

Report of Farmers Training on “Food Safety and Organic Farming”



NAVSARI AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Sponsored by :
National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP)
ICAR – World Bank Project

Published by :
Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology
(CAAST) NAHEP, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari
396450 Gujarat

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- Published by:** **Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology, N.A.U., Navsari, Gujarat.**
- Printed:** **MAY, 2021**
- Citation:** Ahlawat, T.R. and Chaudhary, A.D. (Ed.) 2021. Report of Farmers Training on Food Safety and Organic Farming, CAAST, NAHEP, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat, 1-5 pp.
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- Cover page photo:** Participants and Resource Persons of the training programme at NAU, Navsari under NAHEP.
- Design & Art:** Mr. Bhavin B. Patel and Dr. Abhijit D. Chaudhary CAAST Secretariat, Directorate of Research, University Bhavan, NAU, Navsari - 396450, Gujarat.

Acknowledgement:

This report pertains to the training of farmers organised under capacity building activity of the “National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP)” Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST) project titled Establishment of Secondary Agriculture Unit for skill development in Students and Farmers”. We would like to express our gratitude to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Government of India as well as World Bank for funding the project. We would also like to thank all the participant farmers and resource persons. We are also grateful to the staff members of NAU, Navsari and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NAU, Navsari for their support in organising this training.



Report of Farmers' Training on: Food Safety and Organic Farming

Date of Training: 16 March, 2021

Venue – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NAU, Navsari, Gujarat

Background:

A Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST) is a new initiative and student centric sub-component of “National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP)” implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research and funded by Government of India as well as World Bank. The Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat bagged a CAAST project entitled “*Establishment of Secondary Agriculture Unit for skill development in Students and Farmers at NAU Navsari*” on competitive basis during 2017-18. Under this project a one day on-campus farmer’s training on “Food Safety and Organic Farming (ખોરાક સલામતી અને સેન્દ્રિય ખેતી)” was organised by Unit-4 (Pesticide Residue Analysis) NAHEP-CAAST sub-project, NAU, Navsari in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NAU, Navsari.

Introduction:

The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Z. P. Patel, Honourable, Vice-Chancellor, Navsari Agricultural University. Further, Dr. T. R. Ahlawat, PI & Nodal Officer, NAHEP-CAAST sub-project, NAU, Navsari, Dr. V. R. Naik, Associate Director Research, NAU, Navsari, Dr. K. G. Patel, Professor and Head, Dept. of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, NMCA and Co-PI, NAHEP-CAAST sub-project, NAU, Dr. Susheel Singh, Co-PI Unit-4 (Pesticide Residue Analysis), Food Quality Testing Laboratory, NAHEP-CAAST sub-project, NAU, Navsari were also present on the dais. The programme was launched with lighting of lamp by dignitaries on the dais followed by floral welcome. Dr. Timur Ahlawat welcomed all the dignitaries, farmers and resource persons to the programme.

He briefed the participants about the NAHEP-CAAST project, its activities and achievements. Dr. V. R. Nayak emphasized the importance of organic farming and its potential benefits to farmers. Dr. Z. P. Patel, Hon’ble, Vice Chancellor, NAU, Navsari delivered his presidential speech and elaborated on his vision for Navsari Agricultural University and NAHEP - CAAST sub project. He appreciated the hard work of the NAHEP-CAAST team members in organizing the programme as well as

requested the farmers to grasp the cutting edge technology and other advances in food safety particularly in organic farming systems. At the end of the inaugural session, Dr. Susheel Singh proposed the Vote of Thanks.



About the Training

This training was availed by 58 farmers from South Gujarat.

