

ICAR-IISR holds National Webinar on Water Productivity for Profitable Agriculture

Sugarcane is a long duration water loving crop and mostly grown under agro-ecological conditions with assured irrigation. Water being a crucial and costly input particularly in view of power tariffs and fuel cost going up and also with long term decline in annual precipitation it is imperative to find ways to enhance the monetary returns on every rupee invested in irrigation to ensure enhanced income for sugarcane growers. A National Webinar on 'Water Productivity for Profitable Agriculture' was organized under the aegis of ICAR- Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow on 16th July to discuss and deliver on the current scenario of water productivity in agriculture, water footprints of various crops and commodities, ways and means to raise the water use efficiency of sugarcane cultivation, impacts of climate change and adaptation & mitigation measures. Dr P.S. Brahmanand, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management, Bhubaneshwar and Dr N. Subash, Principal Scientist (Agro-meteorology), ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming System Research, Meerut delivered lectures on water productivity and climate change, respectively. Dr A. D. Pathak, Director, ICAR-IISR Chaired the session and exhorted sugarcane researchers to explore the ways for maximizing water productivity of sugarcane production system. He also emphasised on conducting inter-institutional collaborative research to address the relevant issues. Participants from scientific institutions, sugar development personnel of sugar mills, State government officials and sugarcane growers actively participated in the webinar hosted by Dr T. K. Srivastava, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-IISR as Organizing Secretary. The webinar concluded with a formal vote of thanks extended by Dr Rajesh Kumar, In-charge AKMU, ICAR-IISR, Lucknow.



