

Chairman, PNASF Speaks



The new millennium has brought about serious challenges as well as excellent opportunities for the betterment of humanity. The migration of rural population to urban areas is one of the major challenges foreseen. It is expected that much of the population growth is expected to take place in the cities of the developing world. By 2020, about 52 percent of the developing world's population is expected to be living in urban areas. The rapid urbanization of the developing world and associated changes in life styles will have significant effect on food preferences, demand and sufficiency.

Many countries have already Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA) related activities going on in areas of horticulture, dairy production, small live-stock, aquaculture and forestry. In Asia, countries like China, India, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Bangladesh and Nepal have developed their programme and action plans. However, very few countries have actually investigated the real opportunities and constraints linked to this sector.

While some 800 million people are believed to be involved in different forms of urban and peri-urban agriculture, it is only recently that has received due recognition (Baudoin 2005). In 1999, FAO was officially mandated to deal with Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA) as an integral part of agriculture production systems contributing to feeding the cities, while creating employment and generation income for the urban poor.

During 1999 FAO Committee of Agriculture (COAG) recognized the importance and usefulness of UPA and developed programme world-wide and activities were initiated in different regions/countries. The FAO First International Workshop on UPA for Asian countries was organized by the P. N. Agricultural Science Foundation in Bangalore, India during June 2005, which was followed in other continents. During November 2002, the International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2002) held in Bangalore had highlighted the importance and role of vegetables in the peri-urban horticulture. The International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) held in Bangalore during November, 2009 recognized the role of urban and peri-urban horticulture among urban committees.

Due to growing importance of UPA in the urban area, this year the SEAVEG-2012 held during January 24-26, 2012 in Thailand highlighted the important role of vegetables in the UPA. In New Delhi, the NAAS organized the Brainstorming session BSS on Urban and Peri Urban Agriculture for Policy Framework on April 14, 2012, NAAS, New Delhi in order that it could be appropriately and timely included in the national agricultural plan.

The FAO is planning to organize a regional workshop entitled, "Strengthening Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture towards Resilient Food Systems in Asia" to be held during January 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand.

It has been realized that successful implementation of urban and peri-urban agriculture requires an integrated approach aiming at securing the following three areas:

- Securing the basic resources in order to ensure the availability and use of energy, adequate land and water of good quality in sufficient quantity;
- Securing the production of high quality produce based on technologies and practices which are environmentally friendly in the urban context; and
- Securing the institutional context, monitoring and management of the programme.

Prem Nath
 (Prem Nath)

EVENTS

Adhunik Prasati Award, Best Personalities of India Award, and Best Man Award conferred on Dr. Prem Nath

The Friendship Forum of India (FFI), New Delhi conferred Adhunik Prasati Award, Best Personalities of India Award and Best Man Award for his outstanding contributions in national and international agriculture, social sector and communities during the National Seminar on Economic Growth and National Unity on March 30, 2012 at the C. D. Deshmukh Memorial Auditorium, Indian International Centre, New Delhi.



Dr. Prem Nath receiving Awards

Dr. G. V. G. Krishnamurthy, former Election Commissioner of India and Chief Guest on the occasion presented the Awards to Dr. Prem Nath. The award consisted of certificates, mementos and medals.

As the Guest of Honor on the occasion invited by the Friendship Forum of India (FFI), New Delhi, Dr. Prem Nath delivered his address and emphasized on Food Security updating national and global scenario, major elements for its success, constraints and step forward in this regard. Some speakers highlighted on community development in their own region, and others talked about their perception of advancement of social, education and health activities in their region and at national level. The Chief Guest Dr. Krishnamurthy in his presidential speech gave a vivid historical account of development in almost all sectors since the nation was governed by the Britishers and today.

The other guests on the dais were Shri Shiva Seth, Shri S. H. Seipu, Shri L. Temjen Jamir, Smt. K. Sarla Devi, Shri Shetoyi Sumi and Shri R. K. Ragasin.



Dignitaries at the Dais

The event marked the presentation of awards by Mr. Krishnamurthy, Dr. Prem Nath and Mr. Shiva Seth to

EVENTS

number of recipients for their outstanding contribution in their own enterprise, research, and development towards contributing to the economic and over all development of the state and nation. The awardees hailed from states of Manipur, Nagaland, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar and others and represented the area of social-welfare, medical health, education, agriculture, rural agri-business, finance, earth sciences etc.

About 200 delegates from across the nation were invited to participate. The FFI has served the Indian society since long years by encouraging young and elderly individuals who have had contributed significantly towards the uplift of our communities and the nation at large. The PNASF appreciates and supports the efforts of FFI and acknowledges gratefully the recognition of awards extended on this occasion in the interest of the national civil societies. Mr. Shiva Seth, President of FFI, extended vote of thanks to all participants.

Regional Symposium: High Value Vegetables in Southeast Asia-Production, Supply and Demand”, Chiang Mai, Thailand

The Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET), Bangalore supported by PNASF, Bangalore, The Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand; Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC), Taiwan; ASEAN-AVRDC Regional Network (AARNET) and Horticultural Science Society of Thailand (HSST), jointly organized the Regional Symposium: High Value of Vegetables in Southeast Asia – Production, Supply and Demand during January 24-26, 2012 at Lotus Hotel Pang Suan Keaw, Chiang Mai, Thailand. More than 200 participants from about 25 countries namely, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar,



Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Palestine, Philippines, Portugal, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, USA, Vietnam attended the Symposium. The maximum number of participants was represented from Asia.