Session	Time	Resource Persons
Management of Insect and its Impact on Food Safety પાક જીવાતનું વ્યવસ્થાપન અને તેની ખોરાક સલામતી ઉપર અસર	10.00 to 10.45	Dr. L. V. Ghetiya Asso. Prof., Deptt. of Ento., NMCA, NAU, Navsari
Organic Farming and Food Safety સૈદ્ધિય ખેતી અને ખોરાકની સલામતી	10.43 to 11.30	Dr. K. G Patel Prof., Head, SSAC, NMCA, NAU, Navsari
Pesticide Residue Management in Agricultural Important Crops of South Gujarat દક્ષિણ ગુજરાતના કૃષિ પાકોમાં જંતુનાશકોના વ્યવસ્થાપન	11.30 to 12.15	Dr. G. B. Kalariya Training Asso. (Plant Prot.) T & V System, ATIC, NAU, Navsari
Lunch Break 12.15 to 13.30		
Visit to Organic Farm at NAU, Navsari ઓર્ગેનિક ફાર્મ ની મુલાકાત	13.00 to 15.30	Dr. Kinjal Shah SMS, KVK, Navsari
Demonstration of Different Activities of Organic Farming Unit ઓર્ગેનિક ફાર્મિંગ યુનિટની વિવિધ પ્રવૃત્તિઓનું નિદર્શન		Dr. Ashokkumar Italiya ACHF, NAU, Navsari

Technical Session:

Core Session 1: following the Vote of Thanks, Dr. L. V. Ghetiya, Associate Professor (Entomology), NMCA, NAU, Navsari took up the first session. The training lecture focused on "Management of insects and its impact on food safety" (પાક જીવાતનું વ્યવસ્થાપન અને તેની ખોરાક સલામતી ઉપર અસર). He majorly emphasised on the different aspect of beneficiary insects and importance of non-chemical pest management in food safety in his interaction with the villagers.

Core Session 2: was taken up by Dr. K. G. Patel, Professor and Head, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, NMCA, NAU, Navsari He talked about "Organic Farming and Food Safety in Horticultural Crops" (બાગાયતી સજીવ ખેતીમા પોષણ વ્યવસ્થા). He touched upon the Current scenario of organic and inorganic fertilizers in India as well as in the world; Various technical experiments conducted on farms; Effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on agronomical and horticultural crops; Persistence, dissipation of major inorganic fertilizers and Effect of macronutrients and micronutrients in horticultural crops under stress condition. He encouraged the farmers to adopt Organic Farming systems such as drip-irrigation and Food Safety system.



Core Session 3: was conducted by Dr. G. B. Kalaria, Training Associate (Plant Protection), T & V system, ATIC, NAU, Navsari. In a very interesting and interactive manner, he delivered a lecture on "Pesticide residue management in important agricultural crops of South Gujarat" (દક્ષિણ ગુજરાતના કૃષિ પાકોમાં જંતુનાશકોના વ્યવસ્થાપન). He mainly emphasized the altered features of Integrated Nutrient Management under South Gujarat conditions. He also focused on improper practices followed by farmers and their loss in production. In addition, he also explained the benefit and cost ratio for agronomical and horticultural crops.

Core Session 4: A Field Visit

In the afternoon session, a field visit was arranged for farmers to the Organic Unit spread over an area of 12 hectares at NAU, Navsari. Dr. Ashok kumar Italiya explained the various package of practices in organic farming carried out at Organic Unit. He also demonstrated vermin-composting techniques as well as application of biofertilizers (*i.e.* Jivamrut, Novel, and Novel+) in different cropping systems and their impact. At the end, Dr. Susheel Singh and Dr. Ashokkumar Italiya shared their experiences in an interaction session. Doubts and queries related to various aspects of food safety and organic farming were addressed.

