



CIAH

NEWSLETTER



ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture

Beechwal, Bikaner-334 006, Rajasthan

Vol. 15, No. 01

January-June, 2015

VISIT OF DR. N. K. KRISHNA KUMAR, DDG (HORT. SCIENCE) TO THE INSTITUTE.



Dr. N. K. Krishna Kumar, DDG (Hort. Science), ICAR, New Delhi visited the institute on 20th March, 2015. During his visit, he inaugurated the newly constructed water reservoir (*Diggi*) having a capacity of 25 lakh liters. While reviewing the progress of infrastructure development during XII plan, DDG (Hort. Sci.) appreciated the work done during the last few years. He advised that plantation should be done near the newly constructed water reservoir so that it can be developed. He also planted a sapling and suggested that with the coming up of the water storage structure, the complete farm should be put on drip irrigation. He also inaugurated Scientist home and advised the scientist to maintain infrastructure given to the institute. He further inaugurated Biotechnology laboratory and appreciated the facilities and infrastructure developed for Biotechnology laboratory. He was of the opinion that this facility will prove to be a boon for the institute as in future the laboratory has to shoulder major responsibility in developing disease free, quality planting material. He also advised the scientists to develop the tissue culture protocol for date palm, since this is the need of the hour and the whole country is looking towards us for this important protocol. DDG (Hort. Sci.) also laid the foundation stone of compound wall. At this venture, the DDG (Hort. Sci.) said that completion of boundary wall will protect the land and the crops from damage from wild and domesticated animals. Apart from staff of the

institute, the function was also attended by Dr. N. V. Patil, Director, ICAR- NRC on Camel, Bikaner, Dr. N. D. Yadav, Head, ICAR-CAZRI-RRS, Bikaner, Executive Engineer, Assistant Engineer and JENs from CPWD, Bikaner. While addressing the staff and guests, DDG (Hort. Sci.) stressed that the institute has to play a major role in developing technologies for arid and semi arid regions with special emphasis on production technologies. He appreciated the work done by the Institute in last two decades and hoped that the institute will continue to work with full dedication so that the arid and semi arid regions will also contribute substantially towards the National GDP. continue at page 8

RESEARCH SPECTRUM

1. At Bikaner

Incidence of *Caryedon serratus* Olivier on khejri seeds:

This beetle, *C. serratus* (Bruchidae: Coleoptera) was recorded on khejri pod with seeds at entomology laboratory of the ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner (Rajasthan).



Fig. : Seeds affected with beetle, *C. serratus*

The adults lay eggs on pods or seeds of *khejri*. The emerging grub penetrates into the pods or seeds and reaches to seeds and made hole in the seeds. The seeds were completely damaged which could not be used for any purpose. The grub developed and moulted remain in the seeds upto fourth instar and pupate inside the seeds or near the seeds' hole in their silk cocoon.



Fig. : Grub, pupa and adult of beetle *C. serratus*

The body of the adult beetle is brownish-reddish in colour. The head is prognathous and serrate type antennae. The body

