

Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola-444104 (M.S.)

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From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk. .



Cotton is the major cash crop of the Vidarbha region which is characterized by dryland farming. Cotton is cultivated on over 40 lakh hectares across the state, mostly in the Vidarbha and Marathwada regions. Last year, cotton growers have witnessed pink bollworm (PBW) attacks on cotton, not only in Maharashtra State but also in other states like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The severe damage caused by the pink bollworm last year have raised many questions about the sustainability of GM cotton, a technology that majority of farmers have opted for. Therefore, for sustaining this technology, I want my farmers to understand the reasons/factors behind this PBW menace. Also, we as Scientists have this big challenge of protecting our cotton from the threat of Pink Bollworm in the ensuing kharif season.

First and foremost, we need to understand the life cycle of this insect pest. PBW Female moth

lay eggs singly or, more commonly, in small groups on vegetative cotton plants near cotton squares and sometimes on squares and later on laid under the calyx of bolls. Eggs are white when first laid but then turn orange, and later the larval head capsule is visible prior to hatching. The eggs are small and difficult to see without some magnification. Larvae immediately begin to bore into squares or bolls after hatching and therefore, it is very important to control this PBW larvae before it enters inside the bolls. In squares, larvae complete most of their development before blossoming occurs and often cause rosetted blooms, which is an indication of presence of larvae. Final development is completed in the blossom. In bolls, larvae feed within one to five seeds to complete development before exiting and dropping to the soil for pupation. While moving from seed to seed, the larva causes damage by cutting through the lint with its mouthparts. Lint is also damaged as the larva tunnels out of the boll. Larvae are white with a brown head when they hatch. They have four stages of growth (instars) and begin to turn pink in the fourth instar. They generally require 12-15 days to complete development after which they go into pupation. Therefore, understanding the seasonal cycle of this pest species is key to exploiting management tactics effectively which can be responsible for season long control of the pink bollworm. The seasonal cycle is intimately tied to the cultivation of our cotton crop, as it hardly have any other alternate host to feed on in absence of cotton. Hence, it becomes very necessary to break the life cycle of PBW.





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Published by

Director, Extension EducationDr. Panjabrao Deshmukh
Krishi Vidyapeeth,

Akola - 444 104 (M. S.) Email : deepdkv@yahoo.com

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Shri P. A. Wankhade

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Shri U. B. Mohod

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We are committed to making available timely solutions to the farmers and accordingly, PDKV has taken initiative and organized a State level workshop on Pink Bollworm Management at Akola during March 2018. Among the major recommendations of workshop, first one is to discourage farmers from sowing pre-monsoon cotton crop. Continuous field monitoring by all the agencies viz., State Department of Agriculture, SAUs besides the farmers, is very important for implementing timely management practices. Also the Integrated Pest Management components like use of pheromone traps, neem ark, trichocards should be encouraged for the management of PBW as well as for conservation of insect natural enemies. In 45-50 days cotton crop, installation of 5 pheromone traps per hectare should be followed for monitoring of PBW. Neem seed extract 5% or any neem formulation should be used at square and flowering stage as well as boll formation stage which will work as oviposition deterrent. Even removal of rosette flowers can help in reducing the damage. Use of Trichogramma as an egg parasitoid @ 1.5 lakh eggs per hectare should be released 6-7 times at an interval of 10 days starting from square formation stage. Similarly, from second fortnight of September, 20 bolls from 20 plants in the field should be split opened to check the damage by PBW and if the Economic threshold level of 10 % damage is observed, spraying of recommended insecticides should be followed.

The Dr. PDKV is dedicated to serve the farmers of Vidarbha and all over, extending need based research technologies and in our effort of sustainable management of insect pests, I appeal all the farmers that we will move forward together for sustenance of our farm and farming community.

Dr. Vilas M. Bhale

Vice Chancellor

69th Republic Day Celebrated



69th Republic day was celebrated at Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola on 26th January 2018. Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor hoisted the National Flag. On the occasion, he reviewed the education, research and extension education activities of the University. The best employees and NCC cadets were felicitated at this occasion. Directors, Registrar, Comptroller, Associate Deans, Head of Departments and all the students, staff members and employees were present.



