

ICAR-NAARM Organises on Vegetable Crop Management Training at KVK Narayangaon, Maharashtra

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ICAR-NAARM organized 3 days Training Programme on “Cultivation Technology for Vegetable Crop Production” from 5-7th June, 2024 under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP), 2023-24 in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Narayangaon, Pune, Maharashtra. A total of **60 farmers** including 24 women farmers were participated in the training programme.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR- NAARM, Hyderabad, has participated in the inaugural session as the Chief Guest and he highlighted the current status of production, productivity and export potential of vegetables in India & Maharashtra. He also urged farmers to adopt different vegetable crops in their cropping system as well as mushroom cultivation and kitchen garden for higher yield, nutritional security and improving lifestyle through organic farming. Sensitized the participants to develop entrepreneurial skills for better income through vegetable processing and value addition.

Shri. Krishiratna Anil G. Meher, Chairman, KVK, Narayangaon, Pune, extended his wishes to ICAR-NAARM for conducting the various training programme especially for SC farmers across the nation. He emphasized that this training program holds significant promise for enhancing vegetable productivity and improving livelihoods, particularly for SC farmers who form an integral part of our farming community. Through this initiative, ICAR NAARM aims to equip SC farmers with the latest cultivation technologies, best practices, skills and innovative strategies tailored specifically for vegetable cultivation.

Dr. M. Balakrishnan, SC Sub Plan Chairman, Principal Scientist, ICAR- NAARM, Hyderabad, elucidated the various activities conducted by ICAR NAARM to enhance the livelihoods of farmers, Additionally, he provided insights on the entrepreneurial aspects in vegetable production, discussing various methods to augment income, also emphasized the integration of modern and innovative technologies in vegetable production to optimize yields and enhance sustainability.

Dr. Prashant G. Shete, Senior Scientist & Head of KVK Narayangaon, delivered a comprehensive talk focusing on various aspects of vegetable production technologies for enhancing nutritional security. He emphasized the importance of processing and post-harvest management techniques, significance of establishing marketing linkages to promote products effectively in the market.

The farmers were trained on the aspects related to cultivation technology of solanaceous vegetables, marketing of vegetable crops, integrated pest and disease management in vegetable crops, residue free vegetable production, natural and organic farming in vegetable crops, various schemes by agriculture department, importance of soil testing, nutrition management, use of organic fertilizers in vegetable crops and farmers has visited to vegetable processing unit.

In the valedictory program, important critical inputs were distributed to all the participants. Dr. M. Ramesh Naik, Scientist, ICAR-NAARM and Dr. Dattatray B. Gawade, SMS, KVK, Narayangaon coordinated the training programme.

