खरपतवार समाचार

WEED NEWS

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- Trichoderma viride degraded topazone in soil and media
- Proposed pathways for the degradation of topazone by microbes

Rizobium sp. and Trichoderma viride degraded topazone in soil and media

Herbicides of the group of pyrazolone or benzoxyprazole have been introduced in Indian agriculture with the registration of topazone, a postemergence HPPD inhibiting molecule applied in maize to control annual grass and broad-leaved weeds. The impact of the herbicide in the agricultural environment of our country is not much known. An investigation of the interaction between beneficial microorganisms and topazone was conducted. Two microbial strains capable of transforming topazone were isolated from contaminated soils and characterized as Trichoderma viride and Rizobium sp. They survived in the minimal broth having topazone at the level of 500 mg per litre of media. In sterilized soil spiked with herbicide, microbes degraded 90% of the applied topazone within 30 days of incubation. Major reactions involved in the degradation process were decarboxylation, desulfonylmethylation followed by hydroxylation, demethylation and alkylation.
Testing of terrestrial/aquatic weed based phytoremediation system for pollutants removal

The phytoremediation system consisted of pretreatment of overhead settling zone and treatment zone having three pairs of sequential tanks (3 x 2 x 0.75 m). The fast growing terrestrial weeds such as *Typha latifolia* and *Vetiveria* were planted in two rows of tanks separately filled with porous media. The polluted water from waste water carrying drain was flown into overhead tanks subsequently to sequential treatment tanks. Thus *Typha* treated, *Vetiveria* treated, tubewell water and untreated waste water were used for irrigation. Higher heavy metals were reduced by Typha than *Phragmites karka*. Higher concentration of DTPA extractable cadmium was recorded in soil irrigated with untreated drain water as compared to *Typha* treated water. The effect of irrigation water on heavy metal uptake by Fenugreek was assessed at the harvesting stage. The results indicated that among irrigation water treatments, higher concentration of manganese in leaf part of fenugreek significantly enhanced the manganese in leaf part of fenugreek.

**Biological control of *Parthenium* in blackgram and greengram through bioagent *Zygogramma bicolorata***

The experiment was conducted in the farm of Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur during rainy season of 2016. Greengram and blackgram were sown along with *Parthenium* seeds on 24th June 2016. Each plot size was of about 0.41 hectares. Adult beetles of *Zygogramma bicolorata* were released in each of two plots of crop at the rate of 5000/ba while in other two plots bioagent was not released and it was kept as control. Before release of bioagent, initial *Parthenium* plant density/m², height (cm), number of flowers and initial dry weight were taken. After 15 days of initial release of *Z. bicolorata*, number of eggs, grubs and adults of *Z. bicolorata* were recorded at randomly from 5 plants at weekly interval for population dynamic study of beetle and their effects on suppression of *Parthenium* and yield of crops.
Bioagent population increased rapidly in blackgram than greengram field. Therefore, no augmentative release was required in blackgram but subsequent augmentative released made in greengram field brought desirable control of Parthenium. Parthenium weed dried and killed due to attack of biogents in treated field of greengram and blackgram. Study revealed that data on number of eggs, larvae and adults fit polynomial functions. These functions depict the increasing growth initially then peak and thereafter decreasing growth. Dry weight of Parthenium decreased significantly in control in greengram and blackgram than biogent treated field.

**Genetic diversity analysis in weedy rice using SSR markers**

A total 107 entries were examined containing 92 entries of weedy rice germplasm with 12 cultivated and 3 wild rice accessions collected from different geographical regions. Genomic DNAs were extracted using DNA extraction kit (Thermo scientific) with high purity. The polymerase chain reaction was carried out using 18 highly polymorphic SSR markers. Based on the results, entries grouped into three main clusters. Weedy rice accessions showed high degree of admixing among populations which indicates the gene flow due to their out-crossing nature while wild rice did not show any admixing or allele sharing.

*An unrooted neighbor-joining tree showing the genetic relationship between the 107 rice and weedy rice accessions/biotypes using SSR markers. (C= cultivated rice; W1-3= wild rice; W1-92= weedy rice)*
Mr. C.R. Chethan, Scientist delivered a brief account for safe use of herbicides with a vivid demonstration on solar operated herbicide sprayer. Leading farmers of this area, viz. Mr. Bharat Barman, Mr. Sitaram Jaiswal, Mr. Hiramani Haldikar and Mr. Ratan Kushwaha narrated their experiences on weed management and conservation agriculture as they achieved higher crop yields while saving on cost of tillage, seeds, irrigation etc. Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal Scientist elaborated about different extension programmes run by DWR.

