

Proceedings of webinar on “Oil palm genetic resources: present status and future needs in India” held on 07.10.2020 at ICAR-IIOPR, Pedavegi

On the occasion of silver jubilee celebration year ICAR-IIOPR organized third webinar on “Oil palm genetic resources: present status and future needs in India” held on 07.10.2020 from 10.30 AM to 2 PM. The webinar was started with the welcome address and introduction of guests of honour, panelists and speakers of the webinar by Director Dr. R.K.Mathur. In all, there were three presentations by eminent speakers such as 1. Historic prospective and future requirements of oil palm PGR in India by Dr. P. Rethinam, 2. Oil palm genetic stocks with important traits status and future for India by Dr. P.Murugesan and 3. Oil palm genetic resources: present status and future requirements in India by Dr. H.P. Bhagya.

List of Participants

Guest of honour

1. Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Director, ICAR-NBPGR
2. Dr. N.K.Krishna Kumar, Regional Representative, S &C. Asia, BI
3. Dr. P. Rethinam, Ex-Director, NRCOP
4. Dr. K.U.K.Nampoothiri, Ex-Director, ICAR-CPCRI

Panelists

1. Dr. R. K. Mathur, Director, ICAR-IIOPR
2. Dr. G. Ravichandran, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIOPR
3. Dr. K.Sunilkumar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CTCRI
4. Dr. P.Naveen Kumar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-DFR
5. Dr. Radhamani Jalli, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBPGR
6. Dr. Anuradha Agarwal, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBPGR

Speakers

1. Dr. P. Rethinam, Ex-Director, NRCOP
2. Dr.P.Murugesan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CTCRI
3. Dr.H.P.Bhagya, Scientist, ICAR-IIOPR

After the presentation by all the speakers panel discussion on present status and future needs of oil palm genetic resources way forward for the broadening of genetic resources, conservation and utilization was conducted. The following recommendation emerged.

- Double haploidy usage can reduce breeding cycle
- Gametophytic screening of germplasm for cold tolerance, heat/high temperature tolerance, salinity tolerance can be started in lab
- Collaborative project for clonal conservation by refinement of protocol for clonal propagation can be taken up in future with ICAR-NBPGR.

- Database and Cataloguing of germplasm for special traits can be taken up for proper documentation
- Collection of trait specific germplasm from primary centres of origin should be taken up.
- Cryopreservation should be further strengthened in collaboration with NBPGR.
- Screening for salinity and drought tolerant can be explored for expansion of area in drought and salinity prone areas.
- Biochemical characterization of genotypes needs to be done to know the quality parameters
- Establishment of alternate germplasm, perhaps at the Palode centre
- Necessity for caution in obtaining planting material from Malaysia and Indonesia in view of the serious Ganoderma incidence in those countries. It is also essential to keep a watch for this disease in India; without raising any unnecessary alarm among the farmers.

Dr. K.U.K Nampoothiri discussed on availability of important germplasm at PCKL and that need to be retained and Dr. P. Rethinam too supported to this issue and suggested to go for agreement with them and can make seed garden and those materials will be retained for further selection and utilization. All guest of honour appreciated the webinar. Dr. Kuldeep Singh agreed to take collaborative project for conservation and refinement of clonal propagation and Dr. N.K. Krishna Kumar suggested going for broadening of genetic base by need based trait exploration and also it need to be conserved in cryopreservation due to disease, pest and natural calamities in field gene bank.

The webinar was ended with vote of thanks

This is with approval of director


H.P. Bhagya

Organizer



Director

ICAR-IIOPR