



# GRAPE-NEWS

A Publication of National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune



Vol. 14 (1), April 2010 - September 2010

## Director's Desk

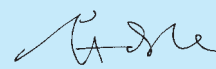


Pesticide residue monitoring in grape came into existence in 2003-2004 as per the directions of the APEDA to facilitate the export of table grapes to European Union. This was necessitated on account of rapid alerts being issued by European countries in 2002-2003 due to detection of Methomyl and Monocrotophos in the Indian grapes. APEDA in consultation with NRC on Grapes, State Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and other stakeholders developed scheme to regulate the export of table grapes to European Union. This regulation was called as 'Residue Monitoring for export of table grapes to European Union'. Under this programme, the Centre initiated programmes to tackle this issue through extension activities to make the farmers aware about the right stage, time and the right chemical to apply apart from stressing on the crop health as well as by upgrading the analytical skills of the nominated laboratories and development of analytical methodologies. This approach resulted in overall decline in the failure of grape samples from 23% in 2003-2004 to 7.46% in 2009-2010. Most of this detection pertained to the pesticides generally used in the last two months.

In the last grape season, Chlormequat Chloride (CCC) was detected in Indian grapes, which was above the EU MRL values of 0.05 mg/kg, however, the consignments were safe with regard to the food safety issue as per the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) norms of 1.06 mg/kg. Immediately, the institute seized this problem and a compulsory screening of remaining consignments was carried out in India. Out of 450 samples analysed, 306 samples conformed to the EU MRL. A total of 12 rapid alerts were issued in EU in respect of CCC, but none was issued from major importing countries viz. UK, Netherlands

and Germany. To know the extent of losses to the Indian grapes, a team of officials from APEDA and NRC for Grapes, visited the major European markets and a report to the Government was submitted. Later on, a team of scientists of this Centre visited the BASF Agricultural Research Centre in Germany and formulated collaborative programmes to generate residue and metabolism data on CCC. This programme will take two years to generate the required information.

A series of meetings were held with the stakeholders to restructure the Residue Monitoring Programme to meet the new issues arising out of the previous season's CCC issues. It was decided to make the programme more comprehensive by bringing in plant growth regulators, herbicides and heavy metals also within the purview of monitoring programme as per the EU regulations. The Annexure 9 pertaining to the list of monitoring agrochemicals which has been increased to 171 in the forthcoming season from 98 in the previous season. Further, as per the Union Ministry of Agriculture's guidelines the Annexure 5 was modified to include only the agrochemicals having label claim for use in grapes as per the CIB & RC norms. The institute has also prepared the manual on Package of Practices for table grape production as per the requirement and the same is being distributed to the registered farmers for grape export through State Govt. The nominated laboratories under this programme have also been sensitised about the new methodologies to be followed for analysis of agrochemicals. With due diligence already in place, forthcoming export season will definitely see an upward swing in Indian grape export to European Union.

  
(P. G. ADSULE)



हर कदम, हर डगर  
किसानों का हमसफर  
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

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## Assistance for grape cultivation in North East India

On the request of the Dy. District Collector, Mr Vijay Biduri, team of two scientists comprising Dr R G Somkuwar and Dr A K Upadhyay, visited grape growing areas in Mizoram during 30th August to 3rd September 2010. The total area under grape cultivation in the state is approximately 1500 acres, which is mainly concentrated in Champai district with Hnahlan village alone having more than 500 acres under grape cultivation. Bangalore Blue is the ruling variety grown mainly for wine purpose. The soils



are well drained and have a pH of 5-5.5. Single pruning and single fruiting season is practiced. The pruning is during January to Early March with harvesting between June to September. The time of visit coincided with their harvesting season and downy mildew infection was

rampant in the vineyards. During interaction with growers and visit to the plot several issues like late sprouting, disease infestation (mainly downy mildew), inappropriate training system, uneven ripening, water scarcity during summer and low sugar content, were observed. The team also visited winery named Zawlaidi Run operated by the Grape growers' society in Hnahlan. The winery was established in 2007 and had a capacity of 125 tonnes. As low sugar is obtained in the berries (~14°Brix), sugar is added during fermentation to increase the alcohol content to the desired level. The price realisation by farmer's by selling the produce to winery is Rs 33 per kg. The winery expects to sell the produce in the market at Rs 230-250 per 750 ml wine bottle. The company is looking forward to selling the wine in the state subject to the amendment in the Mizoram state's liquor policy. The team had carried hard wood cuttings of the several varieties namely Sauvignon Blanc, Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and 110R rootstock, which were handed over to the State Department of Horticulture in Champai Dist. for further distribution. The officials and farmers were also briefed about the practices involved in raising vines.



