

Tour Report of Horticulture Commissioner on his visit to Dehradun (Uttarakhand) during the period 21st to 23rd June, 2010

On 21.06.2010, visited project areas and reviewed the progress of implementation of various programmes under TMNE in Dehradun district and apprised all the concerned implementing officers for successful implementation of the programmes.

Participated in the one day state level workshop organised at Dehradun on 22.06.2010 under the Chairmanship of Sh. Trivendra Singh Rawat (Minister of Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry), wherein officers/staff of state Horticulture Department were present. Vice President, Uttarakhand Planning Commission (Sh. Sachida Nand Bharti), President, Horticulture Development Board (Sh. Aditya Kothari), Principal Secretary and Commissioner, forests and rural development (Sh. Subash Kumar) were among the dignitaries present during the workshop. About 340 persons including departmental officers and progressive farmers attended the workshop.



(A) The Technical session started with my presentation covering:-

- i) Improved/Adoptive propagation technique for rapid multiplication of quality planting material.
 - ii) Strategies of high density plantation and canopy management in mango, guava, aonla, litchi, apple, walnut, kiwi, peach, etc.
 - iii) Rejuvenation of senile orchards of mango, guava, aonla, litchi, apple, etc.
- (B) Arranged live demonstration on :-
- i) Rejuvenation of litchi and canopy management in litchi, mango and guava.
 - ii) Wedge grafting technique in guava, aonla, mango, litchi, etc.
- (C) Technique of Protected cultivation of high value crops like tomato, capsicum, design and development of greenhouse and insect, pest and disease management in horticulture crops were covered by scientists from Almora Research Institute and Pant Nagar Agriculture University.



The Horticulture Minister appreciated the programme and advised that such programme should be repeated in future in the state, especially in the Kumaun division.

- (D) Works of yester years - As a scientist at CISH (Lucknow), I had organized a number of training programmes for the progressive farmers in Uttarakhand. During the current visit, I was happy to see that those farmers have really benefitted from the above trainings.

Some of the suggestions made during the visit for effective technology transfer are:-

- Display of improved production technologies such as high density planting, canopy management, rejuvenation, wedge method of grafting utilizing polycap, drip/jet sprinkler, mulching, protected cultivation, etc. at the government farms for the benefit of local farmers.
- Display on flexi chart the sequential steps of improved production technology.
- Distribution of CDs on improved package of practices of focused crops among the beneficiaries.
- Preparation and display of district-wise horticulture profile at all the district horticulture offices for the benefit of extension officers/local farmers.
- The horticulture secretary, Government of Uttarakhand was requested to evolve an effective delivery system for timely utilization of funds sanctioned under the Horticulture Technology Mission. He was also advised to depute a suitable officer from horticulture department to collect walnut plants (for scion block) from CITH, Srinagar and multiply them through wedge grafting technique. He was also advised to multiply litchi through wedge grafting, especially in greenhouse conditions rather than through conventional method of gooty, which is relatively cumbersome.
- Sapling of different fruit crops should be multiplied in polythene bags rather than in nursery beds to avoid transmission of soil borne diseases.
- Proper labeling of mother plants indicating the name of variety, source of collection, yield data, etc. should be maintained henceforth in all the mother blocks for ready reference, assessment of their performance and for further multiplication.

Tour Report of Dr. Gorakh Singh, Horticulture Commissioner to Uttarakhand from 20-22 January, 2011

During my visit to Uttaranchal from 20-22 January, 2011:-

- I. Reviewed progress of (i) Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Almora, (ii) Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Srinagar and (iii) G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUA&T), Pantnagar under Mini Mission-I.
- II. Inspected programmes of Horticulture Development in Dehradun areas under Mini Mission-II as well as programmes of KVK, Dhakrani for Mini Mission-I.

2. Mandate

VPKAS/ CITH/ GBPUA&T are devoted to the production of nucleus/ basic seed and planting material, standardization of production and protection technology and imparting training through on farm trails/ front line demonstrations.

3. Progress under Mini Mission-I

3.1 Production of Quality Seed and Planting Material Produced during 2010-11

Seed and planting material of fruits, vegetables and flowers produced by VPKAS under MM-I is as under:-

