

OCTOBER 2021 NEWS BULLETIN

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Modern Nursery Infrastructure Established at MNSUAM



A modern plant nursery with up-to-date facilities has been established by the Department of Horticulture at MNS University, Multan. Through this nursery, farmers' demand of quality mango nursery plants will be fulfilled in a short span of time. Besides, many ornamental plants will also be propagated in this nursery. In addition, ornamentals and flowering plants raised in this nursery will be used for plantation at different places of the university. On the occasion of inauguration, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM urged the students to develop the entrepreneurial skills, rather than be a job seeker in order to grab the opportunity from numerous business ventures in the field of horticulture and provide employment to the people. Furthermore Prof. Dr. Asif Ali praised the efforts of Dr. Tanvir Ahmed, Chairman, Department of Horticulture and his team who are striving relentlessly for the infrastructural development of the Varsity.

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Modern Nursery Infrastructure
Established at MNSUAM



Training Workshop for Agribusiness Students

A training workshop was organized at MNS Agricultural University by the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics on October 2, 2021. Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Resource Person of the workshop, highlighted the importance of unleashing the hidden talents of the students through such trainings and said that the young generation can play an important role in the promotion of agriculture. In this regard, MNSUAM is committed to further improve the skills of male and female students. Dr. Mudassir Yaseen elaborated the importance of communication skills for young people and explained the challenges faced by them while working as a social scientist in the field. He informed the audience about the project "Impact of major public policies on cotton production in Pakistan" under Rasta and the current government policies pertaining cotton. He also conducted training sessions on data collection and questionnaire development.

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Internees Training Under
ADP Funded Project



World Egg Day Celebrated at MNSUAM

World Egg Day was observed on October 8, 2021 by the Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, MNS Agriculture University Multan. World Egg Day is celebrated to make people aware of the nutrients present in eggs and inform them about the benefits of its consumption. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) said that eggs must be considered the essential part of our dietary intake. He said that egg is a high value food and it also decreases the risk of many diseases. Egg consumption can help against malnutrition which is a global problem. He appreciated the organizers for such a wonderful event and congratulated the Dr. Asif Raza and his team. Commendable stalls were set up by the students adorned by egg shell models, egg dishes and other value added products. The event was made colorful by vivacious and enthusiastic participation of students.



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World Egg Day Celebrated at MNSUAM



Syndicate Meeting

The 31st Meeting of the Syndicate was held on October 10, 2021 in committee room of the Admin Block, MNSUAM. The meeting was chaired by the MNSUAM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (TI) and was attended by Honorable Justice Lahore High Court Sardar Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar; Prof. Dr. Uzma Qureshi, Vice Chancellor, Women University, Multan as Nominee Chairman HEC; Mr. Naeem Khalid, Nominee of the Secretary Agriculture, Govt. of the Punjab; Mian Tariq Abdullah and Mr. Abdul Haye Dasti, Members of Provincial Assembly; Mr. Shah Sawar, Divisional Director, Local Fund Audit, Multan, Nominee of the Secretary Finance, Govt. of the Punjab; Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig Dean (Acting), Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities; Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed Dean (Acting), Faculty of Agriculture & Environmental Sciences; Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali, Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology (IPBB), Dr. Muhammad Asif Raza, Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Dr. Muhammad Imran, Assistant Professor, Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences; Ms. Palosha Khanum Lecturer, IPBB, Mr. Muhammad Rafiq Farooqi, Treasurer. Mr. Imran Mahmood, Registrar MNSUAM served as a Secretary during the meeting. The Chair briefed the house about academic and development activities

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at the University and highlighted key achievements which are also reflected in the Annual Report 2020-21. The house approved the draft of Annual Report 2020-21. The Syndicate granted approval regarding various administrative affairs of the varsity and approved the initiation of new degree programs as recommended by the Academic Council. The Syndicate also approved the recommendations made by the Selection Board for recruitments on the various teaching positions.

Syndicate Meeting



Visit of Deputy Secretary Technical, Agriculture Department, Punjab

Following the meeting, Deputy Secretary Technical, Agriculture Department, Punjab visited Sub-Campus Research Farm Jalalpur Pirwala on October 11, 2021. The purpose of this visit was to review the development works and various ongoing activities at the experimental farm, which included tree plantation, field inspection of cotton, millet, rice and other crops. The guest visited the newly constructed training complex, livestock and machinery sheds, tree plantation sites and stores. Deputy Secretary admired the pace and quality of development and research work launched by the Varsity at Jalalpur Pirwala. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali briefed the guest that University was allotted 500 acres of barren land whose development was a real challenge since the underground water was also brackish and not for irrigation. We are thankful to the support and funding received from Agri Dept. Govt of Punjab to developed a piece of saline barren land in to a productive farm through extended land leveling, use of soil amendments, tree planation, water storage structures, and modern crop husbandry. With the support of Government of Punjab, MNSUAM has installed two turbines delivering fresh water from riverine belt of Chenab to its Jalalpur Pirwala Experimental Farm. These turbines are designed to deliver water from a distance of eight kilometer. In the upcoming Rabi season, we have set our target to harvest 10000 maunds of wheat from this experimental farm. Besides crops, initiatives like fisheries and aquaculture, and goat farming are also being practiced successfully. On this occasion, Mr. Imran Mahmood, Registrar; Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Director University Farms, Rana Tufail, Project Director and Mr. Abid Raza, Farm Manager were present.

