



भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

(Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare)



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ICAR Institutes celebrate World Soil Day - 2020

5th December, 2020

The World Soil Day is celebrated on 5th December every year all over the globe to apprise the farmers and citizens about the importance of the soil in maintaining the healthy ecosystems and human well-beings by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, fighting soil biodiversity, etc. It also aims at encouraging the governments, organizations, communities and individuals around the world to commit for proactively improving the soil health.

The ICAR Institutes also celebrated the World Soil Day - 2020 on theme "Keep soil alive, Protect soil biodiversity".

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

The Institute organized a week-long celebrations to observe the *World Soil Day - 2020* from 1st to 7th December, 2020..



Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management), ICAR appreciated the Institute's efforts in involving a number of stakeholders in the soil health awareness campaign. He also urged for sustained efforts in preserving the health of soil through use of scientific methods of soil management.

Dr. Ashok K. Patra, Director of the Institute accentuated on the role of soil and soil biodiversity. He also deliberated on some advanced soil management technologies, such as, conservation agriculture, STCR-based soil nutrient recommendations, micro-nutrient management and microbial formulations for decomposition of crop residues.

The occasion also held a Special Lecture on "*Science and management of soil health*" delivered by Dr. D.L.N. Rao, Former Project Coordinator, ICAR-All India Network Project on Soil Biodiversity and Biofertilizers.

Around 300 farmers virtually participated in the event.

ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh

The Institute organized a wide array of activities to apprise the participants and public about the soil's importance in our lives.



Dr. V.K. Yadav, Director of the Institute highlighted the importance of maintaining healthy soil for the benefits of coming generations and Self Help Groups for good soil health like vaccination in human beings. The Director highlighted about the distribution of a total of 58 Soil Health Cards to the farmers of the region.

ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna, Bihar

Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Director of the Institute emphasized on fertilizer’s balanced application based on soil test for maintaining the soil health and crop productivity.



A total of 50 farmers from Gangapur, Kharphur, Gowrichak, Sampatchak from Fatuah Block of Patna District, Bihar attended the programme.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The Institute in collaboration with the State Agricultural Department, Dehradun District, Uttarakhand organized a series of *Kisan Melas* at Doiwala and Sahaspur and Raipur, Vikasnagar and Kalsi.



A total of 542 Farmers, 85 Scientists and State Line Department Officials and 27 Public Representatives participated in the event.

The occasion also held 28 Exhibitions that apprised the farmers with the importance of soil fauna and flora, microbes, soil testing and use of soil health cards to maintain the soil quality of their fields.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Washim, Maharashtra

In his inaugural address, Dr. R.L. Kale, Head, KVK, Washim, Maharashtra emphasized on this year’s theme that urges to focus from tiny bacteria to slimy earthworms all of which contribute to process that are indispensable to life on earth.

