

**Three Days TSP Training on ‘VYAVSAYIK PHOOL PAKO’ held at AICRP (F) NAU
Navsari from December 20-22, 2018.**

A three-days training programme on Commercial Flower Crops (*Vyavsayik Phool Pako*) was jointly organized during December 20-22, 2018 for farmers of Narmada Aspirational District by AICRP on Floriculture, Department of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture, ASPEE College of Horticulture and Forestry, NAU, Navsari, ICAR- DFR, Pune and KVK, Dediapada at Swami Vivekananda Hall, ASPEE College of Horticulture and Forestry, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari.

The inaugural function was presided over by Dr. C. J. Dangria, Honorable Vice Chancellor, NAU, Navsari; Dr. K. V. Prasad, Director, ICAR- Directorate of Floricultural Research, Pune graced the function as Chief Guest and Dr. S. R. Chaudhary, Director of Research and Dean (PGS) was guest of honour. Dr. B. N. Patel, Principal and Dean, ACHF; Dr. P. K. Shrivatsava, Principal, College of Forestry; Dr. D.V.S. Raju, Principal Scientist, DFR, Pune and Dr. S. L. Chawla, Associate Professor & PI, AICRP on Floriculture, NAU were present on the dais. Along with them, scientists from DFR, faculties of ACHF, PG students of the department and farmers remained present in the inaugural function.

Dr. B. N. Patel, Principal and Dean, ACHF, NAU: He welcomed all the dignitaries on the dais, faculty members, PG students and the farmers. He also mentioned the importance of this programme and encouraged farmers to interact with the scientists to clear their queries. He appreciated the untiring work of floriculture faculties and students for organizing such a training programme to benefit the farmers as well as motivated for more farmers orientated activities.

Dr. S. L. Chawla, PI, AICRP on Floriculture, NAU: He presented the outline of this training programme, its importance and benefits. He also expressed gratitude for financial and technical support to ICAR- DFR, Pune.

Dr. S. R. Chaudhary, Director of Research and Dean, PG studies, NAU: He started his speech with the slogan, ‘Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan’. He reminded the farmers about the vision, “Doubling farmers’ income by 2022” and instilled the farmers to work towards that goal. He also stated the potential of south Gujarat which has suitable climate for growing various flower crops and about the allied sectors under floriculture. He motivated the farmers to make this programme useful and successful by their effective participation and interaction.

He also requested to ICAR-DFR for financial and technical support of such type programmes in future.

Dr. K. V. Prasad, Director, ICAR-DFR, Pune: First of all, he thanked the honorable Vice Chancellor for organizing this training programme in collaboration with ICAR- Directorate of Floricultural Research, Pune. He congratulated Navsari Agricultural University for holding ninth position in the rank list of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. He also stated that NAU has been bestowed with diverse floricultural activities and facilities for

creating awareness to the farmers about various flower crops and also the advances in floriculture. He explained the different sectors of floriculture particularly insisting the emerging enterprises like nursery, value addition, oil and pigment extraction which provides abundant nutraceuticals for curing health ailments. He motivated farmers of Gujarat for adopting advanced production technologies in both open and protected conditions through quoting examples of small countries like Netherlands, Israel, Kenya and Columbia which are leader in flower production. Finally, he appreciated the floriculture crew for running this programme successfully.

Dr. C. J. Dangria, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, NAU, Navsari: He delivered the presidential address for this event and proudly stated that floriculture has been the biggest strength of NAU as it is renowned across the country. He mainly concentrated on the protected cultivation which is now being carried out only in Surat and nearby regions but it should be followed across the state for raising the income of farmers. He assured that this programme will enable the farmers to know the advanced technology of flower cultivation to improve the farmers' living standard. He also focused on the floriculture sectors like value addition, pigment and oil extraction which are having better scope in future. He appreciated continuous efforts of scientists of floriculture department to make this programme successful.

A book, '*Vyavasayik Phool Pako*' compiled by Dr. S. L. Chawla, Dr. Dipal S. Bhatt, Dr. M. A. Patel and Dr. Sudha Patil was released in the vernacular language during the inaugural function. At last, **Dr. M. A. Patel**, Assistant Professor, Department of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture proposed the vote of thanks to all the dignitaries for giving their valuable time, suggestions and encouragement. He showed his gratitude towards the faculty members of ACHF and KVK, Dediapada for their continuous support and participation. He cordially thanked the farmer participants who came all the way to attend the programme. Lastly, he thanked PG students who remained present during this event with their active participation to make this programme successful.

The 3 days training programme was a grand success with 30 farmers of Narmada district of Gujarat as participants, faculties and PG students of floriculture who participated actively during the technical sessions. Lectures and practicals were delivered by the experts about the advances in production technology of flower crops like rose, marigold, tuberose, chrysanthemum, gladiolus, China aster, etc. with water management and plant protection. On the last day of training (22nd Dec., 2018), the valedictory function was organized in presence of Dr. G. R. Patel, DEE, NAU; Dr. K. V. Prasad, Director, DFR, Pune and Dr. B.N. Patel dean, ACHF in which farmers were awarded by certificates, electronic sprayers and bulbs of tuberose. Director, DFR, had taken feed backs from farmers which was very fruitful. Moreover, farmers also shared their experience as well as they appreciated efforts of all scientists who worked hard to increase their knowledge and they felt very happy. They said that they will try other crops then marigold and gaillardia. After that farmers visited fields of progressive flower growers nearby Navsari for practical knowledge and inspiration.

Recommendations of the training

- 1) Farmers need more exposure and technical guidance to grow different flower crops.
- 2) Follow up of training is necessary.
- 3) Set up marketing channels for remote areas like Narmada district.
- 4) Farmers should make co-operative group so that they can grow flower crops and do better marketing.
- 5) Quality planting material of various flower crops should be provided to farmers.
- 6) Demonstration of flower crops should be conducted at KVK other than marigold and gaillardia.



