

Farmers across the country are taking benefits of Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela-2023. Three technical sessions on ‘Precision agriculture’, ‘Climate resilient agriculture’ and ‘Agricultural marketing and export’ were organized

- On the first day farmers from different regions of the country participated in mela and learned about varieties and technologies developed by various divisions of New Delhi, as well as availed live exhibition, different agricultural models and farmer advisory services. The major attractions of the fair are: development of millet-based value chain, smart farming/protected cultivation, climate friendly and sustainable agriculture, agricultural marketing and export, farmers' innovations and startup linkages in farmer producer organizations (FPO's). ICAR Institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and other institutes are showcasing advanced technologies through more than 200 stalls, out of which 40 stalls are dedicated to farmer start-ups for promoting farmer entrepreneurship.
- Live telecast of the mela is also made through YouTube channel, so that farmers from all over the country can witness the event, even if they are not physically present in mela. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKmtKAP8yWg>). On the second day of the fair, three technical sessions were conducted where deliberations on precision agriculture, climate resilient and regenerative agriculture, agricultural marketing and export were made.
- The first session was on "*Innovative technologies for precision agriculture*" which was presided over by Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management) ICAR Dr. S. K. Chaudhary along with Dr Anil Rai, ADG (IT), ICAR who co-chaired the session. Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-IARI delivered welcome address and introduced the speakers. In this session Shibasrit Pradhan (ESDS Software's) gave talk on "Digital agriculture" where he emphasized the need and role of emerging digital technologies in agriculture. Mr. Rajesh Gupta (INVAS Technologies Pvt. Ltd.) spoke on "Smart Irrigation technologies" and Shri Sanjeev Kashyap (General Aeronautics Pvt. Ltd.) shared detailed information on the topic "Drone led Agriculture". Dr. Murtaza Hassan, Principal Scientist, CPCT enlighten the farmers about 'Vertical farming'. The session is coordinated by Dr. Manoj Khanna, Principal Scientist and Incharge FOSU, IARI.
- The second session was on "*Climate Resilient and Regenerative Agriculture*" which was presided over by Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, Dr. A.K. Singh. In this session, Dr. Rajbir Yadav, Principal Scientist, Genetics shared information about "Climate resilient agricultural technologies". Dr. P. Brahmanand, Project Director, WTC, enlightened about "Advanced techniques of water conservation and irrigation". Dr. Aarti Bhatiya, Principal Scientist, Division of Environmental Science shared details on use of "Nitrogen and pollution management". For straw management and effective management of stubble burning, Dr. Sunil Pabbi, Head, Division of Microbiology elaborated preparation and use of innovative technology '*Pusa Decomposer*'. Dr. T.K. Purkayasth, Principal Scientist, Division of Soil Science and

Agriculture Chemistry gave his insights on “nutrient management technologies based on soil health card”. Techniques of sustainable agriculture were explained by Dr. Dinesh Kumar, Principal Scientist, Division of Agronomy. Dr. K.K. Singh, Ex-Chairman, Indian Meteorological Department, enlightened farmers about “climate weather based agricultural advisory services”. Padamshree Dr. VP Singh, Retired Head (Division of Genetics) at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi also graced the occasion. Dr. Raj Kumar Gupta (Formerly with CIMMYT and Borlaug Institute for South Asia) informed about dissemination of resource-conserving technologies. The session is coordinated by Dr. T. K. Das, Principal Scientist, IARI.

- The third session was on "*Agricultural Marketing and export*" which was presided over by Dr. Tarun Bajaj, Director APEDA. In this session, the opportunities for export of Millets, export of mango, export of dairy products, export of fisheries were elaborated by Dr. Tarun Bajaj (Director APEDA), Shri Nadeem Sidhique, Shri Vipin Gupta (Chairman, ALKA milk foods Karnal) and Mr. Sultan Singh Padma Shri awardee (Sultan Fish Seed Farm) respectively. The session is coordinated by Dr. Alka Singh, Professor, Ag. Economics IARI.
- In the end of all the technical sessions *farmers-scientists' interactions* were organized and most of the farmers' asked questions about recent technological interventions, price, subsidy and government schemes. Farmers showed keen interest in Live demonstration of new crop varieties, demonstration of protected cultivation of vegetables, flowers and in the exhibition and sale of agricultural implements developed by the institutions and private companies.
- After the technical sessions, a folk music evening was organized by *Prasar Bharati* for the entertainment of the farmers.