

I-Workshop

Venue : I.A.R.I., New Delhi
Date : 5th - 6th February, 1971

The first workshop was held in the Council room of the Library of I.A.R.I., New Delhi on 5th and 6th February, 1971. Dr. T.R. Mehta, Deputy Director General (CS), I.C.A.R. welcomed the delegates and the members present to the First Workshop on Vegetable Research. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan in his inaugural address, stressed the importance of vegetable as a supplementary diet. He also elaborated different aspects on which immediate research work should be taken up for improvement of vegetable production in the country. The inaugural session was concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri S.L. Katyal, Assistant Director General (Hort.), I.C.A.R.

The first session of the workshop started immediately after inauguration under the chairmanship of Dr. H. B. Singh, Head of Division of Plant Introduction, I.A.R.I., New Delhi. During this session, different speakers *viz;* Dr. B. Choudhury, Head, Division of Vegetable Crops and Floriculture, I.A.R.I., Dr. V. Swarup of I.A.R.I., Dr. K.S. Nandpuri, Prof. and Head of the Department of Horticulture, P.A.U., Ludhiana, Dr. H.N. Singh, Economic Botanist (Veg.) Kanpur and Shri H.S. Gill, Seed Production Officer, I.A.R.I. of vegetable Research Station, Katrain briefly expressed their views on the research work done on vegetable crops in their regions and its problems.

The second session started at 2.30 p.m. Dr. G.M. Mishra, Vegetable Specialist, Bihar, briefly stated the work in progress on vegetable crops in the state of Bihar. The next representative from the eastern region was Dr. P.K. Dash from the Fertilizer Corporation of India. Dr. Sudhir Kumar from University of Udaipur represented the Rajasthan and Dr. G.C. Joshi from Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, gave a brief account of the work in progress and the problems for vegetable crops in the western region. The southern region was represented by Shri Kamalanathan, Vegetable Specialist, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore. Shri B.S. Murthy, a retired scientist who had devoted considerable time in improvement of chilli was specially invited to attend the workshop and he gave a brief account of the work that has already been done and also the work in progress at Chilli Research Centre, Andhra Pradesh. He also touched upon the future problems of chilli cultivation in the country.

The regional sub-committees were then formed for planning research projects for each of the regions. These sub-committees were briefed by Dr. T.R. Mehta, D.D.G. (GS), regarding the way they should draw the research projects.

The next session started at 9.00 a.m. on the 6th February, 1971 under the chairmanship of Dr. Y.R. Mehta, Dy. General Manager, National Seed Corporation. Technical programmes for each important crop as given later were discussed in detail and then the different projects for each crop along with the names of the stations were finalised.

The plenary session started at 3.30 p.m. in the auditorium of I.A.R.I. under the chairmanship of Dr. B.P. Pal, Director General, I.C.A.R. Dr. B. Choudhury, Head, Division of Vegetable Crops and Floriculture presented the research projects on crop finalized in the previous sessions and the trials allotted to the centres. A number of suggestions were made by the chairman which were incorporated. He specifically pointed out that the number of vegetable centres where work has been proposed are few and many of the centres in South India do not figure in the list. He therefore, advised that the work on vegetable research should be carried out at more number of centres. He also stated that emphasis should be laid on production of suitable vegetable varieties for specific purposes such as dehydration etc. More