

Agromet Research Explicate Program (AREP) held at BCKV, Mohanpur

AICRP on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM) conducted a ten-day in-service 'Agromet Research Explicate Program (AREP) during 10-19 Feb at BCKV, Mohanpur (West Bengal). The program was attended by delegates from 22 State Agricultural Universities. Prof AK Chakravarti, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, BCKV, who presided over the inaugural function, highlighted the importance of Agrometeorology in this era of climate change and extreme weather events. Dr VUM Rao, Project Coordinator (AICRPAM) gave a brief description of objectives of the program and achievements of AICRPAM. The program consisted of analysis of extreme weather events, weather effects on pests and diseases, crop-weather relationship (radiation use efficiency in particular), soil-water relationships in irrigated and rainfed agriculture. The extreme weather event analysis consisted of application of RClime software and customized program developed by AICRPAM PC unit at CRIDA. Along with the data analysis, focussed group discussions were made on aspects like quantification of weather effects on pests and diseases, utilization of soil moisture data in exploring crop-weather relationships etc. After reviewing the current progress and considering the constraints and available resources, the road map for next five years was laid out for AICRPAM and targets were identified. The valedictory function was held on 19 Feb in which Dr AK Maity, Director of Research, BCKV was the chief guest.

