

Name of the technology : **Innovative Decision Support System for sustainable tobacco seed delivery**

Year (s) of development : 2021 - 2023

Technology details

ICAR- CTRI is playing a pivotal role in quality seed supply to tobacco farmers as the product integrity is vital for exports. ICAR-CTRI is supplying seed of released varieties to all the FCV tobacco growers manually through verification of grower's registration numbers and receipts are issued accordingly. It is a laborious, time consuming and requires more human resources. In order to overcome these difficulties, an efficient online digital seed distribution system 'Tobacco Seed Portal' was developed. It is a web based portal developed using PHP and MySQL, for hassle free transparent and seamless seed supply of all tobacco types across the different regions. It was hosted in Internet with URL 'tobaccoseed.in'. The portal was initially implemented in seed supply to FCV tobacco farmers of Andhra Pradesh. The passport data comprising the basic details with Tobacco Board Grower (TBGR) Number of registered FCV tobacco growers of all auction platforms from four distinctive tobacco production zones (SLS, SBS, NLS and TBS). The software will be executed through authentication only i.e., using LOGIN and PASSWORD. To access the details of a specific farmer for seed sales, Tobacco Board Grower Register (TBGR) number is used as a primary key. This also enables to take a decision on quantum of seed and variety to be supplied. Further, the database of this software was also designed to generate the reports viz., Auction Platform wise (APF) / Region wise / Variety wise / Location / Grower type / Payment mode/date. Specific provision was also made to monitor the seed sales in real-time environment with URL tobaccoseed.in/seeds/realtimedata.php. It also has the user interface to view the cultivation/production practices of the popular released varieties. The specified software surpassed the bottlenecks in the manual process of seed distribution and enabled to retrieve the data in real time. The generated reports will also help in monitoring, development and evaluation of crop strategies. This innovative seed portable will go a long way in hassle free transparent and seamless seed supply and can be emulated in seed supply in other crops.



Impact of the technology

Using this software, seed of six FCV and one Non-FCV tobacco varieties was distributed to around 24,000 FCV farmers and 120 Non-FCV tobacco farmers in 2022 and earned revenue of Rs. 75 lakhs. During 2023 season, a total quantity of 15798 kg seed was supplied to 23,648 FCV tobacco registered growers and also to 1430 commercial nursery growers and earned highest revenue of Rs. 179.0 lakhs which is a record since the inception of Revolving Fund scheme. The software facilitated the digital payment very easily resulting in seamless hassle free seed supply to farmers.

Publications/commercialization

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Investigators/Developers

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