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राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी

आलू नवाचारों एवं विविधता का उपयोग :
खाद्य एवं पोषण सुरक्षा

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

HARNESSING POTATO INNOVATIONS,
DIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY

27-29 JANUARY, 2025

PROCEEDINGS

ORGANIZED BY



ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute,
Shimla

at

ICAR- Central Potato Research Institute Regional Station,
Modipuram, Meerut -250110
(U.P.)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
New Delhi



Indian Potato Association,
Shimla

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We sincerely express our gratitude to our esteemed Chief Patron, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, New Delhi; Patron, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR, New Delhi; Chairperson, Dr. Brajesh Singh, Director, ICAR-CPRI & President, Indian Potato Association; Dr. Sudhakar Pandey, ADG (Flowers, Vegetables, Spices, and Medicinal Plants), ICAR, New Delhi; and Dr. R.K. Singh, Convenor of the Symposium & Head, ICAR-CPRI RS, Modipuram, for their unwavering support, guidance, and cooperation.

We extend our special appreciation to Dr. Brajesh Singh, Director, ICAR-CPRI, and President, Indian Potato Association, for his constant encouragement and leadership in organizing the National Symposium on “Harnessing Potato Innovations and Diversity for Food and Nutritional Security” held from January 27–29, 2025, at ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute, Regional Station, Modipuram, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. The symposium was a landmark event, commemorating the 75th anniversary of ICAR-CPRI and the 50th anniversary of the Indian Potato Association (IPA). This prestigious gathering brought together over 200 eminent dignitaries, scientists, industry representatives, researchers, and stakeholders, fostering insightful discussions on innovations and advancements in potato research and production.

The organizing committee extends its heartfelt appreciation to the former Directors of ICAR-CPRI, former Scientists, session Chairpersons, Co-chairpersons, Convenors, Co-convenors, panel discussion participants, and panellists for their valuable contributions. Our sincere gratitude also goes to all sponsors, contributors, delegates, scientists, coordinators, and support staff members, whose direct and indirect efforts ensured the success of this significant event at ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute, Regional Station, Modipuram, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

This symposium provided a crucial platform for deliberations on the prospects and challenges in environmental sustainability, nutritional and food security, and potato production and productivity, directly impacting potato farmers and the industry. We deeply appreciate the dedication and collective efforts that contributed to the success of this event.

(Anuj Bhatnagar)
Organizing Secretary

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON POTATO

(27-29 JANUARY, 2025)

Day1 : 27 January, 2025

Inaugural Ceremony of the National Symposium on Potato

The inaugural ceremony of the three-day National Symposium on “**Harnessing Potato Innovations, Diversity for Food and Nutritional Security**” was held at ICAR- Central Potato Research Institute Regional Station, Modipuram, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. The event marked significant milestones, including the 75th anniversary of the ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute (ICAR-CPRI) and the 50th anniversary of the Indian Potato Association (IPA). This prestigious symposium brought together eminent dignitaries, scientists, industry representatives, researchers, and stakeholders to discuss innovative strategies and advancements in potato research and production.

Dr. Brajesh Singh, Director of ICAR-CPRI and President of IPA, warmly welcomed the esteemed dignitaries, delegates, and participants. In his address, Dr. Singh reflected on ICAR-CPRI's remarkable 75-year journey and its contributions to advancing potato research in India. He emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts to ensure food and nutritional security through innovative approaches in potato science.

Dr. Sudhakar Pandey, ADG (Flowers, Vegetables, Spices, and Medicinal Plants), ICAR, highlighted the significance of the symposium in addressing critical challenges in the potato sector. He emphasized the need to utilize innovations and diversity to achieve sustainability and resilience in potato farming.

Dr. Birpal Singh, Former Director of ICAR-CPRI, Shimla shared his thoughts on the pressing challenges faced by the potato sector, including pest and disease management and sustainable agronomic practices. He emphasized the need for advanced research and development to address these challenges effectively to ensure growth in the potato industry.

Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Maharana Pratap Horticulture University, addressed the gathering and spoke about increasing potato productivity in the era of climate change. He highlighted the role of natural farming, bio stimulants, precision farming, processing industries, and irrigation systems in enhancing the potato value chain.

Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR, delivered the Presidential Address. He stressed the importance of utilizing potato waste for biofuel production and emphasized post-harvest management, cold storage facilities, and sustainable practices to enhance the sector's efficiency.

Padma Bhushan Dr. R.B. Singh, Former Chairman of the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board, delivered the keynote address as the Chief Guest. He emphasized the pivotal role of potatoes in ensuring food security and discussed innovative approaches such as block chain management, bio stimulants, and precision farming to address future challenges in the potato sector.

The ceremony also included the felicitation of two distinguished former Directors of ICAR-CPRI, Dr. S.K. Pandey and Dr. Birpal Singh, for their remarkable contributions to potato research and development. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Dr. R.K. Singh, Convenor of the Symposium and Head, ICAR-CPRI, RS Modipuram.

The opening ceremony also included the release of six significant publications that reflected the dedication and innovation of researchers in the field of potato science and the dignitaries inaugurated the potato technology exhibition.



Glimpses of Inaugural Ceremony of the National Symposium on Potato 2025

SESSION 1: GENETIC RESOURCE CONSERVATION, ADVANCES IN POTATO BREEDING, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND GENOMICS IN POTATO IMPROVEMENT

(27.01.2025, 12.00 PM-02.00 PM)

Chair : Dr. N.K. Singh, President, the Genomics Foundation, JC Bose National Fellow

Co- chair : Dr. Vinay Bhardwaj, Director, NRC of seed spices, Ajmer

Convener : Dr. Vinod Kumar, Head, Crop improvement & Seed Technology, CPRI, Shimla

Co-convener : Dr. Salej Sood, Sr. Scientist, ICAR- CPRI, Shimla

SPEAKERS NAME AND AFFILIATION	TOPIC
KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
Dr N K Singh, President, The Genomics Foundation, JC Bose National Fellow (12.0 pm-12.20 pm)	Decoding of the plant genomes important for Indian economy
LEAD LECTURE	
Dr. Vibha Ahuja, Assistant General Manager, BCIL, India (12.20 pm-12.40 pm)	Biosafety regulations for transgenics and genome edited crops
PANEL DISCUSSION	
Dr SK Luthra, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRI RS, Modipuram (12.40 pm-12.50 pm)	Potato varietal requirement under changing climatic scenarios in India
Dr VK Gupta, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRI RS, Modipuram (12.50 pm-1.00 pm)	Potato processing in India: Unlocking opportunities and shaping the future
Dr Salej Sood, Senior Scientist, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla (1.00-1.10 pm)	Inbred based diploid hybrid TPS potato breeding
Panelist 1.Dr. Santosh Tiwari, Pepsico India 2. Dr. N K Jha, CEO, Technico Agri. Sciences 3.Dr. Vinod Kumar, Head, Crop improvement & Seed Technology, CPRI, Shimla 4. Mr. Ajay Kumar, Banas Dairy, Gujarat 5.Mr. Sunil Chaudhary, CIP, Vietnam (1.10-2.00 pm)	

The panelists shared their remarks and insights on various topics of discussion.

Dr. Sunil Chaudhary from CIP, Vietnam highlighted the significant global expansion of potato cultivation and underscored the need for the continuous development of improved varieties. He emphasized the importance of diploid hybrid True Potato Seed (TPS) breeding, a cutting-edge technology that offers great potential for enhancing genetic diversity in potato breeding.

Mr. Ajay from Banas Dairy, Gujarat, India stressed the necessity of developing short-duration, high-yielding potato varieties with sugar stability for long-term storage, along with processing varieties suitable for off-season cultivation.