Dr. A.R. Sharma gave an account of conservation agriculture in Madhya Pradesh and the efforts made by the Directorate. He urged the farmers to adopt newer farm technologies of conservation agriculture practices in the present situation of escalating cost of cultivation and climate change. He appreciated the farmers of Banda village for being declared the 'open defecation-free village', Dr. Sharma also insisted them to make their villages free from

Observance of National Productivity Week-2017
(12-18 February, 2017)

National productivity week was observed at ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur from 12-18 February, 2017 based on the theme "From Waste to Profits through Reduce, Recycle and Reuse". During the week different activities including awareness programme were organised at Directorate and rural localities. At Directorate, programmes were organized during the week. A series of lectures and presentations were made by experts based on the theme which included utilization of weeds for waste water management; solid waste management at farms; and e-waste management. A programme was organized on 15 February 2017 at village Khamariya in CoteGoan block of Narsinghpur district (M.P). Farmers/villagers were made aware about disadvantages of burning crop residues in the fields. In the series of the events, an awareness campaign on the theme was held at Higher Secondary School at village Nagan Deori on 15 February 2017 by the team of Scientists of ICAR-DWR. The programme was attended by more than 200 students of class IX and X standard. A Kism Songosti was also organized by ICAR-DWR at Lakhapati village of Katni district on 17-2-2017 involving experts from DWR and public representatives of the area.

XXIV Annual review meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Management is organised at Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur (Rajasthan) (27-28 February, 2017)

XXIV Annual Review Meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Management was organised at Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology,
उदयपुर (Rajasthan) 27-28 February 2017. Inaugural session was graced by the presence of Dr. U.S. Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, MPUAT, Udaipur, Dr. S.S. Burark, Director Research, MPUAT; Dr. S. Bhaskar, Assistant Director General (Agronomy, Agroforestry & Climate Change), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. Jay G. Varshney, Ex-Director, ICAR-DW, Jabalpur; Dr. Shobha Sondhia, I/C AICRP-WM, ICAR-DW, Jabalpur; Dr. Arvind Verma, Principal Investigator, AICRP-WM, MPUAT, Udaipur centre and chaired by Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director, ICAR-DW, Jabalpur.

Dr. Jay G. Varshney, Ex-Director, ICAR-DW, Jabalpur was invited as resource person for this meeting. Scientists of 23 regular AICRP-WM coordinating centres, one ICAR institute and three volunteer centres attended the meeting.

Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director, ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur gave his welcome address highlighting the role of AICRP-WM in managing weeds and made a brief presentation of salient research achievements of ICAR-DW, Jabalpur. Dr Bhaskar informed review of various AICRPs at ICAR level and informed that some of the AICRPs may either merged or closed, therefore every centre must work properly. He also mentioned to work on integrated crop and weed management to manage problematic weeds. He said that more integrated approach is required among various AICRPs and with other agronomist. Dr. U.S. Sharma mentioned increasing problem of water hyacinth, **Pariharium** and said that MANREGA had a negative impact on Rajasthan. He also emphasized to develop weed management techniques for rain fed situations. Salient research achievements of AICRP-Weed Management during 2016-17 was presented by Dr. Shobha Sondhia, In-charge, AICRP-WM, ICAR-DW, Jabalpur. Progress and research achievements under this project in Central, North, East, West and South zones were presented by Nodal officers. AICRP-WM Best Centre Award-2016-17 was given to TNAU, Coimbatore and CSKHPKV, Palampur. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Arvind Verma, PI, MPUAT, Centre, Udaipur.

**Farmer FIRST Programme Inaugurated by ICAR-DW, Jabalpur (23 March, 2017)**

ICAR launched 'Farmer FIRST Programme' since 2017 for the upliftment and livelihood security of the farmers. This programme aims to the overall development of farmers and landless labourers. ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur started this programme in two villages Baroda and Umaria Choube of Block-Panagar since 1st February, 2017. In future, various programmes such as conservation agriculture, advanced agricultural techniques, weed management related techniques, animal husbandry, horticulture will be conducted in these villages to increase...
"फायर फ्रिस्ट प्रोग्राम" का प्रामाण्य किया धन 23/03/2017 को प्राम बरीदा पिताजी में आयोजित किया गया निदेशालय के निदेशक, डा. पी.के. मिश्र ने अपनाया। कुलक्रमों को इस कार्यक्रम को याद देते एवं महत्व का बताया एवं अपने श्रद्धांजलियों को अपनी कोर्ट में प्रस्तुत किया। इस अवसर पर बरीदा पिताजी के सर्वसाधारण सर्टिफिकेट जीतने वाले मदों, सहयोगी का आयोजन किया गया।

