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Report of One Day Hands - In - Training cum Work shop and Extension Programme on Post Harvest Saffron Processing Techniques held on 23rd July 2022.



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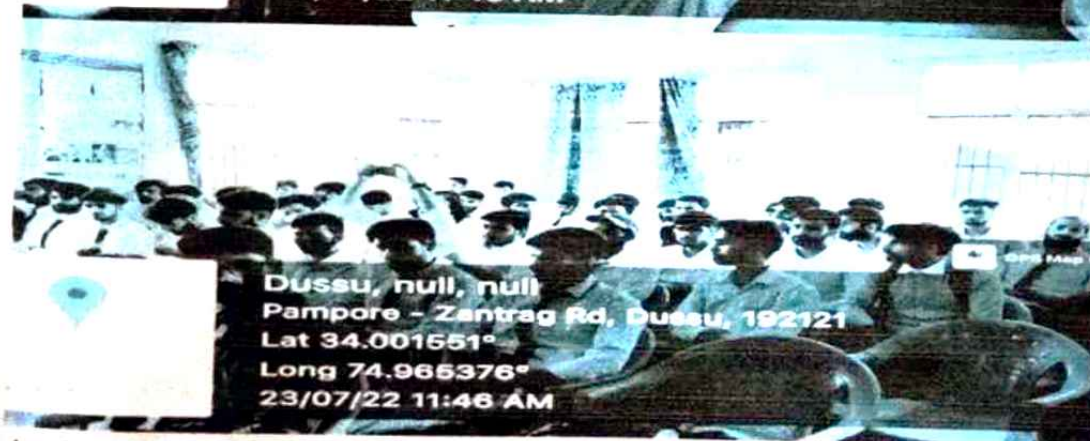
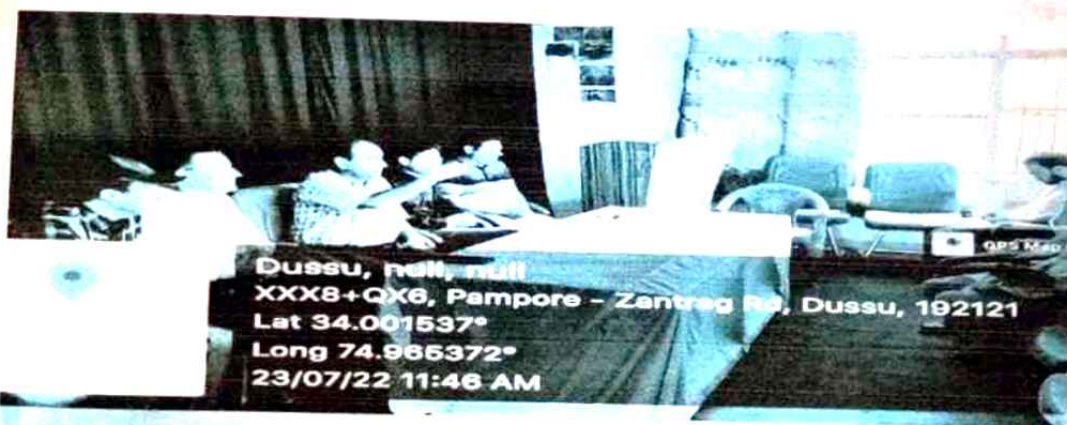
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Department of Botany and Seed Technology in collaboration with India International Kashmir Saffron Trade Centre (IIKSTC) and Advanced Research Station for Saffron and Seed Spices (ARSSS),SKUAST-K Dusoo Pampore organized one day Hands -On- Training Work shop and Extension Programme on Post-Harvest Saffron Processing Techniques at Dusoo Pampore on 23rd July, 2022. The workshop and extension activity was aimed to acquaint students of B.Sc.3rd and 4th semester preferably pursuing Botany at UG level with various aspects of saffron cultivation, post-harvest processing and e-auctioning.

