Farmers’ Day - 2019

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad organised Farmers’ Day at its premises on 23rd November, 2019, to display the rice varieties and technologies. About 250 farmers from the adjoining districts have taken part in the event. The main objective of the meet is to display technologies and services offered by ICAR-IIRR. Dr. D.Raji Reddy, Former Director (Extension), PJTSAU was the Chief Guest. The scientists of different crop science institutes have taken active part in this event. This meet was aimed to promote awareness among the farmers about the latest technologies in rice.

Dr.S.R.Voleti, Director, ICAR-IIRR welcomed the farmers and briefed about the activities of IIRR and introduced the scientists from various sections to the farmers. He mentioned that IIRR has developed several high yielding varieties with various traits such as drought tolerant, submergence tolerant, high temperature tolerant and BLB resistant varieties. Also, he mentioned about the biofortified rice varieties such as DRR Dhan 45, 48 and 49. He informed that the yield gap in irrigated rice has been reduced considerably due to the research efforts and demonstrations conducted/coordinated across the country by IIRR. The Chief Guest, Dr. D.Raji Reddy, emphasised the need to reduce the cost of cultivation in rice to increase the net income of the farmers. He advised the farmers to use fertilisers and pesticides judiciously. Also, the importance of mechanisation to cope up with the labour shortage during the critical operations in rice cultivation was emphasised. Dr.Amtul Waris, PS and Convenor, highlighted the significant role of women in agriculture in general and rice in particular and stressed the need for enhanced access of farm women to latest rice technologies to improve the farm income.

A display of profitable and sustainable rice technologies was arranged for the benefit of farmers. The technologies developed by Indian Institute of Rice Research were demonstrated and displayed on the following major themes: Improved varieties, hybrids, water saving technologies, Integrated Nutrient Management, Integrated Pest Management, Seed production, labour saving technologies, small scale mechanization in rice and sustainable rice production practices.
IRR rice variety, Improved Samba Mahsuri seed packets were distributed to all the farmers at a nominal price. Rice related literature was distributed to all the farmers. On this occasion seven innovative rice farmers were felicitated.

A farmer-scientist interaction session was organized to enable farmers to update their ideas on modern scientific methods in rice production to improve rice productivity. The event concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. A.S. Hari Prasad, PS and Convenor, Farmers’ Day, 2019.