

**ICAR-IIOR organized a five day Farmers Training Course
On
Technologies For Increasing Oilseeds Production In Odisha**

ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (ICAR-IIOR), Hyderabad, organized a farmers training course on “Technologies for Increasing Oilseeds Production in Odisha”, during September 26-30, 2023 for enriching the knowledge of the farmers on various aspects of technologies for increasing oilseeds production in Odisha. Fifty farmers from the Kalahandi district of Odisha participated in the training.



A: Trainee interacting with resource person; B: Farmers observing the value added products at the institute museum; C: Farmers with Director, ICAR-IIOR and Coordinators; and D: Farmers observing monoecious nature of castor during the field visit.

The training comprised classroom lectures, discussions, field visits, museum visits. The enhancement of farmers’ knowledge mainly focused on the oilseed crops namely sunflower, sesame, safflower, castor, groundnut. Topics of discussion included selection of suitable varieties or hybrids; seed rate and treatment; sowing method; management of irrigation, fertilizer, micronutrient; weed management; disease and pest management; and stage of harvesting and post-harvest handling.

The farmer feedback was very encouraging as they expressed that they acquired the specific knowledge on how to optimally utilize the resources and avoid wastage and cut-down the cost of cultivation. They appreciated the fact that knowledge about the line sowing and micronutrient management helps in achieving the higher benefit-to-cost ratio. Dr. R.K. Mathur, Director, ICAR-

IIOR while interacting with the farmers informed to follow the cooperative approaches in farming to harness the advanced technologies such as drone-operated weedicide and pesticide spraying to reduce cost of cultivation and to overcome the problem of labour shortage. Further, farmers were advised to form farmers producer organizations (FPOs) and avail the benefit of government schemes and programs. Advising the trainees, Dr. M. Sujatha, Head and Principal Scientist of the crop improvement section of the institute, emphasized on importance of farmers getting expert consultations available in the nearest Krishi Vgyana Kendras (KVKs) and SAUs apart from the functionaries of the state department of agriculture. Farmers were assisted in installing the mobile application “E-TILHAAN” so that they can keep continuous touch with institute and take up oilseeds cultivation on scientific basis contributing to the increased oilseed production in state of Odisha. The training was coordinated by Dr. G.D.Satish Kumar, Dr. H.H. Kumaraswamy, Dr. Praduman Yadav and Dr. H.P. Meena.