

GLIMPSES OF 'KRISHI VASHANT' AT NAGPUR – 9TH – 13TH FEBRUARY 2014



ICAR (RC) for NEH Region participated in the 'Krishi Vashant' held at the Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur from 9th to 13th February, 2014. The fair was inaugurated by the president of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee in presence of Shri Sharad Pawar, Honorable Union minister for agriculture and food processing Industries amongst the other dignitaries. One of the unique features of the fair was that the entire institutes of ICAR were under the same pavilion, and almost all the ICAR institutes had participated.

The exhibition was jointly organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra and the Confederation of Indian Industry. The fair attracted a record number of farmers from all over the country which amounted to about more than one lakh fifty thousand per day. Almost all the state departments, SAU's and CAU's also participated. Apart from the government sectors, it had also witnessed a large number of participation from the private sector companies including agro-industries and allied sectors. All necessary arrangements were made to enable the farmers for visiting the fair from every corner of the country. Meghalaya also represented with about eighty numbers of farmers including state official from the state.

The major attraction of the ICAR NEH stall was the post harvest products like bamboo shoot pickle from KVK Ri Bhoi, pineapple squash and ginger extract. As Maharashtra is turmeric growing area, the farmers took keen interest for cultivation and know how technology of the 'Megha Turmeric-1' variety developed by this institute. Apart from this, different types of brushes made up of pig bristles were high in demand and it gained a major centre of attraction among the visiting farmers including the local printing and visual media. The live samples of tape worms found in the stomach of animals had also attracted huge number of farmers and this was a very innovative way of bringing awareness among them related to livestock health and further care. The scientist of the institute had a good opportunity to interact with the farmers coming from almost all states of the country. The farmers also placed a high demand for purchasing bio-pesticide "Tricoderma harzium" produced by KVK Ri-Bhoi. A large number of publications were sold in the fair and people were very much interested in various topics of North East related with biodiversity and newly developed technologies for hill agriculture. The farmers of Meghalaya also participated in farmers- scientist interaction program and won many prizes due to their active participation.