

NOVEMBER 2021



NEWS BULLETIN

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Old Shujabad Road, Agriculture Complex,
Multan-Pakistan



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Farmer Convention to Boost Wheat Productivity

MNSUAM organized a farmer convention on October 31, 2021 in collaboration with Agriculture Department, Govt. of Punjab and Fatima Fertilizer Company to promote Wheat Sowing in Season 2021-2022. Federal Minister for Food Security and Research, Syed Fakhar Imam, and Punjab Agriculture Minister, Hussain Jahanian Gardezi graced the occasion with their honourable participation. Vice Chancellor MNSUAM, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Director General, Agriculture Extension, Punjab, Dr. Anjum Ali Buttar, Director General, Agriculture Research, Punjab, Dr. Zafar Iqbal Qureshi, Additional Secretary Task Force, Mr. Barak Ullah, Director Agriculture Extension, Multan, Mr. Shahzad Sabir, President Pakistan Kissan Itehad, Mr. Khalid Khokhar, representatives from Crop Protection Association of Pakistan, and farmers from Multan and Khanewal attended this convention. The session started in with the name of Allah and Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, (VC, MNSUAM) welcomed the distinguished guests thereafter. He highlighted the importance of wheat in national economy and for food security of the country with around 220 million populations. He further informed the honorable guests that MNSUAM is striving hard to facilitate the farming community of this region regarding innovations and technology transfer regarding of mechanization, wheat hybrids, climate resilient crop varieties and



production technology. The Vice Chancellor also briefed about the University's pivotal role in development of agriculture sector in this dynamic region. He proposed that collective effort of all departments is the way forward to achieve significant gains in productivity and management of field crops and today's event is an outcome of effective academia-industry linkages. The Head of Technical Services Fatima Fertilizer Company, Mr. Naseerullah Khan, appreciated the government's initiatives for taking measures to enhance wheat yield in the country. He also expressed his gratitude to the administration of Agriculture University for their cooperation in organizing a successful event. Minister for Punjab Agriculture, Syed Hussain Jahanian Gardezi, informed the growers that a wide array of seeds and other necessary agricultural goods are being provided to growers at subsidized rates under the national plan of increasing wheat production in the current year. He emphasized cultivation of approved varieties and optimum use of fertilizers for nutritional management to maximize yield per acre. The Federal Minister for Food Security and Research, Syed Fakhar Imam also informed the growers about the initiatives being taken under the Prime Minister's Agriculture Emergency Program and urged them to adopt modern agricultural technology in the backdrop of evolving climate changes. He called for innovation in agriculture and increase in production per acre, adding that farmers could not only increase wheat production per acre in this way but also assist the government to overcome the current wheat crisis in the country by taking full advantage of the modern methods of cultivation.

Training Workshop on Wheat Drill for Enhancing Efficiency in Conducting Agronomic and Breeding Trials

ORIC (Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization) in collaboration with Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology and Department of Agricultural Engineering, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan organized a Four-day Field Training Workshop entitled "Machines for Enhancing Efficiency in Conducting Agronomic and Breeding Trials" from November 01-04, 2021. Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali, Dr. Umair Sultan (Engr.), Mr. Mahmood Alam, Mr. Ali Sher and Mr. Babar Farid were the resource persons and members of the organizing committee. Key activities included the layout of field experiments and practices for machine sowing of Rabi crops. The key motive of this training was the practical demonstration of machinery and to enhance the learning capacity of both students and faculty members. Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali briefed that machine sowing will enhance the efficiency and precision of the agronomic and breeding trials. He practically demonstrated the layout preparation and sowing of Rabi crops with Khan-1 (Micro Plot Seeder) and Khan-2 (Breeder Row Seeder) machines to the participants. The students and faculty members participated actively and performed the hands-on key activities of this training workshop.