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Visit of Deputy Secretary Technical,
Agriculture Department, Punjab



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Seminar on Seerat-ul-Nabi (PBUH)

A seminar on Seerat-ul-Nabi (PBUH) was organized at MNS Agricultural University under the auspices of Qirrat and Naat Club at Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Library on October 15, 2021. While addressing the audience, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali urged the students to follow the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be upon Him; PBUH) for success in this world and hereafter. He said that our Prophet (PBUH) focused on equality in society, rights of the poor, environmental protection and cleanliness. Taking the notion further, he mentioned that establishment of a peaceful and economically prosperous society has been the basic need of all human beings. It is our responsibility to ensure social peace and economic prosperity in Pakistan. Mr. Rashid Ahmad (Lecturer Islamic Studies) delivered a thought provoking lecture on "Fundamental Guidelines for Studying Seerat ul Nabi (PBUH)". He said that the Prophet (PBUH) is a glowing example for the whole world especially for the youth due to His high moral character and immaculate way of life. He urged the need to study the whole life of Holy Prophet (PBUH) in a holistic manner rather than dissecting it into different periods. For justice, community and the standards of mercy around the world, the exemplary life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a role model for whole of the human race. By following the teachings of the Prophet (PBUH), we can face the world & the Hereafter. His lecture was well versed & was applauded by the audience. The seminar was attended by a large number of faculty, administrative staff & students.



Internees Training Under ADP Funded Project

Agri-Internship Training was conducted at MNS Agricultural University by the Internee Management Unit established under ADP funded Internship Project to increase the productivity and profitability of the farmers. An online weekly training was conducted by UAF, UAAR and MNS University of Agriculture, Multan on October 6, 2021. The internship program is sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Punjab, for young agriculture graduates who were placed in 10 low producing tehsils of the province including Haroon Abad, Burewala, KotAddu, Kahrur Lal Esan, Pakpattan, Narowal, Shahkot, Quaid Abad, Chakwal, and Fateh Jang. These internees were given hands-on training for modern agriculture practices so that they can use their knowledge and skills to help solve the problems of the growers. Under this project, more than 2000 farmers have been registered (in first year) and are being provided with quality advisory services at farm level; including crop diversification, innovations and efficient resource utilization. The event focused on timely sowing of wheat crop, use of good quality seed of improved varieties, modern methods of crop establishment, judicious use of fertilizers and pesticides, correct spraying techniques so that farmers can increase their profit margins while reducing the cost of production and other risks.

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World Polio Day



The Office of the Senior Tutor, MNSUAM, Rotaract Club, BZU and Rotary Club, Multan Cantt jointly organized a ceremony to mark 'World Polio Day' on October 24, 2021. Mr. Salman Mubarak, CEO Fazl-ur-Rehman Hospital was the Chief Guest. The aim of celebrating this day was to raise awareness among youth regarding anti-polio campaign so that they may educate people to keep away from this dangerous disease. Mr. Salman briefed that polio is a critical disease for present and future generations and it needs to be uprooted. He urged the youth to play an active role in eliminating this crippling disease and asked them to take part in all activities to create awareness and vaccination. He disclosed that his hospital is organizing awareness seminars at different places to contribute to the creation of a healthy society. Members from Rotary Club while addressing the seminar advocated that timely vaccination can save our generations from this deadly disease. Dr. Usman Jamshaid, Senior Tutor elaborated that Pakistan is one of those countries where polio has been controlled to a great extent in Pakistan and by the grace of Almighty Allah, the disease will be eradicated soon. We need to work together with utmost dedication to prevent our coming generations from disability. To mark the event, a polio walk was also organized in which large number of students and faculty participated.

Webinar on MARISCO Method

Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences of MNSUAM organized an International Webinar/ Seminar (Hybrid mode) on "A Systemic and Participatory Research Approach for Sustainable Agriculture: The MARISCO Method" on October 25, 2021. The purpose of organizing this event was to introduce research methods to achieve sustainability in the field of agriculture. The event was presided over by Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM, while key speakers were Dr. Michael Spies (Professor, Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development) and Ms. Mehwish Zubairi (Research Associate, Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development). Prof. Dr. Asif Ali acknowledged that MARISCO Method can be helpful to uplift the agriculture sector in the South Punjab region by promising sustainability and increased productivity. MNSUAM will offer its services and resources to upscale this method for cotton growers and agri. Internees will be the vector for dissemination of this technique in the field. Dr. Michael Spies and Ms. Mehwish highlighted the applications of this methodology for sustainability of crop and livestock farms and field tuning needed in this regard. At the end, Dr. Asif Raza offered vote of thanks to the speakers and guests.

