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National Seminar on Enhancing Productivity of Fruit Crops - Mitigating Major Challenges

on 8th January 2017

Venue:

**ICAR - Indian Institute of Horticultural Research
Bengaluru**

Organized by :

**ICAR - Indian Institute of Horticultural Research
Hesaraghatta - 560089, Bengaluru**



In Collaboration with :
Society for Promotion of Horticulture



Despite being the second largest producer of fruits after China, the average productivity of fruits in India is very low with the exception of grapes and banana. Impressive increase in fruit production over the last few decades in the country from meagre 5.5 million tonnes during 1952-53 to nearly 89 million tonnes by 2014 may be generally attributed to increased area under fruit crops during this period, while stagnating / sagging / fluctuating productivity of most fruit crops due to inferior genetic stock, poor orchard management and deteriorating production environment, is a matter of concern. Many old orchards are of seedling origin and with traditional varieties with low productivity and quality, or with choice cultivars in India with high fruit quality but often with low productivity as is the case with 'Alphonso' mango, Nendran and Ney Poovan varieties of banana. Genetic improvement of traditional and choice varieties for specific yield limiting traits in perennial fruit crops is extremely difficult; long breeding cycles and complex genome being the major reasons. The main limitations for efficient orchard management are conventional planting systems with a few large sized trees per hectare, improper canopy management practices and control measures for pests and diseases, low input use efficiency and inadequate supply of quality planting material of improved varieties. Indian fruit production needs to gear up to the changing quality consciousness, especially those linked to GAP and MRL issues and global competition in this regard while attempting to improve productivity. Senile and unproductive plantations need rejuvenation or replanting. Issues related to deteriorating production environment such as dwindling operational holding size, declining soil fertility, escalating abiotic stresses, especially moisture and salinity stress and adverse impact of climate change on quality fruit production and productivity need to be addressed.

In order to deal with the major challenges faced by Indian fruit production to enhance productivity and profitability under deteriorating production environment and diminishing natural resources on the facet of shifting perspectives of higher quality standards for environmental and produce safety, a one day national seminar on “Enhancing Productivity of Fruit Crops – Mitigating Major Challenges” is being organised on 8th January 2017 at ICAR - Indian Institute of Horticultural

Research, as a part of its Golden Jubilee celebrations. The deliberations of this seminar is expected to show the way ahead for Indian fruit production to become globally competitive by tackling the major challenges limiting productivity and prosperity.

ABOUT THE VENUE

Bengaluru known for its salubrious climate, also being called as the 'city of gardens' is the hub of software industries. It is also one of the main centres of education within the country. Several 'state of art' nurseries engaged in the production of quality seed and planting materials are located in and around the city. University of Agricultural Sciences and a college of Horticulture under the University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot are also located here.

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research is located at Hesaraghatta which is 25 km away from Bengaluru City and has 263 ha of land for research and demonstration. It is one of the premier institutes in the country engaged in research on genetic improvement and standardizing production technologies for fruit crops. A large field gene bank of fruit crops containing varieties and species of several crops are being conserved, evaluated and characterized. Several hybrids in fruit crops have been released by the Institute. Further, production technologies like High density planting in mango and banana, standardization of grape rootstock (Dog Ridge) and fertigation in banana also standardized.

ABSTRACT AND PAPER SUBMISSION:

The abstract must contain original research work and include information on the rationale and objective of the research; approach and methodology; and important research findings.

Abstract paper length is limited to a maximum of 250 words. Maximum length of manuscript is 16 pages for invited papers, 8 pages for submitted oral papers and papers resulting from poster presentations. All these will be brought out in a publication as a special issue in Journal of Horticultural Sciences.

Abstracts and papers may be submitted by email to: **bnsmurthy@iihr.res.in**

Important Dates

Deadline for abstract submission:

30th November 2016

Notification of acceptance:

10th December 2016

Registrations open on

15th December 2016

Details about registration fee (Rs):

SPH members: **2,000/-**

Non SPH members: **2,500/-**

Students: **1,000/-**

Companies/Institutes: **5,000/-**

DD/Cheque are also accepted drawn in favour of Society for Promotion of Horticulture, payable at Hesaraghatta, Bengaluru – 560 089

Contact address:

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