Mr. N.K. Jha, CEO, Technico Agri-Sciences India, emphasized the need to integrate advanced tools and technologies, such as genome editing, to improve existing varieties for processing traits and to develop new varieties tailored for the processing industry. He also highlighted the potential for expanding processing industry cultivation beyond Gujarat.

Mr. Davinder Sosajh, CEO, Mahindra HZPC, India, commended ICAR-CPRI for its remarkable contributions to potato research and development over the past 75 years. He emphasized the role of modern genomic tools and technologies in further enhancing potato varieties.

Mr. Santosh Tiwari from PepsiCo India stressed the need for developing early-maturing, Common Scab-resistant potato varieties, along with processing varieties suitable for off-season cultivation. Additionally, he highlighted concerns regarding soil-borne diseases, particularly Common Scab, and called for the development of resistant varieties to mitigate these challenges.

Key Recommendations from the Deliberations:

1. **Genetic Decoding:** Indigenous popular potato varieties should be sequenced to decode their genetic information and facilitate trait discovery.
2. **Demand-Driven Breeding:** Breeding objectives must be aligned with market demands while considering socio-economic factors.
3. **Early-Maturing Varieties:** There is a need to develop early-maturing potato varieties with high tuber uniformity suitable for both table and processing purposes.
4. **Heat-Tolerant Varieties:** Greater emphasis should be placed on developing heat-tolerant varieties to enable potato cultivation in non-traditional regions.

Poster Session: A total of 41 abstracts were presented in this session covering a diverse range of research topics & innovative findings.

SESSION 2: SUSTAINABLE POTATO PRODUCTION, CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DIGITAL REVOLUTION IN POTATO FARMING

(27.01.2025, 03.00 PM-06.00 PM)

Chair : Dr. Sunil Kumar, Director, ICAR-IIFSR, Meerut

Co-chair : Dr. Ravi Gopal Singh, CIMMYT, India

Convener : Dr. Jagdev Sharma, PS & Head, Crop Production, ICAR CPRI, Shimla

Co-convener: Dr. Sanjay Rawal, PS, Crop Production, ICAR- CPRI, RS, Modipuram

SPEAKERS NAME AND AFFILIATION	TOPIC
LEAD LECTURES	
Dr. Sunil Kumar, Director, ICAR-IIFSR, Meerut (3.00-3.20 pm)	Cropping systems for different agro-ecologies
Dr. Brajesh Nare, Scientist, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Jalandhar (3.40-4.00 pm)	Digitization and mechanization in potato farming
PANEL DISCUSSION	
Dr. Sanjay Rawal, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRI RS, Modipuram (4.00-4.10 pm)	Sustainable potato production: Organic, natural and GAP certification path ways
Dr. Prince Kumar, Scientist, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Jalandhar (4.10-4.20 pm)	Climate change and potato production-Indian perspective
Dr. Jagdev Sharma, Head, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla (4.20-4.30 pm)	Challenges in Nutrient management in potato
Panelist 1. Dr. Tarunendu Singh, CEO, IFFCO, India: Scope of 'Nano-science and nano-fertilizer' 2. Dr. M. S. Kadian, CIP, India: Region specific varietal development 3. Dr. Ravi Gopal Singh, CIMMYT, India: Soil health and precision farming 4. Mr. Puneet Luthra, Hyfun Agrilink Pvt Ltd: Sustainable production and intervention of precision technology (4.30-5.30 pm)	

Following recommendations emerged during the deliberation:

1. Performance of 'Organic Farming' and 'Natural Farming' should be compared.
2. Studies should be conducted on use of microbial consortia for improving nutrient use efficiency and utilization of residual soil phosphorous.
3. Intervention of conservation tillage (minimum tillage) should be studied in potato crop and it's cropping system.
4. Precision technology should be developed for application of agro-inputs in potato crop.

Poster Session: This session featured 48 abstracts reflecting significant contributions and active participation from researchers across various disciplines.