SEAVEG-2012 participants

The Symposium was inaugurated on January 24, 2012 by Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative, Asia and the Pacific as the Chief Guest. Dr. Prem Nath, former FAO ADG and Chairperson, VEGINET, Bangalore, India,



Dignitaries at the dais

Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes, Deputy Director General, AVRDC and Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Director, Horticultural Research Institute, Bangkok were Guests of Honours on the occasion Dr. (Mrs.) Mantana Milne, Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture, Government of Thailand presided over inaugural session.

On this occasion, Dr. Prem Nath delivered the welcome address. The opening remarks were given by Dr. (Mrs.) Mantana Milne and the Symposium activities report was presented by Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos.

Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, the Chief Guest delivered Keynote address entitled "Growing Role of Vegetables in Food and Nutrition Security and Income Generation in Asia" whereas the inaugural address entitled "The Nourished Millennium: How Vegetables Put Global Goals within Reach" was presented by Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes'.

During this session, the VEGINET International Award 2011 for outstanding research and development was presented by the Chief Guest, Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma to Prof. Joao Carlos da Silva Dias, Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal.

The Inaugural session was followed by three technical sessions, viz; Session 1: Seed to Harvest

- Germplasm, Breeding, Crop Improvement
- Integrated Pest Management
- Crop Production and Cropping Systems

Session 2: Harvest to Table

Human Nutrition, Marketing Economic and Value Chains

Session 3: Vegetables for Sustainable Development

Urban Horticulture, Climate change, Country Reports.

About 53 oral papers and 34 poster papers were presented. Among the invited papers were: Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture and Vegetables by Dr. Prem Nath (India); From farm to table- how to reduce insecticidal residues in vegetables to WHO's standard – a proposal to Asian Government by Dr. M. L. Anothai Choomsai (Thailand); Emergence of Whitefly transmitted geminiviruses: A major threat to vegetable production in Southeast Asia by Dr. Anupam Varma (India); Comparison of cultivation systems for Asian leafy vegetables and herbs in greenhouse by Prof. Michael Boehme (Germany); Potentials of aquatic vegetables in Asian diet by

EVENTS



Roundtable discussion during SEAVEG 2012

Prof. K. V. Peter (India); Improving the Supply chain management of vegetables through group action of farmers and contract farming: The Indian Context by Prof. P. G. Chengappa (India); Urban hydroponics-facts and vision by Prof. Wilfried H. Schnitzler (Germany); Trend of horticultural research particularly vegetables in India and its regional prospects by Dr. H. P. Singh (India); Transgenic vegetables for Southeast Asia by Prof. Joao Carlos da Silva Dias (Portugal); Importance of Food Safety in Vegetable production and Supply chain by Dr. Shashi Sareen (Thailand).

During the Closing Session, the Plenary Speeches entitled "USAID'S Agricultural Research Strategy and the Role of Horticulture by Dr. John E. Bowman (USAID) and 'The Water, Energy, Food and Nutrition Security Nexus: UNSGAB's Message to UN conference on Sustainable Development (Rio Blus 20)" by Dr. Olivia La O' Castillo (UNSGAB) were delivered, followed by a lively roundtable discussion moderated by Dr. Robert J. Holmer (AVRDC) with Dr. Prem Nath, (VEGINET), Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes (AVRDC), Dr. Olivia La O' Castillo (UNSGAB), Dr. Grisana Linwattana (DOA) and Dr. John E. Bowman (USAID) on dais and all participants in the audience, was also held.

At the Closing session, the General Assembly of the SEAVEG 2012, recommended that the Second SEAVEG and the Second ICV (International Conference on Vegetables) be held together during early 2014. It may be noted that the first ICV 2002 was held during November 2002 in Bangalore, whereas ICH-2009 (International Conference on Horticulture) was held in November 2009, both organized by PNASF.

The farewell address was delivered by Prof. Sombat Chinawong, Vice President, Kasetsart University, Thailand and the closing remark was read by Dr. Songpol Somsri (DOA), Thailand.

The following awards were presented in the closing session.

a. PNASF Award

- For Outstanding leadership in organizing the SEAVEG 2012 to Dr. Robert J. Holmer (Thailand) by Dr. Olivia La O' Castillo, Member, United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB), Manila, Philippines.



Grisana Linwattana (Left) Dr. Olivia La O Castillo (Middle) Dr. Robert J. Holmer (Right)

- For Outstanding leadership in organizing the SEAVEG 2012 to Dr. Grisana Linwattana (Thailand) by Dr. Olivia La O' Castillo, Member, United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB), Manila, Philippines.

b. VEGINET Award

- Outstanding contribution in Vegetable Research and Development was presented on 24/01/2012 to Prof. Joao da Silva Dias (Portugal) by Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, ADG, FAO RAP, Bangkok.
- The Best Oral Paper of SEAVEG 2012 was presented to Dr. Allan P. Bacho, (Philippines) by Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes, DDG (Research), AVRDC, Taiwan.



c. SEAVEG 2012 Award

- Best Poster Paper (SEAVEG 2012) was presented to Biswanath Mazumdar, (India) by Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes, DDG (Research), AVRDC, Taiwan.
- Best Poster Presentation (SEAVEG 2012) was presented to Pepijin Schreinemachers (Thailand) by Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes, DDG (Research), AVRDC, Taiwan.
- Best Poster Presentation (SEAVEG 2012) was presented to B. K. Poudyal (Nepal) by Dr. Jacqueline d 'Arros Hughes, DDG (Research), AVRDC, Taiwan.

