

Organic Farming Opportunities in India: National Workshop Concludes at ICAR-NAARM

Date: 10-06-22

ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management hosted a Brainstorming Workshop on Organic Farming in India on 10th June 2022. The event was jointly organised in collaboration with Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research (ICAR-IIFSR), Modipuram and Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (ICAR-CRIDA), Hyderabad.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM chaired the inaugural session highlighted philosophy, importance, scope and need for adopting the organic farming. He stressed the importance of organic farming in feeding the population a safe food. He exuded confidence that the brainstorming involving galaxy of experts would help in bringing out the policy recommendations that would serve as reference to the policy makers thereby helping in expanding the area under organic farming.

Dr. Vinod Kumar Singh, Director, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad gave a detailed account of current organic farming practices and challenges faced by the farmers practicing organic farming in the water scarce dryland areas.

Dr. Ravishanakar, IIFSR shared his experiences on organic farming in different ecosystems under coordinated project at Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research (IIFSR).

The workshop was organised with the major objective of assessing the feasibility and identifying the niche areas and commodities for organic farming and to identify critical researchable issues and gaps in organic farming besides understanding the current government policies to suggest areas for future developments. The workshop saw thematic presentations by domain experts followed by dedicated panel discussions one each on 'Opportunities and Challenges in Organic Farming' and 'Policy Interventions for Promoting Organic Farming'. A total of 35 experts and official from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, State Agriculture Universities, NABARD, APEDA, National Centre for Organic Farming, National Rainfed Area Authority, Telangana State Organic Certification Authority, progressive farmers and NGOs participated and contributed for the success of the workshop. The recommendations from the workshop will be compiled in the form of policy document for organic farming in India. The senior faculty and officers of the ICAR-NAARM participated in the workshop which was coordinated by Dr. Ramesh Naik and Dr. Umesh Hudedamani.