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Webinar on MARISCO Method



Seminar on the Eve of World Teacher's Day

A seminar on "World Teacher's Day" was held at Multan MNS Agricultural University on October 5, 2021, under the auspices of the Department of Public Relations and the Directorate of Student Officer. The seminar was presided over by the MNSUAM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), while, the guest speaker was Khawaja Mazhar Siddiqui (Life Coach and Motivational Speaker). Prof. Dr. Asif Ali appreciated the students' gesture of honoring their teachers. He expressed that such initiatives of students' engagement will definitely send a positive message to the outside community in line with the vision of the University. He said that during pandemic, our teachers have kept the classes going, conducted exams, completed academic sessions, carried out complex standard operating procedures (SOPs) to keep everyone safe when universities reopened and, most of all, helped their students to cope with the pressures of the 'new normal'. It is because of these efforts that the teachers around world are being celebrated and recognized on World Teachers' Day with the theme "Teachers at the heart of education recovery". He congratulated Prof. Zulfiqar and reinforced his commitment for capacity building of the faculty and students in a way that they can achieve excellence in their career. Khawaja Mazhar Siddiqui acknowledged that no development is possible without teachers and I wish that every teacher should be a star teacher. Teachers are also the guides who play an important role in transforming a student into a responsible citizen. They serve selflessly and help us reach at our destiny. The contribution of teachers towards nation building can never be undermined. Addressing the seminar, Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali (Winner of HEC Best Teacher Award) said that teachers teach their students just

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Seminar on the Eve of World Teacher's Day



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like their own children. Parents give birth to a child whereas teachers shape their life and character and make their future bright. Teachers let us know the importance of education in our life through their continuous efforts. It is the job of the teachers to bring out the hidden talents in the students. The professional skills of teachers will be improved through their capacity-building so that students could be given quality education. At the end of the seminar, Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Principal Officer, Public Relations, also addressed the gathering and thanked all the guests and students for attending today's event and said that students should respect their teachers as the status of a teacher is like that of a spiritual parent so the teachers should also treat their students with compassion.



Delegation from LUMS Visited MNSUAM for Collaboration

A delegation of Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) paid a visit to the MNS University of Agriculture Agricultural University under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Mahmood Ahmad. The purpose of this visit was to review the technological and physical infrastructure of the University. Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali (Director, ORIC) briefed the delegation about the vision and mission of MNSUAM and on-going academic and developmental activities. He informed that the Varsity is putting dedicated efforts to provide community services through effective outreach programs across Southern Punjab, particularly focusing on capacity building of the farmers. Construction work of new buildings comprising academic and administration blocks, hostels, guest house, library, staff colony and

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boundary walls has been completed and academic activities at the University's new campus equipped with all modern facilities are at full swing. The guests visited innovations introduced at MNSUAM such as heat treatment plant, solar drying unit, hydroponic unit, vegetable nursery unit, biofloc fish unit, central lab system, mango small tree system, floppy sprinkler irrigation system, high efficiency seed drill, and automated weather station at MNSUAM and appreciated the efforts of the varsity. The honorable guests hailed the efforts of the varsity for farmers and rural community and pledged to play pivotal role for the betterment of the agriculture sector through joint ventures and research collaboration.



Poster Competition held to Mark World Cotton Day

World Cotton Day was observed at the MNSUAM on October 07, 2021. In this regard, a poster competition among postgraduate students was held aiming at raising awareness to the farmers and scientific community regarding problems related to cotton crop and their possible research solutions. The students presented their research work in the form of informative posters. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM), Mr. Saqib Ali Ateel (Secretary Agriculture, South Punjab) were the notables of the event. They visited the posters and appreciated the students for valuable work on hot issues pertaining to cotton crop. Around 50 posters were presented and each student was given a five minute time slot to present his/her poster in front of the audience followed by a brief question-answer session.

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Poster Competition held to
Mark World Cotton Day



Webinar to Create Awareness on Crop Growth Modeling

Department of Agronomy, MNSUAM organized an international webinar where experts highlighted the significance of modern precision technologies like crop modeling to improve resource use efficiency and develop climate smart technologies at farmer field under changing climatic scenarios. Increasing food demand under climate change has challenged the sustainability of the agricultural systems. There is a need to improve resource use efficiency and agricultural productivity to meet the demand for food security. Experts and crop modeling scientists from USA, Germany, Australia and Pakistan briefed the stakeholders about the latest developments in the field of crop modeling and its application for the development of climate resilient agricultural system to get better productivity under limited resources. Approximately, more than 200 audiences (academia, research and progressive farmers) participated online in this activity. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) Vice Chancellor) gave opening

