

ICFTCA-2023

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

SECOND CIRCULAR

**Frontiers in Tobacco and Commercial Agriculture
Towards Preparedness for Future Farming**

14-16 December, 2023

**Venue: NTR Convention Centre,
Adikavi Nannaya University, Rajahmundry, A.P, India**



**ICFTCA 2023
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**



Organized by
INDIAN SOCIETY OF TOBACCO SCIENCE
and
ICAR-CENTRAL TOBACCO RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(ICAR-NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE)



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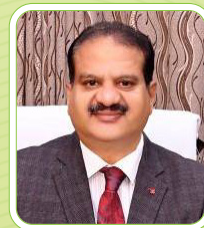
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BACKGROUND

The Indian Society of Tobacco Science (ISTS) and ICAR- Central Tobacco Research Institute (to be rechristened as ICAR-NIRCA) are pleased to invite all scientists, academicians, young researchers, representatives of trade and industry, students, FPOs and startups from all over India to attend "International Conference on Frontiers in Tobacco and Commercial Agriculture towards Preparedness for Future Farming (ICFTCA-2023) during 14 -16 December, 2023 at ICAR- Central Tobacco Research Institute (ICAR-NIRCA), Rajahmundry.

Over the last 75 years, Indian Agriculture made a phenomenal progress beginning with acute food shortage at the time of Independence to a proud food surplus nation with a rising trend of agri-exports. In recent years, Indian agriculture is witnessing paradigm shifts in attitude and focus, switching from food security to income security, and conventional crops to high-value commercial crops. Tobacco is one among the leading commercial crops in India which is cultivated in 0.43 million ha with an annual production of 758 million kg. India is the third largest producer of tobacco after China and Brazil. Tobacco contributes substantially to the national exchequer by way of excise duty (INR 233.5 billion) and foreign exchange earnings (INR 91.5 billion). Tobacco sector provides livelihood security to more than 45 million people in varied categories. Being a high-value commercial crop, it continues to play a significant role in emerging market economies and offers remunerative returns to the farmers, notwithstanding growing negative public perception due to health risks associated with its consumption. Apart from tobacco, India is a leading producer and exporter of commercial crops viz., Chilli, Turmeric, Castor, Ashwagandha, Sugarcane and Cotton. India's position as a global exporter of agriculture and horticulture commodities needs to be consolidated by giving impetus on enhancing the productivity, quality, value-addition and secondary agriculture. To address the present-day challenges arising due to climate change, deteriorating natural resources, low fertility and productivity and to make Indian Agriculture future-ready, in line with govt. policies, several initiatives such as promoting science and technology in field and farms, market linkages, drones, precision agriculture, IT applications and various digital initiatives supporting farmers to increase efficiency and lower cost of cultivation should be integrated. Such interventions, however, are required to be continuously fine-tuned to address the challenges of real-time changes in biophysical environment, market dynamics and policy changes. The Conference aims to bring together leading academicians, researchers, research scholars, students, farmers, FPOs, entrepreneurs, etc. to exchange and share their research findings, ideas and experiences on all aspects of commercial agriculture to enable the formulation of the way forward towards future farming needs. The outcome of the Conference will augment innovative scientific approaches to reduce dependency on imports and become a net exporter of products, increase productivity thus support the shift towards an innovation-led and knowledge-based economy.

THEMES



Genetics and genomic strategies for enhancing commercial value



New vistas in crop management for resilient commercial agriculture



New perspectives in post-harvest technology and value addition



Next generation technologies for information dissemination and digital agriculture

Innovative market interventions for commercial agriculture

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS AND COLLABORATORS

ISTS: Indian Society of Tobacco Science (ISTS) was started way back in 1973 at Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh in pursuance of the aspirations of tobacco scientists, trade & industry and farmers. In line with the envisaged objectives, ISTS has been facilitating an interface between the stake-holders to promote tobacco research and development by organizing national/international seminars/symposia/conferences on contemporary issues of tobacco. The Society publishes a half-yearly Scientific Journal - Tobacco Research to disseminate the contemporary scientific knowledge for the benefit of the stake-holders. The Society also honors its members (Scientists, organizations representing Trade & Industry and Eminent persons) during scientific forums for their outstanding contributions to tobacco research and development through various awards. The Society would like to support the activities of commercial agriculture in tune with the Govt. policies and future farming needs.



