



WEED news



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RESEARCH

Web-based Tool for Identification of Weeds

Identification of weed species is essential for proper documentation and development of suitable management strategies. However, this requires expertise and experience to identify weed species, which is often not available at different institutions. In order to simplify the technique of weed identification and make the information available to all stakeholders, this Directorate has developed different databases which help in weed identification through the characteristic morphological features of these species. In the Directorate's website (www.nrcws.org), in database hyperlink, three main databases are hyperlinked: weed seed identification, weed seedling identification and weed identification. In this method of identifying weeds, the users can search/browse weeds using a number of search techniques, such as searching by scientific name, common name and family name in alphabetical order. The user can also identify the weeds by weed thumbnails (weeds pictures) and search by other weed characteristics. In order to use these web-based softwares, one has to choose from the available databases which are most adapted to the picture identification.



NEWS

2nd National Training Programme for ICAR/SAUs Scientists

Second national training programme was organized during 14–23 January, 2014 on 'Advances in weed management'. Thirty trainees from different ICAR institutes and agricultural universities participated in this programme. During the inaugural session, Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Course Director, briefed about the content of the programme while welcoming participants and guests. Dr. A.R. Sharma, the Director of DWSR, briefed about the importance and purpose of

the training programme. He emphasized that this training programme will help the participating scientists to improve their future teaching, research



programmes and extension activities relating to weed management. Dr. V.S. Tomar, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswavidyalaya, MP and the Chief Guest of the inaugural function, mentioned that advanced knowledge of weed management is needed to make intensive agriculture a profitable venture. Dr. C.B. Singh, Ex.-Dean & Director Extension Services, JNKVV, chaired the closing ceremony on January 23, 2014. Appreciating the programme, Dr. Singh insisted the scientists to utilize the acquired knowledge of weed management in practical field.

Technical Guidance for Aquatic Weed Management

On the request of President and Secretary of YUVA Society, Bengaluru, Dr. Sushil Kumar, Principal Scientist visited five lakes



of Bengaluru city along with members of Society during 27-28 February 2014 and imparted technical guidance about the management of floating and submerged weeds through various methods. On 28 March 2014, a power point presentation was also made before the Mayor of Bengaluru and officials of BBMP about the management of different lakes in the city and sensitized BBMP officials to take steps to contain the weed.

Training on Weed Management to U.P. Govt. Officers

A five day training programme on "Advances in weed management technology" was organized by DWSR during 11-15 March, 2014 for agricultural officers of Uttar Pradesh with the financial support of SIMA, Ministry of Agriculture, U.P. Govt. Rahmankhera, Lucknow, (U.P.).

DWSR
Celebrating

25 years
1989-2014

Welcoming the participants and guests, Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Course Director briefed about the objectives and content of the



programme. Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director, DWSR informed that weed control technology is the fastest adopted technology by the farmers. He also focused on the importance and purpose of the training and appraised the trainees with importance of conservation agriculture for sustainable crop production. Dr. B.P. Tripathi, Joint Director Agriculture, Jabalpur, M.P. Govt. and Chief Guest, emphasized the need of such trainings and revealed that there has been an increase in agricultural production in MP due to such type of trainings. A total of 25 participants (including two achiever farmers) benefited from the training programme. Field visits to farmer's field (on-farm research trials), experimental field of DWSR and Borlaug Institute for South Asia, Jabalpur were also organized.

Annual Review Meeting of AICRP on Weed Control

Twenty first Annual Review Meeting of AICRP on Weed Control was organized at DWSR, Jabalpur during 12-14 February, 2014. This three days review meeting



was graced by the presence of Chief Guest, Dr. L.S. Brar, former Professor & Head, Department of Agronomy, PAU, Ludhiana, and Guests of Honour, Dr. J.G. Varshney, former Director, DWSR and Dr. R.K. Gupta, Team Leader, Research Station Developments, Borlaug Institute for South Asia, New Delhi. Dr. N.T. Yaduraju, former Director, DWSR also participated on 13-14 February, 2014 and reviewed the research programme. Nearly 100 scientists of 22 coordinating and 4 volunteer centres attended the meeting. CCS HAU, Hisar centre of AICRP on Weed Control was conferred the 'Best Centre Award' for 2013.

Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Weed Science

Indian Society of Weed Science in collaboration with Directorate of Weed Science Research, Jabalpur organized three days biennial conference on the theme 'Emerging challenges in weed management' at the Directorate on 15-17 February, 2014. About 300 weed scientists including 4 overseas delegates participated in the conference. The inaugural function of the conference, held on 15 February 2014, was graced with the presence of Dr. V.S. Tomar, Vice Chancellor, JNKVV as Chief Guest, Dr. N.T. Yaduraju and Dr. T.V.

Muniyappa, present and immediate past President of ISWS, Dr. R.K. Malik, past president of ISWS and Dr. A.R. Sharma, Secretary and Director, DWSR, Jabalpur.



Dr. Sharma welcomed the participants, and expressed his thanks to Dr. Nimal Chandrasena, Dr. Megh Singh and Dr. Bhagirath Chauhan representing Australia, USA and Philippines, respectively. He explained the challenges posed by weeds and the importance of their management. Dr. N.T. Yaduraju, President ISWS and Former Director DWSR, highlighted the current scenario of weed problems in the country and the world in his presidential address. During the conference, one keynote lecture, 19 lead papers and 26 oral papers were presented in 12 sessions along with 203 poster presentations.

Farmers Day Observed

Farmers' day-cum-Sangoshthi was organized on 26th March, 2014 at Bharda village. Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director, DWSR outlined the farmers' field



research trials conducted by DWSR scientists, new techniques coming up in crop cultivation, conservation agriculture technique, sowing by happy seeder machine and improved crop production practices being adopted in other localities in Madhya Pradesh. Dr. Sharma also elaborated the role of DWSR in solving the problems being faced by farmers in their farms related to weed management and other aspects of crop production. The importance of different aspects of weed management in crop production was briefed to the farming community. The scientists of DWSR addressed the queries raised by farmers during the Krishak Sangoshthi related to their problems in weed management and crop production. All the farmers visited the nearby field of Shri Satish Dubey, Bharda, where crop of wheat was raised by adopting the conservation agriculture technique. The field day was attended by nearly 125 farmers and scientists from DWSR.

National Science Day Celebrated

National Science Day was celebrated on 28 February, 2014. The theme of the science day was "Role of scientific research in agriculture development in



India". Dr. C. Kannan, convener, welcomed the gathering and informed about the genesis and significance of celebrating National Science Day. Er. H.S. Bisen, I/c Director gave the inaugural remarks, followed by a presentation of Dr. V.P. Singh on Weeds and their impact of Indian Agriculture. The students were then taken for laboratory and field visit. They were explained about the various activities and equipments like OTCs, lysimeter, containment chambers, FACE facility, conservation agriculture and the different weed management implements in the workshop. Dr. U. Prakasham, IFS, Director TFRI, Jabalpur was the Chief Guest of the post-lunch session. He delivered special lecture on "Science as a way of learning". A competition was held wherein students delivered their views using power point slides. The prizes (books on great scientists) along with certificates were given to first three positions.

Biological control of *Parthenium* in Punjab

On the request of Punjab State council for Science and Technology (PSCST), Chandigarh, Dr. Sushil Kumar, Principal Scientist demonstrated the management of *Parthenium* through biological control agent *Zygogramma bicolorata* in the village Tira of Mohali district of Punjab on 27 March, 2014. The boxes containing the culture of beetle were distributed among the farmers representing different villages. The farmers showed great interest in biological control of *Parthenium* and stressed the need of biological control due to excessive use of pesticides in Punjab.



