

Citrus Growers who have been felicitated by the ICAR-CCRI for their outstanding achievements

I) Custodian farmers

Mr. Pramod Wasankar, Villlage Kandli, Achalpur, Amravati, Maharashtra

Mr. Pramod Wasankar is a great promoter of citrus in Amravati district. He has been identified as a custodian farmer of citrus under UNEP Project as he has maintained mother blocks of many citrus rootstocks including new promising rootstock Alemow. He has developed a good citrus nursery and is producing budded plants on recommended rootstocks. He has developed marketing chain for his produce through Mother Dairy Delhi and for last 3 years he is exporting fruit to Bangladesh also.

II) Progressive farmers

Nagpur mandarin

1) Shri. Gopalrao Govindrao Belsare : Village Kavitha Tah -Achalpur Dist- Amravati



Shri. Gopalrao Govindrao Belsare is a progressive cultivator & has 5 ha land and having fruit bearing 1400 Nagpur mandarin trees. Before technology demonstration he was having 18 tonnes per ha yield of Nagpur mandarin fruits. But after following N.R.C.C Technologies he has increased productivity to 25- 30 tonnes per ha. Now his garden is bearing good crop of Ambia bahar and better returns are expected this season.

2) Shri. Omprakash Patidar : Village: Junakheda, Tal – Zalrapatan, Dt- Zalawar – 326021 (Rajasthan)

Shri Patidar has got mandarin farming as an ancestral profession since last 55 years. Presently he has 3065 trees of Nagpur mandarin of various age. At NRCC he studied the containerised nursery system and obtained root stock plants of rough lemon, Rangpur lime and Alemow for his nursery and started the work of establishing citrus nursery at Zalawar, Rajathan. In Rajasthan, he is first to establish papaya nursery of Var.– Taiwan Red Lady and sold 2,10,000 plants during 2012. In 1995, considering the acute shortage of irrigation water, he mobilised farmers and established ‘Gram Samiti’ for life saving irrigation by seeking help from DRDA on 90:10 sharing basis.

3) Shri. Prashant Gulambe : At post Deobardi, Mohpa, Taluka Kalmeshwar, Dist : Nagpur

Shri. Prashant Gulambe is a progressive grower and nurseryowner of Nagpur mandarin since last 40 years. His orchards have 3000 plants of Nagpur mandarin and some of the trees are 35 year old. Presently he has crop on 1500 trees. This year he has sold 40,000 budded plants of Nagpur mandarin. He has his own elite mother plants of Nagpur mandarin for budwood and also rootstock plants for seeds.

4) Shri. Vivek V. Rathi. : GiriRaj, Chhindwara Road, At post Saunsar, Dist. Chhindwara -480106 (Madhya Pradesh),

Shri. Vivek V. Rathi is a progressive orange grower from Saunsar, Madhya Pradesh. He has 1400 plants of Nagpur mandarin out of which 1000 are well grown-up very healthy trees and his yield per hectare is 25 tonnes. He is following all NRCC recommendations, plant protection measures and also applying balanced combination of organic manures particularly vermicompost and inorganic fertilizers. He has micro-irrigation system in his orchard. Because of very good quality, all his fruit is being procured by traders from Bangladesh. Besides, he is using all technologies of NRC for Citrus and attending all extension programmes to learn and adapt new technologies.

5) Shri. Javed Khan, Warud, Dist Amravati

Shri. Javed Khan is a progressive Nagpur mandarin grower from Warud, a famous area for this mandarin. He has 41 acres of good orchard and he is following all the technologies recommended by NRCC like micro-irrigation, balanced fertilizer application and plant protection to maintain soil and plant health. He also has nursery of Nagpur mandarin and sold about 2,40,000 budded plants of Nagpur mandarin in the season.