Glimpses of 1st and 2nd Session in National Symposium on Potato 2025

Day 2: 28 January, 2025

**SESSION-3: ADVANCES IN INTEGRATED PEST AND DISEASE
MANAGEMENT FOR POTATO**

(Time : 10.00-11.30 Am)

Chair : S.K. Chakrabarti, Former VC, UBKV & Former Director, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla

Co-chair : Dr. Gopal Singh, Joint Director (Research), SBVPAU & T, Modipuram, Meerut

Convener : Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, PS & Head, Plant Protection, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla

Co-convener : Dr. Vinay Sagar, Plant Protection Division, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla

SPEAKERS NAME AND AFFILIATION	TOPIC
KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
Dr. S.K. Chakrabarti, Former VC, UBKV & Former Director, ICAR- CPRI, Shimla (10.0 -10.30am)	Advances in management of potato diseases
LEAD LECTURE	
Dr Ashutosh Bhaik, Corteva, New Delhi (10.30 -10.50am)	Discovery and Development of Plant Protection Chemicals
PANEL DISCUSSION	
Dr Sanjeev Sharma, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla (10.50 -11.10am)	Emerging biotic threats in potato
Dr Anuj Bhatnagar, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram (11.10 -11.30am)	Recent Advances and Innovations in Potato Insect Pest Management: Indian Perspectives
Panelist: 1. Dr. Priyank Mahatre, Senior Scientist, ICAR, CPRS, 2. Dr Ashutosh Bhaik, Corteva 3. Dr. Kailash Naga, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla 4. Dr. Aarti Bairwa, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla (11.30 am-12.30pm)	

Advances in the Management of Potato Diseases: Dr. S.K. Chakrabarti emphasized the significance of major biotic threats and the need for sustainable management strategies. He strongly advocated against bulk potato imports, warning that such practices could introduce invasive pests and pathogens, potentially disrupting the entire potato seed industry in the country. He stressed the importance of Integrated Health Management and Regenerative Agriculture, rather than relying solely on chemical pesticides.

Discovery and Development of Plant Protection Chemicals: Dr. Ashutosh Bhaik highlighted the urgent need to develop narrow-spectrum, target-specific plant protection molecules with minimal residue and lower environmental impact. He further noted that global research efforts are increasingly focused on biorational solutions to promote sustainable agriculture.

Emerging Biotic Threats in Potato: Dr. Sanjeev Sharma discussed the emergence and re-emergence of potato diseases in the context of climate change, highlighting their growing impact on potato production.

Recent Advances and Innovations in Potato Insect-Pest Management: Indian Perspective: Dr. Anuj Bhatnagar presented insights into shifts in insect vector population dynamics and the emergence of new pests in potato crops. Additionally, the panelists shared their perspectives on emerging pests and diseases and explored potential management strategies for their containment.

Key Recommendations from the Deliberations:

- 1. Integrated Health Management for Soil-Borne Pathogens:** The prevalence of soil-borne pathogens is increasing across various agro-ecological zones, posing a serious threat to healthy potato production. Therefore, an Integrated Health Management approach should be adopted to effectively control soil-borne pathogens.
- 2. Advanced Detection Tools for Pest and Pathogen Monitoring:** Non-destructive AI-driven technologies, e-nose systems, and sensor-based detection tools should be developed for early and precise diagnosis of pests and pathogens in both field and storage conditions.

Poster Session: With 24 abstracts, this session highlighted focused discussions and specialized research developments.

