



12th National Seed Congress-2023

December 11-13, 2023

Innovations and Challenges in Quality Seed Availability under Changing Climate



Jointly organized by

**Vaswantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani &
Indian Society of Seed Technology, New Delhi**

In collaboration with

National Seed Research and Training Centre, Varanasi (UP)

Under the Aegis of

DA & FW, MoA, GoI, New Delhi

Venue : Taj Vivanta, Aurangabad (MS) India

12th National Seed Congress, 2023

December 11 to 13, 2023

Aurangabad (MS)



Innovations and Challenges in Quality Seed Availability under Changing Climate

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Dr. M.P. Yadav

Seed Technologist, NSRTC, Varanasi

Organising Secretaries

Dr. K.S. Baig

Cotton Specialist, CRS, Nanded

Dr. Shiv K. Yadav

Principal Scientist, DSST, ICAR-IARI & Secretary (ISST), New Delhi

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Important Dates

Last Date of Registration	30 Nov., 2023
Submission of Abstracts	15 Oct., 2023
Notification of Acceptance	30 Oct., 2023
Submission of full length paper	30 Oct., 2023
Submission of Application for ISST Award	05 Nov., 2023

Registration Fees

Registration Category	Fees (₹)
Scientist/Faculty/Govt. Officials	7,000/-
Industry Personnel	10,000/-
Farmers / Retired Officials	2,500/-
Research Scholars / Research Fellows	5,000/-
Accompanying Person (s)	2,500/-



Payment Details :

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| Branch : MKV Branch, VNMKV Campus, Parbhani (MH)

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About the National Seed Congress

Quality seed is crucial for achieving enhancement of yield, production and sustained growth in agriculture and food security. From a meagre 50.5 million tonnes during 1950-51 to nearly 330 million tonnes of food grain production during 2022-23, the journey of Indian agriculture had been remarkable, crossing several milestones. It could be made possible due to use of quality seed of improved varieties, advanced package of practices, adroitness and diligence of Indian farmers, and supporting policies. For an agrarian economy like India, food security is highly dependent on seed security as evidenced from a steady increment in food grain production vis-à-vis growth in quality seed production. The response of all other inputs depends on quality of seeds to a large extent. It is estimated that the direct contribution of quality seed alone to the total production is about 15 - 20%, depending upon the crop and growing conditions, which can be raised further with efficient management of other inputs.

Over the years, seed quality specifications comparable to international standards have been evolved and are adopted by the Indian Seed Programme by both the public and private sectors. The country has a rigorous mechanism for seed quality control through voluntary seed certification and compulsory labeling, which is monitored by the provincial level Seed Law Enforcement Agencies. However, the problem of spurious and under-performing seed remains a serious problem. For seed technology research, there is a national level institute Indian Institute of Seed Science, also housing the All India Coordinated Project on Seed (NSP) under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, as well as state level research set up in the State Agricultural Universities. Thus, the Indian Seed Programme, occupies a central place in Indian agriculture, and is well poised for continued growth in the years to come. National Seeds Corporation (NSC), which is the largest single seed organization in the country with a wide product range of crops and varieties pioneered the growth and development of a sound seed industry in India. NSC, States Seeds Corporations, Cooperatives, private seed industry and other seed producing agencies viz., FPO/FPCs are continuously expanding their activities, especially in terms of product range, volume and value of seed handled, and number of customers served. Over the past four decades, these seed producing agencies have built a sizeable core of competent seed producers and seed dealers in various parts of the country with necessary competence in handling and managing various segments of seed supply system .

The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) under the aegis of ICAR has developed more than 5,700 varieties of different field and horticultural crops since 1969. From 2014 till January 2023, a total of 1,575 varieties of 70 field crops have been developed, which include 770 varieties of cereals, 235 of oilseeds, 236 of pulses, 170 of fiber crops, 104 of forage crops, 52 of sugarcane and 8 of other crops. In addition, 288 varieties of horticultural crops have also been released and notified.

