

ICAR-IVRI Mukteswar organized one day Kisan Mela at Mukteswar campus

Date 20.3.26: ICAR-IVRI Mukteswar campus organized **Kisan Mela** at ICAR-IVRI, Mukteswar on **17th March 2026** with a theme of '*Climate Resilient Livestock Farming for Hilly Areas*'. A total of 1168 (men 846, women 322) farmers and stakeholders from Nainital, Almora, and US Nagar districts of Uttarakhand participated in the event. A total of 16 exhibition stalls (06 from ICAR institutes, 03 from Uttarakhand State Government, 01 from NGO, 03 of progressive farmers, 01 from State bank of India, 01 for Animal Health Camp, 01 for Human Health Camp) rendered services to the stakeholders and displayed various animal husbandry and farm-oriented technologies and products. The main attractions of the fair were backyard poultry farming demonstration unit, cattle farming demonstration units (Badri and Vrindavani), goat farming demonstration unit (Chaugarkha), Emu egg, Chicken and Egg Products, Button mushroom demonstration unit, Sun Dryer, Package of Practices from ICAR-IVRI, ICAR-CITH Mukteswar, ICAR-CICFR Bhimtal, ICAR-VPKAS Almora, UCB Haldi, and State Animal Husbandry and Agriculture Departments, Uttarakhand, among others.

The chief guest of the programme was Dr Laxmi Kant, Director, ICAR-VPKAS, Almora. Dr. J.S. Tyagi, Director, ICAR-CARI, Bareilly, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Director, Uttarakhand Council of Biotechnology, Haldi, Shri. Harsh Singh Dangwal, Progressive farmer and Smt. Surinderi Devi, progressive farmer, were the guest of honor of the programme. Dr. Y. P. S. Malik, Chairman and Joint Director, IVRI Mukteswar welcomed the dignitaries and farmers. He underscored the importance of adoption of technology during changing climatic scenario, along with the campus's research and outreach efforts, in safeguarding animal health, boosting livestock production, and raising farmers' incomes in hilly regions. Dr. Malik also highlighted how IVRI's technologies- vaccines, diagnostics, trainings and package of animal husbandry practices- are vital in tackling climate-triggered challenges faced by the farmers of hilly regions.

Shri Hash Singh Dangwal, and Mrs Surinderi Devi, Progressive Farmers from Uttarakhand, stated the potential of herbs of the hills in enhancing animal production and promoting human and animal health. Dr. J.S. Tyagi, Director of ICAR-CARI and Guest of Honour, underscored the critical role of proteins in human nutrition and health. He spotlighted ICAR-CARI's chicken and egg-based ready-to-eat or ready-to-cook products as key to meeting the nutritional needs of India's growing population. Guest of Honour Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Director of UCB, emphasized on women empowerment and nutritional management of newborn animals. Chief guest Dr. Laxmi Kant stressed that the Kisan Mela's role as a one-stop platform for farm and animal husbandry inputs, technologies, idea-sharing, and information to double farmers' incomes via integrated farming.

On this day, many progressive farmers, including Sh. Devendra Bisht, Sh. Himanshu Bish, Sh. Pankaj Bisht, Sh. Ganga Bisht, Sh. Deep Chandra, Sh. Mukesh, Smt. Tulsi Devi, Sh. Kishan

Pandey, Sh. Vinod Prakash, Sh. Pankaj Negi, Sh. Jeevan Singh, Sh. Rajan Singh, Sh. Pratap Singh, Sh. Narayan Singh, Smt. Pushpa Bisht, Sh. Mahesh Chandra, Sh. Lal Singh, Sh. Kundan Singh, Sh. Rakesh Chandra, Sh. Jeevan Singh, Sh. Prasant Bisht, Sh. Pavan Bisht, Sh. Harendra Singh Jeena, Sh. Rishabh Kumar, and Sh. Pan Singh Bisth were felicitated with the “Progressive Farmer” awards recognizing their tremendous and useful work in the Hilly areas.

Various farm inputs- such as milk can, mineral mixture, and seeds for horticulture- were distributed to around 1200 participating farmers. Expert veterinary consultations and animal disease treatment were provided to the farmers in the Animal Health Camp of the Kisan Mela. More than 150 farmers were provided expert consultations and treatment in the Human Health Camp.

A farmer’s scientist interaction program was organized in afternoon session with lectures on surgical problems in animals, horticulture, infertility management in cattle, housing management of animals, and feeding management of young, adult and pregnant animals. The experts clarified the queries from the farmers pertaining to management of soil health, surgical problems in animals, management of fruit crops and pests, detection of heat in small ruminants and feeding management of newborn animals. The expert lectures were delivered by Dr V.B Chaturvedi, Principal Scientist; Dr Abhishek Kumar Saxena, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar; Dr Arun Kishor , Senior Scientist, ICAR-CITH, Mukteswar; Dr Geeta , Scientist, ICAR-CARI, Izatnagar; Dr Balwan singh, Professor, KVK Nainital; Dr Sanjay Chaudhary, KVK Nainital; Dr V.K Singh, KVK Nainital; Dr Manindra Mohan Sharma, Scientist, UCB; Dr. Kunal Kishor , Scientist, ICAR-DCFR Bhimtal; Dr Chitra Joshi, Veterinary Officer, Government of Uttarakhand. The question pertaining to the diseases like Orf, HS and LSD; mushroom farming, silage making *etc.* were also addressed during the interaction program. The program was coordinated by Dr. Amol Gurav, Scientist; Dr. A.P. Madhusoodan, Scientist; and Dr. Tomar, CTO, along with a team of scientists comprising Dr. Nitish Singh Kharayat, Dr. Ashutosh Fular, Dr. Amir Kumar Samal, Dr. C.L. Patel, Dr. Vishal Chader, Dr. Saminathan, Dr. Karam Chand, Dr. Amit Kumar, and Dr. Manu Malviya, Medical Officer.



Inauguration of Kisan Mela by ribbon cutting ceremony by chief guest and dignitaries



Visit of stalls and demonstration units by guests



Welcome of chief guest and other dignitaries by Hon'ble JD, IVRI, Mukteswar



Lightening of lamp



Inaugural address by Hon'ble JD, IVRI, Mukteswar



Distribution of progressive farmer awards



Farmer scientist interaction program



Distribution of inputs among beneficiaries