S. No.	Crop	Plants produced
Fruits		
1	Apple	18,600
2	Apricot	2,000
3	Pear	3,550

4	Peach	2,000
5	Plum	1,000
6	Walnut	2,175
7	Kiwi	1,065
8	Mango	29,000
9	Litchi	23,000
10	Jackfruit	4,500
11	Strawberry	10,000
12	Other crops (Low chill peach, pear plum and papaya)	13,000
	Total	109,890
Seed		
		Qty (kg.)
1	Bottle gourd	45.5
2	Hybrid Bottle gourd	13.0
3	Bitter gourd	5.3
4	Capcicum	7.0
5	Cauliflower	10.0
6	Cowpea	400.0
7	Cucumber	8.0
8	Hybrid cucumber	5.5
9	Radish	40.0
10	Spinach	40.0
11	Summer squash	30.0
12	Tomato	20.0
13	Potato	2000.0
14	Smooth gourd	6.0
15	Vegetable Rye	25.0
16	Mini tubers of potato	7000.0
	Total	9803.5
Flowers		
		Plants/ Seeds
1	Gerbera	3,500 no.s
2	Chrysanthemum	12,000 no.s
3	Carnation	4,000 no.s
4	Marigold	175 Kg
	Total	19,500 Plants + 175 kg seed

3.2 Establishment of Mother block

Established best performing cultivar of different crops. Centre-wise progress is as under:-

S. No.	Crop	Cultivar	No. of plants
GBPUA&T, Pantnagar			
1	Litchi	Rose scented, Late Seedless, Calcuttia, China and Shahi	5
2	Mango	Dashehari, Langra, Chausa, Amrapali and Mallika	5
3	Guava	Pant Prabhat, L-49, Allahabad Safeda, Shweta and Lalit	5
CITH, Mukteshwar			
1	Apricot	CITH-1, CITH-2, CITH-3, Red Globe, New Castle,	30 (5 X 6)
2	Plum	Santa Rosa, Frontier, Satsuma, Golden Monarch, Methley	30 (5 X 6)
3	Pear	Kashmiri Nakh, Bartlett, Red Bartlett, Max Red Bartlett	24 (4 X 6)
4	Peach	Elberta, Florda Red,	12 (2 X 6)
5	Walnut	CITH-1, CITH-2, CITH-3,	15 (3 x 5)
HR&EC, Chaubattia			
1	Apple	Red Chief, Organ Spur, Red Gold, Vance Delicious, Super Chief	25 (5 X 5)
2	Pear	Red Barlet, Starcrimson, Victoria, Bagugosa	20 (4 X 5)
3	Walnut	Chaubattia Kazgi, Chaubattia Selection, Govind, Suleman	20 (4 X 5)
4	Peach	Red June, Paradelux, Flordaking, Glow Heaven, Red Nectarine	25 (5 X 5)
5	Plum	Santarosa, Ramgarh Manard	10 (2 X 5)
VCSG, Bharsar			
1	Apple	Golden Spur, Organ Spur, Silver Spur, Red Chief, Chaubattia Princess	

2	Pear	Max Red Barlett, Red Barlett, Duenne D Comice	
3	Peach	Red Heaven, Red June	
NBPGR, Bhowali			
1	Kiwi	Abbott (Female), Allison (Female), Bruno (Female), Hayward (Female), Tomuri (Male)	

3.3 Standardization of production and protection technology

4. Training

HRD is an integral part of HMNEH programme, where farmers are brought face to face with scientists/ technicians of the research institutes recognized under MM-1. About 167 training programmes were organized by these institutes on various components/ themes covering:

- Production of quality seed/ planting material of high value crops of fruits, vegetables and flowers, etc.
- Cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants by women groups.
- Production of mashrooms.
- Water management through micro-irrigation systems on terraced land.
- Honey bee pollination for improvement in horticulture crop production.
- Mechanization of horticulture.
- Production of off-season vegetables for profitability.

5. Demonstrations

Demonstration is another important part of this Mission. This helps in disseminating production technologies to the farmers. As many as 688 demonstrations were conducted on the subjects covering multiplication of elite planting material, Mushroom production technologies, rejuvenation of senile apple orchards, integrated management of Litchi, efficient water management through

micro-irrigation for vegetables, vegetable production, crop regulation in Guava and IPM Technology, etc. Horticulture farmers are now better placed to handle their day to day problems in the Horticulture Sector.

6. Visit for HMNEH Programme

- Reviewed the activities of KVK Dhakrani. It has successfully demonstrated the vegetable production technology developed by G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar in cluster mode. Quality seed produced by GBPUA&T is being distributed amongst the farmers, whereas seed procured from private parties is duly evaluated before it is recommended to the farmers for production purposes. This has enabled farmers to enhance their profitability by quality vegetable growing.
- Emphasized the need for close coordination between MM-I and MM-II programmes for overall development in Horticulture Sector.
- Explained crop geometry systems to the beneficiaries in a farmers' meet organized locally. The techniques of pruning/ training/ fertigation, etc. were explained in detail and the growers were happy to learn these techniques.
- Apprised farmers about high value crop production system, which will ensure high returns to the farmers.