



Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

Brief report on Kisan Goshti organized by Department of Agriculture, IIAST at Anwari village on the theme “Integrated Crop Management Practices in Rabi Crops” (Rabi ki Faslon Me Samanvit Prabandhan)” on 2nd December 2023.

The Department of Agriculture which is committed and dedicated to farmers' welfare undertakes several initiatives to support and empower farmers. In accordance with it, a Kisan Goshti was organized by the Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) on 2nd December 2023, at Anwari Village, under the guidance of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Director, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology and Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. The faculty coordinators were Dr. Ambreesh Singh Yadav, Dr. Usman Sayeed, and Dr. Kalpana Bisht along with the students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture organized the whole event on “Integrated Crop Management Practices in Rabi Crops” (Rabi ki Faslon Me Samanvit Prabandhan)”.

Dr. Ambreesh Singh Yadav, Associate Professor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST welcomed the farmers and shared his perspective on “Rabi ki Faslon Me Samanvit Prabandhan”. He expounded on the imperative for farmers to relinquish the allure of conventional farming practices and instead embrace technological advancements. Only through such adaptation can they effectively confront the challenges associated with achieving increased yields within limited land holdings. Dr. Yadav additionally provided insights into various aspects of potato cultivation, offering guidance on True Potato Seed (TPS), weed management, nutrient management, intercropping, and crop rotation. These recommendations are specifically tailored for the cultivation of potatoes, a predominant vegetable crop in the region. Dr. Kalpana Bisht described the challenges posed by insect-pest issues in potato cultivation. She elucidated on the efficacy of Entomopathogenic fungi, specifically *Beauveria bassiana* and *Metarhizium anisopliae*, in the management of white grub infestations. Furthermore, she engaged with farmers to discuss on-farm techniques pertaining to the utilization of bio-control agents and provided insights into field application methods for enhanced pest management. Dr. Usman Sayeed provided a comprehensive overview of the appropriate harvesting and storage methodologies for potatoes, emphasizing the necessity to prevent rotting and damage prior to market distribution. His insights were aimed at optimizing returns for farmers through the implementation of effective post-harvest practices. The emphasis on Integrated crop management, precision farming and sustainable post-harvest practices demonstrates a commitment to addressing challenges such as hunger, climate change, and responsible resource use and biodiversity conservation through collaborative efforts. This was in accordance with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).

The Goshti concluded with the following reflections: the exercise of Integrated Crop Management (ICM) by farmers signifies a comprehensive and sustainable approach to agriculture. Through the integration of pest management and soil conservation practices, farmers can augment resource efficiency, mitigate environmental impact and elevate overall crop yield



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and quality. This strategic integration seeks to propel a transition towards more resilient, environmentally conscientious, and economically profitable farming practices.

The program witnessed active participation from 58 farmers who demonstrated great enthusiasm throughout the event. Dr. Ambreesh Singh Yadav extended the vote of thanks. The program concluded with a comprehensive feedback session involving farmers and students to gauge their satisfaction levels.

Glimpses of the Goshthi





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