dissemination in sericulture development. In the collaboration with farmers, necessary service will be provided to farmers. He appealed to farmers to adopt organic farming for healthy life and soil health improvement. Use of traditional wisdom was emphasized.

A field visit was made by Dr. AK Singh, DDG (Agril Extension), ICAR; Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune along with Dr. CM Tripathi, Head of KVK to farmers' fields in village Warappaon, Tq. Ambajogai, Dist. Beed. In this village 30 farmers have mulberry production and organic farming units. The floriculture farmer Shri Gopal Jadhav cultivating the rose and aster and earning Rs 700 per day from selling of flowers. Shri Jadhav told about their production technique and per batch production of cocoon about 80 to 90 kg by which getting income of Rs 40-50 thousands within 25 days of rearing. he reared minimum 7 batches per year with annual income of Rs 3 to 3.5 lakh.

Smt Ambika Mahila Sahakari Sanstha President, Kamla Pardeshi shared her experiences on cottage entrepreneurship development and how someone can become an entrepreneur. She said that community based marketing strategy is needed while developing the cottage industry. She also presented the inspirational success story of the co-operative industry with a turnover of 7 crore.

Dr. CM Tripathi, Head KVK coordinated the program.

Source: ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Pune



