

National Conference
on
**Natural Farming for Sustainable
Agriculture and National
Prosperity**

11-13 November, 2022



Organised

By

Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University,

Akshay Krishi Parivar

&

Royal Association

for Science-Led Socio-Cultural Advancement



॥ गंधद्वारां दुराधर्पा नित्यपृष्टा करीषिणीम् ॥

Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University (SDAU)

Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University came into existence in 2004 on quadruplicating of erstwhile Gujarat Agricultural University established earlier in 1972. It caters to the farmers' centric locally relevant and globally congruent research, education and extension education in agriculture and allied fields. The SDAU functions with its HQ at Sardarkrushinagar, located 28 km west to Palanpur, the HQ of District Banaskantha, Gujarat, India. Palanpur is well connected with road and railways. The Ahmedabad international airport is at distance of 170 km. The jurisdiction of SDAU spreads over seven districts viz; Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Patan, Mehsana, Gandhinagar, Kutchh and Aravalli of North and North West Gujarat, India. The SDAU represents the typical climatic conditions of semi-arid regions having low rainfall with wide chasm between diurnal and night temperatures. The soils are deep, loamy sand to sandy loam. The general topography of the swathe is rugged plain, except North Eastern side that has undulating topography.

Akshay Krishi Parivar

Akshay Krishi Parivar was founded in 2014. It is a national level voluntary organization dedicated to policy advocacy and awareness generation, training and motivating farmers to shift to sustainable farming by adopting the principles of Bhartiya Krishi Chintan. Its objectives are : To create awareness in farming community on the means and methods of Bhartiya Krishi – The Bhartiya way of farming and to disseminate the information on the same. To propagate Bhartiya Chintan based agricultural practices and agriculture policy. To provide nutritious and poison free food for the overall living beings. To promote cattle based farming and use of simple easy implements to operate farm. To setup institutional structures at local or appropriate level to meet the objectives of the organisation.

Royal Association for Science-led Socio-cultural Advancement (RASSA)

Science-led interventions hold the key for development of Nation and the people. However, interventions have to be sustainable and at the same time it should reach to right people timely. Efforts from all responsible organizations and citizens including Government is needed to ensure that the potential of scientific innovations is realized for the benefit of the masses, to improve their income and living conditions. Royal Association for Science-led Socio-cultural Advancement (RASSA) is all India non-profit professional society of Scientists, Technocrats, Business persons and other luminaries striving to facilitate the noble goal for overall advancement of the people and rural areas in a sustainable manner protecting natural resources and ecosystems. The Association, registered as a legal entity on October 24, 2016 at New Delhi, aims to act as a bridge between the scientific research and general people in society to ensure development at faster pace. The prime focus of RASSA is to help the students and the elderly in every manner to help the development of people with their culture and tradition intact and form society which is sensitive to living beings and allow one and all to live in peace maintaining trust worthiness.

About Conference

Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University (SDAU), Akshay Krishi Parivar and Royal Association for Science-led Socio-cultural Advancement (RASSA) invites with pleasure to all the scientists, academician, researchers, research scholars, policy makers, youth and farmers across the globe to the National Conference on “**Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture and National Prosperity**” during 11-13th November, 2022. The Conference includes keynote speakers, lead paper presentations, oral and poster presentations and exhibitions and it will be organized in physical mode. Agriculture producers may be able to use innovation to boost productivity while maintaining and enriching natural resources. This promotes sustainability over the long run and minimizes production's damaging effects on the environment, such as pollution and waste. It is regarded as an agroecology- based, diverse farming system that incorporates crops, trees, and livestock in addition to functional biodiversity. Diversification will be emphasized in improved agriculture and food systems, including species that are nutrient-dense, climate-resilient, commercially viable and readily available locally or adaptable species.

The primary goal of conference is to establish a common National platform and hold wholesome interactive sessions with scientists, policymakers and farmers including Vedic Agriculture, Bhumi Suposhan, Sustainable Crop Production, Indigenous Crop Varieties and their Improvement, Crop Health Management, Post-harvesting and Processing Technologies, Marketing and Policy Issues, Livestock Resources Management, and Extension Strategies for Technology Transfer to offer stimulating opportunities and would present chances for various agricultural alliances and collaborations. This would also encourage and facilitate discussions and dialogues between stakeholders, scientists, researchers, academicians and practitioners as well as those from business, civil society and farmers.