A group of around 50 students of Department of Botany accompanied by faculty members viz. Mr.A.M.Chalkoo (Associate Prof. and Head), Dr. Mohd Suliman (Sr. Assit.Prof.), Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Wani (Assit.Prof.) Mr.Mir Khusroo (Assit.Prof.), Dr.Bilal (Assit.Prof. and Head Seed Technology), Dr. Azad (Assit Prof.) and laboratory staff headed for Hands On training Workshop at Dusoo Pampore.

1. Technical Session at Advanced Research Station for Saffron and Seed Spices (ARSSS),SKUAST-K Dusoo Pampore.



At the outset of workshop Head Department of Botany Mr. A.M.Chalkoo presented brief of the workshop and welcomed the Head of Saffron station

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and functionaries. Mr.Chalkoo in his brief inaugural session expressed gratitude to Director Research SKUAST-K and Prof. Bashir Ilahi (Head ARSSSS) for providing necessary support services and human resource for conduct of Hands-On-Training workshop.

The technical session 1" was delivered by Dr. B. A. Ilahi (Head ARSSSS) Dusoo Pampore. In his lucid presentation, Dr. Ilahi said, " Kashmir across the world is known for producing good quality Saffron spice in terms of quality parameters like crocetin (Coloring agent), Picrocrocin (responsible for bitterness) and saffranal (Aromatic agent). Dr. Ilahi talked in detail about cultivation aspect-outdoor and indoor saffron cultivation. About indoor saffron cultivation students were given hands-on-training in indoor room which house staked trays containing saffron mother corms in ultra-high density manner.

Dr. Bashir informed the faculty members of college that he will request Hon'ble Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K in providing one Indoor saffron farm unit to our College which will serve as demonstration unit for students and progressive farmers. Elaborating on multiple cropping patterns, Dr. Ilahi emphasized upon cultivation of Kalazera and Almonds in saffron fields. He said, selection of suitable rain fed area and sowing of good quality saffron corms (More than 8 gms) are basic requirements of successful saffron cultivation.

The second technical was delivered by Dr. Mudasir Hafiz Khan, Asstt. Prof. Saffron station. Dr. Khan gave detailed presentation on biology of Saffron with special emphasis on cytology and mutation techniques to develop saffron strains with improved quality.

Third session was delivered by Dr. Arif Wani, who discussed about disease management aspect of Saffron crop. He said that corm rot diseases are potential threat to saffron corm which we need to mitigate on scientific lines. Each technical session was followed by an interactive question and answer session wherein students posed questions which were duly addressed by the speakers.

The sessions concluded with Vote of thanks which was delivered by senior faculty member of the Department of Botany Dr. Mohd Suliman Dar. While expressing gratitude to Dr. Bashir Ilahi, Dr. Sulaiman requested Head saffron

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station for organizing such academic & extension programs in GDC Anantnag in future as well.

2. Technical session at India International Saffron Kashmir Trade Centre (IIKSTC) Dusoo Pampore.



Another scientific and technical session was held at IIKSTC Dusoo Pampore which lies in the vicinity of Saffron trade centre. The students were accorded warm welcome by centre incharge Dr. Khurshid. The students were given hands on training in different sections of centre like stigma separation, cold room, stigma drying, testing and grading unit, bottling and e-auctioning section. The subject experts enlightened the students about various

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methodologies and procedures involved in post harvesting techniques of saffron.

Information about various high ended equipments like HPLC, Spectrophotometer, Refractometer, Vacuum dryer and stigma separation apparatus was imparted to students.

In the e-auction section the technical expert spoke about online portal Of trade centre and the procedure involved in e-auctioning.

The entire exercise of Hands-On-training came to conclusion with vote of thanks presented by Dr. M Suliman. In his remarks Dr. Suliman extended sincere thanks to in charge center Dr. Khurshid and accompanying staff members for extending untiring support and logistics in successful conduct of workshop.

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