

**Webinar on “Soybean Breeder Seed Production and Infrastructure requirements” and
“Selection of soybean varieties and methods of sowing” organized at ICAR-IISR, Indore on
11th May 2021**

Seed is the most essential and important input of food and feed production. It significantly contributes amongst all the other inputs to the quality production of all crops. In recent years, soybean seed production has faced a number of challenges such as low seed multiplication ratio, low seed viability, highly prone to mechanical injury during processing and transportation and high transportation costs which makes less profitable and remunerative to seed production agencies. As a result, the seed production agencies have not been able to meet the country's demand for quality soybean seed of improved varieties. The ICAR-IISR, Indore caters to the needs of scientist as well as government official involved in breeder seed production of soybean. To address the challenges and sensitize scientists, government officials and seed production agencies involved in soybean production, a webinar on “Soybean Breeder Seed Production and Infrastructure requirements” was organized by ICAR-Indian Institute of Soybean Research, Indore which was concluded today. Dr Nita Khandekar, while addressing a group of nearly 136 participants from various sectors as well as dignitaries from ATARI, Jabapur, ATARI, Pune, ATARI, Jodhpur and scientist from KVKs, and different state agricultural universities, highlighted the importance the need for increasing the productivity of soybean. She stated that soybean cultivation had a significant impact to the socio-economic transformation of millions of small and marginal farmers of Central India, as well as to nutritional security, especially in terms of reducing protein malnutrition and providing of several other health benefits to both urban and rural communities. While delivering the talk on breeder seed production of soybean and the infrastructure setup needed, the program's speaker, Dr Mrinal Kuchlan, Sr. Scientist (Seed Technology), ICAR-IISR, Indore, highlighted the steps and mechanisms involved in institutionalizing the breeder seed production programme. He also raised awareness among various stakeholders about the challenges that breeder seed production and offered solution to the issues. He also went into detail about the various machines used during the seed production programme at ICAR-IISR, Indore. The talk had a good interaction and the queries of the participants were address and suggestion taken. The webinar concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr L. S. Rajput, Organizing Secretary of the event.



Another webinar on “Selection of soybean varieties and methods of sowing” under project extension of activity of DBT Biotech Kisan Hub in seven aspirational districts funded by DBT, Government of India was organized for farmers. The scientists of ICAR IISR, Indore sensitize 30 progressive farmers of Khandwa, Badwani, Ujjain and Sehore districts about the selection of suitable varieties of soybean, use and method of seed treatment, use of BBF machine in sowing of soybean, methods for estimation of germination percentage of soybean seed at farmer level before sowing. The progressive farmers were also imparted information with regard to pest and disease management in green gram crop.

The ICAR IISR Indore will be organizing a series of webinar on topics of academic, research and farmers’ interest in the coming months the details of which shall be available on the institute website (<http://iisrindore.icar.gov.in/>) and will be live on Youtube.