



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

Guest lecture report on

"Modern Tools and Techniques for Sustainable Crop Production"

On 23rd Nov, 2020, Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University Lucknow had the honor of hosting a distinguished guest lecture by Prof. Laxuman Sharma, Department of Horticulture, Sikkim University. The guest lecture was on virtual mode. Dr. Sharma was welcomed by Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST.

Dr. Sharma began his lecture by highlighting the immense importance of the crop, which supports the livelihoods of over 50 million farmers in India and serves as a source for sugar, biofuel, fiber and other valuable products. However, with rising production costs, labor shortages, and environmental challenges, there is an urgent need to adopt modern, sustainable techniques to enhance crop productivity.

Sir, then proceeded to discuss some of the latest tools, technologies and best practices being implemented for efficient and eco-friendly crop cultivation: Precision Farming by using GPS, sensors, drones and satellite data for site-specific management, enabling judicious application of water, fertilizers and agrochemicals, reducing waste and input costs, mechanized operations, laser land leveling to improve water use efficiency, mechanized planting with raised bed techniques, adoption of crop harvesters and balers.

The informative lecture was extremely well-received and prompted a lively discussion with students and faculty curious to learn more implementation details. Overall, it provided invaluable insights into the latest innovations being leveraged for environmentally and economically sustainable crop cultivation in India.

Around 50 students of UG & PG students of different programs running in the university attended the lecture, and all the queries put forward by the audience were categorically addressed by the expert. The audience found it very informative and quite relevant to the problem formulation for project dissertation work. The lecture helped the participants in understanding the objective of the Crop production. The event was concluded with a vote of thanks. The program was actively supported by all the members of the Department.

Glimpse



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REC Laxuman Sharma is presenting

Organic Certification

It is a certification process for producers of organic food and other organic agricultural products.

Requirement:

- ❖ avoidance of synthetic chemical inputs and genetically modified organisms;
- ❖ use of farmland that has been free from chemicals for a number of years
- ❖ keeping detailed written production and sales records (audit trail)
- ❖ maintaining strict physical separation of organic products from non-certified products
- ❖ undergoing periodic on-site inspections

PURPOSE

- assure quality
- and prevent fraud

Yadav, A. K. 2007. Training Manual on Certification and Inspection Systems in Organic Farming in India Compiled. NCOF, Ministry of Agriculture Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, GOI.

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Approval manager / committee are designated for taking the approval decision. The members in the committee should be well versed with the NPOP standard or ICS procedure.

Field officers: Some active members are identified as field officers in order to facilitate extension activities like training, exposure visit and demonstration. One Field officer may be designated at one production area as per the geographical locations.

Purchase officer: ICS should identify amongst the member, the **purchase officers** for correct purchase of the farm inputs for the members.

Warehouse manager: If warehouse is located in the region of the farmers group or the agriculture produce are stored collectively at the warehouse, it is necessary to have the warehouse manager to handle the produce during storage as per the ICS guidelines. The warehouse should also be inspected by external inspector before issuing the scope certificate.

Processing manager: A processing manager may be identified/ appointed to train the members to handle the organic produce after harvest.