Feed The Future India Triangular Training Program (FTF ITT)  

On  

Farm Mechanization for Small Farmers  

Date: 11 – 25\textsuperscript{th} April, 2017 | Venue: ICAR – CIAE
Introduction

The role of mechanization in agriculture has increased as it enhances productivity through increased input use efficiency, timeliness of agricultural operations, reduced drudgery as well as the cost of cultivation. Mechanization interventions have been reported to increase the productivity by 15 per cent and reduce the cost of production to the tune of 20 per cent. The mechanization also facilitates conservation and sustainable agriculture while improving the livelihood opportunities, income and environmental sustainability. The present course is proposed considering the vital need of human resource development and capacity building for effective mechanization of small farms in African and Asian countries.

Objectives:

- To introduce the concept of mechanization for different unit operations of production agriculture viz. land preparation to threshing for major cropping systems of Afro-Asian countries.
- To introduce and demonstrate appropriate technologies for production agriculture leading to conservation of natural resources for sustainable agriculture for different cropping systems of Afro-Asian countries.
- Field visits to the mechanized villages and interaction with local farmers and study their success stories and to relevant educational/training institutes.
- Identify country specific technologies for mechanization for selected cropping systems of Afro-Asian countries.

Key Focus areas of the training Module

The training course shall emphasize on farm mechanization of small farms of African and Asian countries. Concept of mechanization, an insight to improved tools, implements and machinery suitable for crops grown in selected Afro-Asian countries and developed by
ICAR - CIAE and its AICRPs would mainly be covered for different operations of production agriculture viz. farm planning and irrigation systems & equipment, seeding and planting, weeding and interculture, plant protection, harvesting and threshing. In addition, the animal operated, power tiller and tractor operated equipment, precision farming, conservation agriculture; horticultural crop mechanization and covered cultivation and women friendly tools would also be covered.

An exposure would be provided to ergonomics and safety in agriculture machinery, Computer Aided Design (CAD) and manufacturing technology of simple agriculture implements, testing of agricultural equipment, entrepreneurship through agribusiness and custom hiring of agricultural machinery for small farms and renewable energy gadgets for small farms.

About 30% time shall be devoted in lecture-cum-interaction sessions, 40% time on hands on practices cum field demonstrations of selected tools and implements, 30% time for visits to mechanized villages, manufacturers, institutes of training and testing, and other relevant stakeholders. The presentations of country papers-cum-identification of technologies suitable for respective countries would also be included.

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