

Press Release

‘PROGRESSIVE FARMERS LEARNED HAND POLLINATION TECHNIQUES IN KIWIFRUIT’

Kiwifruit is also known as China’s miracle and wonder of New Zealand. Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh are leading producer of kiwifruit in India. In Sikkim, West Sikkim is taking lead in its area and production especially it is growing well in Rinchenpong, Deythang, Soreng and Chumbong areas. The ICAR Sikkim Centre is playing vital role in strengthening the technological backstopping to increase horticulture production in the state. Hand pollination plays imperative role for better production in Kiwifruit, therefore, in an initiative to promote the kiwifruit production in West Sikkim, ‘Demonstration of Hand Pollination Techniques in Kiwifruit’ was jointly organized by HCCDD, Govt. of Sikkim and ICAR Sikkim Centre on 13 May 2014 for the progressive kiwifruit growers of Chumbong, West Sikkim under the guidance of Shri Khorlo Bhutia, Principal Director, Horticulture and Cash Crop Development Department (HCCDD) and Dr. R.K. Avasthe, Joint Director, ICAR Sikkim Centre.

Inaugurating the program, Shri Jagdish Pradhan, Joint Director, Horticulture and Cash Crop Development Department, Govt. of Sikkim highlighted the importance of kiwifruit as high value cash crop and emphasized that this jointly organized program by state department and ICAR will be very effective in fast transferring of horticultural technologies among the farming community and farmers shall be able to produce large quantity of kiwifruit for domestic as well as export purpose.

Dr. H. Kalita, Principal Scientist (Entomology) presented the overview of the program and its significance for the region. He also discussed the role of pollinators in kiwifruit and organic pest management in kiwifruit.

Dr. Ashish Yadav, Senior Scientist (Horticulture) detailed the organic kiwifruit production techniques in Sikkim and practically demonstrated the hand pollination techniques in kiwifruit to the progressive farmers of West Sikkim at ICAR Research Farm.

Dr. R. Gopi, Scientist (Plant Pathology) shared the information on disease and pest management in kiwifruit under organic production system and also proposed vote of thanks.

Shri Avinash, Ms Yamuna Pandey and Ms Geetanjali assisted actively in organizing the whole programme.



Shri Jagdish Pradhan, Joint Director, HCCDD, Govt. of Sikkim, Presenting Inaugural Address during 'Demonstration of Hand Pollination Techniques in Kiwifruit' Program





Dr. Ashish Yadav, Senior Scientist (Horticulture) Demonstrating Hand Pollination Techniques in Kiwifruit to the Progressive Farmers of West Sikkim