Major Themes

Theme -1 Vedic Agriculture

- Agriculture during early and late Vedic period
- Indian Heritage of Agriculture: *Vriksha Ayurveda*, Cropping Patterns, Irrigation Systems, Soil Fertilization, Agricultural Implements, Season and Timing of Agricultural Operations
- Astrology in agriculture, rituals in agriculture, chants during agricultural operations
- Integrated farming system in ancient agriculture
- Weather forecast systems in ancient agriculture

Theme -2 Bhumi Suposhan

- Role of soil microbes in nutrient cycle
- Technologies for the enhancement of soil microbes
- Soil resource management and its conservation
- Role of natural farming practices in *Bhumi Suposhan*

Theme -3 Sustainable Crop Production

- Theories and practices of natural farming
- Natural farming practices: *Bijamrit*, *Jivamrit*, Mulching, *Waaphasa*, Inter/Mixed/Relay Cropping, Silvi-pasture Cultivation
- Water resources management: management of irrigation, water balance, water recycling, role of novel irrigation methods in water conservation
- Plant nutrient management practices and its sources
- Natural farming inputs resource use efficiency
- Role of natural farming practices in environmental sustainability
- Application of scientific farming practices in natural farming
- Soil carbon sequestration methods and its applications

Theme-4 Indigenous Crop Varieties and their Improvement

- In-situ and Ex-situ conservation of genetic resources
- Application of conventional and modern plant breeding techniques in conservation of indigenous crop varieties
- Commercial seed production of indigenous and locally adaptive crop varieties
- Speed breeding, biotechnology and nano-technology approaches for development of indigenous crop varieties for addressing nutritional and food security

Theme-5 Crop Health Management

- Innovations in management of arthropod pests/diseases
- Invasive pests and diseases and its management strategies
- Management of insect pests and diseases through cultural, physical, bio-pesticide and mechanical methods in natural farming
- Scientific application of plant and animal (dung & urine) derived plant protection inputs and its effects in natural farming
- Management of insect pests through predator and parasitoids
- Role of ITKs in disease and pest management

Theme-6 Farm Mechanization, Post-harvesting and Processing Technologies

- Technological advances in farm mechanization, robotics etc.
- Technological advances in post-harvesting and processing of natural farming produces
- Applications of renewable energy and climate smart technologies in natural farming
- Applications of precision farming techniques in natural farming
- Nutritional value and health benefits of natural farming produces/products

Theme-7 Marketing and Policy Issues

- Economics and environmental benefits of natural farming
- Market potential of natural farming products
- Potential and identification of agro-climatic hot spots for natural farming
- Scalability and sustainability of natural farming
- Scope of certification and branding of natural farming products
- Innovative models and strategies for promotion of natural farming
- Natural farming supportive government programmes and its impact
- Carbon credit and natural farming

Theme-8 Livestock Resources Management

- Small holder livestock farming system sustenance in context of natural farming
- Technological interventions in livestock farming system for sustaining natural farming
- Livestock based farming in synergy with natural farming

Theme-9 Extension Strategies for Technology Transfer

- Adoption of integrated farming system models suitable for natural farming
- Innovative strategies for Research-Extension-Farmer linkages
- Perception and knowledge of farmers regarding natural farming practices

Experts Presentations & Publications

The conference will have Key-note Speakers and Lead Paper Presentations of renowned experts in each specific themes followed by selected presentations by the scientists in oral and poster sessions. Abstracts are invited on any of the above-mentioned themes. The abstracts should not exceed 500 words. A minimum of five key words should be given below the abstract in italics. Submitted abstracts will be reviewed and selected by the Conference Scientific Organising Committee for oral and poster presentation. The organiser will intimate the selected researcher for submission of full length paper and oral presentation. The other researchers will be informed regarding the poster presentation in the theme based sessions. The abstract and full-length paper should be prepared in M.S. Word, Times New Roman, 12 font size and single space leaving 1" margin on the left and right sides. The abstracts / full papers through email (nfsanp@sdau.edu.in) should reach to the Organizing Secretary on or before the deadline.

Who may attend

Academicians, scientists, researchers, students, research institutions, government officials, policy makers, corporations, and others involved in activities related to education, research, business, and entrepreneurship in agriculture and the food system are invited to attend this conference. It is also intended for innovative farmers and youth with ideas. Further, conference regarding updates are available at the website www.sdau.edu.in.

Important Dates

Last date for receipt of abstract: 15th October, 2022

Intimation of acceptance of abstract: 18th October, 2022

Submission of full-length paper: 22nd October, 2022

Last date for registration without late fee: 4th November, 2022

Last date for accommodation request: 6th November, 2022

Conference Venue

Prof. V.R. Mehta Auditorium, Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar ,
Dist. Banaskantha, Gujarat State, India.

Technical Sessions

- Expert Lectures from Key-note Speakers and Lead Paper Presentation.
- Technical Sessions for Oral Paper Presentation and Poster Presentation.
- Plenary and Concluding Sessions.

