

## **Isabgol Field Day & Stakeholder's Meet Held**

*16.03.19, ICAR-DMAPR, Anand, Gujarat*

Isabgol field day and stakeholder's meet was held on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 at the ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research, Anand, Gujarat. Dr. T. Janakiram, Assistant Director General (Hort. Science), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, Dr. Jitendra Kumar, Director, Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT), Gurugram, Dr. Niraj Wadhwa, Board Member, Isabgol Processors Association (IPA), Sidhpur and Dr. Satyajit Roy, Director, ICAR-DMAPR, Anand were present in the meet.

Dr. Satyajit Roy, Director, welcomed the stakeholders and presented an overview of the Directorate and research achievements in Isabgol. He highlighted new Isabgol varieties, good agricultural practices (GAP) and Isabgol seeds standards to the stakeholders.

Mr. Niraj Wadhwa, board member, IPA, said that there is a growing demand for Isabgol husk in the bakery industry apart from its medicinal and industrial uses. He emphasized that, there is need for concerted efforts to increase the Isabgol production in the country. He appreciated the ICAR-DMAPR in organizing the unique meet to share ideas and challenges in Isabgol processing and trade.

Dr. T. Janakiram, in his address emphasized need to strengthen value chain of Isabgol in order to double the income of farmers. He opined that, organic cultivation, good agricultural practices (GAP) certification, use of sensors, technology transfer, market information and value addition of Isabgol will ensure more income to the farmers. He suggested to prepare a policy document for Isabgol research and development in the country.

Dr. Kumar, Director, IPFT, highlighted an urgent need to set up a chain of quality accreditation and certification agencies to ensure quality. He said there is need for establishment of centralized collection centers and storage yards for farmer clusters at panchayat level to ensure quality of raw drugs.

Earlier, Dr. P. Manivel, Principal scientist, DMAPR, showcased the new varieties (Vallabh Isabgol-1, Vallabh Isabgol -2 and Vallabh Isabgol -3) and genetic resources of Isabgol to the stakeholders.

The one-day event on Isabgol field day and stakeholder's meet was attended by members from the Isabgol Processors Association, Sidhpur, Isabgol seed industry, Gujarat Medicinal Plants Board, Gandhinagar, Space Application Center, Ahmadabad, Pharma industry, National Dairy Development Board, Anand, AICRP-MAP&B centers, Amul, Anand and Institute of Rural management (IRMA), Anand. A field visit has been arranged in which Isabgol varieties and germplasm accessions of the directorate were showcased to the stakeholders.

In the end, Dr. R. Nagaraja Reddy, Scientist, ICAR-DMAPR, proposed the vote of Thanks.







(Source: AKMU, ICAR-DMAPR, Anand)