

HH Sree Visakham Thirunal Endowment Lecture 2011 organized

The inauguration of the HH Sree Visakham Thirunal Endowment Lecture 2011 organized jointly by the Indian Society for Root Crops (ISRC) and Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI) on 13th June 2011 at CTCRI was done by Princess Gouri Lakshmi Bayi Thampuratti. Dr.S.K.Naskar, Director, CTCRI, presided over the function and Dr.M.Anantharaman, President, ISRC, welcomed the gathering. In her inaugural address, the Princess reminded the events that necessitated the then Maharaja Sree Visakham Thirunal to popularize cassava in Kerala. Dr. B. Ashok, IAS, Vice Chancellor, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookot, Wayanad, Kerala delivered the endowment lecture on the topic "Science in



Agriculture Policy". In his talk he made a mention about research-policy divide, research-practice gap and policy- practice gaps and how these can be minimized. He explored how perceptual risks could in effect increased adoption costs and how the policy inertia of systems would potentially affect adoption of innovation. Dr.M.S.Sajeev, Secretary, ISRC, proposed the vote of thanks.



Dr. C.S.Ravindran joined as Head, Division of Crop Production of CTCRI on 04-06-2011. CTCRI NEWS congratulates him.

National Training Course on Structure, Function and Dynamics of Biomolecules used in Pest Management of Horticultural Crops organized at Regional Centre

An NAIP sponsored National Training on "Structure, Function and Dynamics of Biomolecules used in Pest Management of Horticultural Crops" was conducted during 10-23, May 2011 at Regional Centre, CTCRI, Bhubaneswar by Dr. Rajasekhara Rao Korada, Senior Scientist (Entomology) as Course Director. The training was inaugurated by Dr. S. K. Naskar, Director, CTCRI stressed the need for research on advanced technologies for identification of insect resistance in germplasm. The training was attended by 15 participants from 7 states (Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Odisha) across India representing ICAR and SAUs. Resource persons included Dr. Willem Jan de Kogel, Team leader – Entomology & Virology, Plant Research International, Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen, The Netherlands; Dr (Mrs.) Anupama Singh (IARI), Dr. N. Bhaktavatsalam (NBRI), Dr A. R. Prasad (IICT), Dr Lila Babu (CTCRI), etc. Course content included both theory and practicals on various biomolecules, their extraction and electrophysiological methods, olfactometry, headspace volatile collection from plants and insects, odour coding, transduction mechanisms, olfactory binding proteins, anti-nutritional factors, botanical pesticides, semiochemicals, pheromones, nano-biomolecules, elicitors, toxins from bacteria, antagonistic fungi, bio-herbicides,



plant breeding for insect resistance, volatile assisted selection, stored product management, and commercialization, etc. Advanced practicals were carried out at Institute of Life Sciences (DBT), and at Institute of Materials and Minerals Technology (CSIR), Bhubaneswar. Dr. James George, Project Coordinator (Tuber Crops) gave the valedictory address.