As per the Federation of the Seed Industry of India (FSII) the Indian seed industry is estimated to be worth Rs 22,000 crores and is constantly growing. Currently, the seed export from India is less than Rs 1,000 crores per annum, whereas the annual global seed market is worth US\$ 44.4 billion. India with its well developed seed industry, technical expertise, and agro-climatic advantage, has the potential to capture at least a 10 per cent share of the global market by 2028, and be a global hub as per the FSII estimates.

The share of the public sector in seed production in the country reduced from 42.72 per cent in 2017-18 to 35.54 per cent in 2020-21, while the share of the private sector grew from 57.28 per cent to 64.46 per cent during the same period, highlighting the rising role of private companies in India's seed sector. There has also been a growing partnership between the public research institutions and the private seed industry. Many of the varieties released by the public sector are being marketed by a number of private seed companies under non-exclusive licensing agreements, which helped their fast spread and adoption.

A number of applied seed quality enhancement technologies are available today, both for conventional and conservation agriculture systems. However, necessary testing protocols and regulatory modifications are needed to bring these main stream. In view of these developments, innovations and challenges in the seed sector, this 12th National Seed Congress will provide an effective platform for all the stakeholders pertaining to Indian seed sector to further improve the timely supply high quality seeds of improved varieties' at reasonable price to all farmers across the nation, including the difficult to reach areas.

About the Host University



Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani was established on May 18th, 1972 by the State of Maharashtra to fulfil the regional aspirations of agrarian growth. It was entrusted with the responsibilities to provide education in Agriculture and allied field, undertake research and facilitate technology transfer across the eight districts in Marathwada region. It was rechristened as Vasant Rao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth to honour the contributions of former Chief Minister Late Shri Vasant Rao Naikji, who was the longest serving Chief Minister and father of Green Revolution in the state of Maharashtra. The agricultural research at Parbhani has glorious history of more than 105 years. Cotton Research Station, Maheboob Baugh Farm is one of the oldest research station established during pre independence era (1918) especially for genetic improvement of desi cotton. As a result of strenuous work carried out by VNMKV, Parbhani, desi cotton varieties having longest staple length (30 - 31 mm), fibre strength (27 - 28 g/tex) and fine micronaire (4.3 - 4.7 μ /inch) have been released recently (PA 812, PA 810, PA 785, PA 740, etc.), with excellent fibre properties reported for first time at International level. Similarly, a great accomplishment has also been achieved in American Cotton, as the first Bt cotton hybrid from public sector has been released in Maharashtra by Joint venture of VNMKV, Parbhani - MSSC Ltd., Akola i.e. NHH 44 (BG II) during 2018 followed by release of three straight varieties viz., NH 1901 Bt, NH 1902 Bt and NH 1904 Bt during 2023. The Agriculture Research Station, Badnapur is famous for development and release of Sterility Mosaic and wilt resistant Pigeon pea varieties viz., BSMR 736, BDN 2, BDN 711 and BDN 13-41 which are the most popular varieties not only in Marathwada but in other parts of country. Apart from collection of wild species of Green gram and wilt screening nursery are unique in the country. Marathwada is recognised as 'Bowl of Pulses' in the country because of significant increase of area under these high yielding varieties released by VNMKV, Parbhani. Similarly, the University has distinction in development of first variety suitable for Mechanical harvesting (MAUS 162), Climate smart variety (MAUS 612) and tolerant for stem fly (MAUS 158). These varieties are presently cultivated on more than 10 lakh hectare area in the state of Maharashtra. AHB 1200 and AHB 1269, the two biofortified hybrids of Pearl millet enriched in Fe and Zn are also released by university. First biofortified variety of Sorghum (Parbhani Shakti) is also released by this university. Looking to the outstanding accomplishments of university, All India Coordinated Research Projects on Oilseeds, Pearl Millet and Safflower have been awarded 'Best Research Centre' by the ICAR. Apart from achievements under 'Crop Improvement', university take major lead in increasing area under Breeder seed production. During 2022-2023, more than 1500 acres additional uncultivated area has been brought under cultivation. This will help to double seed production during 2023-2024 (15,000 qtls). University had taken major jump in 'Application and Adoption of Drone Technology' for the benefit of cultivators of Marathwada. Since establishment, the University released more than 150 varieties of different crops, 60 farm implements and 970 recommendations for Crop Production, Crop Protection, Natural Resource Management, Animal Husbandry, Social Sciences, Food Processing, Agricultural Engineering and Soil Conservation and Home Science. Recently, the University has been bestowed with International Green University Award in a ceremony held on 15th September, 2023 in New York.



