

ICAR organises training on Climate Resilient Agriculture

A day long *Training cum Awareness programme on Climate Resilient Agriculture* was organised on 4th October, 2013 at ICAR Sikkim Centre Tadong, Gangtok. The key objective of the training was to develop awareness among all the stakeholders including farmers regarding the *Climate Resilient Agriculture*. More than 60 participants including farmers, officials from State Agriculture Department, Scientists from ICRI, Spices Board, RCIBSD, NRC for Orchids and GBPIHED attended this training. The event was inaugurated by Sh. Khorlo Bhutia, Director, H&CCDD, Govt. of Sikkim. In his inaugural address, he appreciated the efforts taken by the ICAR Sikkim Centre in organising this kind of programme to create awareness on climate change and its impact on agriculture. He also stressed the need for crop diversification and identification and development of crops adaptable to climate change such as short duration and shallow-rooted crops to cope up with the problems arising due to climate change. Presiding over the session, Dr. R.K. Avasthe, Joint Director, ICAR Sikkim Centre highlighted the impact of climate change on food production, pest and disease outbreak, impact on plantation crops such as large cardamom and Sikkim mandarin and their mitigation strategies. Dr. D.J. Rajkhowa, Head, Water Management and PI, NICRA, ICAR, Umiam, Meghalaya spoke about the changes in climate variability on north eastern region having fragile ecosystem, poor farmer and small land holding and also he explained about the importance of organising this training programme to sensitize the farmers of Sikkim and other stakeholders.

Dr. Suresh Kumar, PS and Head, Animal Reproduction, ICAR, Umiam, Meghalaya shared his views on the impact of climate change on animal production, health and incorporation of molecular and biotechnological tools to mitigate the loss caused due to climate change. Earlier, welcoming the participants Dr. H. Kalita, Sr. Scientist, Entomology, ICAR Sikkim Centre, explained in brief about the importance of this training programme. At the end Dr. Ashish Yadav, Sr.

Scientist proposed a vote of thanks and wished for the successful completion of the programme.