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Webinar to Create Awareness on Crop Growth Modeling



remarks and welcomed the resource persons and audience of this webinar. Prof. Gerrit Hoogenboom (University of Florida) said that crop models can assist policymakers by predicting soil health, effects of climatic change on agricultural systems, and the model can forecasts climate change effects. Dr. Donald Gaydon (CSRIO, Australia) discussed the APSIM modeling and cropping systems optimization in the rice-wheat system of Punjab, Pakistan". He described that APSIM can work as a useful tool for Asian cropping systems research in future to develop climate smart cropping system. Prof. Dr. Thomas Gaiser (University of Bon, Germany) discussed and recommended that models are efficient tools to improve the fertilizer use efficiency by reducing the environmental losses. He also reported that digital and precision agriculture is the key for the food security and required for future agriculture system. Dr. Hafiz Mohkum Hammad, MNSUAM presented the impact of varying temperatures on the growth of maize. He concluded that temperature had a significant impact on maize growth. Therefore, global warming will result in a reduction in grain yield of this crop. Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed (Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences) concluded the webinar findings and Dr. Abdul Ghaffar offered vote of thanks to all the speakers and participants.

International Webinar on “ Prospects of Agricultural Development for Pakistan in the context of CPEC”

Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences of MSNUAM organized an international webinar on the prospects of agriculture development for Pakistan in the context of CPEC on October 13, 2021. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM chaired this webinar and Dr. Michael Spies (Professor, Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development) joined as a guest speaker. Dr. Asif Ali talked about the positive effects of CPEC on agriculture and economy of Pakistan. He added that after the completion of CPEC, Pakistan will be able to export cherries, nuts, trout fish and other food items to the China. Dr. Michael Spies talked about the role of CPEC in improving life of a common man in Pakistan by improvement in agricultural production and farming practices. He added that cherry production is increasing in the northern areas of Pakistan and China is importing the same from America and European countries. He also talked about processing techniques, value addition and phytosanitary measures needed for export competency. Dr. Asif Raza, Chairman, Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences offered vote of thanks. The webinar was attended by a large number of faculty members and students.

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International Webinar on "Prospects of Agricultural Development for Pakistan in the context of CPEC"



MNSUAM Organized Condolence Reference for Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan

MNSUAM organized a condolence reference for Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM with large number of faculty members, administrative staff and students participated in the condolence reference. The event was organized to condole the sad demise of nuclear scientist Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan, and to pay tribute to him for the outstanding services he rendered for the homeland. While enumerating his contribution, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali stated that Dr. AQ Khan was a national hero and pride of Pakistan for his tremendous contribution to different assignments in the fields of engineering sciences, emerging technologies and materials and applied sciences. He was not only a famous scientist but also a noble man. He said that Dr. AQ Khan is a benefactor of Pakistan who made the country's defense impregnable by making it the first nuclear power of the Muslim world. The participants remarked that the extraordinary services of Dr. AQ Khan for the defense of Pakistan could not be forgotten, and his name would always be remembered. Participants prayed to Almighty Allah to rest the departed soul in eternal peace and give strength to his family to bear that loss.



MNSUAM Celebrated World Food Day

World Food Day is an international day celebrated every year worldwide on October 16 to commemorate the founding of United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in 1945. World Food Day 2021 was organized by the Department of Food Science and Technology on the theme, "Our Actions are our future – Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life". Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, presided over the ceremony and Mr. Zulfiqar Ali (CEO, Volka Foods) graced the seminar as Chief Guest. The purpose of observing the day was to increase awareness of the need to alleviate hunger from the world. While addressing to the participants, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali elucidated the different components of the theme for the celebration, noting that the contribution to change

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lies with people. He encouraged the participants to be actively involved in shaping the food systems since the way food is produced, cooked and preserved are integral parts of how the agricultural food systems work. He laminated that we have fallen prey to different diseases because of unhealthy and imbalanced diet. We should consume a variety of food instead of monotonous diet. Natural food is always a source of physically strong body and many diseases had emerged due to unnatural and imbalanced diets. He further mentioned that we have left our traditional diets like gram, corn-flour bread, millet etc. which were full of energy and healthy nutrients. He urged that we must revive our traditional foods and avoid processed food to remain healthy and active. Mr. Munawar (HarvestPlus) educated the participants on the importance of balanced nutrition and advised them to reduce the uptake of processed foods. He announced an alarming situation regarding an increase in diabetic patients in recent years. He also informed the audience about importance of different ingredients of food, their nutritive value and effects on human body. Major Tariq Khan emphasized that people must avoid junk food; particularly children should be encouraged to eat more vegetables and fruits instead of artificially processed edibles. Mr. Zulfiqar Ali informed the participants about the importance of healthy and balanced diet. He further said that we are professionally and morally bound to avoid wastage of food and it is our duty to preserve additional and left-over food technically and to supply it to poor and deserving people. He added that to stop wastage of fruits and vegetables, food processing industry should play its due part by developing value added products. A large number of students and faculty members were also present at the event.



