

RKVY TRAINING

A three day training programme for the rural mechanics and farm equipment manufacturers of Gujarat was organized by Farm Machinery Testing & Training Centre, Department of Farm Machinery & Power, under RKVY from 23-25, March 2010. Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor inaugurated the training programme. Twenty two participants attended this training. Under this training, lectures on small scale industry, product patent, quality control, registration of machine/ industries, bank loan facility, etc. were delivered.

Medicinal & Nutritional quality of Aonla

The samples of Aonla products from Saurashtra region were sent to the exhibition on "Medicinal & Nutritional Aonla" held at AAU, Anand. Four samples of different Aonla products were awarded first & second prizes in the exhibition.

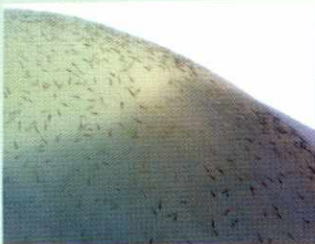
Breakthrough in Phyllosoma Larval production of Lobster in Gujarat



The female lobster is the rare species and needs to be protected in order to further multiplication of the population. Dr. K. L. Jatani, RO and Mr. Kotiya Anil, ARO of Fisheries Research Station, Okha harvested and reared berried lobsters by trawlers fishing vessels in the laboratory. Next day early morning 86,387 1st

instar Phyllosoma larvae hatched out and span lobster was removed and released to the sea for natural stock enhancement.

Boosting up of finfish culture in Gujarat



During winter season M. cephalus seeds are available in bulk and so Fisheries Research Station, Okha has provided information and awareness about culturing of M.

cephalus to different shrimp farmers of the state. Research Officer from Fisheries Research Station, Okha has suggested to shrimp farmers for crop rotation and culture M. cephalus seeds to marketable size and generate additional income by either monoculture or polyculture. Stocking of M. cephalus seeds can boost up aquaculture production of Gujarat state.

Fisheries Research Station, Okha has collected M.

cephalus seeds from sea shore water and acclimatized to salinity as per the shrimp farmers demand and first consignment of 10000 M. cephalus seeds were sent to Dhanprasad Aqua farm, Surat on dated 27/01/2010. Mortality of M. cephalus seeds at Dhanprasad Aqua farm site, Surat was 2 to 4% (information given on telephonic conversation).

Food Testing Laboratory at the service of Farmers

The farmers of Hadmatata village in Gondal taluka of Rajkot district had sown branded seeds of watermelon. Many of them saw signs of crop failure in March-2010. The total loss was estimated to be Rs. 20 lakhs due to crop failure in that area.

Doubting the seed quality, they approached Dr. B. A. Golakiya, Professor & Head, Dept of Biotechnology, JAU, Junagadh for testing of the seeds. The samples (leaves) derived from farmer's fields were utilized for DNA fingerprinting test at Food Testing Laboratory (FTL) of the department for the confirmation of the quality of seed. The FTL team, based on DNA banding pattern test by Inter-Simple Sequence Repeat (ISSR) techniques on watermelon leaves confirmed that the farmers were cheated with uncertified bogus seeds. Dr. N. C. Patel, Vice Chancellor of JAU said that the state-of-the-art facility, which is the first of its kind in Gujarat providing professional interface to public and private sector, is a venture of JAU, Government of Gujarat, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, ICAR, New Delhi and Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation

Congratulations



national level activities of society.

Dr. Rajvir Yadav, Prof., Dept. of FMP, CAET is elected as Vice President (Technical Council) of Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers (ISAE), New Delhi for the period of two years 2010-12. It is proud that a member of the Gujarat Chapter of ISAE will work at

National Workshop on Climate Change

Mr. Gadhavi Himanshu H. student of 6th B. Sc. (Agri.) participated in the National Workshop on "Climate Change and Watershed Management in India" held at National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad from 08-10 March, 2010 and presented a paper on "Watershed Effectiveness and Climate Change - A story of Meru Village in Gujarat".