



IISWC, RC, participated in mega exhibition

Chandigarh, 28 May 2015. The Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Research Centre, participated in Government of India's Mega Exhibition. The farmers were discussed about the role of soil-testing in diagnosing the conditions of available nutrients in the soil which indicates the fertility and productivity of the soils. It also helps in assessing the soil constraints related to soil-fertility. Therefore, soil-testing provides sound information for recommendation of fertilizers and correct amount of chemical fertilizers to be integrated with organic amendments for improving the soil-health and quality to increase the productivity per unit area. The farmers were shown the sample soil-health card, developed in Mandhala watershed. The use of such information to the farmers were explained and it was also discussed whether the health card would help reduce consumption of fertilizers. Also, soil-health card will help the farmer in determining what can be more easily grown in the farm. The farmers raised the issue of bridging the gap between the number of soil-testing laboratories and the targeted number that needs to be established in the following three years. The farmers also discussed about the problems they are facing regarding water availability and salinity in soils, especially in growth of rice.