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Qirat and Naat Club Organized Mehfil-E-Milad



On October 18, 2021, MNSUAM organized a "Mehfil-e-Milad" under the auspices of Qirat and Naat Club of the Varsity with religious zeal and passion in connection with the month of Rabi-ul-Awal which marks the birthday of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). Students, faculty members and administrative staff from various Departments of the University participated in the event with great reverence and enthusiasm to pay tribute to the Holy Prophet (PBUH). They enlightened the audience on calmness and peace highlighting various aspects of the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). The participants recited Naat in their impressive and soulful voices. Melodious voices of the students held the audience spellbound and made the Mehfil more spiritual and a source of enlightenment. While addressing the audience, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali urged the students to follow the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be upon Him) for true success. Dr. Nadeem Ahmed, Incharge of Qirat and Naat Club offered special prayers for unity of Muslim Ummah, peace and stability of Pakistan, and independence of Jammu and Kashmir.

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Qirat and Naat Club Organized
Mehfil-E-Milad



International Conference on Sustainable Bioeconomy

Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan organized an International Conference on "Sustainable Bioeconomy in Livestock and Crop Production" (Hybrid mode) on October 20 & 21, 2021 in collaboration with Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, University of Kassel/ University of Gottingen, Germany, and Afyon Kocatepe University, Turkey. Eminent scientist from China, Germany, Turkey, India and Pakistan participated online and discussed important topics of the conference to support sustainable bioeconomy in the context of climate change to help identify and implement sustainable opportunities by fostering scientific exchange. The purpose of organizing this conference was to promote a sustainable bioeconomy through livestock and crop production so that farmers could get benefit from the process. The conference brought together the foreign and national experts as well as policy makers, researches and stakeholders to discuss about opportunities related to sustainable bioeconomy development. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali said that Varsity is making all possible efforts to expand the livestock sector and moving towards a bioeconomy is one of the key policy

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strategies for sustainable development. Dr. Michael Spies, Dr. Marion Reichenbach, Dr. Ismail Bayram, Dr. S.P. Sangeetha and other speakers concluded that each of us must contribute to sustainable, resource-efficient solutions, and better understanding of how food reaches our table, and what agricultural systems can be the most sustainable, especially in regions, where agriculture plays a major role in the economy. Participants also discussed the integrated livestock and crop production systems, generation of animal waste, good practices on how waste generation can be reduced, and how various types of waste can be utilized by changing technological processes and at the same time saving energy resources.



Seminar on Awareness of Breast Cancer

To mark Pink Day, a seminar on awareness of breast cancer was organized jointly by MNSUAM and Nishtar Medical University on October 22 with reference to 'Pink Day'. The seminar was presided over by the MNSUAM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), while, the chief guest was Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ijaz Masood (Nishtar Medical University). Dr. Ijaz spoke and educated the audience on the topic. He discussed different aspects of breast cancer including an elaborate dialogue on its causes, symptoms, treatment options, self-examination and preventive measures. He dismantled all myths and overcame taboos concerning breast cancer and gave audience the entire spectrum of the topic on basis of factual accuracy. He urged that female should not only get their regular medical checkups but also should be aware of how to diagnose a disease. He further said that women above 40 years of age should have mammography test once a year to avoid problems. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali encouraged the participants to pass on this important and valuable information to combat breast cancer. He said that the Pakistan has the highest incidence of breast cancer in Asia.

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MNSUAM Observed Black Day to Express Solidarity with Kashmiris

Faculty and students of the MNSUAM observed Kashmir Black Day on October 27, 2021 expressing solidarity with suppressed people of Kashmir who are struggling for their freedom since many decades. A Kashmir cause seminar was organized by Senior Tutor Office and Directorate of Student Affairs to show solidarity with the people of Kashmir wherein speakers highlighted the Kashmiri Freedom Movement and condemned brutal occupation of Indian forces. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali addressed to the participants and said that the issue of Kashmir is bone of contention between the two countries and we need to try more seriously towards its pragmatic solution. The people of Kashmir want freedom, which is their basic right. On this occasion, Mr. Rasheed Ahmed, Lecturer, MNSUAM gave a thought provoking lecture on Kashmir from a historical perspective and enlightened the participants on the situation in the aftermath of revocation of article 370 and 35A of Indian constitution. He said Pakistani nation would stand by Kashmiri brethren until the realization of their rights to self-determination. Kashmiris cannot be deprived of their right through brutalities of Indian army. He said we salute the struggle of independence of Kashmiri brothers and sisters and Pakistani nation would continue their moral and diplomatic support.