इस प्रोग्राम के तहत निदेशालय 28/03/2017 को प्राम दुर्गारी मंदिर में एक कुर्सी प्रदान करने वाले पिताजी का धन किया गया। सर्वप्रथम प्रशिक्षण के प्रारंभिक पहले, निदेशालय के प्रमुख अनुशासन डा. आ. पी. टुमे को प्रशस्त घोषणा करते हुए प्राम मोर्ट-प्रशिक्षण के बारे में संपूर्ण जानकारी दी गई थी। अन्य प्रशिक्षकों का संगठन आयोजित किया गया।

"कृषि कल्याण महोत्सव (मेला) 2017" में भारतीय (16-17 अप्रैल, 2017)

मध्यप्रदेश सरकार द्वारा आयोजित जबलपुर के वर्तमान के "नर्मदा सेवा सपा" के साथ "कृषि कल्याण महोत्सव (मेला) 2017" (16-17 अप्रैल, 2017) में भा. क. जन. प. - खाद्यप्रदान अनुशासन निदेशालय द्वारा आयोजित किया गया। मेले का उद्देश्य पतनीर ग्रीन शेक्स विकास, बिजली कल्याण और कृषि किसान मंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश सरकार द्वारा 16 अप्रैल 2017 को किया गया।

भा. क. अनु. प. - खाद्यप्रदान अनुशासन निदेशालय, जबलपुर ने निदेशालय को गतिविधियों और शोध को मेले के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत किया। निदेशालय को प्रदर्शनी का दौरा किया गया और अंदर अनुशासन द्वारा किया गया। इस प्रदर्शनी में निदेशालय को अर्थ देने के तीनों पी.के. शीर्ष अनुशासन, डॉ. चेन्नू राय, और चैतन्य, पी. के. लोकप्रीय अधिकारियों एवं कृषि मंत्री धर्मेंद्र, महाराष्ट्र कृषि तकनीकी अधिकारियों के सहकार के उपस्थापक के रूप में पहुँचे।

निदेशालय का 29 वां स्थापना दिवस (22 अप्रैल, 2017)

भारतीय कृषि अनुभव संग्रह - खाद्यप्रदान अनुशासन निदेशालय, जबलपुर डा. आ. पी.के. ने 22 अप्रैल, 2017 को 29वें स्थापना दिवस का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में मुख्य अध्यक्ष और समाज सामाजिक स्तर सभी पदार्थों, संस्थान धार्मिक और एकांत प्रवृत्ति राज मंत्री, भारत सरकार एवं अन्य श्रेष्ठ निदेशक उपस्थित रहे।

सर्वप्रथम निदेशालय के निदेशक डा. पी.के. ने कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ मुख्य अध्यक्ष की स्वागत करते हुए उनका पर्यवेक्षण किया एवं निदेशालय का बोलना उपस्थित व्यक्तियों को अविश्वास करने में चल रहे गतिविधियों एवं अनुभव कार्यों से अविश्वास को परिवर्तन कराना। निदेशक कृषि एवं खाद्यप्रदान सेवा पर जोर देने वाले इस समूह में भारतीय कृषि अनुभव संग्रह - खाद्यप्रदान अनुशासन निदेशालय द्वारा आयोजित किया गया।

The first programme of Farmer FIRST was organized on 23/03/2017 in the village Baroda Panagar. Dr. P.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-DWR told the farmers about the usefulness and importance of this programme for the farming community and appealed to take maximum benefit under this. On this occasion, the Sarpanch of Baroda village, Mr. Ashish Patel, gave assurance for the full cooperation from the farmers’ side.

Under this programme, a meeting of farmers and scientist was also organized on 28/03/2017 at village Umaria Choube, Panagar. At the outset, Dr. R.P. Dubey, Principal Investigator of this programme welcomed the farmers and gave complete information about the Farmer FIRST Programme and also outlined the upcoming activities under this. Dr. P.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur informed the farmers about the programme, and urged all to take the maximum benefit under this, and ask to provide full cooperation to the officials.

