

Minutes of 56 Meeting of Research Council (8th Dec 2020 at CSRTI-Berhampore, West Bengal)

56th Research Council meeting of CSRTI-Berhampore was held on 8th Dec 2020 under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. Sivaprasad, Director, CSRTI-Berhampore.

At the outset, Dr. D. Pandit, Scientist-D, PMCE welcomed Chairperson-RC, Scientists and other participants. Later, agenda-wise items were discussed. List of participants is appended in **Annexure – I**.

ITEM NO.1: Confirmation of the minutes of 55th meeting of Research Council (RC) held on 3rd Sept 2020 at CSRTI-Berhampore

As, no comments were received from any of the members, the minutes were confirmed.

ITEM NO. 2: Review of follow-up action taken on the recommendations / decisions of 55th meeting of Research Council (RC) held on 03-09-2020

The project concept entitled **Development of *Morus* mutants for resistance to Thrips & Whiteflies**, the PI was advised to submit the full concept to PMCE (CSRTI-BHP) on or before **21.12.2020** for further approval from CO.

Regarding the referees recommended project proposal entitled **Final Yield Trial of newly identified mulberry genotypes**, the PI was advised to present the same in 52nd RAC for necessary approval.

[Action: Mr. Yallappa H., Sci-B, MBG]

With regard to concept note **CSB/BER/RCN017: Identification of superior Bivoltine foundation cross as a male component to improve productivity in E & NE India**, the status may be enquired by PMCE.

[Action : Dr. V. Lakshmanan, Sci-D, SBG]

The approved pilot study (**CSB/BER/RCN018**) entitled **Biology and feeding efficacy studies of *Cheilomenes sexmaculatus* and *Chrysoperla zastrowi sillemi* predator for the eco-friendly management of mulberry whitefly**, the PI was advised to submit the final copy on or before **31.12.2020** & initiate the work on BCA for whiteflies management in mulberry.

Regarding new concept titled **Recommendation of novel fungicidal & insecticidal applications for mulberry crop protection**, the PI was advised to submit the full concept (as suggested in 55th RC) to PMCE (CSRTI-BHP) on or before **21.12.2020** for further approval from CO.

[Action : Dr. Anil Pappachan, Sci-C, Mulberry Protection]

New Concept entitled **Comparative Economics of Mulberry Sericulture with Major Agricultural crops in WB** (in coll. With BCKV), the PI was advised to prepare and submit the questionnaire & data collection guidelines to CO, as desired.

[Action: Dr. Manjunatha G R, Sci-C, PMCE]

Regarding **FYT of high yielding mulberry genotypes for E & NE India**, the status may be enquired by PMCE.

[Action: Dr. Suresh K, Sci-C, MBG]

The concluded project **AIB-3619**, the PI was advised to submit the concluded report in RMIS-10 format on or before **25.12.2020**.

[Action: Dr. A K Verma, Sci-D, SBG]

Regarding concept note entitled **Microbial Technology for Management of Mealybug in Mulberry Ecosystem**, the PI was advised to submit the full concept (as suggested in 55th RC & November monthly review meeting) to PMCE (CSRTI-BHP) on or before **21.12.2020** for further approval from CO

[Action: Mr. Aparna K, Sci-B, Biotech]

Regarding concept note entitled **Prototype for developing biodynamic preparation using silkworm feculae**, the PI was advised to develop the concept to establish pilot plant production system for pharmaceutical grade Na-Chlorophyllin and bye-product(s) thereof from silkworm feculae) and submit the concept note to PMCE (CSRTI-BHP) on or before **21.12.2020** for further approval from CO. Further, advised to explore the financial assistance from BIRAC.

[Action: Dr. V Vijay, Sci-C, Soil Science]

The concluded projects during 2019-20 & 2020-21 like **ARP-3590, PPS-3600, AIB-3616, PIB-3505, AIB-3617, AIB-3619, PIB-3610, PIB-3576**, the PIs were advised to publish their results in peer reviewed Journals on priority basis.

[Action : Dr. Rahul /Dr. V. Vijay/ Dr. Verma/Dr. Lakshmanan/Dr. Suresh]

ITEM NO. 3: Review of Concluded Projects/ Activities

The following research projects / activities which have been concluded during the period were discussed.

1. Pilot Study: Development of mulberry crop schedule for optimal silk productivity in West Bengal

Suggestions: the PI was advised to continue the study upto June 2021 to obtain data for logical conclusion, as the May crop data was far from satisfactory in the year 2020.