ICAR-CTRI: The ICAR-CTRI, established in 1947, is one of the premier research institutes functioning under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi since 1965 with an exclusive mandate of conducting basic, strategic and applied research on myriad aspects of different tobacco types grown in India. The Institute made outstanding contributions to the growth and development of tobacco for the last 75 years. The institute released/identified 103 tobacco varieties/hybrids, developed several production technologies which are being adopted by the farmers at diverse tobacco growing regions of the country. In addition, seeds of the improved varieties/ hybrids supplied by the Institute is the major source and are being grown by more than 90% of tobacco farmers which led to a substantial improvement in the productivity, export revenue and consequently the farmers' income. In view of the serious public health risks and environmental issues associated with production and consumption of tobacco, there is imperative need to broaden Institute's mandate by including high-value commercial crops such as Chilli, Turmeric, Castor and Ashwagandha in the larger perspective of commercial agriculture for enhancing the farmers' income. The Institute is going to be rechristened as ICAR-National Institute for Research on Commercial Agriculture (ICAR-NIRCA).



ICAR-CTRI

Tobacco Board: Tobacco Board, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India with its headquarters at Guntur, Andhra Pradesh is a statutory body responsible for export promotion of Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco types and its allied products, extend support to production and regulation of FCV tobacco. It plays an important role in augmenting and stabilizing farmers' income.



Other Collaborators : Other major collaborators include ICAR Institutes (IIHR, IISR, IVRI, NAARM, ATARI) Universities (Adikavi Nannaya University, Dr. YSR Horticulture University, ANGRAU, PJTSU, SKLTSU), CSIR Institutes (IICT, CFTRI), ICMR Institutes (NIN), Commodity Boards (Spices Board), Trade and Industry (ITC, GPI, AOI, VST, TII etc.).

PRESENTATIONS

Plenary Lectures : Globally and nationally recognised scientists, policy makers and administrators will be invited to deliver special lectures on the topics related to Commercial Agriculture, Crop Intensification and Diversification, Climate change, Resource Conservation, Precision Farming, Post-harvest value-addition, Secondary Agriculture, ICT and Digital Agriculture. Plenary lectures will be of 30 minute duration. Full length papers will be published in the Souvenir or Special Issue.

Invited Lead Lectures : This would offer an insight into the various themes or the sessions of the conference. Eminent speakers of national/international repute will be invited to make their presentations on various themes of the Conference. Technical Committees constituted for the Conference will identify 3-4 speakers in each theme. Each Lecture will be of duration 15-20 minutes followed by discussion. Full length papers will be published in the Souvenir or Special Issue.

Lightning Talks : The delegates will get an opportunity to present their research by lightning talk through physical/digital platform. Lightning talk will be arranged theme-wise. This would provide an opportunity for the participants to present their work in a more informal way as personalized interaction with other participants. Lightning talk will be for 5 minutes. Best talk of each scientific theme will be awarded.

Poster Presentation: The delegates will get an opportunity to present their contributory research papers through theme-wise poster presentation. This would provide an opportunity to the participants to present their work in a more informal manner as personalized interaction with other participants. Guidelines for poster presentations were given in the website.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Farmer-Scientist Interactions: Farmer-scientist interaction sessions will be arranged with participating farmers, trade, policy makers, researchers and other delegates to identify the field level problems and suggest strategies for upscaling the technologies.

Exhibition, Advertisement and Sponsor Presentation : Limited sponsor presentation will be arranged to provide an opportunity for sponsors to share their views and experiences with delegates. Exhibition with latest technologies, farm machinery, products, innovations etc. will be arranged for the benefit of participants.

