

ICAR Organises Training on Soft Rot Management in Ginger

Soft rot is one of the most devastating diseases of ginger. It is prevalent in all the ginger growing areas of Sikkim. The disease manifests as yellowing of leaves and rotting of rhizome portion causing yield losses of 40- 50% or even more in poorly



managed fields. Ginger being one of the important cash crops of Sikkim, the management of this disease is very much important to achieve highest return from ginger cultivation. Keeping these facts in view, ICAR Sikkim Centre, Tadong, Gangtok is organising a three-day (21-23 November, 2013) training programme on “Management of Soft Rot of Ginger”. The key objective of the training is to broaden the participants knowledge on Management of Soft Rot using Organic Methods. More than 40 farmers are participating in this training programme. The event was inaugurated on 21st November, 2013 by Sh. Khorlo Bhutia, Director, H&CCDD, Govt. of Sikkim. In his inaugural address as Chief Guest, he appreciated the efforts taken by the ICAR Sikkim in organising this kind of training programme at the right time for the benefit of the farmers in Sikkim just preceding the ensuing season for sowing of ginger. He shared his valuable experiences on ginger cultivation and disease management with farmers and also urged them to make use of this training for the successful cultivation of ginger. In his address, Dr. R. K. Avasthe, Joint Director, ICAR Sikkim Centre, spoke about the status of ginger production in Sikkim and also emphasized upon some organic management methods such as crop rotation, selection of healthy and disease free seed and drainage for obtaining maximum production in ginger. Dr.H. Kalita, Sr. Scientist, Entomology, ICAR Sikkim Centre, welcomed the participants and briefed the gathering about the importance of organising this training for the management of soft rot in ginger. At the end Dr. R. Gopi, Scientist, Plant Pathology, proposed the vote of thanks.