Registration Fee

All the participants need to register for the Conference for participation and publication of their abstracts and the registration fee is as under:

Life Member RASSA and Akshay Krishi Parivar	:	Rs. 3000/-
Scientists, Teachers and Other's	:	Rs. 4000/-
Research Fellow / SRF	:	Rs. 2000/-
PG/PhD Students	:	Rs. 1500/-
Accompanying Person	:	Rs. 2000/-
Farmers	:	Rs. 1000/-

***Selected full length papers will be published as Book / E-Book by reputed National /International Publisher or in the peer reviewed journal with NAAS rating.**

Late fee of Rs. 500/- will be charged after the due date of registration. The research scholars / students are required to produce valid certificate from the competent authority for availing the concession. Confirm your registration by filling the registration form along with payment of non-refundable registration fee on or before 4th November 2022. The fee may be credited by ONLINE transfer into the Bank Account given below:

Account Name: Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture and National Prosperity

Account Number: 41260667889

Bank Name :State Bank of India, Dantiwada

IFS Code:SBIN0002760

Offline payment could be made through Demand draft (Nationalized Bank) in favour of "Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture and National Prosperity" payable at State Bank of India, Dantiwada. The scanned copy of the duly filled and signed registration form and copy of demand draft / receipt of online payment may be sent by email to nfsanp@sdau.edu.in. The original registration form should be produced at the time of seminar.

Weather

The weather of Sardarkrushinagar in month of November is very pleasant. Temperature during the days is range from 15-18 degree Celsius.

How to Reach

Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar is located in Banaskantha District of Gujarat. It is well connected by air, rail and road with all parts of the country. About 170 km from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad, 28 km from the Palanpur Railway Station and Palanpur Bus Station. From any of these alighting points, participants may reach the university by hiring taxi / auto or share journey (arrival and return) details by 6 November, 2022 with the organizers (nfsanp@sdau.edu.in), so that university will arrange pooled university vehicle facility.

Cultural Programme and Sightseeing

Depending upon interest of the participants, cultural evening and local sightseeing may be arranged.

Nearest Tourist Places

Mount Abu (90 km), Ambaji Temple (90 km), Nadeshwar Mataji Temple and Border site (100 km), Modhera Surya mandir (120 km), Rani ki Vav (90 km) and Statue of Unity (341 km).

Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided to the participants on the first come first serve basis in the Guest Houses of Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University; further, preferential accommodation could be given to students / research fellows in university hostels subjected to availability of rooms. Kindly indicate your preference in the registration form to facilitate accordingly. Accommodation may be requested before 06 November, 2022.

Awards

S.No.	Name of Awards during National Conference	Procedure
1.	RASSA – Prof Ram Nath Singh Award for the Best Ph.D. Thesis in Horticultural Sciences	www.rassa.org.in
2.	Most Impactful Vice- Chancellor Award	Details of achievements
3.	Lifetime Achievement Award	CV with full details + Justification for award in maximum 300 words
4.	Best Teacher Award	
5.	Innovative Scientist Award	
6.	Young Scientist Award (< 45 years)	
7.	Young Women Scientist Award (< 45 years)	
8.	Outstanding Scientist in Agriculture Award	
9.	Best Thesis Award	Proforma 1
10.	Best Research Scholar Award	Proforma 1
11.	Best Natural Farming Practice Award	Proforma 2
12.	Innovative Farmer Award	Proforma 2
13.	Organic Farmer Award	Proforma 2
14.	Progressive Farmer Award	Proforma 2

PS: Complete information for S. No. 2 to 14 awards may please be sent to Organising Secretary through email (nfsanp@sdau.edu.in) in a single pdf file. Last date for application is 24th October 2022.

National Conference on 'Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture and National Prosperity' from 11- 13 November 2022 at SDAU, SK Nagar, Gujarat

Proforma 1

Application for Best Thesis/ Research Scholar Awards 2022

1.	Name			Photo
2.	Date of Birth			
3.	Correspondence address with Mobile Number and email			
4.	Academic qualifications			
	Degree	University	Year	% Marks/ OGPA
	Graduation			
	Master degree			
	Ph. D			
	Any other			
5.	Title of Thesis			
6.	Salient outcome of the thesis (in 250 words)			
7.	Research Methodology (For best research scholar)			
8.	Novelty/ Innovation of submitted work			
9.	Publications			
10.	Membership of the society			
11.	Awards received, if any			

Date:

Place:

Signature of Applicant

Note: Awardee shall be member of any professional society or they can become life member of RASSA.

Proforma 2

**Application for Best Natural Farming Practice Award/ Innovative Farmer Award/
Organic Farmer Award/ Progressive Farmer Award**

Name	Photo
Address	
Mobile number and email	
Achievements with proof	
Any other	
Members of any professional society	

Date:

Place:

Signature of Applicant

Note: Awardee shall be connected with any professional society or they can become member.

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Contact:

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Registration Form

Name & Designation of Participant	
Institute Name	
Gender & Age	
Complete Address (with Pin code) including E-mail,	
Mobile no. and Phone no.	
Theme Area	
Title of Paper	
Preferred mode of presentation Oral/Poster	
Details of Payment of Registration fees (UTR No. & Date of Transaction/D.D. No.) (Please attach valid proof of payment)	
Accommodation required (Yes/No)	
Date Place Signature	