32nd Convocation of Dr. PDKV



There are 6.40 lakh villages in India where about 68% population of the country resides. To realise the dream of a developed nation. It is essential to develop villages independently, asserted Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, Chancellor of Nalanda University. Dr. Vijay Bhatkar was addressing the 32nd convocation programme of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, in the convocation hall of Dr. PDKV in Akola.

Hon'ble Shri Pandurangji Phundkar, State Agriculture Minister, presided over while Dr. Bhatkar was the chief guest of the programme. Shri Umeshchandra Sarngi, former Chief Secreatary (Agril.), Dr. Vilas Bhale, Vice Chancellor, Dr. PDKV, Akola and Dr. P. R. Kadu, Registrar where the guests of honour at the programme.

Dr. Vijay Bhatkar further stated, from ancient period, the rishi and Krishi culture were prominent in India and the agriculture was based on the old and traditional knowledge. Nalanda University is the oldest university and was considered to be one of the prestigious universities during vedic period. The university faught the method of farming to students. But slowly some changes took place in the field of agriculture, said Dr. Vijay Bhatkar.

He said, for all round development of our country it is essential for all colleges to adopt gram panchayats and perform experiments and projects so that the farmers get high yields. This will surely introduce modern technology, methods and policies in villages for sustainable development.

If students of university utilize their knowledge and experience for development of villages, then we will celebrate the 100th Independence Day (August 15) in a true sense, said Dr. Vijay Bhatkar. While interacting with the student, Sarangi said, Students of agriculture colleges should face the upcoming challenges with confidence and firm determination. They should also pursue higher education, work in corporate sectors and undergo research in the field of agriculture. Over 2,632 students were awarded degrees in which 1,733 (Agriculture), 123 (B.Sc. Horticulture), 107 (B.Sc. Bio Technology), 127 (B. Tech), 238 (M.Sc. Agriculture), 41 Ph.D. Prizes were also given to students to meritorious students. The convocation programme concluded with Pasaydan. The programme was largely attended.

Cleanliness drive



Cleanliness drive was carried out 26th January, 2018 at college of Agriculture, Dr. PDKV, Akola Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor, Dr. S.S. Mane, Associate Dean, staff and students cleaned the premises of the University, administrative building hostel and the adjacent areas of National Highway No. 6. While interacting with the students, Dr. V. M. Bhale appreciated the work undertaken by students and the staff. He further urged them to undertake the drive on a particular day in every week.

World Forest Day Celebrated



College of Forestry, Akola celebrated world forest day on 21 March, 2018 Dr. V. M. Bhale, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor presided over the function. The undergraduate and post graduate students from the college were present on this occasion Dr. V. M. Bhale, appealed for tree nurturing emphasizing the significant importance of forests for human beings. He coined the concept of creating Oxygen Park in the University. This park would have the planting of trees at both the sides of a path which could be used for morning walk.

Dr. Y. B. Tayde, Associate Dean College of Forestry, Akola Dr. H. N. Sethi, Director, CRS, Dr. K. U. Bidwe, PRO of the university were present on this occasion.

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MoU with University of Debrecen, Hungary



Dr. PDKV has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with University of Debrecen, Hungry for academic and research programmes.

Under the MoU, the students from both the Universities can visit and join course and undertake research programmes. Students from Dr. PDKV will be awarded scholarship by the Debrecen University of Hungry for academic and research programmes.

A meeting of Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor and Ashish Wele, Corporate consultant of Debrecen University was held at Dr. PDKV, to sign the memorandum.

Dr. V.M. Bhale said that the MoU will enable University students to study organic farming. Dr. V. K. Kharche, Research Director, Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extension Education, Dr. P. R. Kadu, Registrar and Smt. Vidya Pawar, Comptroller were present on the occasion.