Donations of Journals to DWSR Library

Dr. Megh Singh, an eminent weed scientist retired from Citrus Research and Education Center, Florida, USA and a Fellow of Indian Society of Weed Science donated his personnel collections of old journals to the library of DWSR for the benefit of students and scientists of India. He shipped the large collection from Florida to Jabalpur on his own cost. He donated a complete set of volume of the journal 'Weed Science' from 1956 to 2013 (279 issues) and 'Weed Technology' from 1987 to 2013 (1098 issues).



Dr. Bibhas Ray, a retired weed scientist and Fellow of Indian Society of Weed Science, generously donated his personnel collections of old volumes of different journals related to weed science to the library of DWSR. Dr. Ray donated complete set of volumes except a few missing journals, namely 'Weeds' from 1952 to 1961 (42 issues), 'Weed Science' from 1962 to 1993 (133 issues), 'Weed Technology' from 1987 to 1993 (22 issues), and 'Indian Journal of Weed Science' from 1969 to 2008 (116 issues).



PERSONALIA

Promotions

- i Shri. K.K. Tiwari was promoted from Sr. Technical Assistant (T-4) to Technical Officer (T-5) w.e.f. 14 January, 2012
- ii Shri. Ghanshyam Vishwakarma was promoted from Sr. Technical Assistant (T-4) to Technical Officer (T-5) w.e.f. 28 March, 2012
- iii Shri. Ajay Pal Singh was promoted from Technical Assistant (T-3) to Sr. Technical Assistant (T-4) w.e.f. 28 March, 2012
- iv Shri. Sabasteen Das was promoted from Technical Assistant (T-2) to Technical Assistant (T-3) w.e.f. 21 May, 2012
- v Shri. S.K. Tiwari was promoted from Sr. Technical Assistant (T-4) to Technical Officer (T-5) w.e.f. 14 January, 2013
- vi Shri. S.K. Bose was promoted from Sr. Technical Assistant (T-4) to Technical Officer (T-5) w.e.f. 14 January, 2013

Obituary



Shri Ram Kumar, Skilled Support Staff (SSS) passed away untimely on 27 January, 2014. The staff of the Directorate condoled his death and prayed the Almighty for solace to the departed soul.

Visitors

- Dr. R.C. Gautam, Dean and Joint Director (Education) IARI, New Delhi - 4 January, 2014
- Dr. U.K. Behera, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), IARI, New Delhi - 6 January, 2014
- Dr. M.S. Basu, Former Director, National Research Centre for Groundnut (ICAR), Junagarh - 20 January, 2014
- Dr. C.B. Singh, Ex. Dean & Director Extension, JNKVV, Jabalpur - 20 January, 2014
- Dr. A.K. Singh, Professor, IARI, New Delhi - 25 January, 2014
- Dr. L.S. Brar, Ex-Professor & Head (Agronomy), PAU, Ludhiana - 12-17 February, 2014
- Dr. N.T. Yaduraju, Former Director, DWSR, Jabalpur - 13-17 February, 2014
- Dr. S.K. Rao, Dean Faculty (Agricultural Science), JNKVV, Jabalpur - 14 February, 2014
- Dr. V.S. Tomar, Vice Chancellor, JNKVV, Jabalpur - 15 February, 2014
- Dr. R.K. Malik, Coordinator, CIMMYT-India, New Delhi - 14-17 February, 2014
- Dr. R.K. Gupta, South Asia Coordinator, CIMMYT-India, New Delhi - 14-17 February, 2014
- Dr. N.N. Angiras, Ex-Professor & Head, CSKHPV, Palampur - 15-17 February, 2014
- Dr. Nimal Chandrasena, Australia - 15-17 February, 2014