Welcome Address delivered by Dr. Prem Nath during the Inaugural session of SEAVEG 2012

Respected dignitaries on the dais Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma - FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional representative for Asia and the Pacific; Dr. Mantana Milne, Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture, Thailand; Dr. Jacqueline d' Arros Hughes-Deputy Director General, AVRDC; Dr. Suwit Chikiattiyos, Director, Horticulture Research Institute, Bangkok, distinguished guests in the audience, Prof. Joao Carlos da Silva Dias, (Portugal); Prof. Dr. M. L. Anothai Choomsai, (Thailand); Prof. Em. Wilfried Hermann Schnitzler (Germany); Dr. Sirikul Wasee, (Thailand); Dr. H. P. Singh, (India); Prof. Dr. Michael Boehme, (Germany); Prof. Dr. Anupam Varma; Prof. Dr. K. V. Peter; Prof. P. G. Chengappa, (India); Mr. John E. Bowman (USA); and others, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

I consider it a privilege and honor to address the august audience this morning on the occasion of inaugural session of the Regional Symposium: High Value Vegetables in South East Asia- Production, Supply and Demand.

I feel homely to be back in Thailand after ten years of my retirement and more so in Chiang Mai, where I visited a couple of months ago to participate in the UNECE International Workshop on the standardization of fresh fruit and vegetables. With my last stay in Bangkok as the FAO Regional Representative Asia and the Pacific, I had received lot of affection of the Thai people, strong support of the National Government and enjoyed the blessings of the most respected His Majesty the King.

My professional association with vegetables has been long and particularly my professional journey with vegetable science and development for half a century beginning 1959, when my journey started in the USA as a post graduate student and later with the gain of knowledge and experience on vegetable education, research and vegetable farming in different countries and continents.

Within 50 years, the world has witnessed a sea-change in the increased knowledge in vegetables science, vegetable farming, vegetable production, vegetable consumption and awareness on its nutritional and economic values. Asia has emerged as the largest producer of vegetables worldwide with China and India ranking first and second among the countries. However, at the present one billion people are suffering from hunger and malnutrition worldwide with about 640 million residing in Asia only. Based on experimental evidences FAO and WHO jointly have recommended consumption of about 400gm/capita/day of fruit and vegetables because (a) it prevents non-communicable diseases like diabetes, blood pressure, some cancer, obesity and others, (b) promotes health security, and (c) provides all over health improvement. Further, WHO and IFPRI cautioned that every fourth child during 2020 is still expected to suffer from malnutrition. Could vegetables contribute in minimizing hunger and malnutrition? Yes, after ten years, I see tremendous change in quality production of vegetables in Thailand and the country has emerged as a large producer in the region. Against this background, when Dr. Grisana Linwattana of the Horticultural Research Institute, Bangkok and Dr. Robert Holmer of the AVRDC, Bangkok approached me about 2 years ago with the vision to organize this symposium, I considered it a timely initiative on the part of Asia to undertake this important step in order to augment promotion of vegetable production and utilization not only to feed Asia but also to support feeding vegetables worldwide. The result is this symposium efficiently organized by these vegetable leaders, which is commendable.

You would recall that Asia had already taken the lead in organizing the first International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2002) in Bangalore during November 2002. Among horticultural crops, vegetables have lion's share covering hundreds of crops cultivated worldwide. The horticultural crops have been recognized as the second line of defense with cereals and legumes on the front line of the food domain. The International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) held in Bangalore during November, 2009 recognized horticultural crops particularly vegetables as (a) supporter of food security (b) major contributor of nutrition security (c) augmenting health improvement, and (d) good source of income generation.

The objective of the present Regional Symposium is to capture the knowledge and to generate discussion on the future of High Value Vegetables in Southeast Asia which is emerging as the important source of production area to meet not only the domestic requirements but also to fulfill the demand of vegetables of other regions.

The Theme of this symposium centers' around soil and seed to kitchen and dining table with complete cycle of production, supply and demand covering three major sessions namely, (1) Seed to Harvest, (2) Harvest to Table, and (3) Cross-sectoral Issues.

- We are proud to have the Key note address delivered by the FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma; and inaugural speech by the Deputy Director General, AVRDC, and Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes. We are most grateful for their valuable contribution.
- Among the *invited speakers* with life long experience on vegetables, we welcome Prof. Joao Carlos da Silva Dias, (Portugal); Dr. M. L. Anothai Choomsai, (Thailand); Prof. Em. Dr. Wilfried Hermann Schnitzler, (Germany); Prof. Dr. Michael Boehme, (Germany); Dr. H. P. Singh, (India); Dr. Sirikul Wasee, (Thailand); Prof. Dr. Anupam Varma, (India); Dr. John. E. Bowman, (USA); Prof. Dr. K. V. Peter, (India); and Prof. P. G. Chengappa, (India).

Dignitaries on the Dais, dear participants; on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the Symposium and VEGINET, I wish all success in your fruitful deliberations and recommendations useful for the benefit of all stake holders. Let us gear our efforts that Asia with the largest share of world population and with the highest production of vegetables, is the dominating force in vegetables world over for the benefit of human kind. Before closing, I would like to leave a food for thought for you all to consider beyond this symposium, for the next symposium.

We are pleased that the Vegetable Science International Network [VEGINET] is proud to announce:

- The VEGINET International Award 2011 (a) for the outstanding International Vegetables Scientist, and (b) for the outstanding oral paper of this Symposium.
- The P. N. Agricultural Science Foundation, [PNASF], Bangalore is proud to announce the PNASF International Award/ SEAVEG2012 to lead organizers of this symposium.

