

Science Walk at ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur

Institute conducted Science Walks for demonstrating experimental activities of Rabi season for Scientific, Administrative and Technical employees. The event was continued from 5th February, to 7th February 2023 in the research farm area of the institute. Four demonstration/fields were identified viz., Crop Cafeteria, Cumin breeding block, Horticulture and Integrated Farming System (IFS). At each point, research highlights containing information about the crops, plant species, variety, date of sowing, agronomic practices, seed broadcast methods and spacing were discussed by scientists. At Crop cafeteria, Dr. H.R. Mahala, showcased the crop diversification with different varieties like Isabgol, Cumin, Mustard (Yellow and Black) Fenugreek, and super foods like Chia, Quinoa, Grain Amaranth and explained their comparative performances with respect to sowing date, variety and spacing. Dr. Deepesh Machiwal, explained the concept of water harvesting system and their further use for horticulture. In cumin field, Dr. R. K. Kakani and Dr. R. S. Solanki demonstrated the cumin crop cultivation, varietal differences, resistant to biotic and abiotic stress, productivity, annual revenue generation from this crop as well as the essential oil properties of this crop.

At Horticulture block, employees looked at the different ber varieties and concerned scientist and technical officers provided useful information about plantation and pharmacological properties of different ber varieties. Similarly, concept of IFS and performances of fodder beat, mustard, wheat, coriander and chamomile were demonstrated and explained by Dr. S.P.S. Tanwar. There was a suggestion to include protected cultivation as one of the demonstration spots.

Director of the institute, Principal Investigators and scientists of respective experiments, Chief Administrative Officer, Finance and audit officers participated in this Science walk-2024 with great interest.