6) Shri. Vijaykumar Paliwal : Mohpa, Taluka Kalmeshwar, Dist. Nagpur,

Shri. Vijaykumar Paliwal is a progressive minded grower and entrepreneur who started Nagpur mandarin juice processing unit 5-6 years back. In his unit he is processing 350-400 tonnes of oranges every year and marketing the juice in bulk packaging. In 2012, with the help of NRCC guidance he had established citrus packing line of 2 tonne per hour capacity and marketed 70 tonne of properly sorted, waxed, and graded fruit to distant markets.

7) Shri Gajanan Ramkrishna Ingole, At village Asola (BK) Tah- Manora Dist- Washim

Shri. Gajanan Ramkrishna Ingole, Agriculturist and a Teacher has 8.8 ha of land on which he planted 391 Nagpur Mandarin trees. He was adopted for technology demonstration in the year 2009 to 2012. He has adopted all technology because of which since 2009 he sold his crop for Rs. 3 to 3.5 lakhs consecutively for last three years and this year it is expected to fetch price 6 lakh and above.

8) Shri Arun Sukhdeorao Ganorkar, At village Chistur Tah-Ashti Dist- Wardha

Shri Arun Sukhdeorao Ganorkar is the progressive citrus grower & has total 2.5 ha land and 1 ha under Nagpur mandarin & 1 ha under Sweet orange. Previously before the technology demonstration he had taken low yield up to 5 to 10 tonnes/ha. He was selected for the demonstration for rejuvenation and then developed his orchard. Due to demonstration and adoption of technology he received very good yield up to 20 tonnes /ha. He has also attended 4 TMC citrus growers training programmes. He is also a member of 'ATMA' of Ashti taluka. Joint Director of Agriculture, Nagpur Division also visited the Garden & appreciated his efforts. Many farmers visit his garden for seeking his advice.

9) Vilas Bhingardive

Progressive grower from Ahmednagar who planted 5000 disease-free plants of Nagpur mandarin.

He also has Meadow orchard of guava. Nursery of fruit plants

Sathgudi sweet orange growers:

1) Shri. Murali Krishna : At post Miryalguda, Taluka- Miryalguda, Dist.- Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri. Murali Krishna is a progressive Sathgudi orange grower from Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh and he is growing oranges since 8-9 years on 10 acres of land. He has planted certified planting material of Sathgudi on Rangpur lime rootstock from Kodur nursery. His per ha yield is 28-29 tonnes / ha. Besides inorganic fertilizers, he is applying vermicompost and provides drenching of vermiwash to his trees. He has his own vermicompost unit and produces 20 tonnes of vermicompost every year.

2) Shri. P. Madhava Reddy : House No. 5-178, Thadakamalla, Myrialguda Mandal, Dist. Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri. P. Madhava Reddy is a progressive Sathgudi orange grower from Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh and has 800 Sathgudi trees on Jambhiri i.e. Rough lemon rootstock. Trees are 9 year old and yield is 120 kg per tree that is 25 tonnes per hectare. He has planted trees at 7 x 7 m. He is using microsprinkler

system and applying water soluble fertilizers through micro-irrigation. He is also applying vermicompost and FYM to trees for sustainable high productivity. He is producing 5 tonnes of vermicompost on his farm.

Mosambi Growers :

- 1) **Shri Shreedhar Patidar:** At post Jotpur, Taluka : Manavar, Dist: Dhar (Madhya Pradesh):

Shri Shreedhar Patidar is a progressive grower of Mosambi orange from Dhar district since 1982. It is a non-traditional area of Mosambi and with his sheer determination he developed orchard on 65 acres. It is a nucellar Mosambi on Rangpur lime rootstock. He is using good combination of organic manures and inorganic fertilizers along with micronutrients and oil cakes. Marketing of fruit is done by himself only and he is not selling orchard to pre-harvest contractors. He is a recipient of National Magnum Award, Bhartiya Udyog Ratna Award, Vanoshadhi Krishi Bhushan Puraskar, and many such national recognitions. He is a social worker and started mass marriages way back in 1982. He is an owner of **Patidar Musli Farm and Research Centre** and Vrindawan fruit nursery.

