

2nd International Conference on **Agricultural & Horticultural Sciences**

Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Hyderabad, India February 03-05, 2014

Horticulture for natural resource conservation and sustainable rural livelihoods- An adaptation and mitigation strategy to combat climate change scenarios in Indian drylands

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The present pace of climate change exerts influence on growth and developmental activities of horticultural commodities with respect to production timing, product quality, availability of inputs and their costs, cultural practices, pests and diseases, post-harvest and marketing costs and the environment. Financial viability and priority issues within the climate change response strategy will be discussed with extreme events like unusually low or high rainfall, extremes in temperature, intense sunlight or wind like that of Phailin Cyclone in East Coast of India cause harm to the crops and animals. Suitable fruit and vegetable species and varieties for SAT regions, benefits of farm pond water harvesting system, conservation of natural resources, nutrient management and intercropping of annuals within the perennial fruit tree component are discussed. Technologies to combat climate change related issues and possible remedial measures, issues related to soil degradation, decrease in water resources, high energy requirement associated with projected climate change scenarios and mitigation measures for sustainable crop production and fuel economy are covered. Facilitation to create reliable water resources for life saving irrigation atleast in the initial years of orcharding, measures to deal with adverse edaphic factors during consecutive droughts and cyclones and creating congenial conditions for proper phenological events for subsequent crop yields along with the case studies forming part of On Farm Adoptive Research (OFAR) trials conducted in different states of India and some success stories arose there on.

Biography

N. Narayana Reddy got his doctorate in Horticulture from Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. Presently he is the Principal Scientist in Horticulture at CRIDA, Hyderabad under ICAR. He served the Council in different capacities for the past 28 years. Handled important Inter Institutional projects, associated with 21 national and international training programmes, developed 51 doable technologies of practical relevance, got 40 national and international professional awards and recognitions, guided 16 M.Sc., MTech and Ph.D. students, published 134 research papers, books, book chapters, bulletins and others, expert member of INDIA GAP, NHB and on the board of various committees.

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