



National Service Scheme
Polytechnic in Agricultural Engineering,
Anand Agricultural University,
Muvaliya Farm, Dahod-389160, Gujarat, India

AICRP-Weed Management, AAU, Anand

and

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, AAU, Dahod & NSS Unit, PAE, AAU, Dahod

Jointly organized

17th Parthenium Awareness Programme on 23/08/2022



Parthenium Hysterophorus

Parthenium hysterophorus (Family: Asteraceae), locally called gajar ghas or Congress grass, is an alien weed which entered into India along with wheat imported from USA in the early 1950s. Since then, it has spread alarmingly and invaded about 35 million hectares of land throughout the country including Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep. This weed is notorious to cause many diseases like skin allergy, hay fever, breathing problems in human beings and animals besides reducing agricultural productivity and loss of biodiversity.

This dreaded weed is spreading at an alarming rate in India and all our efforts for its management are falling short. In view of the seriousness and magnitude of the threat posed by this weed. AICRP-Weed Management, AAU, Anand and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, AAU, Dahod & NSS Unit, PAE, AAU, Dahod Jointly organized mass awareness programme under “Parthenium Awareness Week” from 16-22 August, 2022 on 23/0/2022 to educate the farmers and students about the harmful effects of Parthenium and ways of its management. In the beginning Dr. Gaurang Bhabhor, Scientist, KVK welcomed the dignitaries like Dr. D.D.Chaudhari, Weed Control Management, AAU, Anand, & as special guest, Dr.M.M.Trivedi, Principal, PAE, AAU, Dahod. Dr.R.G.Machhar, Unit Head, ARS, AAU, Dahod. Dr. Nitin

Rathod, Scientist, KVK,Dahod. Dr.M.M.Trivedi, Principal explained the nature of the weed, its effects on crop production, human and animal health. Dr.R.G.Macchar, Unit Head, ARS emphasized that the campus should be made Parthenium free. Dr. D.D.Chaudhari, Weed Control Management, AAU, Anand, & as special guest gave detailed account of management of this obnoxious weed by chemical control, biological control (*Cassia tora*, marigold and *Zygotoma bicolorata*), and utilization of this weed by vermicomposting and also cautioned the students/farmers about its harmful effect and advocated its eradication on campaign basis and also educated the people about this weed. Around nearby 50 nos. NSS volunteer's, staff members and farmers were participated in this programme. The students were impressed that the weed should be eradicated and all the efforts should be devoted for the eradication.



