

**Minutes of the 14th Meeting of the Standing Committee to evaluate applications for commercial release of Bt cotton hybrids expressing approved events under 'Event Based Approval Mechanism (EBAM)' held in DBT, New Delhi on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2015**

The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee to review applications for commercial release of Bt cotton hybrids expressing approved events under 'Event based approval mechanism (EBAM)' was held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2015 in Room No. 816, Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, ADG (Commercial Crops), ICAR, New Delhi. The list of participants was as under:

**A. Members**

1. Dr. Dilip Monga, Head, CICR Regional Station, Sirsa, Haryana
2. Dr. Punit Mohan, Principal Scientist, CICR, Nagpur
3. Dr A.H. Parakash, Project Co-coordinator (Cotton), AICCIP, CICR, RS, Coimbatore
4. Prof. Ramesh Gumber, Addl. Director of Research & Head, Plant Breeding, PAU, Ludhiana
5. Shri R. K.Mishra, Director (Seeds), Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
6. Dr. S R Rao, Member Secretary, RCGM & Scientist-G, DBT
7. Dr. Rajalakshmi Muralidharan, Member Secretary, Standing Committee & Scientist-E, DBT

**B. Special Invitees**

1. Dr. Amit Parikh, Scientist-C, DBT
2. Dr. Govind Rai, Scientist, BSU
3. Sh. Sunil Naik, JA, DBT

Dr S.J. Rahman, Principal Scientist & Head, AICRP on Biological Control, Agri. Research Institute, Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad could not attend the meeting due to some personal problems.

**2. Welcome Remarks by the Chairman**

The Chairman, Standing Committee extended a formal welcome to the members of the Standing Committee and initiated the process of the meeting.

**3. Recommendations of the Bt cotton hybrids to State Agri. Departments**

The Committee considered the applications received for Central and South Zones based on the decisions taken in the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee held on 15.4.2015. The Committee also decided that the Bt cotton hybrids satisfying the prescribed parameters should be recommended for commercial cultivation to the respective State Agriculture Departments in Central & South Zones, and not for the entire Zone, under EBAM.

To elaborate, besides parameters such as protein contents, mortality, significant superiority of hybrids over best Bt check, care was also taken to examine the "Boll damage" as measured by economic threshold of damage determined to be at 10%.

Based on the SAU/AICCIP-ICAR reports, the Committee recommended the Bt cotton hybrids for commercial cultivation in respective States for Central & South Zones. The Committee directed the Member Secretary to issue the recommendation letters to different State Agriculture Departments in Central & South Zones for recommended Bt cotton hybrids under intimation to GEAC, on the same lines as in the previous meetings.

**4. List of Bt cotton hybrids recommended for withdrawal from commercialization**

The Committee noted the list of Bt cotton hybrids requested by the applicants, for voluntary withdrawal. The Committee directed the Member Secretary to send the list to GEAC for consideration.

With the above, the meeting ended with thanks to the Chair. The minutes are approved.

*N. Gopalakrishnan*  
2/5/2015

(Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan)  
Chairman, Standing Committee &  
ADG (Commercial Crops), ICAR, New Delhi

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 02.05.2015