

# **National Symposium on Spices and Aromatic Crops (SYMSAC–VI)**

## *Exploiting Spices Production Potential of the Deccan Region*

### ***RECOMMENDATIONS***

*Organized by*



Indian Society for Spices, Calicut  
Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut  
University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad



*In Collaboration with*

Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi  
National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mumbai



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**8-10 December 2011**

**University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad**

### **Recommendations of SYMSAC-VI**

#### **I. Policy Interventions**

- Multiplication of breeder seeds Nuclear Planting Material into foundation seed and certified seeds need to be done through public - private partnership for meeting the large scale demand for high yielding varieties.
- In the case of herbal spices more awareness programmes with respect to export and other market chain, to be organized in order to bring more area under cultivation.
- In order to create awareness among the farming community about the PPV & FR Act, awareness campaign through KVKs and other extension agencies may be encouraged. It is also suggested that in curriculum of B.Sc. (Agri) & M.Sc. (Agri) lectures / appropriate courses on topic like PPV & FRA and IPR issues may be taken up if already not done.
- Lack of monetary benefit to farmers under PPV & FR Act is one issue that may be deterring the farmers to come forward to register their varieties. The PPV & FRA may be apprised of the situation and if possible appropriate remedial measures in this regard may be initiated in consultation with all the stake holders.
- The subsidy programme under different agencies (like Spices Board, Coffee Board, NABARD) should be co-ordinated so that the farmers get and awareness of the merits and demerits of each and arrive of informed choice.

#### **II. Research Priorities for R & D Institutions**

- The existing genetic diversity and variability should be catalogued systematically through survey, documentation with coordinated multi location trials in all major and minor spices.
- Mutation breeding may be utilized to create variability and crop improvement in spices general and coriander in particular.

- Heterosis vigour may be exploited in spices and the vigour may be maintained through vegetative propagation.
- Varieties suitable of seed spices for each agro-climatic zone including drylands need to be developed.
- There is a need to develop crop specific progeny blocks in the state agricultural universities and ICAR Institutes.
- The protocol for *in vitro* propagation of herbal spices need to be developed
- Mechanical device for harvesting black pepper, cardamom, nutmeg and clove are to be developed.
- The pharmaceutical properties of important spices are to be exploited.
- Mechanization for harvesting ginger/ turmeric need to be given priority.
- Further research on optimization of various parameters for micro encapsulation of spice oils and oleoresins is to be undertaken

### **III. Priority areas on value addition**

- Establishment of community storage structures to store seeds of rhizomatous crops
- Training should be imparted to farmers for production of quality produce and packing process to avoid aflatoxin contamination.

### **IV. Priority areas on technology transfer**

- Farmer's innovations and ITKs need to be documented & honored.
- Use of quick and easy disease diagnostic kits may be commercialized and popularized to help farmers for taking up management practices at proper time.
- Model nurseries need to be established by State Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutes with funding from NHM.
- Foliar and drip application of nutrients may be given emphasis to enhance the productivity.
- The development agencies should plan well in advance for meeting the requirement of planting material for a particular period.
- Progressive small and marginal farmer's need to be encouraged to establish certified nurseries to produce disease free planting material under the guidance of SAUs/ KVKs/ Institutes, in order to meet the requirement of seed/ planting material of the farming community.

- Promote the use of biocontrol agents against various pests and diseases and make them available to the farmers on large scale.
- Frequent awareness melas on various commodities, involving scientists, exporters, farmers and consumers need to be held to benefit all the stake holders.
- The recently developed technologies need to be compiled and popularized to farmers, processors and entrepreneurs for effective adoption and increasing productivity.