Adventure Day Organized for Students

Directorate of Sports, and Rover Scouts Unit of MNSUAM organized "Adventure Day" on October 29, 2021. Addressing as a chief guest, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) said that the purpose of this Adventure Day is to incline our students towards physical activities by providing them ample opportunities for entertainment and fun. In this way, we can provide some relief from mental stress and psychological pressure they experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic. He added that students should engage themselves in physical activities to learn the spirit of sports and teamwork. Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Chairman, Sports Board, appreciated the efforts of the Rover Scouts for

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organizing this Adventure Day, and said that such activities bring positive changes in the youth and help them in difficult situations. Dr. Umar Ejaz Ahmad and Dr. Amir Bakhtawar said that scouting is the largest volunteer organization in the world. Scouts Unit of MNSUAM aims to support young people in their physical, mental and spiritual development, that they may play constructive roles in society, with a strong focus on the outdoors and survival skills. The Rover Scouts Unit is a dynamic, self-reliant, educational organization providing value based, challenging and attractive programs through efficient leaders and effective organizational management, making a significant contribution to the society and the country.



TECNOLOGY CORNER

Hybrid Wheat for Food Security

Blue aleurone (Bla) system – blue seed technology for hybrid wheat production has been established and acquired in Horizon 2020 project. The partnership of this project includes KWS European Seed Company UK, the University of Sydney, GCI Sydney Australia and The MNS University of Agriculture, Multan-Pakistan. This system is very simple, cheap and fast to develop hybrids from desirable parents for yield and quality gains. Any wheat cultivar having semi-dwarf to tall stature and better anther extrusion can work as a male parent. Male and female parents are drilled side-by-side in strips to produce hybrids through wind pollination. The technology doesn't cost additional money for hybrid seed production. The technology has been successfully transferred into Pakistani

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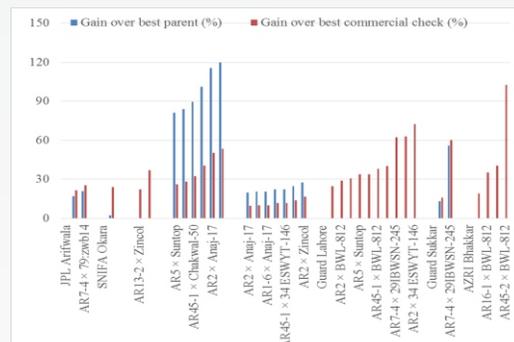
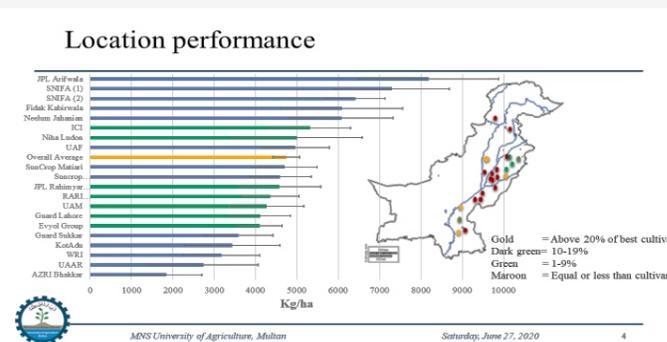
OPV vs its hybrid Disease resistant

Early

20-46% ↑ yield



wheat and adopted well in our local environment. Wheat hybrids were tested in Pakistan and Australia during 2016-17 and 2017-18 crop seasons. Yield gains of 20 to 46% over best wheat cultivar Galaxy 13 have been witnessed in Pakistan, while 33% gains over best wheat cultivar Suntop at Narrabri in Australia. The best hybrids were climate resilient depicting early maturity, rust resistance and lodging resistance. In Pakistan, 100 wheat hybrids produced during 2017-18 crop season were successfully tested during 2018-19 crop season at two locations i.e. Faisalabad and Multan in rice-wheat and cotton-wheat system, respectively. Among the 100 hybrids, 10 hybrids have Zincol (high Fe and Zn cultivar from HarvestPlus program of CIMMYT) as male parent. In 2018-19, wheat hybrids showed the yield gain between 20% to 47% over Galaxy-13 (the best widely cultivated OPV wheat variety). Again in 2018-19 crop season, 100 new hybrids were produced and tested at two locations during 2019-20 crop season. In 2019-20, 102 wheat hybrids produced in Pakistan during 2018-19 were distributed to 23 private seed companies, public sector institutes, Agriculture Universities and progressive farmers. The overall average grain yield of 102 wheat hybrids at all locations was 4742 Kg ha⁻¹ ranging from Kg ha⁻¹ at Bhakkar (Thal desert) to 8185 Kg ha⁻¹ at Arifwala (highly fertile land). The maximum yield of wheat hybrid AR7-4 × 79:zwb14 was noted 11167 Kg ha⁻¹. The best parental line 34 ESWYT-146 yielded 9770 Kg ha⁻¹ and best cultivar Faisalabad-08 yielded 8396 Kg ha⁻¹ at JPL farm Arifwala with best agronomic practices. The yield gain was observed up to 103% in hybrid AR45-2 × BWL-812 over best cultivar Faisalabad-08 and 120% in hybrid AR45-1 × BWL-812 over best parent line 34 ESWYT-146.



