Strengthening Agricultural Extension Activities through IARI Partnership with KVK, Muradnagar and NGO, Foundation for Agricultural Resources Management and Environmental Remediation (FARMER) in Ghaziabad district, UP

Under the Collaborative National Extension Programme (NEP) of ICAR-IARI and KVK, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad (Sardar Vallab Bhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Modipuram) scientists from ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) organised Scientist-Farmer interface at Village Sirrora, Block Loni, District Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh on 21st February, 2017. Dr. Y. V. Singh, Principal Scientist (Microbiology), Dr. Pratibha Joshi, Scientist (CATAT) and Dr. O.P. Singh, Principal Scientist (Ag. Extension) from ICAR-IARI and Dr. Vipin Kumar (SMS, Agronomy) from KVK, Muradnagar participated in this programme. Dr. Y. V. Singh imparted training on the ‘Importance and Use of Biofertilizers in sustainable crop production’. Farmers showed very keen interest in biofertilizers and organic farming. Importance, type, role and method of biofertilizers application were told to the farmers. After the training packets of *Azotobacter, Azospirillum*, PSB, KSB and ZnSB were given to the farmers for application in their fields and requested to give the feedback. Importance and use of Azolla as cattle feed supplement and biofertilizer was also explained and Azolla given to farmers and its multiplication technique was told to the farmers. Dr. Pratibha Joshi, Nodal Officer under IARI-NEP Collaborative Programme of ICAR- IARI informed the farmers about the objective and future prospects of the NEP Programme of ICAR-IARI and addressed the value addition in seasonal crops to combat malnutrition. Dr. O.P. Singh motivated the farmers for FPO and marketing of agricultural produce. Further Dr. Vipin Kumar, KVK Muradnagar emphasized the need for crop diversification and scientific cultivation of crops. The team monitored the demonstration trials of wheat varieties (HD-3086 and HD-2967) at Village Sirrora. The crop performance was very good and no infestation of insect pest or disease was found by the team. Performance of crop cafeteria including integrated cultivation of vegetables, pulses, cereals and oilseed crops was also very impressive.

The team members visited wheat demonstrations on same varieties at another location in village Nurpur, Ghaziabad which was undertaken through the IARI-Voluntary Organisations Collaborative Programme with Foundation for Agricultural Resources Management and Environmental Remediation (FARMER), Ghaziabad. Performance of demonstrations was good at this location also.
Monitoring of Demonstration Trials at Village Nurpur, Block Muradnagar
Dr. Y. V. Singh imparting training on ‘Biofertilizers use in crop production’

Monitoring of crop cafeteria having nursery of “Pusa Naveen” at farmers field
Monitoring of demonstrations field at Village Sirrora, Block Loni