

IARI Hosts Summer Vegetables Field Day to Boost Seed Sector Partnerships



ZTM & BPD Unit in collaboration with the Division of Vegetable Science, ICAR-IARI, successfully organized a “Summer Vegetables Field Day” on 5th May 2026, at the Main Vegetable Research Farm, Pusa campus, New Delhi. The event, themed “Strengthening Partnerships in Vegetable Seed Sectors,” saw active participation from seed industry representatives, progressive farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).

During the field visit, participants were introduced to a diverse range of improved hybrids and open-pollinated varieties of key summer vegetables such as muskmelon, bitter gourd, cucumber, chilli and tomato, noted for their high yield, quality and adaptability.

The event was attended by eminent dignitaries, including Dr. P. S. Brahmanand, Project Director, Water Technology Centre; Dr. R. N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), Dr. C. Viswanathan, Joint Director (Research), Dr. K. K. Gangopadhyay, Head of the Division of Vegetable Science and Dr. Akriti Sharma, In-charge, ZTM & BPD Unit.



Chief Guest, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, highlighted the role of vegetables in ensuring nutritional security. He stressed the need to strengthen collaborations between public and private

sectors, expand demonstrations of IARI-developed varieties across the country, especially at regional stations and promote improved cultivation practices such as trellising (machan system) and mulching in cucurbit crops.

The field day drew around 50 participants and served as a dynamic platform for interaction, knowledge exchange and fostering future collaborations. The event underscored the potential of improved summer vegetable varieties and reaffirmed ICAR-IARI's commitment to strengthening India's vegetable seed sector.