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Publications



AICRP-WEED CONTROL CENTRES



- 1 COHPPV, Patancheru
- 2 PAU, Ludhiana
- 3 CCMAUET, Raipur
- 4 GGPUAT, Patancheru
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AICRP Weed Control

A Profile



ALL INDIA COORDINATED RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON WEED CONTROL

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Designing & Layout : Dr. V. K. S. Mishra
Published in : February, 2006



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Weeds in general account for 30% loss in agricultural productivity worldwide. They have detrimental effect on biodiversity, environment and well-being of human beings, livestock and aquatic life. Research on the status of different kinds of weeds in varied agro-climatic conditions and their control measures in cropped, non-cropped areas and aquatic bodies is very much essential to boost our agricultural production and to improve upon the quality of life. The weed research programme in the country started in 1978 with the establishment of All India Coordinated Research Programme on Weed Control in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture at six locations. The programme has been further strengthened in different phases by adding more coordinating Centres. At present, 22 Centres under AICRP-Weed Control are functioning at various SAUs. The coordinating unit of the programme was attached initially with the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, which was later, shifted to Jabalpur after the establishment of All India Research Centre for Weed Science in 1993. The research stations on weed control are made available to the respective state agencies for their population through the farming contracts only.

Mandate

- To conduct coordinated trials for developing location-specific weed management technology.
- To demonstrate the weed management technology through on-farm trials.

Objectives

- Survey of weed flora, mapping their distribution, ecology and habitat.
- Identification of new herbicides and working out weed competition threshold levels.
- To work out effective and economical weed control schedule for field and plantation crops and in different agro-ecological conditions.
- Studies on biology and control of problem weeds including aquatic and parasitic weeds.
- To study the long-term residual and cumulative effects if any, of herbicides.
- To standardize bioassay techniques for estimating herbicide residues in soil, crop and water systems.
- Basic research at different centres having adequate laboratory facilities for rendering support to adaptive research.
- Testing of available local implements for weed management under various management systems.
- Training extension personnel in weed management and on-farm research.

Human Resource and financial outlay in X plan

The AICRP-WC has a sanctioned strength of 72 scientists, 54 technical, 22 administrative and 32 supporting staff. The total financial outlay approved for X plan period is 1696.68 lakhs.

Salient Achievements

- Survey on weed-wise distribution of weeds has been completed and published. Major recommendations for weed control in cropped and non-cropped areas, local names of weeds and status of invasive weeds in India have been compiled and published. Weed atlas, weed identification manuals are in the process of publication.
- On the basis of exhaustive phytogeographical survey of weeds in different agro and cropping systems, non-cropped areas, wasteland and water bodies,



Salvinia rotunda

important weeds have been identified in cropped land, important weeds are *Echinochloa colona*, *Echinochloa crusgalli*, *Jakweera ragasana*, *Cyperus* sp., *Moroneia vaghelsii* in rice and other rainy season crops. *Pennisetum* spp., *Amaranthus* spp., *Chenopodium album*, *Poa annua*,

Convolvulus arvensis in wheat and other winter crops. In aquatic system, *Echinochloa crusgalli*, *Salvinia rotunda* and in non-cropped areas *Pithecolobium bryanthoporum*, *Carduus caryops*, *Chromolaola odorata* etc. have been identified as major problem weeds.

- In rice-wheat cropping system, continuous use of anilopraz in rice resulted in build up of *Cyperus* sp., while build up resulted in build up of *Jakweera ragasana*. Similarly, continuous use of isoproturon in wheat increased the population of *Amaranthus arvensis* and *Moroneia vaghelsii*. Recommended herbicides used in rice have no residual phytotoxic effect on wheat and vice-versa.



Amaranthus arvensis

- The critical period of crop-weed competition was found to be between 15-30 days in green gram and black gram, 20-40 DAS in transplanted rice, 40-50 DAS in groundnut, 15-45 DAS in upland drilled rice, soybean, sorghum, mustard 30-45 DAS in maize, sorghum, wheat, 15-60 DAS in pigeonpea and sugarcane and 30-60 DAS in chickpea, pea and lentil. Weed free condition is to be ensured during this period for higher crop productivity.