About ISST

The Indian Society of Seed Technology (ISST) was formed, with the primary objective to serve as a forum for the Seed Scientists and Technologists of the country to share their experiences and disseminate the knowledge relating to seed production, certification, testing, processing, storage and marketing. The Society was registered with the Registrar of Societies Delhi vide Registration No. 4888 on 14 April 1971, and formally inaugurated on 21st April, 1971 by late Shri Fakhrudin Ali Ahmed, the then Union Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of India. The Society has been serving both the NARES and the industry for over the last 50 years as a forum for the all seed professionals of the country by facilitating them to share their experiences, disseminate knowledge & upgrade the technology related to all aspects of seed. The Society has grown over the years to the strength of more than 1000 members from ICAR institutes, State Agricultural Universities, Public and Private Sectors, and other organizations.. Over seventy five seed technologists from overseas are also members of the Society. The office of the Society, located in the Division of Seed Science & Technology, IARI, is managed by the elected body - the Executive Council. The ISST publishes two issues annually of its journal 'SEED RESEARCH', the only in field of seed science and technology from India besides four issues of Seed Tech News in a year. This Society has so far organized one International and fifteen National Seminars and Conferences on various aspects of seed science and technology.



Venue : Taj Vivanta, Aurangabad



Aurangabad's geographic location

The co-ordinates for Aurangabad are N 19° 53' 47" – E 75° 23' 54". The city is surrounded by hills on all directions.

Weather during the event

Aurangabad represents a semiarid climate under the Köppen climate classification. Annual mean temperatures range from 17 to 33 °C, with the most comfortable time to visit being in the winter from October to February. Winters are pleasant with clear skies and cold temperature, making it a lovely holidaying experience with temperature range from 18° to 29°.



City of Aurangabad

Aurangabad is a historic city in Maharashtra state of India. The city is a tourist hub, surrounded by many historical monuments, including the Ajanta Caves and Ellora Caves, which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites, as well as Bibi Ka Maqbara and Panchakki. The administrative headquarters of the Aurangabad Division or Marathwada region, Aurangabad, is said to be a 'City of Gates' and the strong presence of these can be seen as one drives through the city. In 2010, the Maharashtra Tourism Minister declared Aurangabad to be the tourism capital of Maharashtra. It is also one of the fastest-growing cities in the world.

Tourist Attractions in and nearby Aurangabad District

1) Ajanta Caves:

The Ajanta Caves are 31 rock-cut cave monuments which date from the 2nd century BC. The caves include paintings and sculptures considered to be masterpieces of both Buddhist religious art (which depict the Jataka tales) as well as frescos which are reminiscent of the Sigiriya paintings in Sri Lanka.



2) Ellora Caves:

Ellora is an archaeological site, 30 km (19 mi) built by the Rashtrakuta rulers. Well known for its monumental caves, Ellora is a World Heritage Site. Ellora represents the epitome of Indian rock-cut architecture. The 34 "caves", actually structures excavated out of the vertical face of the Charanandri hills, being Buddhist, Hindu and Jain rock-cut temples and monasteries, were built between the 5th and 10th centuries.



3) Bibi Ka Maqbara (The Taj of Deccan) & Daulatabad Fort:

Situated about 3 km from the city is BibiKa Maqbara, the burial place of Aurangzeb's wife, Rabia-ud-Durrani. It is an imitation of the Taj Mahal at Agra, and, due to its similar design, it is popularly known as the Mini Taj of the Deccan. The Maqbara stands in the middle of a spacious and formally planned Mughal garden with axial ponds, fountains, water channels, broad pathways and pavilions. Daulatabad, meaning "City of Prosperity", is a 14th-century fort city in Maharashtra, about 16 kilometers northwest of Aurangabad. The place was once as known as Deogiri.