Participation in the "Krishi Kalyan Mahostav (Mela) 2017" (16-17 April, 2017)

ICAR-DWR participated in the "Krishi Kalyan Mahostav (Mela) 2017" (16-17 April, 2017) organized by Government of Madhya Pradesh combined with the "Narmada Sewsat Yatra" at Gwari Ghat, Jabalpur. The "Krishi Kalyan Mahostav (Mela) 2017" was inaugurated on 16 April, by Sh. Gauri Shankar Bisen, Honorable Minister, Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh. The Honorable Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

The ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur exhibited its activities and research highlights in the said Mela. The exhibition of the Directorate was visited by farmers and other visitors, who interacted with our team led by Dr. P K Singh, Director along with Er. Chethan, C.R. Scientist, Mr. S.K.Parey, Sr. Technical Officer and Mr. Sandeep Dhashit, Assistant Chief Technical Officer.

Directorate celebrated 29th Foundation day (22 April, 2017)

ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur celebrated its 29th foundation day on 22 April, 2017. On this occasion, Honourable Shri Pralhad Singh Patel Ji, Member of Parliament, Damoh and Ex-Union Minister of State and many public/farmers representatives were also present during the occasion.

At the outset, Dr. P.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur
जनवरी–जून, 2017

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चल रहे कार्यक्रमों में मेरा गांव मेरा गैरमेंट एवं ‘मेरा गांव मेरा गैरमेंट’ की गतिविधियों का उल्लेख किया गया। इसके प्रभाव पर समाधान में नव प्रतिवाद पुलिसकर्मी (भारत के प्रधान मंत्री स्तर पर) एवं अन्य भारतीय मैनेजर रूप के समाधान संगठन द्वारा किया गया। इस अवसर पर समाधान में कार्य आयोगियों एवं कार्यकर्ताओं ने 20 वर्षों से अधिक की अपनी सेवों से भारतीय आयुर्वेदिक अनुसंधान परिषद् में ही उन्हें समर्पित किया गया।

इस अवसर पर पूजारी भाषिक की उपाधि पत्तन जी ने संख्या 29 में शमन द्वारा अनुसंधान की अनुमति को जल्दी ही प्राप्त करने की प्रार्थना की। इस अवसर पर चुनिन्दा की उपाधि के उपरेता द्वारा हुए उनके भरोसे हेतु अनुसंधान अभियान पर लेख जाए।

खरपतवार अनुसंधान निदेशालय द्वारा स्वच्छता दिवस का आयोजन

भारतीय आयुर्वेदिक अनुसंधान परिषद् के खरपतवार अनुसंधान निदेशालय द्वारा दिनांक 16-31 मई, 2017 के दौरान स्वच्छता दिवस पर अनुसंधान की आयोजन किया गया। इस पक्षपाती के दौरान विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत दिनांक 27 मई, 2017 को निदेशालय के समाचार में जारी किया गया।

इसके साथ सुख अधिकार के रूप में राजनीति के हिस्से में राजनीति के हिस्से में अपने बांधकामों में जनानकारी देने के प्रयास के रूप में कार्यकर्ता आयोगियों, इंस्टीट्यूट अधिकारी अनुसन्धान द्वारा किया गया।

इस सम्मान के दौरान भाषाकार जी ने अपनी उपाधि को दूर रखने के लिए उनके दृष्टि में हृदय की उपाधि के दौरान आयोजित विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों से उल्लेख किया।

खरपतवार अनुसंधान निदेशालय द्वारा स्वच्छता दिवस का आयोजन

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संस्थान प्रबंधन समिति समिट का आयोजन/ Review Meetings Organised

Institute Management Committee meeting

The XXV meeting of Institute Management Committee (IMC) was held on 17th January, 2017 under the chairmanship of Dr. A.K. Sharma, Director, ICAR-DWR in the presence of members Dr. S.K. Rao, Director of Research, JNKVV, Jabalpur; Dr. S. K. Bandopadhay, Principal Scientist, Div. of Environmental Sciences, IARI, New Delhi; Dr. D.P. Singh, Ex-Principal Scientist (Plant Physiology), ICAR- NRRRI, Cuttack, Odisha; Dr. O.P. Premi, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-DRMR, Bharatpur, Rajasthan; Sh. K. S. Netam, Joint Director, DFVAD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal; Sh. S. K. Verma, Administrative Officer, ICAR-DWR & Member Secretary, and the research programme leaders viz. Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Principal Investigator, Research Programme-5, Dr. Shushil Kumar, Principal Scientist and Principal Investigator, Research Programme-3, Dr. Shobha Sondhi, Senior Scientist, & In-charge, AICRP-Weed Management, and Principal Investigator, Research Programme-4, Dr. Bhumesh Kumar, Senior Scientist and Principal Investigator, Research Programme-2. Various issues pertaining to research, funds and farm facilities were discussed.

