

Training on Seed Health Management and Seed Quality Testing

Seed-borne diseases and poor seed quality can lead to poor produce quality, as well as significant crop losses with affect overall yields. Planting healthy, disease-free seed is a first line of defense against infectious pathogens and environmental stressors.

Considering the importance, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF) in association with the World Vegetable Center-South Asia, Hyderabad, India organized a three day training program on **Seed Health Management and Seed Quality Testing** during 20-22 January, 2019. The training was held at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Joydebpur, Gazipur. The target of the Training is to develop the capacity of the mid level Scientific Professionals who are working at the public and private sectors in agriculture of Bangladesh. Total 21 participants from nine NARS organizations participated in the program.



Guest and Resource Speaker in the inaugural session

Participants in lecture class



Practical session in the seed and pathology lab

The following module were discussed in the training program

- Seed sampling (based on OECD and ISTA requirements)
- Purity analysis & Determination of other seeds by number
- Detection and identification of seed borne pathogens
- Moisture content determination
- Quality assurance system & management
- Germination & Viability analysis
- Losses in seed quality due to seed borne infestations
- Seed borne diseases and their management
- Seed treatment and pest management in seed industry
- Group work to prepare an action plan for their companies; Practical and lab visit for ELISA test are also included in the training

Dr. G.V. Jagadish, Head, Quality Assurance and ISTA Accredited Seed Laboratory, Indo American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore, India and Dr. Abhay K Pandey, Scientist, Plant, Pathology, World Vegetable Center-South Asia, Hyderabad, India were present as the Resource persons in the Training considering their vast experience in the area.

In the inaugural session of the training program, Dr. Abul Kalam Azad, Director-General, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute was present as the chief guest. Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Director, KGF chaired the session. Dr. Shahabuddin Ahmad, Program Specialist (Horticulture), KGF coordinated the training program.