



## Thirtieth Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

\* The 30<sup>th</sup> RAC meeting of ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai was held during May 9-10, 2024 in hybrid mode in Video Conference Room. The meeting was chaired by Dr. S. M. Ilyas, Former Vice Chancellor, Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad & Chairman RAC, in the presence of RAC Members, Dr. S. Sreenivasan, Former Director, ICAR-CIRCOT, Dr. Pitam Chandra Former ADG (PE), Dr. Gopal P. Agarwal, Former Prof. IIT Delhi, Dr. Borkar, Professor VJTI, Dr. K. Narsaiah, ADG (PE) and Dr. S. K. Shukla, Director ICAR-CIRCOT. Dr. W. L. Waghmare, Director DoCD and Shri. Sachin Kulkarni, IMC members in RAC, participated in the meeting online. The meeting was attended by all the Heads of Division and Scientists of the Institute.



## National Workshop on "Branding of the Vidharba Cotton as Kasturi"

ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai in association with The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Mumbai and Vidarbha Cotton Association (VCA), Nagpur organized a National Workshop on the "Branding of the Vidharba Cotton as Kasturi" as a part of the Centenary Year celebration of ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai on May 16, 2024. Dr. C.D. Mayee, Former Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi, Shri Suresh Kotak, Chairman, TAG, Govt. of India (Joined virtual Mode), Dr M. K. Sharma, Whole time Director & CEO, M/s. Bajaj Steel Industries Ltd., Nagpur, Dr. S. K. Shukla, Director, ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai, Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal, Executive Director, TEXPROCIL, Mumbai, Sh. Vijay Kuradagi, Director, (Marketing), CCI Ltd., Mumbai, Dr. A.L. Waghmare, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development, Nagpur, Shri. Bhavesh Shah, President, VCA, Nagpur. Shri Irfan Khoje, Secretary, VCA, Nagpur, Dr. K. Pandiyani, Sr. Scientist & Officer In-Charge, GTC, ICAR-CIRCOT, Nagpur, Sh. Udaysinh Kharat, Joint Director, TEXPROCIL, Mumbai graced the occasion.



## Round Table Discussion

\* Agrovision Foundation, Nagpur, in collaboration with the Indian Society for Cotton Improvement, Mumbai, ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai and ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur organized a Round Table Discussion on 'Increasing Profitability in Maharashtra State through Improving Cotton Productivity and Quality Parameters' on May 28, 2024 at ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai, as a part of the centenary celebrations of the institute. The discussion developed a practical strategy to boost farm income by enhancing cotton productivity and fiber quality parameters.



## Special Lectures

\* A lecture on the occasion of RAC on the topic entitled 'Production of Edible Starch from Non-Food Low Value Cellulose' was delivered by Dr. S. Sreenivasan, RAC Member & Former Director, ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai.

\* Lecture on 'Agrobiodiversity for Nutrition, Climate Change and Livelihood' by Shri Sanjay Patil, Chief Programme Executive - BAIF (Pune) was delivered on May 29, 2024.



## Visits by Dignitaries



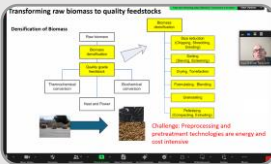
- Dr. Praveen Gedam, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Govt of Maharashtra along with a team of 100 senior level agricultural officers visited Ginning Training Centre (GTC), Nagpur on May 22, 2024. They were showcased the facility available at GTC, CIRCOT, Nagpur and given the feedback about steps to be initiated by Govt. of Maharashtra for improving cotton productivity and profitability through increase in ginning outturn (GOT) & quality parameters of cotton.

## Skill Development Activities



- Ginning Training Centre, Nagpur (GTC of ICAR-CIRCOT) organized a one-day training programme on “Cotton Quality Parameters and Value Addition to its By-produce” held on May 17, 2024 for Farmers from ATMA, Wardha. Total 41 participants (all male) attended the training program.
- GTC, Nagpur organized a five days training programme on “Cotton Value Chain for Officers under the SMART Cotton Project” held during May 20-24, 2024. Total 24 Agricultural Officers (including 4 females) attended the training program.

