

**A brief note on participation in National Soybean Kisan Mela & Exhibition organized by ICAR-Directorate of Soybean Research (DSR),Indore**

A National Kisan Mela on Soybean was sponsored to ICAR-DSR, Indore under NMOOP with a financial assistance of Rs. 4.00 lakh during 2015-16. The mela was organized by DSR, Indore on 25.08.2015. Consultant (OS), Assistant Commissioner (OS) and Director, DPD, Bhopal participated in the mela. A copy of the programme schedule is annexed (Enclosure-I).The highlights of the mela are given below:

1. In addition to DSR; other institutions of ICAR like, CIAE, Bhopal; IISS; Bhopal; IARI Regional station Indore; Directorate of Machinery from State Department of Agriculture, KVK Indore, KVK Ujjain, NSC, SOPA and a number of private organizations like Ruchi Soya, Coromandal, Bio-care, Bayers Ltd., Nagarujana Fertilizers also participated and displayed their activities and role in agriculture development in general and with particular reference to Soybean. Copies of “**Krishak Doot**” and “**Dharti Ugle Sona**” weekly/fortnightly publications, which contain useful informations about the agriculture were circulated by their publishers among the farmers. (Enclosure-II).
2. Live demonstration of improved crop production technologies including ridge-furrow technique, seed production and post harvest technologies including value added products of Soybean and publicity material were displayed in the exhibition by the participating institutions /organizations.
3. Snacks of Toffu and Okra (residue of Soya milk) and roasted Soya nuts were served to the participants during the mela.
4. More than 900 farmers including extension functionaries from the major Soybean growing states like, M.P., Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat participated in the mela.
5. The farmers were addressed by the scientists of ICAR-DSR; officers of Oilseeds Division; including Director, DPD, Bhopal; Joint Director Agriculture, Indore and the progressive Soybean farmers of M.P. and Maharashtra. This was followed with a most interactive session of Scientists and Farmers. The farmers have brought, live plant samples with a problem of non-pod formation. The problem on non-pod formation was mainly reported in case of JS-95-60 variety of Soybean. The infestation of white fly and yellow mosaic virus was also reported by the farmers. They also reported damage of Soybean crop due to heavy rains occurred during July/August. The farmers also showed their concerns and said that the crop sown as per IMD forecast have suffered due to heavy rainfall.
6. The event was widely appreciated by the farmers and other stakeholders, who suggested that such Kisan Melas should be organized every year.

7. A progressive farmer Sh. Prashant Patil from Sangli, Maharashtra shared his experience on Soybean cultivation with an yield of more than 50 quintal per hectare with a low seed rate of 25 kg per hectare and suggested 7 tips for productivity improvement of Soybean as under:-
- Selection of soil and soil testing.
  - Identification of variety.
  - Germination test of seed before sowing.
  - Application of basal doze of fertilizers at the time of sowing and its proper placement in the soil.
  - Seed treatment with PSB and fungicides.
  - Plant population (3.0 lakh per hectare) as per soil fertility and plant type (seed rate of 25 per kg hectare).
  - Ridge -fallow technique.
8. A number of innovations like use of cow placenta fluid and cow urine being used by the farmers under integrated pest management were also shared and it was suggested by JDA Indore that use of these inputs may be scientifically evaluated by ICAR-DSR.
9. A Krishak-Upyogi Salah Suchna Pranali was launched by the DSR during the event and farmers were requested to get register on Phone No. 9907650889. The farmers were advised to forward their name, village, taaluk and districts through SMS. Once a farmer is registered, he will get the regular crop advisories directly from DSR. **All the major Soybean growing states may be requested for a wider publicity of the above mentioned facilities among the farmers (Action: Oilseeds Division).**
10. Four progressive farmers, one each from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan were awarded with a CASH OF Rs. 2000/- and a certificate for adoption of improved POP and best yield of Soybean.
11. A field visit was also under taken in district Ujjain in the late afternoon of 25.08.2015 and damage of Soybean crop due to heavy rains was noticed. Use of high seed rate (>100 kg/ha) was also observed. Some seed plots of registered seed growers of Soybean were also visited. These farmers have undertaken certified seed production of variety JS-95-60, which were sown around mid of June and was at grain filling stage. The uniform crop growth without any off type plant indicates purity of these seed plots. However, no inspection was carried so far by the seed certification agency. Delayed/ lack of certification was also brought to the notice of Joint Secretary (Seeds) during the zonal seed conference held on 27.08.2015.
12. Few photographs of the events and field visits are Annexed (Enclosure-III).

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**Photographs of National Soybean Kisan Mela held at DSR, Indore  
25<sup>th</sup> August, 2015**



Inauguration of Soybean Kisan Mela



Director DSR, Indore addressing the farmers



Consultant (NMOOP) addressing the farmers



A Progressive Farmer from Indore addressing the farmers



Live demonstration on use of Okra (Residue of soya milk) in snacks



A Women Progressive Soybean Farmer from Gujarat



Exhibition stalls



A bus from Godhra, Gujarat



Farm implements including Soybean Planter



Ridge & Furrow planter of soybean



Farmer – Scientist Interaction