Agri. Student Engagement in Wheat Campaign

The Final Year Students of the MNS University of Agriculture, Multan participated in the Wheat Campaign to guide the farming community about modern trends and experts' recommendations of Punjab Government to increase the per acre yield of the wheat crop. The students of the University's Faculty of Agriculture were sent on a 10-day visit to the villages for this purpose. The students travelled with the Punjab Agriculture Extension Department officials and staff during the provincial government's wheat campaign in order to inform farmers about new research and technology for increasing the per acre production of wheat. A training workshop was organized on November 8, 2021 in which they were informed about modern wheat production technology. Addressing the students, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) said that the campaign to grow more wheat should be carried out with hard work and courage as it is a service to the country and the nation. The students were motivated to undertake Wheat Campaign and embrace the challenge of food security to contribute towards national cause positively.



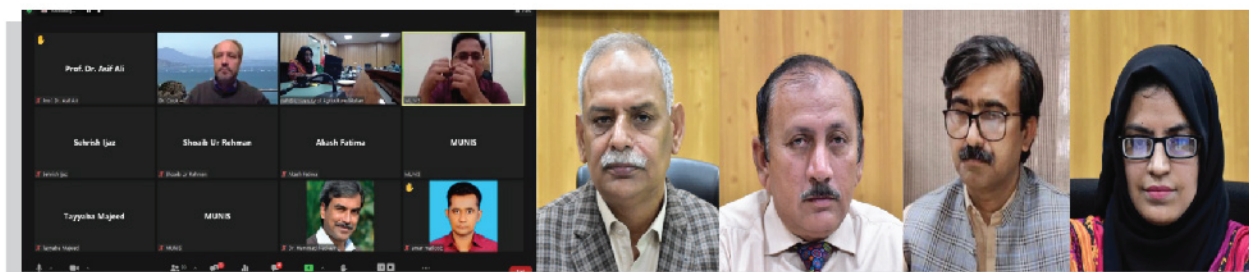
Training Workshop on Outcome Based Education

Department of Agricultural Engineering, MNSUAM organized a two-day training workshop on Outcome Based Education. MNSUAM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) urged that teachers and students should adapt themselves to the Outcome Based Education System so that the skills of the students can be enhanced to meet the future needs of the industry. In this regard, every effort will be made to introduce Outcome Based Education System. By improving the technical skills and proficiency of the students, we can strengthen our educational institutions and play a key role in the development of the country. He further reiterated his commitment to adapt this education system for all other disciplines. All teachers and departments will be trained for the Outcome Based Education System. Guest Speaker, Mr. Solat Jailani gave information about Outcome Based Education and its various domains such as the CLOs (Course Learning Objectives), PLOs (Program Learning Objectives), and PEO (Program Education Objectives). He encouraged the students that passing this system will benefit them in the field and will open new avenues for job. According to Washington, USA, students studying under this system can get jobs anywhere in 21 countries without any additional qualification. Under this system, teachers can improve the skills of their students. Dr. Sarfraz Hashim, Chairman, Department of Agri-Engineering, said that in order to keep pace with the international community, an Outcome Based System seems inevitable.



Webinar on Pulses

An international webinar on pulses was organized by the Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology, MNSUAM on November 4, 2021. The main purpose of conducting the webinar entitled "Pulse Crops: Hope for Future" was to create awareness about agronomic and nutritional benefits of pulses especially chickpea. The International Webinar was presided over by the MNSUAM, VC, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I). The guest speaker of this International Webinar was Dr. Douglas R Cook from the University of California Davis. Addressing the webinar, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali said that in order to improve the production of pulses, we need more focused research work on pulses as these are important sources of protein. Along with wheat, cotton and sugarcane, if we also cultivate pulses, then we will have the advantage of reducing water scarcity in the country," he added. Addressing the International Webinar, Dr. Douglas R Cook stressed that crop production under water scarcity can be met by cultivating pulses. In view of increasing water scarcity, we have to include pulses in our rotation. He advocated the need for breeding of high-yielding, climate resilient chickpea within the context of