- Dr. Megh Singh, Weed Scientist, University of Florida, US - 15-17 February, 2014
- Dr. A.N. Rao, Visiting Scientist, ICRISAT, Hyderabad - 15-17 February, 2014
- Dr.(Mrs.) Gita Kulshrestha, Ex-Professor (Agriculture Chemicals), IARI, New Delhi - 15-17 February, 2014
- Dr. B.S. Chauhan, Weed Scientist, IRRI, Philippines - 15-17 February, 2014
- Dr. T.K. Das, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), IARI, New Delhi - 15-17 February, 2014
- Dr. U. Prakasham, IFS, Director, TFRI, Jabalpur - 28 February, 2014
- Dr. B.P. Tripathi, Joint Director (Agriculture), M.P. Govt., Jabalpur - 11 March, 2014

Participation in Training Programmes

- Dr. P.J. Khankhane, Sr. Scientist participated in the training programme on "Management of intellectual property rights in public research" organized by IISS, Bhopal on 7 February, 2014.
- Dr. A.R. Sharma, Director was selected for deputation on International Training under HRD programme of NAIP on "Advanced Leadership/Management Development Programme" at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA, from 24 February to 8 March, 2014. This training was sponsored by NAIP, ICAR, New Delhi. In this training programme, he also visited different organisations of Washington D.C. and New York.

Lectures Delivered in Other Institutions

- Dr. V.P. Singh delivered a lecture on "Weed management in rabi crops" at CIFE, Mumbai on 31 January, 2014.
- Dr. P.K. Singh delivered lecture on "Important weeds and their management" at the Agribusiness School for Rural Youth, 24 January, 2014 in JNKVV, Jabalpur.
- Dr. V.P. Singh delivered a lecture on "Weed management in cropped and non-cropped areas" at Project Directorate ATMA, Burhanpur (M.P.) on 21 February 2014.
- Dr. Sushil Kumar delivered a lecture on "Aquatic weed management" at Bruhat, Bengaluru, Mahanagara (Municipality office) in Bengaluru.
- Dr. Sushil Kumar delivered a lecture on "Biological control of Weeds" on 3 March 2014 in a training programme held at NIBSM, Raipur.
- Dr. Sushil Kumar delivered lecture on "Biological control-based integrated management of *Parthenium*" in a Brain Storming Session, organized by Punjab Council of Science and Technology (PCST) at Chandigarh on 27 March 2014.

Technical Seminar

- Dr. D.K. Pandey: "Future weed problem scenario" on 28.3.2014.

From Director's Desk



It is my privilege to greet the readers of 'Weed News' on the occasion of Happy New Year - 2014. During the first quarter, the Directorate organized for the first time at its campus the Annual Review Meeting of AICRP on Weed Control on 12-14 February, 2014, and the Biennial Conference of ISWS on 15-17 February, 2014. These mega events won the appreciation of all participants for the excellent arrangements and provided visibility to the Directorate. We were fortunate to receive a large number of participants including students and some eminent scientists from abroad as well. Second National Training Programme was organized during 14-23 January, 2014, in which, 30 scientists/teachers from different ICAR Institutes and SAUs participated. Further a training programme for the agricultural officers of the Government of U.P. was organized from 11-15 March, 2014. A Farmers' Day-cum-Sangoshthi in September was held at Bharda village on 26 March,

2014 where the farmers and scientists visited the excellent crops of zero-till wheat. National Science Day was organized for the first time at the Directorate on 28 February 2014, in which, Dr. U. Prakasham, Director, TFRI delivered a special lecture on 'Science as a way of living'. I also availed the opportunity to visit Cornell University, Ithaca, New York for a Leadership Development Programme from 23 February to 8 March, 2014.

Our library has been enriched with the vast collection of books and journals donated by Dr. Bibhas Ray and Dr. Megh Singh. We appreciate their help.

We have continued to move forward over the last 2 years since my joining at this Directorate in March, 2012. Several initiatives have been undertaken to recognize our research programmes, strengthen infrastructure and improve visibility of our Directorate. Now we need to show the results in terms of better quality research output and sharing our technologies on weed management with different stakeholders.

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