- 2) **Shri. Ravindra babasaheb Golde :** At Pimparkhed, Post : Chinchkhed, Via Pachod, Taluka: Ambad, Dist.: Jalna, 431204 (Maharashtra),

Ravindra Golde is a progressive Mosambi orange grower of Jalna and has healthy orchard on 28 acres. He is a recipient of ***Shetinishtha Shetkari Puraskar*** from Government of Maharashtra. He is growing Mosambi since last 50 years. He has 3000 trees of Mosambi and out of that, 800 trees are 30 year old. Average productivity is 18-20 tonnes/ ha. In addition to this he has commercial orchard of custard apple (3000 plants), Aonla (3000 plants), Jamun (Bardoli, 3000 plants) and pomegranate 400 plants. Entire plantation is raised on drip system of irrigation. He is growing acid lime also on 1 ha and trees are 15 year old. Shri. Golde has a very good Nursery of sweet orange (Nucellar), Acid Lime (Sai sarbati), seedlings. Annual sale of sweet orange budded plants & Acid Lime seedlings is near about 80,000. Shri. Golde has completed the training on Nursery management for the production of disease free seedlings of Sweet orange, & Acid Lime organized by TMC, MKV, at Sweet Orange Research Station, Badnapur. He is following NRCC, technologies for the production of disease-free planting material in nursery. He is using green manure and FYM as a source of organic manure in his orchards.

- 3) **Shri. Suryakant rao Manikrao Deshmukh :** At Post Zari, Taluka and Dist : Parbhani, Maharashtra,

Shri. Suryakantrao Deshmukh is a progressive Mosambi grower from Parbhani district of Maharashtra and he is growing Mosambi orange since 1982. He has Moambi orange on 14 hectares and productivity is 25 tonnes per

ha. The age of orchard is 30 years. He is also growing acid lime on 6 acres. His entire plantation is irrigated with drip system and source of water is open wells, bore wells and water harvesting pond. He is also a Sarpanch, Grampanchayat Zari, and **recipient of Shetnist, Gold medal**, appreciation certificate. He has got very good experience of Mosambi marketing all over India viz. in cities like Delhi, Agra, Mathura, Amritsar, Kolkata, Bangalore, Nagpur, Mumbai, Pune Kolhapur, etc. Besides, he has also planted orchards of Aonla, Mango, Acid Lime and Guava. He has guided other fruit growers around the village and is giving more stress on Green manuring instead of Chemical fertilizers for Mosambi.

4) Shri. Mohammed Yasin Mohhamed Quasim, Basmath nagar, Hingoli

Progressive grower who planted disease-free planting material first time in 2001 and has very good orchard.

Acid lime

1) Shri. Prabhakar Rao Gangane : Laxmi Niwas Yatra Chowk, At post Akot, Dist. Akola, Maharashtra

Shri. Prabhakar Gangane is a progressive acid lime grower from Akola district and has experience of growing acid lime since last 40 years. He has acid lime plantation on 33 acres and has 600 trees which are 32 year old. He has followed the technology of pruning given by NRCC to rejuvenate his senile trees which are now producing good crop of around 3000 fruit / tree annually.

2) Shri Ramesh Shrikhande, At village Paradsinga Tah- Katol Dist- Nagpur

Shri. Ramesh Shrikhande, by profession Engineer and a progressive cultivator of village Paradsinga, Nagpur, has 2 ha. of Acid lime and takes regular all seasons bahar of acid lime. He is one of the recipients of first Acid lime prizes in the two consecutive N.R.C.C, National Citrus fruits Show during the year 2011 and 2013 in Rashtriya Kisan Mela. His income per year from the Acid lime has increased by 50 percent after adoption of N.R.C.C Technology.