



VPKAS

Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (Vivekananda Institute of Hill Agriculture)

Almora

Courses

1. Seed Production of Major Hill Crops
2. Wasteland Management in Hills

Contact Person

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The Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan is a multi crop, multi-disciplinary Research Institute for north-western hill region. Established as one man laboratory known as Vivekananda laboratory by Late Dr Boshi Sen in July 1924 at Kolkata. It was permanently shifted in 1936 to Almora. In October 1974, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research took it over to make it a 'Centre for Excellence in Hill Agriculture' and named as Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, (Vivekananda Institute of Hill Agriculture) Almora. The Institute regularly organizes short training courses for officials of the State Departments of Agriculture. During the year 2008, two international training courses, one on Seed Production of Major Hill Crops and the other on Wasteland Management in Hills, will be organized. These training programmes are open to both national and international scientists/ persons. Those interested should send their applications to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in proforma attached with this brochure.

1. Seed Production of Major Hill Crops

The course aims to cover know how to various aspects on seed production technology related to wheat, maize, rice, vegetables, pulses and small millets, the major crops grown in hills. The training imparted will be helpful to individual trainee to handle seed production programme of these crops in an efficient manner.

Training Programme

- In-house lectures on various aspects of seed production
- Practical training in field and exposure to the seed testing.
- Processing, post-harvest handling, storage and marketing of the seed.

Faculty

Highly qualified scientific staff with specialization in various aspects of seed production technology are available at the Institute.

- Course Director** : Dr Vinay Mahajan
- Duration** : 3 weeks (March 11-31, 2009)
- Course fee** : US \$ 1,250
(exclusive of boarding & lodging)
- No. of trainees per course** : 10
- Accommodation** : Will be provided at Institute's guest house at reasonable cost
- Eligibility** : Scientific/technical persons with minimum BSc (Ag)/BSc

Course Contents

- Importance of quality seed, varietal development and release procedures
- Seed production procedures in general and crop-wise. Maintenance breeding, Varietal characteristics, Seed certification and harvesting
- Agronomic management. Management of disease and insect pests, post-harvest handling of seeds, molecular characterization of released cultivars and seed village concept.



2. Wasteland Management in Hills

Widespread land degradation that we see today in hills is a bi-product of excessive exploitation of its natural resources beyond a threshold limits resulting into ever declining production of fuel, fodder etc. There is an acute scarcity of forages in hills round the year. The crucial question at this juncture is from where and how to bridge this gap between availability and requirement, obviously we have to take account of existing land resources, their quality and production potential. For this there is a need to develop a system which can maintain the soil fertility, checks the soil erosion and supply the fodder for animal from different type of wastelands. Thus, there is an utmost need to have proper wasteland land management which will produce from marginal land and will also be capable of maintaining and improving the quality of producing environment. A specific management of land and water resources in hilly areas through appropriate vegetation measure will attain long term conservation and production need. This course will helpful in overall development of wasteland in hills.

Training Programme

The course consists of lectures on specific topics as well as brief field trips and laboratory work.

Faculty

A group of highly qualified scientific specialization in various disciplines in agriculture, are available in the Institute.

Course Director	: Dr A K Srivastava
Duration	: 3 weeks (9-29 September 2009)
Course fee	: US \$ 1,250 (exclusive of boarding & lodging)
No. of trainees per course	: 10
Accommodation	: Will be provided at Institute's guest house at reasonable cost
Eligibility	: Graduate in agriculture or Botany with experience in crop production or agro-forestry or wasteland management

Course Contents

- Land-use concept and utilization. Principles of crop production, cropping system in hills.
- Natural resource management. Sustainable land-use pattern.
- Water management, water harvesting and its utilization.
- Soil conservation techniques, soil management and tillage.
- Protected cultivation, intensive and extensive grazing, integrated catch management.
- Grassland management, strategies for fodder production, quality aspect of forage resources, conflict resolution on common property resources, extension.

