

ICAR-NRCG, Pune Celebrated its 25th Foundation Day on 18th, January, 2021

ICAR- National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune celebrated its 25th Foundation Day virtually today on 18th January, 2021 at Manjari Farm, Pune. The celebration was chaired by the Chief Guest Dr. A.K. Singh, Dy. Director General (HS), ICAR, New Delhi and graced by Dr. H P. Singh, former DDG (HS), Vice Chancellors of Maharashtra State Agricultural Universities; ADGs (HS), former directors' of the Institutes; grape growers; representatives of growers' association, grape exporters; nominated laboratories and senior officials of ICAR HQ and Institutes located in Pune. The program started with ICAR Song. Dr. R.G. Somkuwar, Director (Acting), ICAR-NRCG welcomed all the delegates and briefed about achievements of the Institute during last one year. Dr. Vasant Dagade, Progressive grape grower & Medical Practitioner, shared his experiences about grapes farming and acknowledged the technical guidance provided by the ICAR-NRCG and appreciated cluster based "*Field Days*" initiative of the Institute. In his remark P. Suresh Babu, General Manager, Geo-Chem, Lab, Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, commended the Institute's contribution to the export of Indian grapes to European Union since 2003. Two grape growers, Mr. Gaus Mohammed Shaikh, Boramani, Solapur and Mr. Rahul Rasal, Parner, Ahmadnagar were felicitated for their outstanding contribution to grape cultivation in Maharashtra. In their remarks, these grape growers appreciated the guidance and support given by the Institute to the growers during Covid-19 pandemics and "*Delta T App*" which helped in precisely timing the spraying operation for effective pest and disease control. During the occasion, Institute awards were conferred to staffs of different categories. A technical bulletin entitled "*Foundation Pruning in Grapes*" was released by the Hon'ble Chief Guest.

Chief Guest Dr. A.K. Singh, Dy. Director General (HS), ICAR, New Delhi in his address emphasized the impact of climate change on grape industry and suggested that, Institute should re-research the available technological options, develop new initiatives to reduce production cost and double grower's income and also act has one step solution to solve different farming needs. Due to increase in global competitiveness, he suggested to add new genetic resources and screen trait specific germplasm to speed up the breeding process to develop variety and rootstock in less time with resistance to multiple biotic and abiotic stresses. He also suggested to spread the awareness about new farm laws among the growers. Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay, Pr. Scientist, ICAR-NRCG proposed formal vote of thanks. A technical session on "Scientist-Industry Synergy for Sustainable Viticulture" was also organized in which researchers; growers and industry personnel deliberated on different aspects.



Extension activities

Activity	No. of views
ICAR-NRCG YouTube Videos (14 Nos.)	22129
ICAR-NRCG Face Book Uploads (26 Nos.)	91646
Other agency's Face Book Uploads (9 Nos.)	10300

Activity	No. of farmers benefited
Field days (4 Nos.)	575
Offline growers seminars / charchasatras (5 Nos.)	2120
Online growers seminars / charchasatras (17 Nos.)	5160

Television programmes : 6
Radio talks : 1