संस्थान अनुसंधान समिति की बैठक

विदेशवांत में चार दिन अनुसंधान कार्यक्रम की प्रारंभ एवं आई.अ.सी.-
-2016 के विषयों पर को गई कार्यवाही की समीक्षा के लिए आई.अ.
-सी की बैठक 25-26 मई 2017 को मुख्यालय में। बैठक में विदेशवांत के सभी वैज्ञानिकों ने भाग लिया। बैठक, सर्वाधिक सत्ता द्वारा निदेशक और साधन अनुसंधान समिति के सभी सदस्यों के सम्बन्ध में साक्षात्कार सक्षम हुई। दृ. पी. के. सिंह, निदेशक ने प्राथमिक विषयों में जिसने प्रक्रिया को आप को दौरान दर्शाया के संशोधन के संरचना में उपभोक्ताओं के आदर्श कार्य का लाभ दिया। उन्होंने वैज्ञानिकों से आपसी कहा कि वे अपने प्रयास और परिशिष्टिक उपाय करने के लिए मूल्यवान सिविल नियस बारे पर प्रशंसा दी। दृ. पी. पी. झोली, आई.अ.सी. के सदस्य नरेश ने बताया कि इस बैठक की समापन गवाह सरकारी दौरों पर कार्य की विभिन्न प्रश्नों को दृष्टि किया गया। 2016-2017 के दौरान वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा उन्नति गई अनुसंधान कार्य की समीक्षा दौर की गई।

अनुसंधान निदेशक, प्रशिक्षण और प्रयास गतिविधियों में को गई उन्नति को अपनी स्थिति से कार्य को गई और ज्ञात सुझाव दिए एवं वैज्ञानिकों के प्रयास 2017-2010 के दौरान, अपने परिषदों प्रयास प्रभाव दिखा किया, जिसका सभी वैज्ञानिकों का सहयोग रूप से निदेशक किया गया।

प्रभुकुमुर - खेतपत्रक अनुसंधान निदेशालय

Institute Research Committee meeting

The IRC meeting was convened on 25-26 May, 2017 to review the progress of ongoing research projects and actions taken on the recommendations of IRC-2016. The meeting was attended by all the scientists of the Directorate. The meeting started with the welcome of the Director and all members of Institute Research Committee (IRC) by the Member-Secretary, Dr. P.K. Singh, Director in his initial remarks, explained the importance of weed management in the light of doubting the farmers' income. He insisted scientists to prepare project proposals, based on utility research to generate some output and outcome. Dr. P.P. Choudhury, Member-Secretary, IRC presented the action taken report on general recommendations of the previous IRC meeting. Research work carried out by scientists during 2016-17 was reviewed in the meeting. The achievements made in research, teaching, training and extension activities were thoroughly discussed and suggestions for further improvement were made. Scientists presented their project proposals for the year 2017-2020, which were critically analysed by all scientists.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR), New Delhi visited Directorate (8 February, 2017)

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR 8 February, 2017 visited ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur on 8 February, 2017. He examined the facilities, research farm and interacted with the staff members. He shared his vision, and highlighted the current issues in resource management with reference to weeds.

Dr. Mohapatra appreciated the excellent infrastructure at the Directorate and exhorted the scientists to make full use of the facilities for quality research in weed science. He emphasized on compiling the available information and bringing out the high quality research publications. He asked for the scientific documentation with respect to C-sequestration, GHGs emission, microbial population and climate change mitigation in conservation agriculture experiments. It was desired by him to highlight the best achievements with respect to weed management and translate the available technologies for farmers’ benefit and improving their livelihoods. Earlier the staff of the Directorate extended a warm welcome to the Director General, ICAR on his maiden visit to the Directorate. Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director explained the achievements and major initiatives, and also informed about the constraints, such as, lack of scientists and funding in the All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Management.

