

# Proceeding of Review Workshop of Farmer FIRST Project 2022-23

20th November 2023  
ATARI Pune



भाकृअनुप-कृषि प्रौद्योगिकी अनुप्रयोग अनुसंधान संस्थान  
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## Proceeding of Annual Review Workshop of Farmer FIRST Project

Venue: ICAR-ATARI, Pune  
20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Introduction

The Farmer FIRST (Farm, Innovations, Resources, Science and Technology) programme aims at enriching Farmers–Scientist interface, technology assemblage, application and feedback, partnership and institutional building and content mobilization has been initiated since October, 2016. It seeks to provide a platform to farmers and scientists for creating linkages, capacity development, technology adaptation and application, on-site input management, feedback and institution building.

### Under this project, ICAR-ATARI, Pune has 3 centres as follows:

1. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Maharashtra
2. Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat
3. Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, Gujarat

Farmer FIRST project has been implemented in these centres since 2016-17. Different technological demonstrations have been conducted under various modules and an effort has been taken to empower the farmers technically. Centre wise details of different projects under FFP is given below.

#### 1. Name of Institute: Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Maharashtra

**Title of the Project:** Socio-economic Empowerment of Farmers through Farming System Interventions for Sustainable Agriculture Development in Ahmednagar District

**Name and designation of PI:** Dr. P. B. Kharde, Officer Incharge, Communication Centre & Principal Investigator, ICAR Farmer FIRST program, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri.

#### Name and designation of Co-PIs with affiliating institute:

1. Dr. A. G. Durgude, Assistant Professor (SS & AC), MPKV, Rahuri
2. Dr. R. P. Andhale, Assistant Professor (Agron.), MPKV, Rahuri
3. Prof. M. H. Gawade, Assistant Professor (Hort.), MPKV, Rahuri
4. Dr. N. S. Kute, Senior Scientist, Pulse Improvement Project, MPKV, Rahuri
5. Dr. A. B. Kambale, Associate Professor (Agron), MPKV, Rahuri
6. Dr. U. S. Surve, Associate Professor (Agron), MPKV, Rahuri
7. Dr. B. A. Deshmukh, Technical Officer, MPKV, Rahuri
8. Dr. S. S. Mandakmale, Associate Professor (ASDS), MPKV, Rahuri
9. Dr. R. G. Nimse, Assistant Professor (ASDS), MPKV, Rahuri
10. Dr. S. S. Sadaphal, Technical Officer, MPKV, Rahuri
11. Dr. V. G. Pokharkar, Assistant Professor (Agril. Econ.), MPKV, Rahuri
12. Dr. S. D. Patil, Assistant Professor (Agril. Extn.), MPKV, Rahuri



13. Shri. V. R. Shedje, Senior Research Fellow, MPKV, Rahuri
14. Shri. K. P. Magar, Field Assistant, MPKV, Rahuri
15. Shri. R. D. Korhale, Field Assistant, MPKV, Rahuri

## 2. Name of Institute: Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat

**Title of the Project:** Ensuring Livelihood Security for Small and Marginal Farmers of South Gujarat

**Name and designation of PI:** Dr. Alpesh Leua, Associate Professor, ACHF, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari.

### Name and designation of Co-PIs with affiliating institute:

1. Dr. V. P. Usdadia, Research Scientist, Soil and Water Management Research Unit, NAU, Navsari
2. Dr. H. M. Viradia, Associate Professor (Agronomy), NMCA, NAU, Navsari
3. Dr. L. K. Arvadiya, Associate Professor (Agronomy), N.M.C.A., NAU, Navsari
4. Dr. B. M. Tandel, Associate Professor (Horticulture), ACOHF, NAU, Navsari
5. Dr. N. B. Patel, Associate Professor (Veterinary), Veterinary college, NAU, Navsari
6. Dr. C. D. Chauhan, (Senior Research Fellow)
7. Mr. A. N. Patel, (Field Assistant)
8. Miss. V. J. Ahir, (Field Assistant)

## 3. Name of Institute: Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh

**Title of the Project:** Integrated Resource Management in Agriculture and Allied Fields for Stakeholders under FFP

**Name and designation of PI:** Dr. V. J. Savaliya, Principal Investigator & Training Associate, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh.

