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International Seminar on Smart Agriculture



Speakers said that smart and precision agriculture techniques are the need of the hour to overcome food security in Pakistan. They were addressing an international seminar on "Smart Agriculture to Optimize Fields Inputs and Add Value to Yield" held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR).

Dalhousie University Canada, Scientist Dr. Ahmad Ali Mallahi was the chief guest while PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was the guest of honor.

Faculty Members, researchers and a large number of students attended the seminar.

Speakers also stressed on the need to adopt smart & precision agriculture technologies to enhance the potential for higher yields, boosting food security and sustainability.

While addressing Dr. Mallahi said that the agricultural sector could enhance productivity by maximizing profits, reducing labour and standardizing systems. He was of the view that there is dire

need to develop systems, whether sensing or actuating systems, to be scalable so that they can be applied in different scenarios." Dr. Mallahi also stressed on industry academia collaborative efforts to develop innovative technologies to overcome food security issues.

Dr. Zaman said that developing agriculture sector on modern lines has become the need of the hour because without involving smart techniques Pakistan can never achieve its goal towards food security and to improve crop quality & profitability, he said.



Project "Fit for Education" Inaugurated at Arid Literacy School

Arid Varsity and Germany Institute Sign MoU

PMAS-AAUR in collaboration with The Thünen-Institute, Germany (TIG) and Pakistan Organic Association (POA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote organic agriculture in Pakistan. The MoU is mainly focusing on establishment of “Arid Institute of Organic Agriculture at PMAS-AAUR”, research collaboration and Exchange of research material in fields of mutually beneficial areas. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, Prof. Dr. Gerold Rahmann Director TIG and Mr. Qasim Tareen Chairman Pakistan Organic Association signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. A seminar & Trade Fair on Organic Farming and Sustainability was also held at the PMAS-AAUR. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Prof. Dr. Gerold Rahmann, Mr. Qasim Tareen addressed the participants which was largely attended by faculty members and students. Speakers highlighted the scope, potential and challenges being faced in promoting organic farming and pointed out the potential of organic agriculture to mitigate the threats due to climate change.



Groundnut Stakeholders Linkages workshop



One-day Groundnut Stakeholders Linkages workshop was organized by ACIAR Pulses Project Team at PMAS-AAUR. The objective of this workshop was to liaise and link the progressive Growers of groundnut, the traders and processor with the industry to promote and utilize the local groundnut produce, maximize the profitability of the growers and to provide local peanut to the industry for its value

addition and minimizing its reliance on imported peanuts.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar uz Zaman in his address, urged the participants and Industry partners to make all efforts for a strong and viable linkages of groundnut stakeholders for higher profitability in this win-win situation. He apprised the participants about the International value chain

system and the benefits the international growers and the industry getting from this collaboration.

At the end, Prof. Dr. Zahid Akram, Chairman PBG Dept. PMAS-AAUR expressed his gratitude to the participants for sparing their time and paid thanks to the organizing team of this workshop for an interesting and inspiring session.



NAEAC Pre-Accreditation visit regarding Seed Science & Technology Degree

Spring Tree Plantation Drive launched at PMAS-AAUR & URF, Koont

PMAS-AAUR has launched the Spring Tree Plantation Drive 2023. The event was organized by the University Green Office (UGO) in collaboration with Green Youth Movement Club of the University and Department of Forestry & Range Management.

The Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman along with Dr. Ahmad Al-Mallahi, Industry Research Chair, Dalhousie University, Canada, Mr. Saqib Mehmood, Chief Conservator Forests, North Rawalpindi and Dr. Nasim Iqbal Butt, Conservator of Forest, Potohar Circle kicked-off the campaign by planting trees of Chir Pine in the University. During the event, the Registrar of the University along with Deans/ Directors and faculty members participated in the event.



While addressing the ceremony, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, said that trees are environment friendly and provide life to all living beings and their significance needs to be highlighted to increase the number and conservation. He also appreciated the enthusiasm about the current plantation drive organized by the University Green Office. Dr. Ahmad Al-Mallahi, Industry Research Chair, Dalhousie

University, Canada said that trees are the only source of producing oxygen in the environment, they help to reduce the level of CO₂.

The Director UGO Dr. Shahid Ali Khan said that environmental pollution and temperature is increasing every day due to the highest deforestation. Trees can serve as green shelter during extreme climate conditions thus making earth cooler.



Seminar on Women Entrepreneurship



Research Day 2023: PhD Poster Presentation

International Seminar on Kiwifruit Production



An International Seminar on Kiwifruit production, breeding and quality improvement was held at PMAS-AAUR. The seminar was organized by the Department of Horticulture with an aim to motivate & create awareness among the farmers and encourage them to grow kiwi fruit.

Prof. Dr. Arif Atak from Bursa University Turkey was the guest speaker while University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof.

Dr. Fayyaz-ul-Hassan Sahi, Deans, Directors, faculty members and a large number of students attended the seminar.

Prof Dr. Arif Atak delivered a lecture on the KIWIFRUIT production and breeding program and discussed the prospects of cooperation between two countries on kiwifruit as currently Turkey is 7th position in the globe.

Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Sahi While addressing was of the view that it is

high time to educate & equip our farmers with modern scientific agriculture technology which will be helpful to reduce our imports of agriculture products.

Earlier, Prof Dr. Azam Khan, Chairman of Department and Project in-charge of Kiwi Project explained the activities going on for adaptation of kiwifruit in different ecological regions of upper Punjab and highlighted the importance of new fruit as cash crop in the Arid regions of Punjab.



Seminar on Insect Sciences for Business Development

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