We are privileged and fortunate to have received the messages of best wishes from the dignitaries and institutions of this region and among them are:

- Secretary General of ASEAN, Dr. Surin Pitsuwan stated that the ASEAN Secretariat continues to appreciate the contribution of Thailand Department of Agriculture, ASEAN-AVRDC Regional Network, VEGINET and Horticulture Science Society in Thailand

EVENTS

in building the ASEAN Economic Community. Please allow us to congratulate you in advance for holding a successful Symposium. We also look forward to receiving a copy of the proceedings which will definitely provide more input to our work.

- Dr. J. D. H. Keatinge, Director General, AVRDC, stated that I must commend you on your efforts of bringing together scientists from different parts of the world to facilitate inter- and intra-regional and inter-institutional dialogue on vegetable research and development. Although it would be an honor to address the audience, I regret I will have to decline the offer due to a conflicting schedule, and I ask my Deputy Director General of Research Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes to participate.
- H. S. H. Prince Bhisatej Rajani of Thailand wished all success to the Symposium.
- On this occasion, I highly commend the valuable contribution of Department of Agriculture, Government of Thailand; AVRDC; AARNET; VEGINET and Horticulture Science Society in Thailand for organizing this Symposium.

To the participants and delegates from different countries, I wish you a wonderful stay in Chiang Mai, a wonderful city with ancient tradition and culture surrounded by natural vegetation and pleasant weather.

Dignitaries, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your patient hearing.

Dr. Prem Nath delivers Gulbarga University Convocation Address

Dr. Prem Nath was invited as the Chief Guest to the 30th Annual Convocation of Gulbarga University, Gulbarga, Karnataka held on February 27, 2012 at the Mahadevappa Ramapure Open Air Theatre of the University Campus. On this occasion, Dr. Prem Nath delivered the Convocation Address focusing on "Food and Nutrition Security in Global and National Context" to the audience of about 2000 in the university auditorium. The function was presided over by Prof. E. T. Puttaiah, Vice-Chancellor in the absence of the Chancellor and Governor of Karnataka, H. E. Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj.



Dr. Prem Nath delivering Convocation Address

As many as ten persons from social services, politics to police were conferred with the honorary doctorate for their yeomen services and contribution in their respective fields.



Degrees were awarded to more than one thousand Bachelors', Master's and PhD students in arts, music, social sciences, science and technology, commerce, education and law. A total of 153 gold medals were shared among 82 students from different faculties. Out of 82 students who received the gold medals, 52 were girls.

The newspaper in all languages covered the event and the news media highlighted it very well.

The PNASF acknowledges and extends grateful thanks to Gulbarga University Syndicate and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. E.T. Puttaiah for inviting Dr. Prem Nath during this important event.

Dr. Prem Nath Participates in 46th Convocation of University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

Dr. Prem Nath was invited by the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore to attend the 46th Convocation held on Friday, April 13, 2012 at the Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra (GKVK), Bangalore.

The function was presided over by Dr. K. Narayana Gowda, Vice-Chancellor of the university in the absence of the Chancellor and the Governor of Karnataka, His Excellency Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj. The convocation address was delivered by Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, New Delhi. Welcome Speech with a brief report was delivered by Dr. K. Narayana Gowda.

On this occasion, Dr. R. Dwarakinath, former Vice-Chancellor, UAS, and present Senior Scientific Councillor, PNASF, Bangalore was conferred with the degree of the Doctor of Science (Honoris causa) for his outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture.

About more than 900 students received B Sc and M Sc degrees different disciplines. A total of 36 students shared with multiple gold medals; 3 PhD students were awarded with gold medals, for master's 22 students were awarded gold medals; and for the bachelor's degree 15 students won the gold medals. The Gold Medal instituted by PNASF with UAS, Bangalore was awarded to PhD student Ms. K.J. Sowmya.

XXX Group Meeting of the ICAR/AICRP on Vegetable Crops, Pantnagar

Dr. Prem Nath was invited by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi to serve as the Resource Person to the

EVENTS / INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

XXX Group Meeting of ICAR, All India Coordinated Research Project – Vegetable Crops (AICRPV) held during January 13-16, 2012 at Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUA&T), Pantnagar, Uttarakhand. Other resource persons were Dr. Kirti Singh former-Chairman, ASRB and Dr. K. V. Peter, former-Vice Chancellor, KAU. The inaugural function was chaired by Dr. B. S. Bisht, Vice Chancellor, G. B. University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar and the Chief Guest on the occasion was Dr. H. P. Singh Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR. The Welcome address was delivered by Dr. J. P. Pandey, Director Research, GBPUA&T, whereas vote of thanks was read by Dr. Y. V. Singh, Head, Department of Vegetable Crops, and GBPUA&T. The Project Coordinators Report was read by Dr. B. Singh, Project Coordinator, and AICRPV.

More than 200 scientists from different states involved in the coordinated Vegetable Project participated in presentation and discussion. The Annual Report 2011-12 was presented and discussed and technical programme of 2012-13 were finalized.