Dr. Panjab Singh, Ex-Secretary (DARE) and Ex-Director General (ICAR), New Delhi and Padma Bhushan Dr. R.B. Singh, Ex-Chairman, ASRB and President NAAS, New Delhi

Dr. J.S. Samra, Former Deputy Director General (NRM) and Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Government of India, New Delhi
Participation in seminars/symposia/conferences/workshop
+ Dr. Yogita Gharde, Scientist attended the second workshop of Nodal Officers of ICAR Research Data Repository for knowledge Management on January 24, 2017 at NAS Complex, New Delhi.

Activities of Rajbhasha Kriyāvyan Samiti
+ Rajbhasha Kriyāvyan Samiti organised two quarterly meeting on 27 March and 20 June, 2017.

Hindi workshop-
+ Dr. Sanjay Veshampayan, Sr. Scientist, JNKVV, Jabalpur delivered lecture in hindi on "Phuslo Mein Keet Nigantran" on 28 March, 2017.

Transfers
+ Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director was transferred to ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi after completion of the tenure as Director on 10 March, 2017.
+ Mr. V.C. Tyagi, Scientist was transferred to ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi on 30 March, 2017.

Awards and Recognitions
+ Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director, ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur received special recognition award form Crop and Weed Science Society, BCKVV, Mohanpur, West Bengal on 21 January, 2017.
+ Mr. Anoop Kumar Rathore, Dr. A.R. Sharma, Miss. Rituja Jain and Dr. M.C. Bhambri received 'Best Poster Award' for the article 'Nitrogen and weed management effects on weed growth and rice productivity under conservation agriculture in rice-wheat-greengram cropping system in the ISWS Biennial Conference at MPUAT, Udaipur during 1-3 March 2017.
+ Mr. Shyam Lal and Miss. Tarun Suryavanshi, JGKV, Raipur, Mr. Saurabh Pagare, RDOV, Jabalpur and Mr. Subhash Kumar Mishra, MCGCV, Chitrakoot were given ISWS Student Travel Grant Award to attend the ISWS Biennial Conference held at MPUAT, Udaipur during 1-3 March 2017.
+ Mr. O.N. Tiwari and Mr. M.P. Tiwari, Sr. Technical Officers were felicitated on the occasion of 29th Foundation Day of Directorate for their 30 years service in ICAR on 22 April, 2017.

Publications
I am happy to present the current issue of Weed News highlighting the research and extension activities carried out by Directorate during January-June, 2017. A mobile app named as ‘Weed Manager’ was released by the Directorate which helps to identify common dominated weeds in different season crops with their control measures. This app is helpful to farmers, agriculture department officials, students, other stakeholders and industry professionals.

Kisan Singshori was organized at the site of one of the on-farm research trials under Mera Garm Mera Gunna programme at Lakhapati village in Katni district. National productivity week was also observed at Directorate on the theme "From Waste to Profits through Reduce, Recycle and Reuse".

XXIV Annual Review Meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Management was organized at Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur (Rajasthan) to review the progress made in research and extension by the centres. ICAR launched ‘Farmer FIRST Programme’ for the upliftment and livelihood security of the farmers under which two villages of Panagar block of Jabalpur district viz. Baranda and Umarda Chabaue were selected by the Directorate. It also participated in the Krishi Kalyan Mela programme organized by Government of Madhya Pradesh in association with the “Narmada Sewayatra” at Gwargihat, Jabalpur. Further, 29th foundation day was also celebrated on 22 April and a technical bulletin on ‘Major Creepers and Climber Weeds in India’ was released during the occasion by the guests. Many activities were organized during Souchhat Pahalwar including rallies on the importance of cleanliness besides cleaning ponds and plantation programme in different places. The XXV meeting of IMC and IRC meetings were also held during the period.

Many distinguished guests including Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi; Dr. J.S. Samra, Former Deputy Director General (NRM) and Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Government of India; Padma Bhushan Dr. R.B. Singh, Ex-Chairman, ASRB and President NAAS; and Dr. Panjal Singh, Ex-Director General, ICAR, and Secretary, DARE and presently President NAAS, New Delhi also visited the Directorate.

Over the last many years, Directorate has been continuing with major programmes focusing on development of location-specific weed management technologies for diversified cropping systems, herbicide resistance in weeds, biology and management of problem weeds, environmental impact of herbicides along with on-farm research and demonstrations. Further, with the efforts of all staff of Directorate, we are marching ahead to meet out the challenges in weed management.