## Centenary Lecture Series



- The fourth lecture in this series was delivered in online mode by Dr. Jaya Shankar Tumuluru, Research Agricultural Engineer, Southwestern Cotton Ginning Research Laboratory, USDA-ARS, Las Cruces, New Mexico, USA on the topic, “Novel Lint Cleaning Approaches to Improve the Upland Cotton Quality and Pre-Processing and Pre-Treatment Technologies to Upgrade the Cotton Gin By-Products for Fuels and Power”, on May 24, 2024.

## Industrial Visits



- \* Dr. S. K. Shukla and Dr. Manoj Kumar Mahawar visited the Kesavraj Cotton Cluster facility and M/s. Bihani Binayake Cotex Pvt. Ltd. ginning industry at Selu (Parbhani) on May 12, 2024, for discussion regarding cotton packing machine development.
- \* Dr. Manoj Kumar Puniya visited KRBL Limited, Dhuri, Punjab during May 21-24, 2024, for understanding industrial procedure of furfural production.

## Publication



- Kumar, R., Das, J., Puttaswamy, R. K., Kumar, M., Balasubramani, G., & Prasad, Y. G. (2024). Targeted genome editing for cotton improvement: prospects and challenges. The Nucleus-India, 1-23, NAAS 7.80.

# Glimpses of Activities



## Vidarbha Cotton Association ginners benefit from ICAR-CIRCOT workshop

Times of India, May 18, 2024

Vidarbha Cotton Association (VCA) ginners have expressed their happiness for organizing a workshop on 'Branding of the Vidarbha Cotton as Kasturi' in Nagpur and familiarizing the Kasturi cotton brand of cotton among the Vidarbha ginners. They interacted with Kasturi team members and got acquainted with procedure for registration with Kasturi website, drawing of samples and testing of the samples.

The ICAR-Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology (CIRCOT), Mumbai in association with The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Mumbai and Vidarbha Cotton Association (VCA), Nagpur organized a national workshop on the 'Branding of

the Vidarbha Cotton as Kasturi'. The event was held in Nagpur to mark the centenary year celebration of ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai. The programme was attended by more than 250 participants inclusive of ginners, spinners, brokers, traders, and researchers.

VCA Ginners responded positively for adoption of Kasturi cotton and at the same time they have urged the TEXPROCIL for exploring the possibilities for identifying the NABL accredited testing laboratory in and around Nagpur. In response to this, ICAR-CIRCOT has assured ginners that they would be very soon providing NABL accredited lab at Ginning Training Centre of ICAR-CIRCOT at Nagpur.

CD Mayee, former chairman of ASRB, New Delhi, was the chief guest of the event.

Dr MK Sharma, director and CEO of Bajaj Steel Industries Ltd, Nagpur, Siddhartha Rajagopal, executive director of TEXPROCIL, Mumbai, Vijay Kuradagi, director, (marketing), CCI Ltd, Mumbai, were the special guests.

Pandiyan, senior scientist and officer in-charge, GTC, ICAR-CIRCOT, Nagpur, gave the welcome address and briefed about the overview of the programme.

Bhavesh Shah, president of VCA, Nagpur, in his introductory remarks, expressed that the Vidarbha cottons are matching the quality parameters of Kasturi but the biggest challenge faced by ginners is reduction of trash content in cotton. He also, emphasized on the issue of allergies during handling of cotton by farmers as well as labourers. **TNN**

## Improved quality of Vidarbha's cotton branded as 'Kasturi'

Kasturi can attract premium of ₹10 to ₹20 more per kg

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK  
NAGPUR

Improved quality of Vidarbha's cotton was branded as 'Kasturi' on Thursday at a national workshop organised here even as talks revolved around getting experts to reach out to farmers and to induce them to use modern technology for increasing the yield of their produce. The whole processing system up to ginning factories should be done properly to raise the quality of cotton.

The ICAR-Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology (CIRCOT), Mumbai, and the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Mumbai, organised



One of the dignitaries addressing during the event.

the workshop in active co-operation of Vidarbha Cotton Association in the auditorium of National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP) near Wadi in order to promote branding of Vidarbha cotton as 'Kasturi'.

