

Training on Horticulture for livelihood security in arid and semi-arid regions

A national training on “Horticulture for livelihood security in arid and semi-arid regions” was organized by the ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur from 6-10 January, 2020. The training was sponsored by MANAGE, Hyderabad under its off campus collaborative programmes for capacity building of officials of NARES. Twenty seven participants employed as scientists and professors from SAUs, SMS from KVKs, State Agricultural Universities, came from seven states across India covering Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan state. Trainees were exposed to improved technologies and management practices in arid and semi-arid horticultural crops. Interactive lectures and case studies covering a wide range of issues such as cultivation of *ber*, *pomegranate*, *lasora*, *date palm*, *guava*, *karonda* were conducted.



Topics covering recent trends in horticulture through protected cultivation of vegetables, post-harvest management of horticultural crops, soil and water management, harvesting of rainwater and its utilization, grafting in vegetables, IFS models, perspectives of diseases and pest management of horticultural crops, and e-NAM etc. were also dealt in detail. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. O. P. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CAZRI. He called upon transferring of new technologies and practices in arid and semi-arid horticultural crops to enhance the farmers for enhancing farm incomes. Dr. Pratibha Tewari, HD, transfer of technology explained on minimizing the horticultural produce losses by value addition. Dr. P. R. Meghwal focused on contribution of CAZRI in arid horticultural research. The training was coordinated by Dr. Prashant H. Nikumbhe, Scientist (Fruit Science).