

High yielding sorghum variety CoS 28 attracted the farmers

AICRP-Sorghum, Coimbatore

Shri G.V. Sundararajan of Govindhanaickenpalayam village, SS Kulam block of Coimbatore district was a sorghum farmer and was regularly cultivating sorghum mostly as a fodder hence the local sorghum variety "Periyamanjal cholam" was his preference. Most of his neighbours also used to grow this local variety. In order to demonstrate the high yielding sorghum varieties, Shri. G.V. Sundararajan was selected by AICRP-Sorghum, TNAU, Coimbatore for the FLD programme during kharif 2005. The seeds of high yielding sorghum variety CoS 28 was given to the farmer along with other inputs viz., urea, superphosphate, phosphobacteria, azospyrillum and micro-nutrient mixture. The crop was sown in September on one hectare with the available soil moisture due to the late rains of southwest monsoon. The local variety 'Periyamanjal' was also sown in the adjacent field. Both the crops grew well with the onset of northeast monsoon during October and November. The improved variety was given one dose of top dressing with urea after 35 days of sowing while the local variety was not given as it was not in practice. The improved variety flowered early and produced big size semi-compact panicles. With the receipt of adequate rainfall due to northeast monsoon, the plant population, plant growth and development was good under improved practice. While the local variety did not show good expression. The improved variety was harvested on 03.01.2006. However, the local variety matured late as it was a photosensitive variety. The variety CoS 28 recorded a grain yield of 1430 kg /ha while the local variety yield was 760 kg./ha. Thus, an 88 per cent yield increase was registered from the improved variety. In addition to the grain yield, the stover yield of 3730 kg /ha was also obtained. The total revenue from the improved variety was Rs. 10,445 which was higher compared to local variety (Rs. 6775/ha). The farmer received a net income of Rs. 5645 /ha under improved practice while Rs. 3525 /ha from the local variety. The yield potential of the improved variety CoS 28 was high and it was realized by the farmers. The farmers of Govindanaickenpalayam village who visited the field during the demonstrations and also during the field day organized were highly impressed with the performance of the improved variety CoS 28 under improved practice in comparison to the local.