MoU with Wolkite University, Ethiyopia



The University has signed a MoU on dated 22 February, 2018 with Wolkite University, Ethiopia for collaboration of educational and research purposes under the guidance of Dr. V. M. Bhale, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. On this occasion Shri. Sushil Sakklkar, Representative of Wolkite University, Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extension Education, Dr. V. K. Kharche,

Director of Research, Dr. M. B. Nagdeve, Dean Faculty of Engineering, Dr. P. R. Kadu, Registrar and Smt. Vidya Pawar, Comptroller of the university were present. Wolkite University runs seven colleges and has an intake capacity of 1500 students under various 46 postgraduate degree programmes.

This MoU would facilitate post graduate students to generate the technology useful for the society by mutually using the resources available at both the Universities.

MoU with UPL



Dr. PDKV and UPL, Mumbai has signed the MoU on 1st March, 2018 for demonstration of safe spraying of insecticides by the tractor operated Boom Sprayer. On this occasion Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor was presided over the programme and MoU was signed by Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extension Education on behalf of Dr. PDKV and by Mr. Sagar Kaushik, CEO and Dr. Ajitkumar, Global Head from UPL and scientists of Dr. PDKV, were present. Mr. Pratap Rankhamb, Zonal Business Head, Mr. Sunil Lahane, Zonal Manager and other team members of UPL were also present on this occasion. The Demonstrations of tractor operated boom sprayer in cotton crop will be undertaken to aware the farmers about safe spraying and to avoid the accidents during spraying in cotton crop.

Dr. V. M. Bhale expressed satisfaction about MoU and appealed to expand the area of operation in all districts of Vidharbha region.

Step Towards Doubling Farmer's Income

Agreement for transfer of technology for direct conversion of farm fresh turmeric/ ginger/onion/garlic in to dry concentrate in a day was signed with two groups namely M/s. Kanchani Farmer Producer Company, Warora Dist. Chandrapur and M/s. Turminger Agro Processors PVt. Ltd., Pune. The agreement consists of providing A to Z consultancy services to the farmers for





establishment of processing unit for value addition in their agro produce. This can be a step towards the policy of Government for Doubling Farmer's Income. University had succeeded in establishment of two units for promotion of rural entrepreneurship under the similar MoU at Salgare, Dist. Sangli and at Builda Dist. Aurangabad.

The agreement signing programme for above two new units was organized on 2nd February, 2018 under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor.

Dr. Sanjay Bhoyar, Professor and Head, SSAC signed the document on behalf of the University and Mr. Yashwant Sayre, Chairman, Kanchani farmers Producer Company and Mr. Gopal Oza, Director, Turminger Agro Processors Pvt. Ltd. Signed for respective companies in presence of other directors of the company.

Workshop spices and aromatic plants



Dr. PDKV is committed to bring sustainable farming to make farmers financially strong. The farmers should give up traditional farming and adopt technologically advanced methods. Growing spices and aromatic plants along with cotton, soyabean and paddy crops for food production, said Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor. He was addressing the two day workshop on Advances in Spices and Aromatic Plants Production

Technology for Sustainable Agriculture.

Dr. Babulal Meena, Director of Center of Spices, Calicut, said Maharashtra can bring revolution in the production of spices and aromatic plants. He cited the example of Rajastan which has adopted the new technology to grow spices even though it has scanty rainfall. Dr. D. M. Panchabhai, Nodal Officer for Spices Development, presented a report of the farmers training in spices farming. He said total 1900 farmers have been trained in this regard. In all, 950 farmers have been given material to grow turmeric while 1350 farmers have been helped to grow other spices. Total 260 farmers have done successful experiments in growing ginger.

Workshop on NICE System in Pro-Soil for Content Creators and Content Managers



Directorate of Extension Education, had successfully organized MANAGE, Hyderabad sponsored two days workshop on NICE system in Pro-soil Project during 18th & 19th January, 2018 at Shetkari Sadan. Dr. V. M. Bhale, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, presided over the inaugural of workshop. Mr. Bhaskar Gujji, Assistant Director (IT) from MANAGE, Hyderabad, Mr. Navin, GIZ, Delhi were also present on the Dias during the inaugural of workshop. KVK Scientists, University Scientist's and Official of NABARD, Amravati were the participants for this workshop. Creation of messages, validation of messages and sending the validated messages to the intended farmers was online demonstrated to the participants by the trainers during the workshop. The workshop was concluded in Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. V. M. Bhale, Shri Sanjayji Dhotre, Member of Parliament, Akola, the chief guest and Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extension Education were on dias.