### Name and designation of Co-PIs with affiliating institute:

1. Dr. A. M. Bharadiya, Associate Research Scientist, Main Oilseed Research Station, JAU, Junagadh
2. Dr. P. J. Gohil, Training Associate, DEE, JAU, Junagadh
3. Dr. H. C. Chhodavadia, Associate Extension Educationist DEE, JAU, Junagadh
4. Dr. V. B. Bhalu, Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy, JAU, Junagadh
5. Dr. S. S. Parikh, Assistant Research Scientist, Cattle Breeding Farm, JAU, Junagadh
6. Dr. I. B. Kapadiya, Assistant Research Scientist, Wheat Research Station, JAU, Junagadh
7. Prof. S. R. Vasava, Assistant Research Scientist, Pulse Research Station, JAU, Junagadh
8. Prof. A. S. Jadeja, Assistant Professor, Department of Agril. Chemistry, JAU, Junagadh
9. Dr. P. B. Raviya, Senior Research Fellow, DEE, JAU, Junagadh
10. Mr. L. K. Mokariya, Field Assistant, DEE, JAU, Junagadh

11. Mr. C. B. Gal, Field Assistant, DEE, JAU, Junagadh

❖ **ATARI Pune level**

At ATARI Level the FFP Project is monitored, reviewed and coordinated by

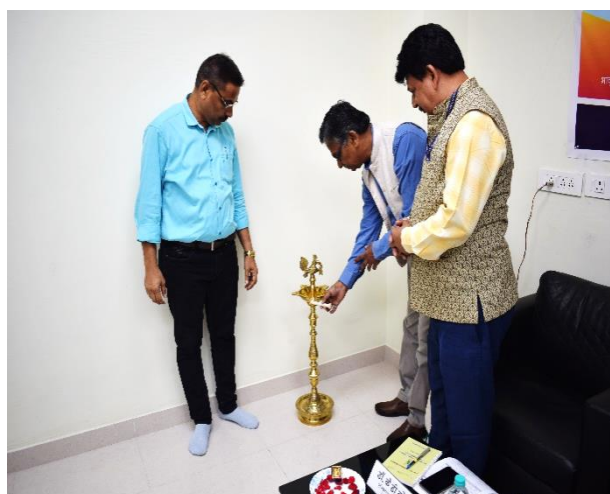
1. Dr. S K Roy, Director ATARI Pune
2. Dr. Rajesh T, PI FFP & Scientist, ATARI Pune
3. Ms. Patil Supriya Suresh, SRF FFP, ATARI Pune

## Inaugural Programme

The ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Zone-VIII, Pune has organized ‘Annual Review Workshop of Farmer FIRST Project’ at ICAR- ATARI Pune on 20th November 2023.

Time	Activities	
<b>9.30 hrs</b>	<b>Registration of participants</b>	
	<b>Inaugural Session</b>	
<b>10.00 hrs</b>	Arrival of Hon’ble Chief Guest, Guest of Honors and Dignitaries ICAR Song and Lighting of Lamp	
<b>10.10 hrs</b>	Welcome	<b>Dr. Rajesh T</b> Scientist (Agril Economics), ICAR-ATARI, Pune
<b>10.20 hrs</b>	About the programme	<b>Dr. S. K. Roy</b> Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune
<b>10.35 hrs</b>	Remark by Guest of Honour	<b>Dr. K.D. Kokate</b> Former DDG (Agril Extension) ICAR, New Delhi
<b>10.50 hrs</b>	Remark by Chief Guest	<b>Dr. R.R. Burman</b> ADG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi
<b>11.05 hrs</b>	Vote of Thanks	<b>T.R. Athare</b> Scientist (Agril Extension), ICAR-ATARI, Pune
<b>11.00 hrs</b>	Rapporteurs	<b>Supriya Patil</b> SRF (Farmer FIRST), ICAR-ATARI, Pune
<b>11.15 hrs</b>	High Tea and Group Photo	

Inaugurating the Workshop, the Chief Guest Dr. K. D. Kokate, Former DDG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi shared insightful perspectives on the genesis of Farmer FIRST project. He also underlined that the centers should set an example to others by doing innovative activities. He further added that virtual visits to FFP centers must be developed by creating short video clips by using innovative thoughts and experiences. He stressed that funds under the project must be utilized for innovative activities; and income generating convergence activities like livestock, fisheries and farm ponds must be adopted by linking with government schemes.