Dr. Prem Nath was invited to Chair the Technical Session XI Disease Management. Dr. Nath was assisted by the Co - Chairman Dr. M. Anand Raj, Director, IISR, Dr. J. Kumar, Dean (Agriculture), Pantnagar, and Dr. James George, Project Co-coordinator (Tuber Crops). The Rapporteurs were Dr. S. Dutta, Kalyani and Dr. M. Loganathan, IIVR. In his Chairman's remark Dr. Nath suggested ICAR should (a) identify major diseases and pests of economic importance and list priorities by (b) testing other control methods like escaping device by adjustment of sowing date; using grafting devices etc, (c) develop resistant varieties, (d) must ensure disease incidence, and (e) record weather data.

During this Group Meeting, Dr. Prem Nath, Dr. Kirti Singh and Prof. K. V. Peter were honored with presentation of plaques by the management.

Visit to G. B. P. U. A and T, Pantnagar

During the XXX Group Meeting of the AICRPV held during January 13-16, 2012, Dr. Prem Nath visited seed multiplication farm where breeders and commercial seeds were produced on a large scale. This ensured purity of seeds as well as availability of seeds to farmers of the region at the same time generated income and facilitated proper utilization of available cultivable land.



Dr. Prem Nath visited field in Pantnagar

Dr. Prem Nath also visited the experimentation and demonstration of protected cultivation particularly of plots vegetables and flowers in playhouses. This is becoming popular among the growers in the state.

Further, a visit to old and new fruit orchards was useful from the view point of germplasm collection, adaptability and productivity. The experimentation on pruning and dwarfing of guava was interesting.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

VEGINET participates in SEAVEG-2014 Meeting

VEGINET represented by Dr. Prem Nath participated in the meeting of the SEAVEG – 2014 Search Group and International Organizing Committee was held on May 29, 2012 at the FAO/RAP premises, Maliwan Mansion, 39 Phra Athit Road, Bangkok – 10200, Thailand. The meeting was attended by VEGINET (Dr. Prem Nath), FAO/RAP (Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Dr. Subas Dasgupta), AVRDC (Dr. Jacqueline Hughes), Department of Agriculture, Thailand (Dr. Grisana Linwattana), Kasetsart University (Dr. Poonpipope Kasemsap) and Shichuan Academy of Agriculture Science (SAAS), P.R. of China (Mr. Song Zhanfeng, Mr. Liang Genyun and Ms. Cai Peng). This was the first step taken by the Search Group constituted for suggesting venue and date to hold SEAVEG-2014 under the leadership of Dr. Prem Nath. It may be recollected here that, during the General Assembly of the SEAVEG 2012 "Regional Symposium : High value Vegetables in Southeast Asia – Production, Supply & Demand" (SEAVEG-2012) held during January 24 – 26, 2012 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, it was decided that (a) the SEAVEG be held every two years, and (b) the second SEAVEG be held during early 2014. Consequently, a Search Group (SG) was formed to suggest the venue and date for SEAVEG-2014. The Search Group consisted of Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand; Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes, Deputy Director General for Research, AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center, Shanhua, Taiwan; Dr. Prem Nath, Chairperson, Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET), Bangalore, India; Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Director, Horticulture Research Institute, Department of Agriculture, Thailand; Dr. Prof. Michael Boehme, Humboldt University of Berlin, Department of Horticultural Plant Systems, Germany; and Prof. João Carlos da Silva Dias, Technical University of Lisbon, Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Portugal.

Dr. Prem Nath welcomed the members and thanked Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma & FAO for hosting this meeting at the FAO Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific. Further, Dr. Nath gave the genesis of SEAVEG-2014 and the VEGINET General Assembly agreeing to support it and to hold ICV-2014 along with SEAVEG-2014. He further said that active action and fact finding mission by SG; and endorsement of the AARNET Meeting held in May 15-17, 2012 in Singapore; which gave leverage to hold this meeting for discussion and decision.

Dr. Jacqueline Hughes appreciated the efforts of the Search Group and highlighted the objectives of this meeting. Dr. Hughes flagged issues like nutrition security, risk management, food safety, migration

from rural to urban areas, empowering women, public and private sector linkage to be discussed during the symposium. Further, she acknowledged the leadership of Dr. Prem Nath to the Search Group. She also informed that the recently held meeting of AARNET in Singapore endorsed holding of SEAVEG-2014.

Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma highlighted the importance of Regional Symposium SEAVEG-2014 and necessity of discussing emerging issues like lack of production and consumption, nutrition security, under nutrition and micronutrient deficiency, dietary pattern, balanced nutrition and follow up on ICN-2013.

Dr. Grisana Linwattana appreciated the efforts of the Search Group and informed that Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand looked forward to support SEAVEG-2014. Dr. Prem Nath informed the meeting that the Search Group contacted interested countries during February-May, 2012 to know their willingness to host SEAVEG-2014 and could get positive response from Thailand and Malaysia only. The house discussed at length on the issue to arrive at;

- i. It was decided that the SEAVEG-2014 be held in Thailand with Kasetsart University, Bangkok as the venue during February 25 – 28, 2014. It will cover all aspects on vegetables and related sectors open to public, and private sectors including research institutes, universities, development departments, entrepreneurs, and farmers and other stakeholders. The theme is focus on Nutrition Security and other emerging issues.
- ii. The present organizers of the SEAVEG-2014 are Department of Agriculture, Thailand; AVRDC; AARNET; VEGINET; FAO/RAP and Kasetsart University, Bangkok.
- iii. The SEAVEG-2014 Organizing Committees will be formed soon.
- iv. The first announcement of this SEAVEG-2014 will be circulated early preferably July, 2012.
- v. ICV-2014: Dr. Prem Nath informed that VEGINET proposed to (a) postpone ICV-2014 because of relatively less time period (1½ years) available for international conference, (b) strengthen organization of SEAVEG-2014 upgrading from SEAVEG-2012 level and (c) devote one technical session on International Colloquium to discuss global issues. This was supported by the meeting.