SESSION 4: POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT, VALUE ADDITION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

(Time : 12.50 PM-2.30 PM)

Chair : Dr. Brajesh Singh, Director, ICAR CPRI, Shimla

Co-chair : Dr. M.S. Kadian, CIP, Karnal

Convener : Dr. Dinesh Kumar, PS & Head, CBP&PHT, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla

Co-convener : Dr. Alok Kumar, PS & Head, Social Sciences, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla

SPEAKERS NAME AND AFFILIATION	TOPIC
LEAD LECTURE	
Dr Dinesh Kumar, ICAR -CPRI, Shimla (1.20-1.40 pm)	An overview of potato storage and processing scenario in India
Dr. Sant Kumar, PS, ICAR - NIAP, PUSA, New Delhi (1.20-1.40 pm)	Return from investment in potato research in India
PANEL DISCUSSION	
Dr Arvind Jaiswal, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Jalandhar (1.50-2.00 pm)	Value-added products from potatoes: A market perspective
Dr. Bandana, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram (2.00-2.10 pm)	Avenues for processing and export of processed products
Panelist 1. Dr. Arvind Jaiswal, CPRI 2. Dr. Dharmendra, CPRI 3. Dr. V.K. Doharey, Deputy Managing Director, NHB, New Delhi (2.10-2.40 pm)	

Following recommendations emerged during the deliberations:

1. There is needed for more investment on potato research and development as net returns are high
2. Development of novel dehydrated products.
3. Development of varieties and technologies for export of potato and potato products.
4. Development of cold induced sweetening tolerant varieties.
5. Varieties/technologies for long-term storage at elevated temperature taking into account the senescent sweetening.
6. Varieties and technologies for lowering post-harvest technologies

Poster Session: A total of 20 abstracts were presented in this session, showcasing emerging trends and ongoing investigations in the field.

(Time : 03.30 PM-06.30 PM)

Chair : Dr. S.K. Pandey, Former Director, ICAR- CPRI, Shimla
Co-chair : Dr. J.S. Minhas, Former Head, ICAR- CPRS, Jalandhar
Convener : Dr. R K Singh, Head & PS, ICAR CPRI, RS, Modipuram, Meerut
Co-convener: Dr. Dhruv Kumar, Principal Scientist, ICAR CPRI, RS, Modipuram

SPEAKERS NAME AND AFFILIATION	TOPIC
KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
Dr. B P Singh, Former Director, ICAR- CPRI, Shimla (3.30 -4.00 pm)	Seed potato system scenario in India: an overview
LEAD LECTURE	
Dr. R.K. Singh, PS & Head, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram (4.00 -4.20 pm)	Hi-tech seed potato production and avenues
Mis. Kalpana Sharma, International Potato Center (CIP), Nairobi, Kenya. (4.20 -4.40 pm)	Evaluation of the rapid multiplication techniques for early generation seed potato production in Africa and Asia
PANEL DISCUSSION	
Er. Sukhwinder Singh, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Jalandhar (4.50 -5.00 pm)	Aeroponic & novel technique for seed production
Panelist 1. Dr. S.P. Singh, Technico Agri Sciences 2. Ms. Indira Dumne, Mahindra HZPC 3. Dr. J.S. Minhas, SV Agri, Pune 4. Dr. Tarun Gangwal, J R Simplot, India (5.00 -5.40 pm)	

Seed Potato System Scenario in India: An Overview: Dr. B.P. Singh, former Director, CPRI-Shimla, provided an overview of the global seed potato production scenario, with a special focus on India. He discussed current trends in potato utilization and future production targets. Additionally, he presented data on the current seed potato requirements and availability in the country. He also elaborated on the importance of minimizing mechanical transmission in seed potato crops through technological advancements.

Evaluation of Rapid Multiplication Techniques for Early Seed Potato Production: Ms. Kalpana Sharma from CIP, Nairobi, Kenya, highlighted the challenges in seed potato production

and the potential of rapid multiplication techniques such as Apical Rooted Cuttings (ARC) to enhance quality seed production in a cost-effective manner. She emphasized that ARC could be a viable solution for seed potato production in Africa and Asia.