The Guest of Honor Dr. R.R. Burman, ADG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi suggested the development of business models along with enriching nutrition models. He suggested that in each FFP center, atleast 1000 farm households must be covered. He urged that 75 percent resources from the project must be used in new clusters selected under study and 25 percent in old clusters. Old Clusters should have a sustainable plan with interventions like seed hub and seed villages. He insisted that all technology modules must be implemented by each FFP center. The impact must be documented in selected as well as nearby villages.



Dr. S.K. Roy, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune in his welcome address underlined the salient achievements of the three FFP centers i.e. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth (MPKV), Rahuri, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari and Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Junagadh. He emphasized the need of more centers under Farmer FIRST project in the zone.

Dr. N.M Chauhan, DEE, NAU, Navsari pointed out some of the important issues of FFP centers. He stated that sufficient staff is required for monitoring and evaluation of FFP Project along with more financial and physical facilities. There is good response from three FFP villages and KVKs in the jurisdiction, hence requested to cover more area under the project.

In the technical session, PIs of the three FFP centers of Maharashtra and Gujarat presented salient achievements of 2022-23 and action plan of 2023-24. Around 20 participants were present during the workshop from MPKV, Rahuri, NAU, Navsari and JAU, Junagadh FFP centers along with the staff of ICAR-ATARI, Pune.



## Technical Session

Technical Session	
Chair	<b>Dr. K.D. Kokate</b> Former DDG, (Agril Extension), ICAR, New Delhi <b>Dr. N.M Chauhan</b> DEE, NAU, Navsari
Co-chair	<b>Dr. S.K. Roy</b> Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune
Rapporteurs	<b>T.R. Athare</b> , Scientist, ICAR-ATARI, Pune <b>Rajesh T</b> , Scientist, ICAR-ATARI, Pune
Presentation of FFP Centres (3) 20+5 minute discussion each	<b>MPKV, Rahuri</b> <b>JAU, Junagadh</b> <b>NAU, Navsari</b>
Remarks of Chair and Co-chair	

During the technical session, three FFP Centers from Maharashtra and Gujarat presented their Annual Progress Report for 2022-23 and Annual Action Plan for 2023-24. The remarks and suggestions given by Chair and Co-Chair are given below.

### 1. FFP Center: MPKV, Rahuri

*Presented by Dr. R.G. Nimase, Co – PI, FFP, MPKV, Rahuri*

- Suggested to mention ‘Farmer FIRST Project’ in project title.
- The effect of Ridges and Furrows in Pulse production must be studied in the coming Year.
- For BBF Technology highlight the benchmark year and mention how much area increase to BBF method.
- Water saving data must be generated in BBF.
- Mention variety used in control along with other parameters like plant population, number of pods, plant height, number of irrigations, etc.
- Add data of other parameters in slide instead of repeating same data in tables and graphs.
- Highlight mechanization harvesting in chickpea variety.
- Indicate variety of farmers in sorghum crop.
- Mention additional area increased under Phule Revati variety after starting the intervention.
- Develop 10 point questionnaire to study the before and after intervention impact for all crop modules.
- Try fodder production in rainfed situation.
- Give appropriate methodologies for livestock based modules.
- Develop new Livestock based module and Business models for Sangamneri Goat Breed.