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High Efficiency Seed Drill

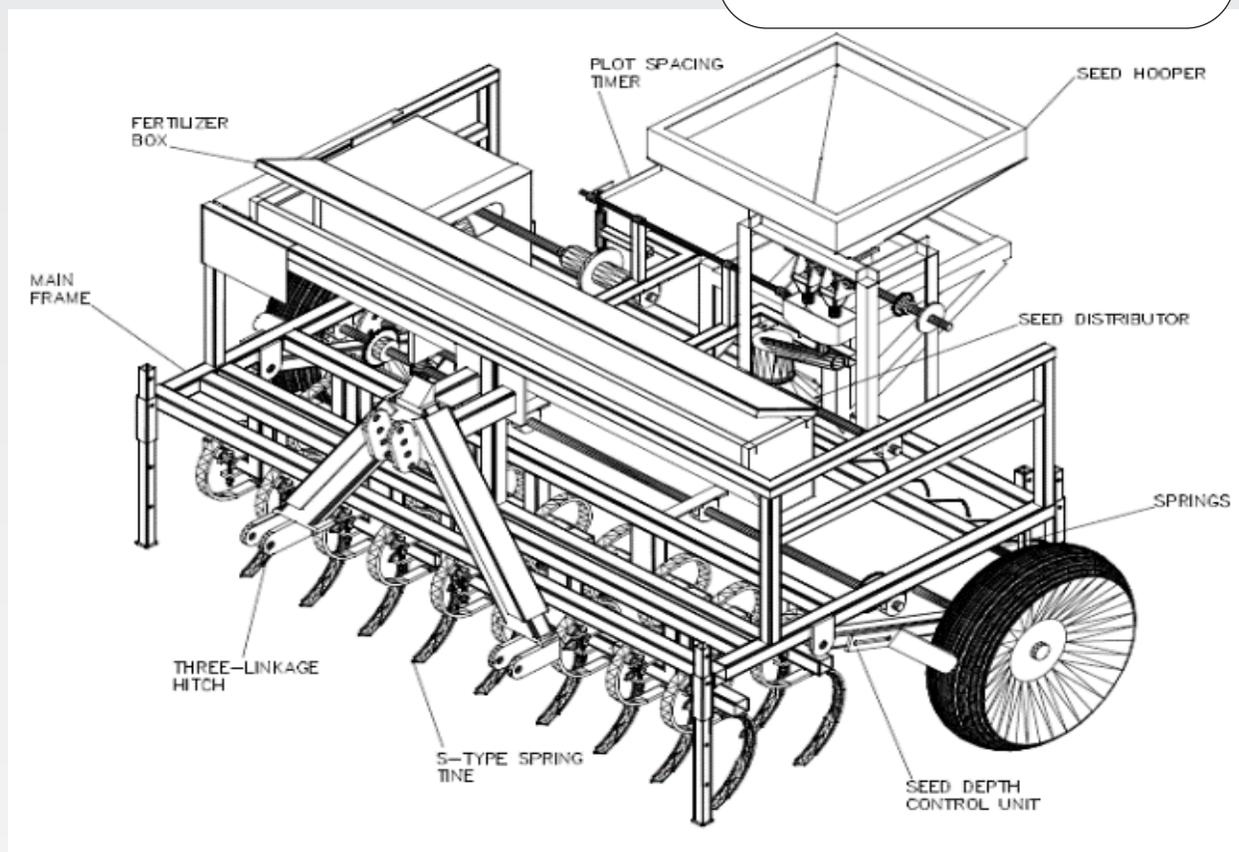


The Department of Agricultural Engineering has developed High Efficiency Seed Drill under the project UAF-EFS RD 035/20. The unique features in this machine includes but not limited to: efficient seed distribution system, multiple crop usability, seed adjustment from 5-50 kg per acre, single point easy seed control mechanism, seed-cum-fertilizer system having eighteen delivery points (9 for seed and 9 for fertilizer), adjustable row-to-row spacing, seed depth adjustment and S-type low till spring tines. These tines produce vibrating action to loosen the soil's upper crust for better crop stand and seed germination. The electrical seed guiding mechanism in the distributor is responsible for the uniform seed distribution in every crop row. After the successful trials and field evaluation the machine is now in commercialization phase. As per demand of the stakeholders, four different versions of this machine are also being manufactured.

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High Efficiency Seed Drill



Synopsis Defense

- Ms. Plosha Khanum, Reg. No. 2017-uam-904, Ph.D scholar of Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology will defend her Ph.D thesis online on October 22, 2021 at 02:00 PM. The title of her thesis is "Sex Determination and Expression Profiling at early stage in Date Palm".
- Mr. Ali Ammar, Reg. No. 2018-uam-910, Ph.D scholar of Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology has successfully defended his Ph.D thesis on September 20, 2021 at 2:00 PM (online) in MNS University of Agriculture Multan. The title of his thesis is "Effect of TaHSP90A transcripts abundance on temperature stress tolerance in wheat".
- Mr. Shoaib Liaqat, Reg. No. 2018-uam-909, Ph.D scholar of Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology has successfully defended his Ph.D thesis on September 21, 2021 at 2:00 PM (online) in MNS University of Agriculture Multan. The title of his thesis is "Improving lodging resistance through HvGA20ox transcript abundance in barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.).

