

Successful performance of kharif sorghum variety CSV 23 in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu

Shri Dhathappa Naidu of village Idikarai, S.S. Kulam block of Coimbatore district was one of the fifteen farmers of a frontline demonstration (FLD) programme on sorghum organized during *kharif* season. He was a sorghum farmer and was regularly cultivating sorghum mostly as a fodder. All packages of practices were recommended to all sorghum farmers in and around SS Kulam block through Department of Agriculture under FLD. The farmers were demonstrated with use of inputs. Sorghum variety CSV 23 (a dual purpose variety) was raised in his demonstration plot. The improved variety came to maturity early and harvested on 12.01.2010. The variety recorded a grain yield of 1800 kg /ha while, the local variety gave 700 kg /ha yield. The increase was more than double. In addition, the stover yield of 8500 kg /ha was also obtained. The total revenue from the improved variety was Rs. 12,232 /ha and only Rs.1250 /ha was obtained from local variety. The farmer received a net income of Rs. 11,000 /ha under improved practice and Rs. 1250 /ha from the local variety. The yield potential of CSV 23 was found to be high which was observed by the farmers of the village. The farmers were impressed with the performance of the improved variety with improved practices.



A Sorghum field day was organized by the Department of Millets, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) on Frontline demonstration on sorghum with the active participation of about 100 farmers at Idikarai village. The farmers visited FLD plot of Shri Dhathappa Naidu and got convinced with the field performance of the sorghum variety CSV 23 in the demonstration plot. The production potential and advantages of growing improved sorghum varieties, and adoption of improved production and plant protection technologies against the traditional practices were demonstrated in the field for wide adoption by the farmers. They experts also informed the farmers that the increased grain yield under the improved practice was 100% higher the traditional variety Periyamanjal cholam. Several demonstrations were also organized at different locations with central and state released varieties/hybrids including CoS 28. The farmers in and around the FLD plot were invited to visit and group discussion was organized. The farmers appreciated the performance of different varieties and hybrids for grain and fodder yield in 90 -100 days as against long duration of the traditional variety.