

## Farmers-Scientist interaction meet under MGMG organized

Farmers-scientist interaction meeting was organized at village Bisalpur in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. The meeting was held to make aware the farmers about different schemes of the government and also to disseminate agricultural technologies. A team of scientist comprising of Dr. Suresh Kumar, Dr. D.K. Painuli, Dr. P.R. Meghwal and Shri A.K. Sharma along with other CAZRI staff of division II participated in the program. Fifty three farmers from the villages Bisalpur, Dantiwara, Bawarla, Aasanda and Khatyasni including sarpanch of Bisalpur attended the interaction meet. At the outset Shri A.K. Sharma briefed about the purpose of the meeting and also introduced the team members. It was followed by a discussion by Dr. D. K. Painuli on the problem of soil compaction due to continuous use of mechanized farming and the role of integrating kachra crop to ameliorate the problem. He informed that the roots of kachra goes upto one meter deep in the soil acting as biological mean to till the soil (bio-tillage) and solve the problem of soil compaction. The deep root system of kachra also adds to the soil organic carbon into the soil profile. Dr. P.R. Meghwal stressed upon growing low water requiring arid fruit crops. He informed the gathering that by the technique of top working it is possible to grow ber and improved khejri under rainfed condition. The farmer's queries on slow growth in lime, fruit fly in ber were also discussed and suggested the corrective measures. Dr. Suresh Kumar explained different government schemes available for farmers and urged them to avail the benefit of the same. Shri A. K. Sharma spoke on the role of some common medicinal plants like neem giloy and adusa to cure common fever and cough. He also explained about organic farming practices and non-chemical methods of control of insect pest and diseases and preparation of vermicompost. At the end, a compilation of government schemes on agriculture, water harvesting, NHM and different extension folder on medicinal plants, ber, thornless cacti, inter cropping of kachra and grafted khejri were distributed to the farmers. The farmers were also distributed the cuttings of neem giloy and adusa for planting at their home garden.