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Advertisement for post of Research Associate and DPL

Applications are invited for one post of Research Associate and DPL hourly basis under the research project entitled "Establishment and propagation of miscanthus and sisal as a pulp and energy crops" funded by Bulleh Shah Packaging Pvt. Ltd. Lahore. The details and eligibility criteria for research associate and DPL is given below.

Sr. No.	Designation and eligibility	Salary
1.	<p>Research Associate</p> <p>Qualification: M.Sc. (Hons.) Soil Science</p> <p>TORs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report to PI of the project• Full time dedicated to the project.• Responsible for day-to-day activities of the project including implementation of the plan, procurement, and report writing.• Assist in preparation of fortnightly and quarterly progress report, and assist in hosting monthly team visit at the work site. <p>Contract period: initially 1 year which is extendable</p>	Rs. 25,000 per month
2.	<p>Daily paid labour</p> <p>TORs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be hired as per the work requirement of the project.• Task oriented and paid as per Labor Day/ hourly basis.• Report to PI of the project.• Can be an undergraduate or postgraduate student of the university.• Unskilled labor could be within or outside of the university	As per DPL rate (hourly basis)

Application on plain paper along with copy of C.V. and CNIC should reach in the office of the PI of the project within 15 days after the advertisement.

(Dr. Muhammad Baqir Hussain)

Assistant Professor/PI: Miscanthus Project
Deptt. of Soil & Environmental Sciences

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Engagement of student on studentship and unskilled labour for Department of Agronomy

Applications are invited for the following posts for the project entitled “**Agronomic investigations under spate irrigated cropping systems of Punjab Pakistan**” funded by Endowment Fund Secretariat (EFS), University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF). The details and eligibility criteria is given below:

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Post	Qualifications	Pay Package
1	Research Fellow / MSc studentship	01	BSc. (Hons) Agronomy	Rs. 20,000/Month
2	DPL (Unskilled)	01	Can read / write	Rs. 20,000 /Month

- Applications along with copies of CVs, Transcripts, two recent photographs, CNIC, and other relevant documents should reach in the office of undersigned on or before October 29, 2021 (5:00PM).
- The appointment will be on contract basis only.
- MNSUAM reserves the right to change the period of contract.
- NO TA/DA will be admissible for interview.

Dr. Khuram Mubeen

Assistant Professor / PI EFS UAF

Department of Agronomy

MNS-University of Agriculture Multan

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Advertisement for Post of Research Associate

Applications are invited for the post of Research Associate under the Punjab Agricultural Research Board (PARB) Project No. 830 titled “**Breeding Soybean for Adaptation and High Yield in Current Scenario of Climate Change in Punjab**” for research activities to assist team leader both under lab and field conditions. The details and eligibility criteria of Research Associate are given below:

Sr. No.	Project	Position	Eligibility criteria	Salary/Duration
01	PARB-830 titled “Breeding Soybean for Adaptation and High Yield in Current Scenario of Climate Change in Punjab”	Research Associate (01)	M.Sc. (Hons) Agri. PBG or relevant	Rs. 40,000/- Per month Duration 06 months (extendable up to 02 years)

- Application along with copies of CV, attested transcripts/certificates, degrees, two recent photographs, CNIC and other relevant documents should reach in the office of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hammad Nadeem Tahir, Project Manager, PARB -830. MNS University of Agriculture, Multan within 15 days after the advertisement.
- Incomplete applications or those received after due days shall not be entertained.
- No TA/DA will be admissible for interview.

Prof. Dr. Hammad Nadeem Tahir
Project Manager PARB-830
Institute of Breeding and Biotechnology
MNS-University of Agriculture Multan

SITUATION VACANT

Applications are invited for PhD Horticulture studentship position in R&D project funded by Higher Education Commission, Islamabad at MNS-University of Agriculture, Multan for one year (extendable). Details are given below:

Project Title: Optimizing production practices and fruit quality of pomegranate in Southern Punjab (HEC-NRPU Project No. 10561)

Post	No. of posts	Qualification	Experience	Pay Package
PhD studentship	01	PhD. Agriculture (Horticulture)* *Students already enrolled in PhD	Project relevant experience will be preferred	Rs. 25,000 per month

Interested candidates are requested to submit application on plain paper addressed to Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana, Principal Investigator (PI), Department of Horticulture along with 3 sets of CV, recent passport size photographs, attested copies of CNIC, educational documents and experience letter (if any) etc. in person or through registered post.

Complete applications should reach the office of the undersigned within 15 days of advertisement during office hours.

Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana
Principal Investigator (PI)
HEC funded NRPU Project # 10561
Department of Horticulture
MNS University of Agriculture Multan