[Action: Dr. Suresh, K, Sci-C, MBG]

ITEM NO. 4a: APPROVAL OF NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS/CONCEPTS FOR CSB FUNDING

The following concept critically reviewed. The decisions are as follows:

1. Title: Analysis on Challenges & Opportunities mulberry silk value chain in West Bengal

Observation/Suggestion: Approved; the PI was advised to attend the following suggestions and apprise the authority in the next monthly meeting for consideration.

- Modification of title for meaningful understanding
- Fixation of sample size appropriately based on PPS for each of mulberry value chain sectors
- To refer studies on value chain analyses conducted by ISEC-Bengaluru/ICRISAT-Hyderabad/IARI-New Delhi
- To include all the major sericultural districts for the study
- Introduction should cover previous studies of the institute appropriately while defining the problem

[Action: Dr. P Naik, Sci-B, Training]

ITEM NO. 5: REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF ON-GOING PROJECTS/PILOT STUDIES/ ACTIVITIES:

Following on-going projects/pilot studies/ TOT/ other R&D activities of the main institute were discussed and the suggestions are:

The progress of following projects/activities was observed to be as per milestones:

- **PIE 02002SI:** Evaluation of performance of mulberry genotypes C-9 under red and laterite soil
- **PIB 02007 SI:** Improvement of mulberry leaf longevity in eastern & north eastern states of India
- **PIB 3627:** Development of superior mulberry (*Morus* spp.) genotypes through Polyclonal Seed Orchard
- **PRP 08002MI:** Identification of candidate genes based powdery mildew resistance for utilization in disease resistance breeding in mulberry. [Coll. project with SBRL, Kodathi]
- **AICEM-Phase IV**
- **PPA 02005SI:** Optimization of spacing and nutrient dose for newly developed high yielding mulberry variety C-2038 under irrigated condition
- **PRP 02003 SI:** Studies on the management of mulberry root rot disease in E & NE India
- **AIB-3602:** Development of thermo-tolerant Bivoltine Breeds / Hybrids of Silkworm, through MAS
- **AIB01009MI:** Evaluation of New Bivoltine Double Hybrid, TT21 X TT56 at Farmers Level for Authorization for Commercial Exploitation (*Coll. Project of CSRTI-Mysore*)
- **AIB 02006 MI:** Improvement of Nistari lines for survival and Silk productivity

- **AIE06002MI:** Evaluation of Bivoltine Silkworm Genetic Resources for Tolerance to Abiotic Stress in Selected Hotspots (*Coll. Project of CSGRC-Hosur*)
- **AIT 02008 SI:** Identification of high humidity tolerant silkworm breeds/hybrids for E & NE India
- **AIC 02004CN:** Molecular characterization and assessment of the efficacy of low molecular weight peptides isolated from mulberry leaf against flacherie disease of silkworm (in coll. with UNB-Siliguri)
- **ARP 3630:** Evaluation of new room and silkworm bed disinfectants
- **AIT 08005MI:** Development and evaluation of Bidsensavirus resistant silkworm hybrids developed from marker assisted breeding lines-Phase II (Coll. of SBRL- Kodathi)
- **TOT/OFT:** Mass multiplication and maintenance of biocontrol agent – *Scymnus pallidicollis* and its popularization at farmers' level / Demonstration of BCA
- **OFT:** Popularization of newly authorized mulberry variety C-2038
- **OFT:** Evaluation of BHP double hybrids along with check
- **OFT:** Popularization of new silkworm hybrids
- **OFT:** Popularization of Collapsible Plastic Mountages & shoot feeding
- **OFT:** Popularization of chawki rearing
- **OST:** Evaluation of Thermo-tolerant Double hybrids along with check
- **OST:** Evaluation of high yielding & bacterial leaf spot resistant varieties along with check
- **OST:** Validation of eco-friendly disinfectant NIRMOOL
- **OST:** Low cost drip fertigation for mulberry

AIT 08005MI: Development and evaluation of Bidsensavirus resistant silkworm hybrids developed from marker assisted breeding lines-Phase II (Coll. of SBRL- Kodathi), the PI was advised to request SBRL- Kodathi to send the homozygous breeds identified in the first phase of the project for *BmDNV2* resistance to CSRTI-Berhampore for evaluation in the local conditions. Also advised to collect primers from SBRL.

[Action : Dr. Rahul K, Sci-C, Silkworm Protection]

OFT: Demonstration of modifies charka (Suvarna) + Souroneer, as the retirement of Mr. G. Mitra, Sci-D in PCT section, Dr. Sukhabrata Sarkar, Scientist-D would supervise OFT activity in-coordination with retired scientist/Dr. Sourav Majumder, Sci-D (RSTRS-Malda).