Themes of 12th National Seed Congress, 2023

1. Innovations in Seed Research for Climate-Resilience
2. Seed Quality Assurance : Challenges and Solutions
3. Advancements in Seed Biotechnology for Enhanced Adaptability and Yields
4. Emerging Trends in Seed Processing and Storage
5. Protection of Varieties for Augmenting Seed Supplies and Export
6. Challenges and Opportunities in Quality Seedlings and Seed Availability of Spices, Horticultural and Plantation Crops



Panel Discussions

1. Strengthening the Seed Systems for Distribution and Access of Millets for Health, Food Security and Farmers Prosperity
2. Gene technologies: Potential and Challenges
3. Seed Industry and Farmers' Organizations: Contributions, Constraints and Expectations

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship is available in the following categories.

Other Sponsors :

Platinum : (Rs. 10,00,000) : Free registration for 7 delegates, full page colour advertisement in any two publications, one banner each inside and outside the venue.

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In addition, sponsorship is open for hosting Lunches @500/- per person and Special Dinners @1500/-- per person for minimum of 300 to 500 (max.) participants

ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF (PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITE)

Front cover inside (colour)	:	Rs. 60,000/-
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Half page (black/ white)	:	Rs. 15,000/-
Link on the website	:	Rs. 25,000/-

Note : For colour advt., a maximum of 4 colours will be permitted. Art work for all advertisements to be made available by the advertisers.

Accommodation

All participants are requested to confirm well in advance so that the necessary arrangements for accommodation can be made at our end in near by hotels subject to payment of tariff in advance. The tariff of Hotels in vicinity of the venue varies from ₹ 3000 To ₹ 8000/- on single/double occupancy basis. Kindly send your request for accommodation at nsc2023@vnmkv.ac.in. About 500 delegates across the country are expected to participate in this mega event.

Call for Papers/Abstract

The interested participants involved in research in the field of seed science and technology, seed policy development, seed programme management, marketing, finance, variety development, conservation and protection of germ plasm; expert organizations and seed industry may submit conceptual, review, research papers case studies based concise abstracts of about 500 words (maximum) only soft copies to nsc2023@vnmkv.ac.in before

the due date. Abstracts must be well structured containing; Title, Authors' names and affiliations. The author(s) is required to mention on the top of abstract, name of the Theme to which the abstract/paper relates to. In the end, details like; Name of the corresponding author, Designation, Complete address, Phone, Fax and Email may be provided. The text should be typed in single space and 12 Times New Roman font. The evaluation of abstracts will be done by a Technical Committee for their suitability for oral/poster presentation. Those selected for oral presentation will be eligible to publish in the forthcoming issue of Seed Research. They may submit the full-length paper in the prescribed format of SR, if they wish to publish in Seed Research within 15 days of receiving the acceptance. Each session will begin with invited lead talk(s) by eminent seed professionals, followed by selected oral presentations. Not more than two abstracts/papers from each participant will be entertained. Best oral presentation and three best posters under each theme will be awarded during the Valedictory session.

Awards sponsored by ISST

1. ISST Best Poster Award:
2. ISST Best Oral Presentation Award:
3. ISST Best Research Paper Award:
4. ISST Young Scientist Award:
5. ISST Fellow: The awardees will be given a certificate and memento
6. ISST Scientist of Eminence Award:
7. Ch. Amir Singh Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award:
8. Padma Bhushan Dr. R. S. Paroda ISST Award for the Best Research in Seed Science and Technology doctoral thesis in SST

* Details will be separately made available at <http://www.isst-india.com> and <https://www.vnmkv.ac.in/and>
<http://nsrtc.nic.in>



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- Organization : _____
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- Details : _____
(Arrival and departure)

Details	Arrival	Departure
Date of Journey		
Time		
Flight/Train/Bus No.		

- Accommodation required : Yes No
- Number (s) and Name (s) : _____
(Accompanying person/s) : _____
- Details of registration fees : Cash RTGS Cheque DD UPI
DD/cheque No. : _____ dated _____
NEFT/RTGS/UPI No. : _____ dated _____
Name of depositor Bank & Branch : _____
Account No. : _____
- Preferred accommodation : Only Hotel
- If hotel required, maximum affordable rate Rs. _____

Signature

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