January to March 2018



Training Course on Technology Backstopping to Extension Functionaries



Directorate of Extension Education, Dr. PDKV, Akola had successfully organized MANAGE, Hyderabad sponsored short term training course on "Technology Backstopping to Extension Functionaries" during 12th - 26th February, 2018 at Shetkari Sadan for middle and senior level extension functionaries from State Department of Agriculture from the country, University Scientist's and Subject Matter Specialist's of KVKs in Vidarbha region. The training programme was inaugurated at the hands of Dr. V. M. Bhale, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in the gracious presence of Dr. B. K. Paty, Director (OSPM), MANAGE, Hyderabad, Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extension Education, Dr. V. K. Kharche, Director of Research. The training programme has built the confidence of the extension functionaries to bridge gap between the technologies available, what actually is being practiced by the farmers and for effective transfer of University developed technologies among farming community.

Hands on Training for Vidarbha Farmers



Hands on training programme for farmers of 5 Districts of Amravati Division on "Production technologies of Biocontrol Agnets like HaNPV, Trichocard, Chrysoperla and Lady bird beetle and their use" was organized by Bio control Laboratory of Department of Entomology,

during 16.01.2018 to 03.02.2018 with an objective to create awareness among the farming community about use and importance of biological control agents in insect pest management. In all 165 farmers have participated in the training programme and learnt about production technologies of major bio-control agents with low cost technologies. Head of the Department Dr. Dhanraj Undirwade and Biocontrol Laboratory Incharge Dr. Niraj Satpute has demonstrated the production procedure for Trichocard and HaNPV production in the laboratory to the farmers.

Training on Skill development



Department of Horticulture has competed skill development training for Gardeners of one month duration from 16 January 2018 to 16 February 2018. This training was funded by Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut through Agriculture Skill Council of India, Ministry of Skill Development, Govt of India.

This training programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. V. M. Bhale, in his address he signified the need and relevance of such kind of Skill Development programme in today's perspective. In this function , Dr. D. M. Panchbhai given the detail about the programme, Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extention Education, Dr. M. B. Nagdeve, Dean, Faculty of Agril. Engg., Dr. P. K. Nagre, Associate Dean, PGI and Dr. Y. B. Tayade, Associate Dean, College of Forestry were also present.

Total strength for this training was 25. The eligibility of participants for this training is any school dropout with minimum 5th standard qualified. Participants were selected from Vidarbha region only.

Closing programme completed under the chairmanship of Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extention Education. He congratulated Head, Department of Horticulture and his team for successful completion of one month duration training programme.

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Women Empowerment Mela



On the eve of World Women Day, Dr. PDKV, Akola has successfully organized Women Empowerment Mela on 28th, March 2018. A very novel and attractive function organized every year by the Directorate of Extension Education. The women who came up and became sources of inspiration to other women in spite of obstacles and struggle and all sorts of difficulties of the Vidharbha region were honored on this day. The video picturisation of each women while on work were shown during the event.

At this occasion Dr. V. M. Bhale Hon'ble Vice Chancellor was in chair, whereas, Smt. Nandatai Jichkar, Mayor of Nagpur Municipal Corporation and Smt. Mokshada Patil, District Superintendent of Police Washim were the chief guests on this occasion and Dr. D. M. Mankar, Director of Extension Education where present for this programme. During the inaugural session Dr. V. M. Bhale, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and other dignitaries delivered inspired based speeches. With the hands of Dignitaries felicitated 14 women who contributed in Agriculture and allied fields and 830 women were participated in mela's.

Green Energy Technology Book Released



A book entitled Renewable Energy and Green Energy Technology authored by Dr. S. R. Kalbande, Dr. V. M. Bhale & V. P. Khambalkar was released at the hands of Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice-Chancellor of Dr. PDKV, Akola.