Hi-Tech Seed Potato Production and Future Prospects: Dr. R.K. Singh, Head, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram, addressed the short supply of quality seed potatoes in India, noting that currently, only 30-35% of the required quality seed potato is available to farmers. He suggested that ARC technology could serve as a cost-effective alternative to aeroponics in meeting the growing demand for seed potatoes.

Panel Discussions on Seed Potato Quality and Production Technologies

- Dr. S.P. Singh, Technico Agri-Sciences, discussed the improvement in seed potato quality over time and emphasized the need for diversifying seed multiplication technologies based on variety-specific requirements.
- Ms. Indira Dumme, Mahindra HZPC, shared her perspectives on the potential of ARC technology in seed production.
- Dr. Dhruv Kumar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram, presented insights on the conventional seed potato production system and its relevance.
- Er. Sukhvinder Singh, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Jalandhar, delivered a presentation on “Aeroponics and Novel Techniques for Seed Production”. He highlighted the shortage of skilled manpower in hi-tech seed potato production and proposed that ICAR-CPRI initiate training programs to address this gap.

Key Recommendations from the Deliberations:

1. **Minimizing Human Intervention in Seed Crops:** To improve seed potato health, human intervention in seed crop management should be minimized by integrating AI/deep learning technologies for disease detection, computer-aided advisory systems, digital plant diagnostics, drones for chemical applications, and drip irrigation systems.
2. **Short-Duration Varieties:** The development of short-duration potato varieties is crucial to accommodate seed production within narrow windows while reducing vector pressure.
3. **Expansion of Apical Rooted Cutting (ARC) Technology:** ARC technology should be scaled up for the production of healthy seed potatoes.
4. **Protection of Seed Potato Growing Areas:** Effective management strategies for Common Scab and other surface-borne diseases must be implemented to safeguard seed potato production zones.
5. **Cluster-Based Seed Production in Non-Traditional Areas:** Cluster suitability for seed production should be identified in non-conventional potato-growing regions to enhance production capacity.

Poster Session: This session included 19 abstracts, emphasizing both practical applications and theoretical advancements.



Glimpses of 3rd and 4th Session in National Symposium on Potato 2025



Glimpses of Cultural program on 2nd day of National Symposium on Potato 2025

Day 3: 29 January, 2025

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

(Time: 09.30 AM-11.30AM)

- Chair** : Dr. B P Singh, Former Director, ICAR- CPRI, Shimla
- Co- chair** : Dr. D V Singh, professor, (Entomology) SVPUA&T, Modipuram
- Convener** : Dr. Anuj Bhatnagar, PS, ICAR- CPRI, RS, Modipuram
- Co- convener:** Dr. S P Singh, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRS, Patna

A curated selection of 18 abstracts were delivered as oral presentations, providing an in-depth perspective on key research outcomes. The session chairpersons acknowledged that the oral presentations were of high quality, covering almost all critical aspects of potato production and productivity enhancement. Topics discussed included the use of modern technologies and tools to improve shelf life, sugar content, climate-resilient varieties, and post-harvest loss reduction.

Key recommendations from the session include:

- 1. Ethanol Production Feasibility:** The feasibility of ethanol production from potatoes should be explored, with a detailed analysis of economic considerations before transferring the technology to industry stakeholders.
- 2. Root Knot Management Strategies:** Greater focus should be placed on long-term experiments under different cropping systems to develop effective root-knot nematode management techniques. Additionally, a suitable crop replacement for groundnut should be identified in affected areas.
- 3. Enhancing Small-Sized/Plantable Seed Tuber Production:** To improve small seed tuber production, nitrogen splitting techniques should be tested under drip and sprinkler irrigation systems to assess their effectiveness.
- 4. Boosting Indian Potato Exports:** For the growth and diversification of Indian potato exports, the desired traits for export-quality varieties should be identified to facilitate market expansion and competitiveness in international markets.