## Honours / Recognitions / Awards

Dr. G. S. Karibasappa is appointed as QRT member for NRC on Pomegranate, Solapur and attended a meeting on 28-29th September 2010. He has also been honoured by Shri Sharad Pawar, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of India on the occasion of Golden Jubilee Annual Seminar of Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association on 26th September 2010 at Pune.

Dr. R. G. Somkuwar is nominated as Subject Matter Specialist / Expert for the State LOI Committee of NHB

under the scheme 'Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production & Post Harvest Management He also received 'Rashtriya Ekatmata Fellowship- 2010' from Bharatiya Samaj Vikas Academy, Mumbai on 27th September 2010 at Pune.

Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay is recognized as research guide by Shivaji University, Kolhapur for Ph.D. in Biotechnology

## Transfer of Technology

### Participation in Grape Growers' Seminars

• Dr. P. G. Adsule, Dr. S. D. Sawant, Dr. S. D. Ramteke and Mrs. S. Salini attended the Smooth Trade programme organized by M/s Dupont along with NRC for grapes at Nasik on 1st and 2nd of April 2010 and also visited the packhouses on way back to Pune.

• Dr. R. G. Somkuwar delivered lecture on 'Canopy management after back pruning' in the seminars organized by Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association at Nasik on 11th April, at Solapur on 14th April, at Sangli on 22nd April, at Sangamner on 29th April, at Malegaon on 18th August, and at Nasik on 7th

September 2010. Each seminar was attended by 200 - 3300 grape growers.

- Dr. D. S. Yadav delivered a lecture on 'Pest management in grapes' in the seminar organized by Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association at Nasik on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Approximately 3300 grape growers attended the meeting.
- Mrs. S. Salini participated in Charchasatra and delivered a lecture on 'Insect management in grapes after foundation pruning' in grape growers' seminar organized by Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association at Sangli on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and at Sangamner on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2010.
- Dr. G. S. Karibasappa, Dr. S. D. Sawant, Dr. Indu S. Sawant, Dr. R. G. Somkuwar, Dr. K. Banerjee, Dr. S. D. Ramteke, Dr. J. Sharma, Dr. D. S. Yadav and Mrs. S. Salini participated in the Golden Jubilee Seminar of Maharashtra State Grape Growers' Association on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at Pune and delivered lectures on concerned aspects of grape improvement, production and protection.

### Field Visits and Guidance to Farmers

- Dr. S. D. Ramteke visited Odiapati, Cumbum of Theni district, Tamil Nadu and Satana of Nasik district, Maharashtra to conduct the residue trials of bioregulators. Berry cracking was observed at both the places since it is an off-season cultivation of grapes particularly in Nasik. Growers were suggested to maintain optimum canopy. Application of CPPU @ 0.5 ppm - 1 ppm at 6-7 mm berry stage may reduce berry cracking. Application of  $\text{Ca}_2(\text{NO}_3)_2$  at 75 days after pruning @0.5 - 1% was also suggested. In Theni around 100 farmers participated in in-house discussion.
- Dr. R. G. Somkuwar visited rootstock planted field in Nasik region on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 for the purity of rootstock in the grape grower's field. During the visit it was observed that there was a mixture of V. longi and Salt Creek rootstock in the main field of Dogridge planted garden of Sh. Suresh Kalamkar of Mohadi near Nasik. The farmer was asked to remove the plants and planting of fresh rootstock of the major rootstock was suggested.
- Dr. R. G. Somkuwar visited vineyard of M/s Champagne India Ltd on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2010 for fruitfulness in wine varieties grafted on different rootstock. The vines were not irrigated after harvest of last season crop due to some problem and hence, the fruitfulness in the shoots was not sure. Pruning by retaining old and new wood was decided for conducting the trial in the coming season.
- Dr. J. Satisha along with Dr. A. K. Sharma visited wine grape vineyards of M/s Sula wineries to perform pruning operation on wine varieties under the Institute project on wine grapes on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010. A lot of sprouting on defoliated canes due to high temperature before pruning itself was observed. It was suggested to perform pruning operation at the earliest to prevent exhaustion of food reserves, which is required for bud burst after pruning.