Hon ble Priminster live telecast



The contribution of Agricultural Scientist, Officials from KVKs and Progressive farmers is essentially important for doubling the farmers income till 2022 as per the policy of central government sustainability in agriculture is possible by complling a chain of agri industries with skill based and market oriented farming exclaimed Hon'ble, Priminister in three days Krishi Unnati Mela (Agriculture Development Rally) and biannual meet of KVKs organized by the ICAR, New Delhi. Dr. D. M. Mankar, Directorate of Extension along with programme co-ordinator of KVKs from Vidhrbha attended this meet.

The live web telecasting programme was organised at Committee Hall on 17 March 2018. A large number of beneficiary farmers of RKVY, University Scientists and Officers attended this live telecast programme.

PDKV staff participate in Morna Cleanliness drive



Dr. V. M. Bhale , Vice Chancellor led the staff of the University in the Morna Mission cleanliness drive on 17 February 2018 Faculties and hundred students of the University took part in the drive held in Geeta Nagar area.

On this occasion Shri Sanjayji Dhotre, Member of Parliament, Akola Mayor Shri Vijay Agrawal and Directors, Registrar, Comptroller, Associate Deans, Head of Departments and all the students, staff members and employees were present.

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State level Workshop on Management of Pink Boll Worm (Gulabi bond ali) on cotton



The Maharashtra Government is quite serious on the huge loss in farmers income due to the outbreak of pink boll worm on cotton. The Government has decided to formulate a plan on making this cash crop remunerative in any situation. As a part of this, A state level workshop on management of Pink Boll Worm on cotton was organized by Dr. PDKV Akola in collaboration with VNMKV, Parbhani at Akola on 11 March 2018. Shri. Pandurang Phundkar, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Maharashtra State expressed the hope that the agriculture officers across the state would perform their social obligation by creating awareness among the farmers from distant village on intergrated pest management pink boll worm on the occasion of inaugural of the workshop. Agriculture Minister congratulate university for organization of workshop and said Dr. PDKV, Akola has made commendable efforts for control of this pest by launching social awareness campaign for integrated management of the same he said and appealed the agricultural universities and state department of agriculture to work collectively for transfer of technology.

On this occasion Dr. Ram Kharche, Vice Chairman, MCAER, Pune, Dr. V. M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor, Dr. PDKV, Akola, Dr. B. Venkateshwarlu, Vice Chancellor, VNMKV, Parbhani, Shri. Vijay Ghawate Director Development and Training of State Department of Agriculture, Shri Gholap, Director, Inputs & Quality Control Dept. of Agril. and officers from Dept. of Agril., PDKV, Akola and VNMKV, Parbhani graded the occasion.

Dr. V. M. Bhale, in his introductory remarks explained the backdrops of the workshop and appealed to Agriculture Universities, State Department of Agriculture and other agencies to make agriculture sustainable and farmers affluent by doing collective efforts. He assured that the University would make available quality seed and modern technology as per the demand of the farmer.

In the technical session, Dr. P. K. Borad from Ananand Agriculture University, Gujarat State presented detail programme of pink boll worm control adapted by Gujrat Government last year pink boll worm management. Dr. D. B. Undirwade, HOD, Agriculture Entomology Dr. PDKV, Akola Dr. P. R. Zanwar HOD, Agriculture Entomology VNMKV, Parbhani in their technical presentation, focused on the life cycle of pests and integrated pest management.

Students in co-curricular activities



Apart from academic education, participation of students in co-curricular activities is equally important to build up the overall personality of the students.

The quantitative and qualitative growth of the university over the years is assessed based on achievements of students in curricular and co-curricular activities

Under the guidance of Dr. V.M. Bhale, Vice Chancellor, the University Officers are actively involved in student's sports and cultural activities. The qualified physical education teachers conduct physical education classes and handle sports and cultural activities at every college.

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		То,
	From:	
	Director, Extension Education,	
	Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Krishi Nagar, Akola - 444 104 (M. S.)	

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