

Training program on “Popularization of women friendly farm tools and equipment”

A two day training program on *"Popularization of women friendly farm tools and equipment"* was organized under 'Consortia Research Platform on Farm Mechanization and Precision Farming' at ICAR- RCER, Farming System Research Centre for Hill and Plateau Region, Ranchi during 30-31 August 2019. The inaugural session of the program was held on 30th August 2019. Dr Nirmal Kumar, Head, TOT, ICAR-IINRG, Ranchi was the chief guest of the function. Dr Santosh S Mali, Scientist and Training coordinator, welcomed the chief guest and deliberated on the core theme and goals of the training program. In his address, Dr Nirmal Kumar stressed on adoption of modern farm tools and equipment to reduce the drudgery involved in farm operations, particularly that of women farmers. While citing an example of chick-pea processing, he urged the women farmers to establish small scale but women friendly processing units for value addition of farm produce. Dr Kumar also advised farmers to keep the records of costs and benefits from agriculture so that it can be easy for farmers to identify most remunerative crops and the profits thereof. In his remarks, Dr A K Singh, Head, FSRCHPR, Ranchi highlighted the role of women farmers in agriculture in the region. He urged the women farmers to develop a habit of visiting the research institutions to keep themselves updated on advanced tools and technologies. The inaugural session was concluded with vote of thanks by Dr Santosh S Mali.

The major focus of the training program was on increasing awareness about advanced farm tools and providing hands-on-training to the farming community of the region. The training was aimed at enhancing the competency of participants (women farmers) in adopting and using these tools. The training program also covered the aspects of recent advances in fruit and vegetable production and lac cultivation. A field visit to the farms of FSRCHPR was also organised to make the participating farmers aware about the on-farm activities of the centre. Thirty women farmers from seven villages in Ranchi district of Jharkhand participated in the program.

The valedictory session of the training program was held on 31st August 2019. Dr V K Yadav, Principal Scientist, FSRCHPR, Ranchi was the chief guest of the function. Dr Yadav distributed the certificates and a set of women friendly farm tools to the participating farmers. Overall, the training program was a great learning experience for the women farmers and was successful in achieving its stipulated goals.



Inaugural session



Exposure visit to the farms of FSRCHPR, Ranchi



Valedictory session of the training program