

Seed production of traditional varieties as a entrepreneurial opportunity for sustainable income

A 10-day workshop cum training on seed production of traditional varieties as a entrepreneurial opportunity was organized to the students of UHS Bagalkot between January 24 to February 2, 2022. It was inaugurated by Mr. Krishna Prasad, CEO of Sahaja Samruddi Seeds Mysuru. Dr. Vishnuvardhana, Dean, COH, Mysuru and Dr. Raghavendra. K. Mesta, PI, NAHEP-IDP, UHS Bagalkote were present on the occasion. Mr. Krishna Prasad discussed about the importance of cultivation and conservation of traditional varieties of crop seed for future generations, breeding purposes etc. Available marketing channels for distribution of seeds of traditional varieties were also shared with the trainee participants.

- ✓ Dr. G. Cheluvvaraju. APAC, Head- R&D BASF, Vegetable seeds (Nunhems) gave a motivational talk on the scope of seed industry and supply and demand gaps in India and urged the students to take up seed production as a business.
- ✓ Dr. Ramegowda, Asst. Prof Entomology emphasized on importance of insects in better seed setting through pollination process and integrated pest management during seed production.
- ✓ Different seed production techniques available for traditional varieties of paddy and ragi was highlighted by Dr. M.P Rajanna, Scientist and Crop Breeder, College of Agriculture, Mandya.
- ✓ Indian seed laws and legislation and acts & bills related to seed handling were discussed by Dr. Vasudevan, Dean, College of Agriculture, Hassan.
- ✓ Dr. Harsh, K.N, Principal Scientist and member APEDA, CRS, Shakaleshpura, briefed about procedure and protocols for organic seed production.
- ✓ Dr. Chandrashekhara.V.D, Manager, QA& Processing, NONGWOO Seed India Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru discussed about challenges faced during seed testing of substandard seed lots and methods to overcome the same.

- ✓ Hands on experience on seed germination tests were obtained by the trainees at Seed Testing Laboratory of COH Mysuru. Dr. HM Pallavi, Asst. Professor, Seed Technology imparted the seed testing skills, practical on floral biology and hand emasculation- and pollination technique. Mr. Nagendra, ADA, Mysuru, discussed on online application for getting seed license. Workshop ended with valedictory function.











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