The VEGINET served as the convener of the SEAVEG-2014 Search Group and as a first step forward convened the present meeting.

VEGINET General Body Meeting

The VEGINET General Body Meeting was held during Regional Symposium- High Value Vegetable in Southeast Asia: Production, Supply and Demand (SEAVEG 2012), Chiang Mai, Thailand on January 24, 2012 at 1800hrs. About thirty members from different countries participate in the meeting.

VEGINET International Award during SEAVEG 2012

Welcoming the members to the meeting. Dr. Prem Nath informed that the Award of Excellence in Vegetable Research and development was presented on 24/01/2012 to Prof. Joao Carlos da Silva Dias (Portugal) by Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, ADG,FAO RAP, Bangkok, Thailand and the Award for the best oral paper of SEAVEG 2012 was presented during the concluding session of SEAVEG 2012 on 25/01/2012 to Dr. Allan P. Bacho, (Philippines) by Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes, DDG (Research), AVRDC, Taiwan.

The members discussed various other issues of VEGINET and the following observations were made;

Future Plan

- **Resource Mobilization:** The Chairperson urged the members to identify and encourage interested contributors (individuals/ organizations/institutions) to contribute towards the success of the programme and activities to be undertaken by VEGINET.
- **Enhanced membership:** Each member was requested to encourage their professional colleagues, farmers and other interested to enroll with VEGINET.
- **SEAVEG 2012:** It was noted with appreciation strong support of VEGINET in jointly organizing SEAVEG 2012. The General Assembly decided that VEGINET will support the next SEAVEG Symposium, which was proposed and agreed for 2014.
- **Second ICV:** The meeting noted that the Second International Conference on Vegetables (ICV) was delayed, since it was not held in Brazil as scheduled in 2007. The General Assembly decided that the second ICV be held along with the next SEAVEG at the same venue and during the same period. Hence, the meeting approved of both SEAVEG 2014 and ICV 2014 in Southeast Asia for early 2014.
- **Pledge:** FAO, AVRDC, VEGINET, pledged to contribute to the above events i.e. SEAVEG 2014 and ICV 2014. USAID and UNSGAB showed their interest in this event.

The General Body Meeting of VEGINET (Vegetables Science International Network) held on January 24, 2012 during the SEAVEG-2012 in Chiang Mai, Thailand and the General Assembly of the SEAVEG- 2012 recommended that;

- **Upcoming Event :** second SEAVEG and second ICV (International Conference on Vegetables) with the emphasis on nutrition be held during early 2014 in Southeast Asia.
- **Importance :** Asia is the largest producer of vegetables in the world. Both regional and international conferences have been held in Asia only.
- **Proposed event-SEAVEG-2014 and ICV-2014:** Both the regional and international events may attract about more than 500 participants from at least 50 countries. The duration would be 3-day inhouse technical sessions plus one day in field. The Ministries/ Institutions involved would be Agriculture/

Horticulture, Food, Water and Irrigation, Urban and Rural Development, Nutrition and Health, Environment etc, apart related national and international institutions.

- **Pledge** : During SEAVEG-2012, FAO, AVRDC and VEGINET have already pledged to strongly support the upcoming event SEAVEG-2014. Now the Search Group is looking for pledging of a national institution preferably in Southeast Asia. It may take place possibly in January, 2014.

SOCIAL COMMITMENT

Courtesy call upon H. E. Dr. H. R. Bhardwaj, the Governor of Karnataka

On February 22, 2012, Dr. Prem Nath made a courtesy call upon H. E. Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj, Governor of Karnataka at Raj Bhavan, Bangalore. H. E. was appraised of the recent activities of the PNASF and VEGINET. H. E. recognized the importance of agriculture and made reference of the innovative steps in improving dry farming and further involvement of the cooperate sector in agriculture, as recommended by the President of India.



Dr. Prem Nath with H.E. Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj, Governor of Karnataka.

Dr. Nath presented him with a copy of the recent issue of the PNASF Newsletter, which H. E. appreciated. He further appreciated the efforts of PNASF is preparing the proposed book entitled "Food, Agriculture and Humanity" authored by lead national and international authors. Further, he was kind enough to suggest that consultations/conferences on quality improvement and handling and disposal of fresh crop products like fruit and vegetables by agricultural scientists and corporate sector would help consumers.

Dr. Nath thanked H. E. for his encouragement and support to the PNASF activities in food and agriculture sector.

Institution of VEGINET International Award

With the main aim of promotion of and furthering of the objectives of VEGINET, the Executive Council of VEGINET announces the institution of VEGINET International Awards to be awarded once in two years in order to encourage more participation of stake holders of vegetable research and development across the nations and recognize those who have significantly contributed towards promotion of vegetable sector across the globe by honoring them suitably. In this back drop the VEGINET has instituted two awards viz.,

- VEGINET International Award for Excellence in Vegetable Research and Development
- VEGINET Best Oral Paper Award

The Senior Scientific Councilor, PNASF Conferred with the degree of the Doctor of Science (Honoris causa)

The Senior Scientific Councilor, PNASF and former Vice-Chancellor, UAS, Bangalore, Dr. R. Dwarakinath, was conferred with the degree of the Doctor of Science (Honoris causa) for his outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture during the 46th Convocation of the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore held on April 13, 2012. The PNASF and VEGINET family congratulates Dr. Dwarakinath for attaining this distinction.



