

## Training on IPM for Kharif Crops with Special Focus on Pink Boll Worm in Cotton in Vidarbha and Marathwada Regions, Maharashtra 30-31 August, 2018

A two days programme on '*IPM for Kharif Crops with Special Focus on Pink Boll Worm in Cotton in Vidarbha and Marathwada Regions*' was jointly organized by ICAR-ATARI, Pune and KVK, Washim at Washim during 30-31 August, 2018. In this course, 35 participants belonging to 22 KVKs of Vidarbha and Marathwada regions were participated. In inaugural address, Dr. V.M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor, PDKV, Akola urged to follow integrated approach for pink boll worm control in cotton. KVKs are acting as transfer of technology ambassadors. His emphasis was on experimenting different IPM modules at KVK level. Shri Anantrao Deshmukh, Chairman, Suvide Foundation, Washim demanded to develop simple innovative modules for workable and sustainable integrated plant protection measures. Intensive campaign at village level organized by the KVKs in collaboration with other agencies is very helpful towards protecting crops from pests.

Dr. Lakhan Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune said that there is a need to understand the behaviour of insect & pest for developing effective plant protection techniques. Convergence of KVKs with PoCRA, ATMA, SAUs and ICAR institutes made a significant difference in managing pink boll worm through advance micro level planning, selection of early duration Bt hybrid for planting, planting of cotton with refugee, sowing in second to third week of June, judicious and soil test based nutrients use, intercropping with green gram/black gram, regular surveillance, mass trapping with pheromone traps and use of bio-pesticides, etc. Number of rosette flowers in cotton found 1.2% which is below ETL in demonstration plots.

Dr. Vijay Kolekar, Agronomist, PoCRA highlighted the concept of FFS based experiential learning and efforts made to manage the insects/pests in kharif crops specially in cotton, soybean, turmeric, black gram, green gram, etc. His more concern was on effective mode of synergy among KVKs, PoCRA, SAUs, line departments and research institutes to bring desired impact in vulnerable areas.

At this occasion, Shri Dattatray Gawsane, DSAO, Washim; Dr PP Shelke, Head, KVK, Hingoli, field level functionaries, innovative farmers were also present. In this training experts from ICAR-NCIPM, New Delhi; ICAR-CICRI, Nagpur; PDKV, Akola; Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, Hyderabad; PoCRA, Mumbai made their presentations and advocated the Subject Matter Specialists of KVKs and other participants. Innovative IPM modules were also displayed for cross learning of participants. Dr. Ravindra Kale, Head, KVK, Washim coordinated the program.

*Source: Director, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Pune*