Student Hackathon: During the Conference, a student hackathon will be organised on commercial agriculture, which will provide an opportunity to the budding researchers to express their innovative ideas. Best innovative idea will carry a cash prize.

REGISTRATION

Registration fee is to be paid in advance by the delegates either through website/cheque/NEFT/RTGS or demand draft so as to reach the ISTS headquarters by 25 November, 2023. Registration fee once paid shall neither be refunded nor transferred to any other purpose or person.

Category	Early Registration (till 25.11.2023)	Spot Registration
ISTS Members (In-service)	Rs. 5,000/-	Rs. 6,000/-
ISTS Members (Retired)	Rs. 3,000/-	Rs. 4,000/-
Students/Research Scholars	Rs. 1,500/-	Rs. 2,500/-
Non-members	Rs. 6,000/-	Rs. 7,000/-
Foreign Delegates	US \$100	US \$125

PUBLICATIONS

Abstracts Submission: Delegates need to submit the abstract of their research work before 25 November, 2023. These abstracts will be scrutinized by the technical committee and the accepted papers will be published and provided to the delegates as soft copy. The abstracts submitted without following the guidelines will not be accepted. The guidelines will be given separately.

Full Paper Submission: Full-length papers of the accepted abstracts should be submitted by December 02, 2023. The full length papers will be peer reviewed and published in a special issue. Guidelines will be communicated at a later date.

Special Publications: Organisers will make an effort to bring out a special publication and policy document at the end of the programme to give comprehensive coverage to the theme of the Conference.

AWARDS

During the Conference, Best Poster and Oral Presentation Awards theme-wise will be presented. Detailed guidelines were uploaded in the website.

KEY DATES

Submission of Abstracts	25 November, 2023
Issue of Acceptance Letter	30 November, 2023
Receipt of Registration Fee	25 November, 2023
Receipt of Full length papers	02 December, 2023
Request for accommodation	25 November, 2023

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Inauguration	14 December, 2023
Poster sessions	
Plenary /Lead lectures	14-16 December, 2023
Farmer-Scientist interactions	
Student Hackathon	
Valedictory Session	16 December, 2023

ABOUT RAJAHMUNDRY

Rajahmundry city is located at 16.98°N latitude and 81.78°E longitude on the banks of river Godavari in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. It is surrounded by lush green paddy fields, coconut trees and winding roads through quaint villages. Rajahmundry and its surroundings are truly a visual treat. Weather is hot humid tropical with a mean maximum temperature of 32°C and minimum temperature of 27°C. It is known as cultural capital of Andhra Pradesh. The city is named after Raja Raja Narendra, the ruler of Chalukya dynasty of 11th Century. Rajahmundry is famous for horticulture nurseries spread over more than 3,500 acres. Tourist destinations include tourist boat to Papikondalu, Badrachalam; famous temples viz., Annavaram, Draksharama, Inavilli, Antarvedi etc. are located around Rajahmundry.

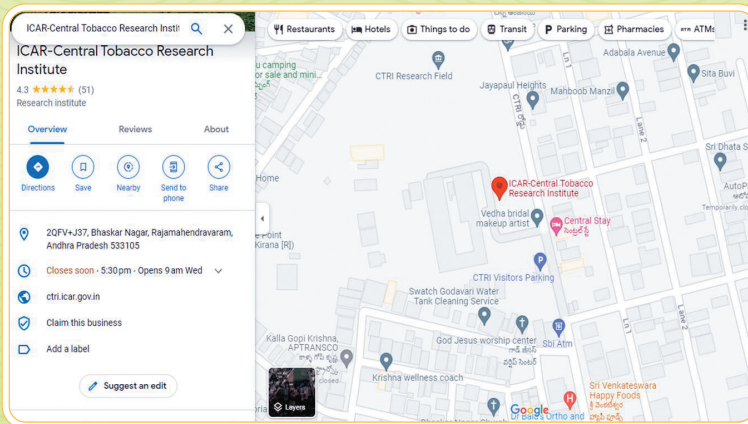


River Godavari



Annavaram Temple

LOCATION



SCAN



For further details contact

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