

CELEBRATION OF MAHILA KISAN DIWAS AT ICAR-NATIONAL BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL INSECT RESOURCES, BENGALURU

Mahila Kisan Diwas was celebrated at ICAR-NBAIR. The programme was inaugurated by the women employees of ICAR-NBAIR with the lighting of the lamp. Dr. Y. Lalitha, Asst. Chief Technical Officer, ICAR-NBAIR delivered the welcome address and introduced the women farmers to the audience. Dr. Chandish R. Ballal, Director, ICAR-NBAIR addressed the gathering and talked about the necessity for empowering and encouraging women farmers and the role of ICAR-NBAIR in recognizing and supporting women in agriculture. Dr. A. N. Shylesha, Principal Scientist, NBAIR shared his views on the topic and gave an overview of the importance of women empowerment in Agriculture. Five women farmers from different parts of Karnataka viz., Smt. Munithayamma from Bommanahalli, Smt. Roopa from Kanathanahalli, Smt. Shanthamma from Kattigehalli, Smt. Mamatha from Mandya and Smt. Bharathi from Bettahalsur participated in the function. Demonstration-cum-training on farm level production of *Trichoderma harzianum*, an important antagonistic fungus for seed treatment was imparted to them. All the women farmers shared their farming experience with the audience and gave feedback on the training imparted to them. The women farmers were felicitated by Dr. Chandish R. Ballal and each provided with a pressure cooker and formulations of *Trichoderma harzianum* to enable them to commence production and use of *Trichoderma* in their respective farms. The function ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Ramya, R.S., Scientist, NBAIR. The function was covered by Doordarshan.



Inauguration of function by Women farmers



Introductory speech by Director Dr. Chandish R Ballal



Farming women sharing their experiences on use of biocontrol agents in their fields



Honouring women farmers by the Director



Women farmers visited the laboratories at ICAR-NBAIR