(Time: 11:40 AM-02:30 PM)

Chair : Dr. P K Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi

Co-chair : Dr. J. P. Singh, Plant Protection Advisor, Govt. of India

Convener : Dr. R K Singh, Head and PS, ICAR-CPRI RS, Modipuram, Meerut

Co-convener: Dr. Alok Kumar, PS & Head, Social Sciences, ICAR-CPRI, Shimla

PANEL DISCUSSION

Panelist

1. Dr. J. P. Singh, Plant Protection Advisor, Govt. of India
2. Mr. S K Gautam, Soorvir Agri. Tech. Pvt Ltd
3. Mr Puneet Luthra Hyfun Agrilink Pvt Ltd
4. Mr. Digonto Borah, Technico Agri. Sciences
5. Tanvir Bhatti, Bhatti Agri. Tech., Jalandhar
6. Mr. Prakash Lohia, MD, Marino India Pvt. Ltd, Hapur
7. Mr. Nishant Singh, Pepsico India
8. Padamshri Kamal Singh Chauhan, Progressive Farmer

Following recommendations emerged during the deliberation:

1. **Development of Product Profiles:** A detailed product profile should be created for commodities intended for export, ensuring better market positioning and competitiveness.
2. **Strengthening Farmer-Processor Linkages:** Contract farming models should be developed to establish strong linkages between farmers and processors, ensuring a mutually beneficial (win-win) situation for both parties.
3. **Enhancing Research-Industry-Farmer Collaboration:** A robust connection between research institutions, industry, and farmers should be established to foster innovation. Additionally, the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model should be encouraged to accelerate potato innovation and technological adoption.
4. **Expansion of Processing Potato Cultivation in Eastern India:** The eastern states of India should be explored as potential regions for cultivating processing potato varieties to diversify production and meet industrial demand.
5. **Cluster and Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) Development:** Clusters and FPOs should be identified and developed to enhance quality seed potato production, ensuring a steady and reliable supply to farmers.

CONCLUDING SESSION

(Time: 02.30 PM -3.00 PM)

- Chair** : Dr. P K Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi
- Co-chair** : Dr. Brajesh Singh, IPA President & Director, ICAR CPRI, Shimla
- Convener symposium** : Dr. R K Singh, Head, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram
- Organizing Secretary & Symposium** : Dr. Anuj Bhatnagar, Vice president (zone-4) & Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram

The three-day National Symposium on “Harnessing Potato Innovations and Diversity for Food and Nutritional Security” successfully concluded at ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute (ICAR-CPRI), Regional Station, Modipuram, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

Dr. P.K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi, emphasized the pivotal role of potatoes in ensuring food security. He congratulated ICAR-CPRI, the organizing committee, and all participants for the successful execution of the symposium.

Dr. Brajesh Singh, Director, ICAR-CPRI, and President, Indian Potato Association (IPA), extended his congratulations to the dignitaries, delegates, and participants for their active involvement and presentation of research findings. He highlighted the significance of collaborative efforts among scientists, technical experts, and supporting staff of ICAR-CPRI, Modipuram, in making the symposium a success. He also expressed special appreciation for the tireless efforts of Dr. Anuj Bhatnagar, Organizing Secretary and Principal Scientist, in successfully coordinating and executing the entire event.

The symposium witnessed the participation of more than 200 scientists, students, progressive farmers, and representatives from multinational companies over the course of three days. The program included seven technical sessions, and over 16 exhibition stalls were set up by progressive farmers and multinational companies to showcase the latest technologies and innovations in the potato industry.

As part of the symposium's recognition program, the organizing committee honoured 21 scientists and three exhibition stalls for their outstanding contributions in various categories. Certificates and mementoes were distributed by Dr. P.K. Singh and Dr. Brajesh Singh in acknowledgment of their achievements.

The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Anuj Bhatnagar, who also served as the Organizing Secretary. The symposium concluded on a high note with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Bhatnagar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPRI, RS, Modipuram.



Glimpses of 5th, 6th and concluding Session in National Symposium on Potato 2025

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