- In Goat management data, add information related to Mortality, Survival rate, Birth rate, etc.
- In goat module beneficiaries, mention numbers of landless labours and marginal farmers.
- Mention number of Goat Units present with each farmer and goat population in the villages.
- For Vermicompost module write Species or strains for Earthworms instead of breed.
- Every farmers must be motivated to take demos on Vermicompost as it will support Natural Farming.
- Increase the number of Farmers for Silage preparation.
- In Silage component give data for Milk and labour.
- Use the term cost of cultivation for unit Rs/ha instead of cost of production which is used for unit Rs/q.
- Mention name of research guide below thesis title.
- In 1<sup>st</sup> success story of farmer, change rate of produce of red gram with soybean.
- In Chickpea success story, mention number of irrigations.
- In IFS success story, mention the components (cow, buffalo, soybean, chickpea, poultry) in brackets.
- In Success story of Savita Nalkar, mention capacity of Farm pond and component Fishery.



## 2. FFP Center: NAU, Navsari

*Presented by Dr. L.K. Arvadia, Co – PI, FFP, NAU, Navsari*

- Do not underline the headlines.
- Font size must be large or in capitals appropriate to slides and should be readable.
- Mention components under NRM module.
- Highlight the data on number of irrigations, soil testing and organic carbon for sugarcane.
- Mention variety used, age of orchards, area with each farmer in Horticulture Module.
- Remove data of Sapota from Mango slides.
- Mention unit for fruits weight.
- Give specific reasons/clarity why yield is increased.
- Clearly check the data in tables.
- Check cost of cultivation in T1 T2 treatments.
- Mention number of animals covered under IFS module and also in livestock based module.

- Mention units in Nutrient status slide.
- Give data for increase in employment.
- Put Out-scaling of Technologies slide in last.
- In capacity building table, remove the rows where data is not there.
- Action Plan to be included.

### 3. FFP Center: JAU, Junagadh

*Presented by Dr. I.B. Kapadiya Co – PI, FFP, JAU, Junagadh*

- Under brief profile of villages remove the word *adopted* Villages instead used Selected Villages or Project Villages.
- Include NRM module as it is included in project title.
- Check all the additional net return values for all crops.
- Include number of irrigations in chickpea.
- Remove the rows from table under which data is nil.
- Include NRM in crop based modules.
- Instead of *Input Distribution* use the term Critical Inputs.
- The difference between results of Check and Demo is very less.
- Action Plan to be included.
- 



### Valedictory session

Time	Programme	Speakers
14.30 hrs	Overview of the Workshop	<b>Dr. S. K. Roy</b> Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune
14.45 hrs	Remark by Chief Guest	<b>Dr. K.D. Kokate</b> Former DDG, (Agril Extension), ICAR, New Delhi <b>Dr. N.M Chauhan</b> DEE, NAU, Navsari
15.00 hrs	Vote of Thanks	<b>Dr. Rajesh T</b> Scientist (Agril Economics) ICAR-ATARI, Pune

In Valedictory session, remarks and suggestions given by Chairman, Co-chairman, experts and other participants in the house are given below.

#### Remarks given by Dr. N.M Chauhan, DEE, NAU, Navsari:

- Every PI, Co-PI, Members should be involved in the Project Implementation.
- Present upto point with proper terminologies during presentation.

#### Remarks given by Dr. S.K. Roy, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune:

- In Project title, mention Farmer FIRST Project.
- Presentation must be clear and it should show impact of FFP.
- Coverage of Farmers in each center must be increased.
- NICRA Interventions like CHC can be introduced in FFP.

#### Remarks given by Dr. K.D. Kokate, Former DDG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi:

- FFP is a way to show process and methodology to the main extension systems.
- Funds must be utilized appropriately.
- Modules must be adopted location specific after discussing among team members.
- Conduct periodic meetings among PI, Co-PI, Members to have better coordination among themselves and to give inputs in Action Plan.
- Powerpoint presentations must be made in advance and kept ready for presentation at any time.
- VCs, DEEs, and Project Directors of respective Universities should review the FFP regularly.
- Project titles must be reflected in the modules adopted.

#### Remarks given by Dr. R.R. Burman, ADG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi:

- Present precisely as per the format provided in the National workshop at Palampur.
- VCs, DEEs and PI of respective Universities should monitor the activities under FFP regularly.
- CHC, VCRM are Professional Social Institutions that must be included in FFP.
- Regular Interactions among team members is required.
- Coverage of FFP must be increased.





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