Cotton is the standing crop of Vidarbha but it had no identity so far but now with the cotton bales clearing parameters set by the government, it would be known as 'Kasturi' cotton.

Former director of Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur, Dr C D Mayee, inaugurated the workshop while director and chief executive officer of Bajaj Steel Industry, NK Sharma, director of TEXPROCIL Siddhesh Rajgopal, director, Marketing, Cotton Corporation of India, Mumbai, Vijay Kuradagi and director, ICAR, Mumbai, S K Shukla were the guests of honour. President of Vidarbha Cotton Association, Nagpur, Bhavesh Shah made introductory remarks.

The parameters on which the variety was branded 'Kasturi' include, the length of cotton bales, microner, trace percentage, moisture, rain damage quality etc. A premium of ₹15 to ₹20 per kg on cotton bales would be given to cultivators if their produce clears the parameters. This quality cotton will get 'Kasturi' branding and its market value would go up.

# उत्पादकता में सुधार होना जरूरी

## ‘विदर्भ कॉटन को कस्तूरी के रूप में ब्रांडिंग’ पर कार्यशाला

■ नागपुर, व्यापार प्रतिनिधि. भाकृअनुप-केंद्रीय कपास प्रौद्योगिकी अनुसंधान संस्थान (सिरकॉट), मुंबई ने सूती वस्त्र निर्यात संवर्धन परिषद (टेक्सप्रोसिल), मुंबई और विदर्भ कपास संघ (वीसीए), नागपुर के सहयोग से हाल में भाकृअनुप-सिरकॉट, मुंबई के शताब्दी वर्ष समारोह (1924-2024) के अवसर पर ‘कस्तूरी के रूप में विदर्भ कपास की ब्रांडिंग’ पर एक राष्ट्रीय कार्यशाला का नागपुर में आयोजन किया. इस अवसर पर पूर्व अध्यक्ष, कृषि वैज्ञानिक भर्ती बोर्ड, डॉ.सी.डी.मायी, मुख्य अतिथि, पूर्णकालिक निदेशक, सीईओ, मेसर्स बजाज स्टील इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड, नागपुर, एम.के.शर्मा, टेक्सप्रोसिल, मुंबई के कार्यकारी निदेशक डॉ. सिद्धार्थ राजगोपाल और सीसीआई लिमिटेड, मुंबई के विजय कुरादगी, उपस्थित थे. प्रारंभ में वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक और प्रभारी अधिकारी, जीटीसी, सिरकॉट के के.पांडियन ने कार्यक्रम के बारे में जानकारी दी. वीसीए के अध्यक्ष भावेश शाह ने परिचयात्मक टिप्पणी दी और नयी कृषि पद्धतियों के माध्यम से उत्पादकता में सुधार के लिए जोर दिया. विजय कुरादगी ने कस्तूरी ब्रांडिंग को अपनाने से सीसीआई लिमिटेड को होने वाले लाभ के बारे में बताया.



## नकदी फसल के रूप में बढ़ावा देने की आवश्यकता

एस.के.शुक्ला निदेशक, भाकृअनुप-सिरकॉट, मुंबई ने किसानों, जिनर्स और कताई मिलों को कस्तूरी कपास ब्रांडिंग के लाभों के बारे में बताया. शर्मा ने विदर्भ जिनर्स द्वारा कस्तूरी कपास के उत्पादन के लिए नवीनतम जिनिंग और सफाई मशीनरी प्रदान करके जिनर्स की सहायता करने की पेशकश की. मायी ने किसानों द्वारा अतिरिक्त आय प्राप्त करने के लिए कपास को नकदी फसल के रूप में बढ़ावा देने की आवश्यकता का उल्लेख किया. इस कार्यक्रम में जिनर्स, स्पिनर, ब्रोकर, व्यापारी और शोधकर्ता सहित 250 से अधिक प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया. कार्यक्रम का संचालन नरेंद्र चांडक ने तथा आभार टेक्सप्रोसिल, मुंबई के निदेशक उदयसिंह खरात ने माना.



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