

Organic Farming Training for PG students at Department of Microbiology and Biofertilizer Project, BACA, AAU



Training Programme on Organic Farming organized by Regional centre of organic farming, Nagpur for creating awareness amongst young and budding agricultural Students at Department of Microbiology, Anand Agricultural University , Anand on 1 & 2 August 2017. Students from various disciplines of Agronomy, Soil science, Horticulture and Microbiology underwent two days training. In the beginning environment was made pious by prayer to *Ma Saraswati* offered by Hetal and Dhvani.

Programme was inaugurated by Hon. Vice Chancellor, AAU Dr . N C Patel in the presence of august gathering of distinguished persons like Regional Director RCOF, Dr. A S Rajput; Director of Research and Dean PG studies, Dr. K. B. Kathiria, Director of Extension Education,

Dr. Arunbhai Patel, Dean Agriculture, Dr. K. P. Patel, Chairman, Bagayat Vikas Parisad, Dr. K. P. Kikani and Professor and Head of various Departments of B. A. College of Agriculture.

Dr. K. P. Patel heartily welcomed all dignitaries on and off the dais including participants followed by floral welcome by Dr. R. V. Vyas, HOD Agril. Microbiology.

Dr. Rajput briefed about training programme and advancement of organic farming through various schemes of Government of India and emphasized *Parmparagatkrihi Vikas Yojna* (PKVY) and *Mission Organic Value Chain Development Scheme* (MOVCD). He expressed his willingness to join hands with AAU and establish win-win relationship for further promotion of organic farming in western India.

Dr. Arunbhai Patel narrated increasing awareness and interest shown by farmers towards organic farming and easy way to obtain produce certification by Gujarat Organic Product Certification Agency (GOPCA).

Dr. K. B. Kathiria, congratulated organizers for selecting Post Graduate students as participants who will be ambassador for organic concept for the society. He highlighted Government of Gujarat promotional steps being 9th state for framing organic farming policy in May 2015 and coming up a unique Organic University first of its kind in world. Anand Agricultural University is also doing research through organic cell and a new plan scheme is also functioning for developing Good Agricultural Practice.

Dr. Kikani expressed that Charotar is heart of Gujarat and hence selection of place, time and participants is unique for this training and emphasized local approaches in organic farming.

Dr. N. C. Patel, who is constantly encouraging and mentoring AAU family briefed about need of organic farming and role of Liquid Biofertilizer BIO NPK consortium and promotion by commercialization to make biofertilizer product available to farmers. He emphasized organic scenario worldwide and its important role in Indian agriculture to sustain health and wealth of society. Also, Dr. Patel expressed his views about promotion of drip and micro irrigation system in Gujarat farming by increasing subsidy from 50 to 70 per cent which has resulted in reduction in consumption of chemicals, water and electricity. He emphasized importance of Bio Inputs like biofertilizers, bio pesticide and cow based products panchgavya etc. in organic agriculture practice.

In the end, Dr. Ruchi, Junior Scientist, RCOF expressed gratitude towards GOI and AAU for organizing such a wonderful program for students to enrich with organic farming updates.