The event ended with a Vote of Thanks to all the dignitaries, farmers as well as faculty members from agricultural fraternity who were associated with this one day Farmer's training organized by Unit-4 (Pesticide Residue Analysis) of NAHEP-CAAST sub-project, NAU, Navsari in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NAU, Navsari



Status of participants with regard to Gender and Social Inclusion in training program on "Organic Farming and Food Safety" held on March 16, 2021

Participants	General	SC	ST	OBC	Total
Male	7	-	21	21	49
Female	1	-	5	3	9
Total					58

THANK YOU

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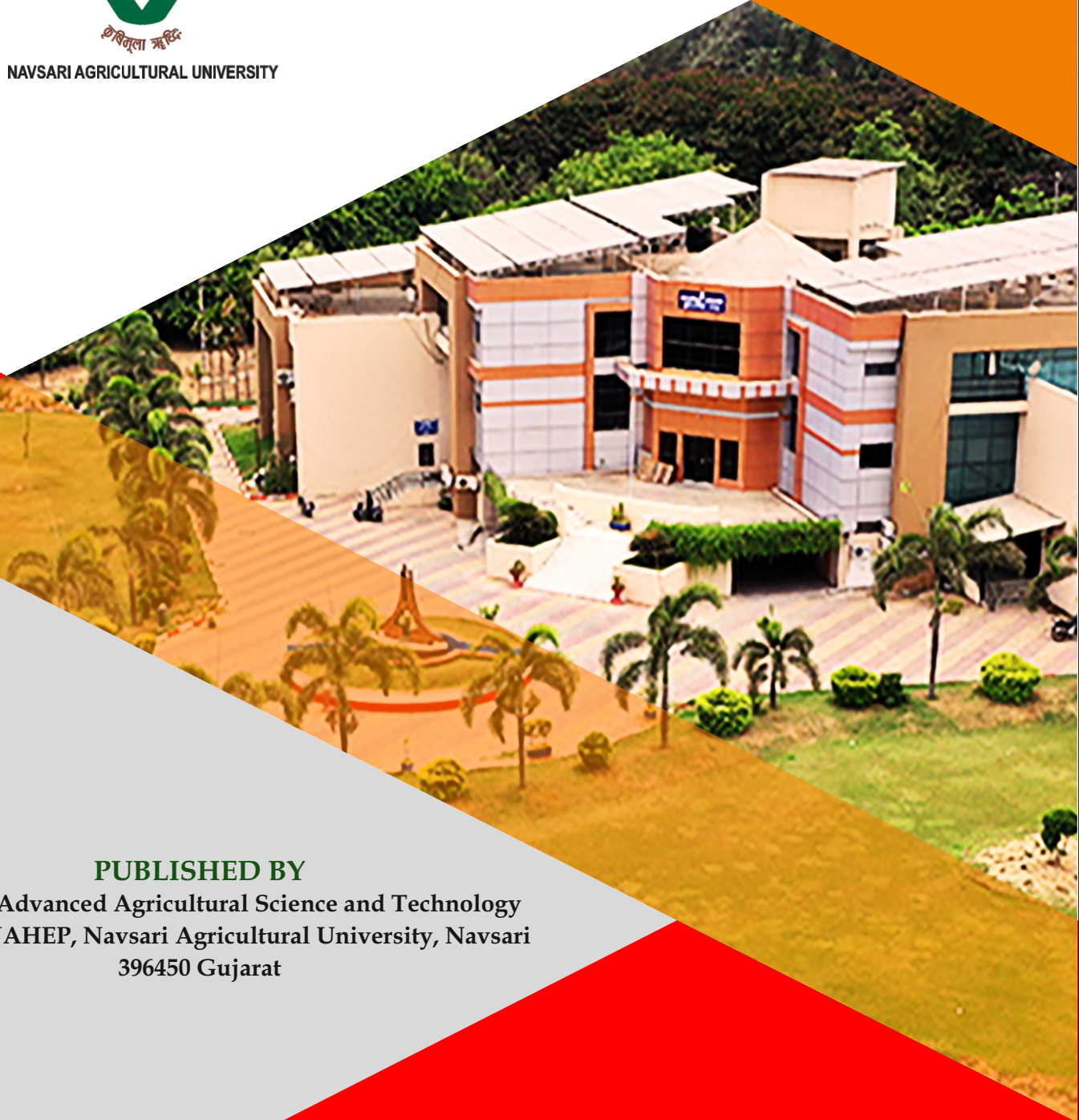
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