[Action : Dr. S Sarkar, Sci-D, Training]

Training & Extension activities including CPP, in-charge(s) were advised to achieve the set targets for the year 2020-21 within Feb 2021 by strictly adhering to the statutory guidelines under COVID-19. Further to be noted to avoid more mass gathering activities like RKM, till further guidelines from Govt. of India. The CBT section is advised to draw an action plan for the last quarter to achieve the annual targets.

[Action : Dr. S. Sarkar, Sci-D, Training & Dr. T D Biswas, SEEM]

ITEM NO. 6: REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF RSRs via Google Meet:

The progress of on-going projects and other R&D activities with main institute at RSRs (Kalimpong, Koraput & Jorhat) were discussed and the suggestions are:

Regarding concept note entitled **Development of IFS model for livelihood security of farmers in the hilly regions of Kalimpong District** (in collaboration with KVK), the in-charge PMCE was advised to scrutinise the full concept and finalize the same for further course of action.

[Action : Incharge PMCE & Dr. Harish Babu S., Sci-B, RSR-KPG]

Regarding prolonged larval period or un-equal larval maturity issues at Odisha, the in-charge was suggested to spray Sampoorna appropriately as a routine.

[Action : Mr. K Alam, Sci-B, RSR-KPT]

Project (**PRE02001SI:** Management of Pink Mealy Bug *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green) of Mulberry with barrier system) was observed to be as per milestones.

BPP 05014 CN: Standardization of Processing and Production of a Consumable Beverage from Mulberry leaves and Blending with Green Tea (Coll. project with CSB-Bengaluru), the PI was suggested to supply required quantity of mulberry leaf as per the need of collaborative institutes (AAU & TTRI – Jorhat).

[Action : Dr. Kumaresan P, Sci-C, RSR-JHT]

General Points:

- All the ongoing project Co-investigators are advised to present the results of their contribution in the respective projects in the next monthly meeting (Jan 2021).

[All Concerned Scientists]

Dr. V. Sivaprasad, in his closing remarks appreciated the efforts of scientists regarding the progress of institute and RSRs. Further, Chairperson-RC advised the scientists to note down the problems faced by farmers/stakeholders during their field visits and place in the RC for deliberations.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks.

Date: 10th Dec 2020

10/12/20
(Dr. V. Sivaprasad)
Director & Chairperson
Research Council
CSRTI-Berhampore

ANNEXURE -I

**LIST OF SCIENTISTS/PARTICIPANTS IN THE 56TH MEETING OF RESEARCH COUNCIL (RC) HELD ON
08.12.2020 AT CSRTI-BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL**

#	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. V. Sivaprasad	Director
2.	Dr. T. Dutta (Biswas)	Scientist-D, Extension
3.	Dr. S. Chattopadhyay	Scientist-D, Biotechnology
4.	Dr. A K Verma	Scientist-D, SBG
5.	Dr. Dipesh Pandit	Scientist-D, PMCE
6.	Dr. S. Sarkar	Scientist-D, Training
7.	Dr. Manjunatha, G. R	Scientist-C, PMCE
8.	Dr. N. Chandrakanth	Scientist-C, SBG
9.	Dr. V. Vijay	Scientist-C, Agronomy & Soil Science
10.	Dr. Mahesh R	Scientist-C, Agronomy & Soil Science
11.	Dr. Shafi Afroz	Scientist-C, Extension
12.	Dr. P. Makwana	Scientist-C, Biotechnology
13.	Dr. K. Rahul	Scientist-C, Silkworm Pathology
14.	Dr. Anil Pappachan	Scientist-C, Mulberry Pathology
15.	Dr. Mihir Rabha	Scientist-B, Silkworm Pathology
16.	Dr. Raviraj V.S.	Scientist-B, SBG
17.	Dr. T. Ranjita Devi	Scientist-B, SBG
18.	Dr. Deepika K U	Scientist-B, MBG
19.	Mr. Yallappa Harijan	Scientist-B, MBG
20.	Dr. Aparna K	Scientist-B, Biotechnology
21.	Dr. P Naik J	Scientist-B, Training
22.	Ms. Shirisha T N	Steno, PMCE
VIA GOOGLE MEET		
23.	Mr. Zakir Hossain	Scientist-D, RSRS-KPG
24.	Dr. Kumaresan P	Scientist-C, RSRS-JHT
25.	Dr. Harish Babu S	Scientist-B, RSRS-KPG
26.	Mr. K Alam	Scientist-B, RSRS-KPT