

Minutes of WPEP PIs Meeting, August 27th to 30th, 2013

WPEP PIs meeting was organized by CIMMYT, PARC and USDA at National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad. Before formal meeting Dr. Imtiaz Muhammad, CLO-CIMMYT, Pakistan gave a brief presentation on 26th August, 2013 to Dr. Kay Simmons, Deputy Administrator, USDA-ARS about the agenda and expectations from the meeting for week.

WPEP national PIs presented their achievements during the 1st phase of the projects and a very brief financial report covering both operational and capital items. The key points/ striking achievements are listed as below:

- During the surveillance in recent past years under objective 1 of WPEP, Seher 06 was found susceptible to all three rusts and banned for cultivation/ seed multiplication.
- WPEP investment helped/helping to revive the rust facility at Murree and Karachi for glass house and field screening for rusts, sample collection, revival, storage and race analysis. The work capacity/efficiency was enhanced in the following terms:
 - i. Disease sample handling capacity increase from 50 to 200 samples
 - ii. Approximate seedling screening capacity: 2000 (Before), 10,000 (Now)
 - iii. Alternate glasshouse cooling system
 - iv. Viable rust culture storage
 - v. Reliable electric power supply
- WRI-Faisalabad selected 26 lines resistant to Ug-99 on the basis of screening at Kenya and 22 stem rust resistant lines which increased capacity for targeted crossing against stem rust.
- Seven lines were tested in NUWYT irrigated (N&S) & rainfed trial, case of 2 lines were submitted for approval.
- Increased quantity and precision of experimental data- Increased capacity and use of summer nursery at Kaghan / Murree such as:
 - i. >100 crosses are conducted each year
 - ii. >1000 entries are screened every year for rust and powdery mildew
- BARI-Chakwal conducted rust survey in Pothowar region of Punjab, started shuttle breeding at Kaghan and number of crosses increased from 100 to 300. Dhrabi-11 and BARS-09 were included in post-release and 6C002, 9C037, 06FJS3013 in pre-release seed multiplication.
- RARI-Bahawalpur collected 20 samples of leaf rust and yellow rust during 2011-12 and 49 samples during 2012-13 from Southern Punjab and send to CDRI-Murree for race analysis and WPEP also improved the breeding capacity upto 38%. RARI contributed 59 lines in the baseline resistance study set during last three years and 21 lines were found resistant at Kenya for TTKSK.
- CCRI-Pirsabak surveyed 22 districts of KPK and collected 50 samples of Yr and Lr, also 2 samples of stem rust and 8 samples of Barberries. In pre-release seed multiplication 5 lines were included while 8 approved varieties are in post-release seed multiplication.
- NIFA-Peshawar contributed the following lines in NUWYT

2010-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NRL 0517, V15, CT-04192
2011-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NRL 0707, WG-08030, WG-08033

2012-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRL 0707, CT-09095, WL-8169
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- WRI-Sakrand surveyed 7 districts and visited 32 sites to collect 5 samples of stem rust, seed of 5 varieties was multiplied and distributed. Farmer's days and professional trainings were organized and 5 demonstration plots of ridge sowing were conducted.
- NIA-Tandojam maintained 312 wheat genotypes, 20,000 mutated plant (F1-F6 generations), and 9 single seed progenies. Released a new wheat variety NIA-Saarang and surveyed 51 locations in Sindh-collected samples sent to CDRI-Murree.
- Nine wheat varieties evolved by NIA were multiplied at 16 ha. Total seed (un-graded) obtained was (72.0 tons). Six promising lines were multiplied at 01 ha (4 tons seed obtained). Number of segregating populations increased from 750 to 1507 and new crosses 150 to 250.
- ARI-Quetta conducted disease screening and surveillance. Preliminary to advanced lines (A, B, C and MTWV) selected from (screening nurseries). Crossing block involving 100 varieties gene Pool) during last two years. Seed production (BNS, PBS, BS) 5 tons and dissemination of pure varieties seed to farming community.
- PEAR-Punjab launched a campaign for sowing of wheat in standing cotton crop during Rabi 2012-13. Extension workers were imparted training through Research and Adaptive Research scientists in new technology of sowing of wheat in cotton crop.
- As a result of this campaign an area of 72058 acres of wheat was sown in standing cotton crop in 18 districts of cotton zone as compared to 44536 acres sown during 2011-12 showing an increase of 42% over the last year. 430 demonstration plots on relay cropping of wheat were laid out for promotion of technology.
- Directorate of Agriculture-AJK achieved the following objectives through WPEP:
 - One Scientist received training on SAARC Wheat Rust Surveillance from Nepal.
 - Completed wheat rust survey in AJK. National Uniform wheat Yield Trials (Seeding dates). National Uniform wheat Yield Trials (Rain fed)
 - Participated in wheat travelling seminars in 2012 & 2013. Seed Multiplication of wheat variety (NARC 2011) & advance lines (NR-400, NR-397, NR-378 & NR-379) at Government Research farms.

WPEP PIs and new potential partners presented their work plans for the 2nd phase of the project