

**STUDENTS [8TH SEMESTER B. SC. (AGRI.)] VISIT TO GINNING AND SEED
PROCESSING UNIT AT IDAR (SABARKANTHA)**

A study tour was organized by the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, B. A. College of Agriculture, AAU, Anand, under Experiential Learning Programme (ELP) for 8th semester students of B. Sc. (Agri.), at Dev Ginning and Seed Processing Unit, Idar, RND - Agrigenetics Pvt. Ltd., Idar and Uday Agrotech., Himmatnagar (Sabarkantha) on February 17, 2021. A total of 21 students availed the visit guided by Dr. D. A. Patel, I/c. Professor & Head, Dr. Jigar Mistri, Assistant Professor and Dr. Arna Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, BACA. The proprietor of “Dev Ginning and Seed Processing Unit”, Mr. Pankaj Patel, who is an alumnus of B. A. College of Agriculture, AAU, Anand gave explicit detail on cotton ginning, delinting, grading, cleaning and importance of genetic and physical purity of Bt cotton hybrid seeds. Students had the chance to practically observe the processing exclusively with much interest. He also detailed on the same for groundnut and wheat. He explained the methods of seed production of Bt cotton hybrids and shared information on the industries involved in it. The students then visited RND - Agrigenetics Pvt. Ltd., which is involved in production, processing and packaging of seeds of vegetables, cereals and pulses. Mr. Dilipbhai Patel, an alumnus of B. A. College of Agriculture, AAU, is the owner of the company who explained individual techniques, such as, seed coating, pelleting, grow out test and packaging to the students along with practical demonstration.

Another alumnus of B. A. College of Agriculture, AAU, Mr. Ronak Patel of Uday Agrotech., detailed on the latest technologies used in sorting of seeds on the basis of colour and showed the automatic processing plant for grading, sorting, treatment, drying, pelleting and packaging of seeds.

The visit was highly informative and encouraging to the students.