## Participation in Scientific Seminars / Symposia / Workshops / Meetings

- Dr. Anuradha Upadhyay attended DBT taskforce meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and presented the progress report of the project. She also participated in Consultative Meet on Biotechnology Research in ICAR on 26-27<sup>th</sup> July 2010 organized by NRCPB, New Delhi and in Partner's Meet on National Agriculture Bioinformatics Grid at National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2010.
- Dr. A. K. Sharma attended National Conference on "Horticultural Biodiversity for Livelihood, Economic Development and Health Care" organized by Lt. Amit Singh Memorial Foundation and University of Horticultural Sciences, at Bangalore during 29-31<sup>st</sup> May 2010. Two posters entitled 'Yeast strains affect the dynamics of changes in TTA, reducing sugars, total phenolics and anthocyanins during fermentation of Cabernet Sauvignon wine grapes' and 'Safety issues in fresh fruits and vegetables' were presented in this conference. An exhibition stall was also arranged in HORTI EXPO 2010.
- Dr. A. K. Upadhyay participated in Core Committee meeting at APEDA office in New Delhi to finalize Residue Monitoring Plan on Grapes on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.
- Dr. P. G. Adsule and Dr. A. K. Upadhyay attended interactive meeting of all exporters of the country organized by APEDA, New Delhi on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010 to finalize action plan of Indian stake holders to the EU laboratories and their importers regarding unethical practices followed thereby affecting the trade and India's reputation in the market.
- Dr. A .K. Upadhyay participated in 'Interactive Meeting on Nutrient Dynamics in Horticultural Crops' on 27-28<sup>th</sup> September 2010 organized at NRC Citrus, Nagpur and presented a status paper on nutrient dynamics in grape.

## Human Resource Development

### Deputation Abroad

Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director and Dr. K. Banerjee undertook study visit to Strasbourg of France and Dortmund of Germany during 18-30<sup>th</sup> June 2010. They participated in the European Pesticide Residue Workshop (EPRW 2010) in Strasbourg, France. They also visited BASF, Limburgerhof, and Institute of Environmental Research (INFU), University of Dortmund in Germany. Subsequently they also undertook study visit to USA during 17-29<sup>th</sup> July 2010 to participate in the 47<sup>th</sup> Florida Pesticide Workshop, St. Pete Beach, Tampa, Florida. They also visited Citrus Research and Education Centre (CREC) at Lake Alfred under University of Florida (UF) and Research and Development Centre of Monsanto Company at St. Louis in Missouri.

Dr. J. Satisha, Sr. Scientist, completed two years of deputation as Postdoctoral Research Associate at Institute for Continental Climate Viticulture and Enology, University of Missouri, Columbia, USA from 9<sup>th</sup> August 2008 to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2010. During his deputation he was involved in several viticultural research projects on 'Influence of cluster exposure', 'Canopy management and canopy architecture', 'Vineyard mechanization' and 'Evaluation of grape rootstocks for commercial wine grape cultivars'. During his study, he also attended 60<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of American Society of Enology and Viticulture at Napa, California and participated in Mid West Grape and Wine Conference held

at Osage Beach, Lake of the Ozark, Missouri during 2009 and 2010.

### Training Programmes Organized

Two training programmes on 'Plant Protection in Two Pruning and Single Cropping System in Viticulture' were organized at the Centre during 5-6<sup>th</sup> August and 13-15<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Altogether 50 participants participated in these programmes. Dr. Indu S. Sawant coordinated the training programmes.



A training programme entitled 'Transfer of Technology for Production of Export Quality Grapes' was organized at the Centre during 17-18<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Fifteen participants participated in the programme. Dr. S.D. Ramteke coordinated the training programme.

## Meetings held

### Institute Research Committee Meeting

The 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Institute Research Committee was convened on 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010 under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director. Annual progress of ongoing

projects and action taken on the points raised by the previous IRC, RAC were presented and deliberated by the members.

## Celebrations

### Independence Day

The Centre celebrated Independence Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August with joy and splendour. Dr. P. G. Adsule, Director, hoisted the flag and addressed the staff. Prizes were given to the children of staff for their academic achievements by Staff Welfare Association. Patriotic songs were sung and sweets were distributed.

### हिन्दी पखवाड़ा

संस्थान में १४-३० सितंबर के दौरान हिन्दी पखवाड़ा का आयोजन हुआ। विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन हुआ जिसमें सभी कर्मचारियों ने बढ़ चढ़ कर भाग लिया। ३० सितंबर को समापन दिवस पर मुख्य अतिथि श्री. गोपाल वर्मा, हिन्दी अधिकारी (सी. डैक., पुणे) ने विजेताओं को पुरस्कार वितरित किए।

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Printed at : Flamingo Business Systems, Tel. : 020-24214636, Email : flaminbs@vsnl.com, flamingo.b.s@gmail.com

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