Dr. Dwarakinath receiving the degree of the Doctor of Science (Honoris causa).

PNASF/UAS/2001: PNASF Gold Medal Award

PNASF/UAS/2001: Ph D student Ms. Sowmya K.J., received the PNASF Gold Medal for the highest grade point average in the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore during the 46th Convocation at GVKV campus, Bangalore held on April 13, 2012.

PNASF Congratulates Mrs. Vanita V.

In the series of social events which PNASF organizes from time to time for the benefit of staff and the expert members, one major event was the get-together arranged on the occasion of the marriage of the Ms. Vanita V. with Mr. Vinay Sampath. The PNASF



Congratulating Mrs. Vanita V. and Mr. Vinay Sampath

family congratulated the couple on their marriage. The get-together consisted of the dinner and presentation of the bouquet to the newly wed couple by the PNASF at the Hotel- The Lalit Ashok in the presence of about fifteen members of PNASF family, on May 12, 2012.

SOCIAL COMMITMENT / INFORMATION DISSEMINATION



PNASF Family

New Year Day Celebration

Dr. P.N. Agricultural Science Foundation (PNASF) observed the New Year Day Celebration by organizing an Evening Get Together on Sunday, January 01, 2012 at the PNASF premises. The invitees on the occasion were PNASF officials, collaborators, well wishers and friends. Among them present were Shri M.V. Rajasekharan ji, former Union Minister for Planning, Government of India; Dr. P.V. Shenoi, former Special Secretary of Agriculture, Government of India; Mr. N.S. Megharikh, Karnataka State Human Rights Commission, Bengaluru; Dr. C.P.A. Iyer, former Director, Central Institute of Sub-tropical Horticulture, Lucknow; Dr. A.S. Sidhu, Director, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bengaluru; Mr. V.K. Abraham, Director, Institute of Plantation & Horticulture Management (INPHOM), Bengaluru; Prof. U.V. Sulladhmath, Dr. K.R.M. Swamy, Dr. K.M. Indires, Mr. P.B. Gaddagimath and others.

The event was marked by snacks, drinks and very lively informal discussion on issues of food and agriculture in Karnataka and in



PNASF family during the New Year Get Together Party

India. The occasion expressed togetherness on relevant issues facing farmers and consumers. The newly published PNASF News letter was distributed on this occasion.

Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman, PNASF thanked the invitees and others supporting the event.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Publications

- Nath, Prem (2012) Need to tackle hunger malnutrition stressed, plant Horti Tech Vol.11. No.5 Feb-March, 2012, P31
- Anonymous (2012). SEAVEG-2012-Fresh, News from AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center, February 08, 2012. Thailand, P 11
- Nath, Prem (2012). Abstract Book-Urban and peri-urban agriculture and vegetables, SEAVEG-2012, Chiang Mai. Thailand, P 44
- Nath, Prem (2012). Urban Agriculture – International Scenario:Brainstorming Session (BSS) on Urban and Peri Urban Agriculture for Policy Framework (Oral Presentation), April 14, 2012, NAAS, New Delhi
- Nath, Prem (2012). Food and Nutrition Security in Global and National Context- Convocation Address 30th Annual Convocation of Gulbarga University, February 27, 2012, Gulbarga, Karnataka

Upcoming Publication

Food, Agriculture and Humanity (2013)

Editorial Board: Prem Nath, O.P. Dutta, K. R.M. Swamy, P.B. Gaddagimath and B.S.Prabhakar

Publishers: PNASF, Bangalore and NIPA, New Delhi

Background: Food and human kind are tightly linked since its birth centuries ago. Agriculture has served only as catalyst whose vital role is becoming increasingly important in the emerging scenario of human survival. Since both human and agriculture can not survive without utilization of natural resources, the intelligent management of natural resources through the application of appropriate technology coupled with social and economic mix may be the right answer.

The proposed write up will recapitulate experiences of the past and make attempt to project the future to feed the growing human population of the 21st Century. About 45 papers prepared by well-known national and international authors will cover about 500 pages.

Other Publication

Vegetables For The Tropical Region

Authors : Prem Nath and K.R.M. Swamy

Publisher : ICAR, New Delhi

About the Book

In recent years, the growing importance of vegetables has been recognized worldwide because of their vital role in food and nutrition

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

security, and their emerging awareness on combating non-communicable diseases and health improvement. The production, consumption and movement of fresh and processed vegetables have increased considerably worldwide because of improved technology, consciousness in diet and improved transportation within and across the countries. In addition, vegetable crops have become an important source of employment and income generation both in rural and urban areas with peri-urban horticulture assuming its role. In this edition attempts have been made to update the readers on all aspects of vegetable crops and their production as much as possible.

The first edition of this book was printed in 1976. In 1984 this was revised and printed. This was again reprinted by the ICAR in 1994 and 2002. The wide acceptance of the first and second editions of this book and its increased demand, particularly among the agricultural students encouraged us to further revise it, as per the request made by the ICAR. In this revised Third Edition of the book, a few new Chapters namely, The food value of vegetables; Vegetable nutrition and human health; Food security and vegetables; Plant growth and development; Modes of reproduction in vegetable crops; Types of vegetable farming; Plant nutrition; Establishment of vegetable crops in the field; Principles of vegetable production; and Principles of vegetable seed production, have been added. In addition, some more crops which were not included in the earlier editions have also been compiled and included in this edition.

