

ICAR-Directorate of Cashew Research, Puttur celebrates Annual Cashew day

The annual cashew day was celebrated on 21-03-2018 at the Directorate of Cashew Research, Puttur, Dakshina Kannada. The cashew day was inaugurated by Dr. Narayanaswamy, Vice Chancellor, UAHS, Shivamogga. On the occasion, the first cashew hybrid of ICAR-DCR, H-130 was released for evaluation in the farmer's fields. This hybrid has precocious flowering behavior and suitable for high density planting. It has bold nuts weighing around 12-13 grams and yield levels are also high. In the program, the Memorandum of Understanding for licensing of six cashew nut processing machinery technologies was exchanged with the private company, Pro B products, Bangalore.

In the inaugural address, Dr. Narayanaswamy congratulated the Director and institute for the achievements made over the years. He stressed on the scope for cashew cultivation and production and the need for better management of cashew orchards by utilizing the newer technologies developed by the institute. Shri. Gurunath Odugoudar, Progressive farmer of Gadag district, Former board member of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, shared his experience on introduction of cashew crop into the non-traditional cashew growing regions of Karnataka. He called upon farmers to take advantage of technologies and planting materials developed by research institute and advised to do the agriculture in an intelligent manner. He narrated examples of agriculture success stories from Israel and Dubai about water use efficiency. Further, he stressed on soil health management and need for increasing organic matter content of soil by utilizing the farm by products.

Shri BK Ramesh, ICAR governing body member and Dr. Ananda KS, Head, RS, ICAR- CPCRI, Vitla, also spoke on the occasion about scope of cashew production in the country and need for proper management of crops and adoption of technologies. Prizes were distributed to winners of the Kannada and English Essay competitions held on the occasion of Swachchata Bharath programme. Later, an interaction session between farmers and scientists was held and in the session the farmers concerns about pest management and irrigation practices were addressed by the concerned scientist of the institute.

On this occasion, an exhibition on cashew production technologies, different cashew varieties and cashew apple products was organized. In addition various publications on cashew production and processing technologies were displayed. Farmers were taken for the fields to show the various cashew research plots. More than 200 cashew farmers participated besides nursery men, representatives of KVK, development departments and scientists.

Dr. M. G. Nayak, Director (Acting) welcomed the farmers, dignitaries, delegates and other participants. Dr. JD Adiga, Principal scientist, extended the vote of thanks and Dr. Mohana, G.S. Senior Scientist, compeered the program.