Comb-weeder for green gram use incorporated with weeding in

provides 86.4% and 67% and economical effect of weed control in wet

weeds in rice

- In rice, butachlor 1.5-2.0 kg/ha, acifluorfen 0.3-0.4 kg/ha, flazacarb 1.25 kg/ha, proflaquin 0.75 kg/ha, flumetralin, isoproturon 1.0 kg/ha, 2,4-D 0.75-1.0 kg/ha in groundnut, s-metolachlor 1.0 kg/ha, pendimethalin 1.0 kg/ha and metolachlor 0.75 kg/ha in soybean, fluchlorfen 1.0 kg/ha, pendimethalin 1.0 kg/ha and metolachlor 0.75 kg/ha, alachlor 1.0 kg/ha, oxadiazon 0.75 kg/ha, oxyfluorfen 0.1-0.15 kg/ha, in maize, atrazine 1.0 kg/ha, in vegetables like chilies, onion, tomato, pendimethalin 1.0 kg/ha, in potato, metolachlor 0.3 kg/ha and in cotton, directed spray of paraquat 0.3 kg/ha (S-6-NAC) were found to be very effective against weeds.



Pennisetum

- Continuous use of isoproturon in wheat resulted in resistance to isoproturon in *Pennisetum* weed. For control of isoproturon resistant *Pennisetum* weed, use of fenoxaprop 100 g/ha, sulfocarbonyl 20-25 g/ha and dodrinat 50-60 g/ha have been recommended.

- Long-term permanent field trials are being conducted to monitor weed flora shift and herbicide residue build up in important cropping systems under different agro-climatic zones of the country.

- In sugarcane, irrigation at 40-45 days stage and hoeing to destroy emerged weeds followed by spray of atrazine at 2.0 kg/ha or metolachlor at 1.0 kg/ha before emergence of weeds is recommended.

- In intercropping systems viz, blackgram + sesamum, pigeonpea + sorghum, chickpea + linseed, potato + mustard, lentil + linseed, groundnut + pigeonpea, application of pendimethalin 1.0 kg/ha was found very effective.

- Integrated weed management practices with pre-emergence application of oxyfluorfen 0.15 kg/ha either as spray or soil risk broadcast combined with one hand weeding on 45 DAP proved to be the best integrated weed management practice to transplanted onion.

- For aquatic weed control, glyphosate 0.5-2.0 kg/ha for control of *Cuscuta* in linseed, pendimethalin 1.0 kg/ha and control of *Pithecolobium bryanthoporum* spray of 2,4-D or glyphosate at 1-1.5 kg/ha before flowering were found very effective.



Lactuca scariola

- Application of glyphosate at 1% concentration or at 0.75 kg/ha + surfactant on regenerated bushes in October was effective in controlling *Lactuca scariola*.
- Deep ploughing in summer and puddling of soil followed by sprinkling of water for two months controls *Saccharum spontaneum* (Kanasrao) effectively.
- Application of metolachlor 0.2 per cent is recommended for effective control of *Pithecolobium*.

- Zygogramma bicolorata* (Mexican beetle) can effectively control *Pithecolobium* in Northern plain, hot sub-humid region.



Zygogramma bicolorata feeding on *Pithecolobium*

- Estimation of herbicide residues through bioassay has been standardized for many herbicides.

- There was no detectable herbicide residue in soil, water and produce in rice-wheat system where herbicides (alachlor and isoproturon) have been used for 11 years in northern plain and central highlands.

- Post-emergence spraying of 2,4-D Na salt at 5 g + urea 20 g/litre of water on 60 DAP in sugarcane effectively reduced the density and dry weight of *Sida acuta* with better weed control efficiency in sugarcane which resulted in higher cane and sugar yields.

- In Hyderabad, three lined cultivator in maize and wheat hoe in groundnut were found efficient for controlling weeds. At Jorhat, two weedicide twin wheel-hoe were found effective in summer rice while twin wheel-hoe and grubber at 40 DAS in winter wheat proved effective.



Zero-tillage technology

- Zero-tillage technology is being advocated to farmers as an integrated weed management practice.

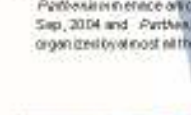
- Technology for production of verticillium post utilizing weed biomass (*Moroneia vaghelsii*, *Pennisetum arvensis* and *Wheat* biomass) has been



Wheat biomass

- About 99% farmers of Punjab use herbicides in kharif season while 94% farmers apply in soil. About 10-15% farmers are using herbicides in upland rice, maize and vegetable of kharif.

- To create awareness about *Pithecolobium* once among public, *Pithecolobium* awareness day on 4 Sep, 2014 and *Pithecolobium* awareness week during Sep, 2005 was organized by most of the centres.



Pithecolobium burning



Awareness Training