



Report on Quality Improvement Program on Mint at Anwari Village

The Department of Agriculture, which is committed to the welfare of farmers, undertakes numerous initiatives to support and empower them. In line with this commitment, a one-day training program titled "Quality Improvement Program on Mint" was organized on 25th January 2025, at Anwari Village, in collaboration with the Spices Board India, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, Regional Office, Barabanki to equip farmers with essential knowledge for thriving in a competitive agricultural sector. The program was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Sandeep Singh Yadav, Assistant Director of the Spices Board (Government of India), Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology, and Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head of the Department of Agriculture, IIAST.

Dr. Ambreesh Singh Yadav, the Department of Agriculture, IIAST, warmly welcomed the speaker, Dr. Sandeep Singh Yadav, Assistant Director, Spices Board, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, Regional Office, Barabanki as well as the participating farmers. With a humble and thoughtful approach, Dr. Yadav shared his in-depth understanding of the mint production, global trade, highlighting the key mint-producing and importing countries. He discussed the challenges facing the industry, such as market price volatility and the growing competition from synthetic mint, while motivating farmers to stay resilient and embrace innovation in overcoming these challenges.

Dr. Yadav highlighted the immense potential of the mint industry, emphasizing its broad applications across various sectors, including food, beverages, dental care, natural flavouring, fragrances, cosmetics, aromatherapy, pharmaceuticals, and traditional medicine. He humbly acknowledged the invaluable contribution of Indian farmers to the global mint market, underscoring their hard work and dedication as crucial drivers of the industry's growth.

In his address, Dr. Yadav gently encouraged farmers to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, stressing the importance of enriching soil organic carbon content through compost manure, green manure, and nitrogen. He patiently explained the process of preparing organic manure and highlighted the benefits of implementing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to improve soil health and crop quality. Dr. Yadav's guidance reflected his deep

respect for the farming community and his commitment to their welfare, motivating them to strive towards making India a global leader in agricultural products.

The program also emphasized the importance of mint cultivation in the Lucknow-Barabanki region, which accounts for 90% of Uttar Pradesh's total production across 80,000 hectares. Through the dedicated efforts of the Spices Board, the quality and yield of mint are continuously being improved across 52 production zones. The event witnessed active participation from 58 farmers, who engaged in interactive sessions and practical activities aimed at refining their agricultural practices.

The program was successfully conducted through the collective efforts of the faculty coordinators, Dr. Ambreesh Singh Yadav, Dr. Usman Sayeed, and Dr. Kalpana Bisht, along with the steadfast support of Mr. Faisal Kirmani. The event was further enhanced by the enthusiasm and active participation of 12 students volunteer from B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture and 58 farmers from the village.

Glimpses:

