

Annual Group Meeting of Network Project on Organic Farming Organized

20th May, 2014, Kullu

The 9th Annual group meeting of Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) was organized during 19th-20th May, 2014 at Hill Agricultural Research and Extension Centre (HAREC), Bajaura, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.



Dr. K.K. Katoch, Vice Chancellor, Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya (CSKHPKV) inaugurated the meeting. In his remark, Dr. Katoch said that farmers should adopt organic farming as a way of life as imbalanced application of inorganic plant nutrients affects the soil quality and sustainability of crop yields. He also highlighted the results of 20 hectare model organic farm being maintained by the university. Dr. Katoch stressed that the project needs to connect with the organic growers for better visibility.

While presenting the Project Director's report, Dr. B. Gangwar, Project Director, Project Directorate for Farming System Research (PDFSR) highlighted the achievements of the project. He informed that initiating from 42,000 hectare under certified organic farming during 2003-04, the organic agriculture has grown many folds during the last five years in India and more about 1.18 million hectare cultivable area is under organic certification process.

In his remarks, Dr. S.P. Sharma, Director (Research), CSKHPKV stressed upon the importance of organic farming as off-shoot of ill effects of green revolution technologies and diminishing natural biotic and abiotic resources. He gave a brief account of history of organic farming in India in general and Himachal Pradesh in particular.

Earlier, Dr. R.S. Jamwal, Associate Director of Research, HAREC welcomed the dignitaries and participants.

The Principal Investigators from 13 centres participated in the meeting and discussed the results and future plans.

Dr. N. Ravisankar, National Project In-Charge proposed the vote of thanks.

(Source: PDFSR, Modipuram)