Scope of the Book

From the climatic as well as vegetable production point of view, India can be broadly divided into temperate, subtropical, and tropical regions. In this book the common vegetables which can be grown in the subtropical and tropical regions of the country have been described for their scientific cultivation. It covers the improved practices followed in the plains of northern, southern, central, eastern and western regions of the country where subtropical and tropical and temperate climates prevail. Seed production technology has been explained under each crop. In the manurial and fertilizer recommendations it is a question of principles which must be modified in particular cases in accordance with the prevailing conditions. An attempt has been made to make the readers aware of the plant-breeding work done and trends on individual crops in the country. Some of the crops like beans, melons, gourds, Solanaceous vegetables, leaf vegetables and root crops belonging to different families and having similar cultural requirements have been grouped together to avoid duplication. Information compiled in this book is in no way a comprehensive attempt but includes the rather important work of recent times in India and future needs.

The book comprises of 24 chapters. The first chapter- **Introduction**, provides the information on probable centers of origin of vegetable crops, their distribution; importance of vegetables, production scenario of vegetable crops in India. The second chapter deals with **The Food Value of Vegetables**. The chapters 3-12 deal with **Vegetable Nutrition and Human Health; Food Security and**

Vegetables; Growth and Development of Vegetable Crops; Classification of Vegetable Crops; Modes of Reproduction in Vegetable Crops; Types of Vegetable Farming; Plant Nutrition; Raising of Vegetable Crops in the Field; Principles of Vegetable Farming; and Principles Vegetable Seed Production. The scientific method of cultivation with the latest research findings have been described in chapters 13-24 for different groups of vegetable crops, namely, **Solanaceous Vegetables; Cucurbits/ Cucurbitaceous Vegetables; Beans and Pea; Root Crops; Bulb Crops; Tuber Crops; Leafy Vegetables; Minor Leafy Vegetables; Cole Vegetables, Salad Crops, Okra, and Perennial Vegetables.** The **Bibliography**, at the end is rich in listing references providing information on latest research findings. Colour Plate Section has also been included after each Group of vegetable crops.

The present edition is available with the ICAR whereas latest revised edition is under publication.

Source of Availability:-

Director,
Directorate of Information and Publications of Agriculture,
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR),
Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan, Pusa, New Delhi-110 012

Publications of PNASF

Publications on shelves

Description	India (In Rs.)	Foreign (In US \$)
* Book – Vegetable Crops : Improvement and Production (Pages :398) 2007	125.00 + Rs. 55.00 (postage)	25.00 including postage
* Book – Food Security and Vegetables- A Global Perspective (Pages : 437) 2004	250.00 including postage (PB) 300.00 including postage (HB)	50.00 including postage
* ICV-2002 Proceedings – CD (Pages:931) 2003	150.00 including postage	10.00 including postage
* VEGINET Booklet (Pages: 22) 2003	35.00 including postage	5.00 postage
* ICV-2002 Abstract Book- (Pages:445) 2002	150.00 including postage	25.00 including postage
ICH Abstract Book (Pages:487) 2009	600.00 including postage	25.00 including postage

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Description	India (In Rs.)	Foreign (In US \$)
ICH Souvenir (Pages:142) 2009	300.00 including postage	20.00 including postage
Book – Foods and Nutrition (Pages: 485) 2009	Available with Studium Press LLC 4735/22, 2 nd Floor, Prakash Deep building (Near PNB), Ansari Road Darya Ganj, NEW DELHI-110 002.	
ICH-2009- Proceedings-CD (Pages: 2553) 2010	100.00 including postage	30.00 including postage
Book-Horticulture and Livelihood Security (Pages: 550) 2011	Available with Scientific Publishers 5-A, New Pali Road, P.O. Box 91 Jodhpur - 342 001, Rajasthan Phone: +91-291-262 4154 Fax: +91-291-261 3449	

* 15% discount given to PNASF and VEGINET members, Professors, Students and Libraries.

How to order?

Making online order to drpremnath@vsnl.net and by sending Bank Demand Draft or Cheque in favor of Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation, A/C No.: 0417101037688 in Indian rupees and A/C No.:0417101039815 in US Dollars, payable at Canara Bank, Vyalikaval, Bangalore – 560 003, India.

Plans on hand

While the ongoing activities will continue, the PNASF proposes to undertake new programmes and activities;

- ↳ Organizing conferences/Symposium/Workshop/Congress; 2nd SEAVEG-2014 and 2nd ICV-2014;
- ↳ Organizing Second International Conference on Horticulture
- ↳ Book Release Ceremony
- ↳ Awards/grants to university students and researchers to continue ;
- ↳ Collaborate with the national and international institutions / associations in the area of food and nutrition security etc.;
- ↳ Publication of the PNASF News Letters.

OPPORTUNITIES

Awards/Scholarships

PNASF encourages universities/institutions to institute PNASF Medal Awards for outstanding post-graduate students/young scientists working on research problems augmenting food and nutrition security and invites them to support these activities through funds.

Field Projects

PNASF invites societies/associations/NGOs interested in implementing small rural community projects on self help income generation augmenting food security, for any assistance.

Publications

The PNASF publications are available on price with the Central Secretariat, PNASF.

Contribution/Membership

Registration/membership/contribution either to PNASF or to VEGINET available at

Website: www.pnasf.org

and by E-mail to

drpremnath@vsnl.net

or

pnasfoundation@gmail.com.

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Publications of PNASF



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