

ICAR-NRCG Celebrates Grape Day (द्राक्ष महोत्सव) on 25th February 2025

To raise awareness about grapes and their diverse products among the general public, ICAR-National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune organized a Grape Day (द्राक्ष महोत्सव) on 25th February 2025. The programme was graced by Dr. Sudhir Hiremath, DIG-CBI, Pune and Dr. Bikash Madal, Assistant Director General (International Relations), ICAR, New Delhi.

Dr. Kaushik Banerjee, Director, extended a warm welcome to all participants and guests emphasizing the significance of the event. The special guest Dr. K.V. Prasad, Director, ICAR-DFR highlighted the need for developing grape varieties with low glycaemic index (GI) to make it popular across the community. Dr. Bikash Madal shared his insights on sustainable grape cultivation and urged to use biopesticides and biostimulants. He also appreciated the work in the field of food safety especially pesticide residue management in grapes. The Chief Guest Dr. Sudhir Hiremath shared his experience with grapes since his childhood in Solapur. He appreciated the institute's efforts in enhancing farmers' income through diversification of grape derived products and their commercialization.

The vineyards were kept open for visitors to witness various grape varieties and know the grape cultivation process and grape-based products. Few incubates of ABI-Draksha had set up stalls to showcase and sell their grape-based products. Grape Day received an overwhelming response with more than 400 attendees interacting enthusiastically with the ICAR-NRCG staff.



Inauguration



Vineyard visits



Stalls by ABI Draksha Incubates