user-preferred traits such as seed quality and nutrient density, reduced synthetic inputs, and biotic stress resistance. He presented his valuable research work regarding symbiotic nitrogen fixation, metagenomics of plant-associated microbes, drought tolerance, and domestication of chickpea. Addressing the webinar, Dr. Muhammad Farooq Hussain Munis from Department of Plant Sciences, Quaid-e_Azam University, Islamabad-Pakistan said that modern technology has to be introduced for the prevention of diseases so that pulses can be grown on sustainable basis. Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali concluded the webinar, while, Prof. Dr. Hammad Nadeem Tahir offered vote of thanks. Dr. Sehrish Ijaz was the moderator of this event.

Webinar on Affordable and Clean Energy

An international webinar on Clean and Affordable Energy was organized by the Department of Agricultural Engineering on November 5, 2021. The International Webinar was presided over by Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM. The International Guest Speaker was Dr. Indri Yaningsish, Assistant Professor, University of Sebelas Maret, Indonesia, and Engr. Faisal Hassan, Executive Engineer, Bangladesh Power and Development Board, Bangladesh. Addressing the International Webinar, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali said that alternative and affordable energy sources are the only solutions to the problem of energy crises and environmental degradation. The community needs to shift towards alternative sources of energy, including solar, wind and biogas. Researchers and universities will play their full role in promoting clean and alternative energy sources in Pakistan. Dr. Indri said that research in the energy is very important and viable alternative sources of energy

are the need of the hour. He added that dynamic and thermodynamics mixes are essential in solar material adsorption as they can improve the system by controlling the temperature and humidity in the air. While talking about different solar systems, Engr. Faisal Hassan introduced the modern honey solar system (Honeycomb Solar Air Heating System) and E-bag (Energy saving Bag) which is a way of energy saving in cooking process. Dr. Sarfraz Hashim, Chairman, Department of Agricultural Engineering, emphasized on the promotion of clean energy and said that technology will be further improved in the future. Hosting an international webinar, Dr. Shazia said that with the help of E-bags, basic daily meals could be cooked and their use will be further enhanced in the future.

Webinar on Quinoa as a Future Smart Food Crop

Department of Agronomy MNS University of Agriculture Multan organized an international webinar entitled "Quinoa: A Future Smart Food" on November 8, 2021. Future Smart Food (FSF) is a term coined by FAO for those crops having four characters i.e., (1) Climate Resilience (2) Balanced nutritional profile (3) Locally available (4) Economically viable. MNSUAM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) said that more than 5000 plant species are edible, however, most of world population is consuming only three crops i.e., wheat, rice, maize leading to malnutrition. This situation is further aggravated due to climate change adversities and failure of major crops. Hence, dire need is felt to diversify food basket utilizing underutilized species like quinoa for nutritional security. Quinoa is top priority FSF crop and FAO is promoting

You're invited to Join!
LIVE WEBINAR
https://zoom.us/j/92839634234?
pwd=U38ZbnF5UkP3pkZyKXUnZEUwQ109
Passcode: 443764

**Quinoa:
A Future Smart Food**
November 08, 2021
11:30 AM to 01:30 PM

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)
Vice Chancellor
MNS University of Agriculture, Multan

Dr. Shahid Iqbal
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Agronomy, MNSUAM

Dr. Didier BRAZILE
Senior Researcher Advisor
Biodiversity Department (UMR) SENS FRANCE

Mr. David Wu
Project Lead Agronomy, MNSUAM

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY,
MNS UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MULTAN, PAKISTAN
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this crop all over the world. MNSUAM also believe in diversity and is available for any facilitation and collaboration for scaling up this crop. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar said quinoa was introduced in the South Punjab region in 2017 and due to research and outreach activities, this crop is appearing in farmers field and also available in supermarkets. Dr. Shahid Iqbal said that still a lot of work is needed to identify more site-specific varieties, value chain development and massive awareness for scaling up its production and consumption. MNSUAM is in close contact with Chinese Universities, ICBA and FAO to extend collaboration for quinoa promotion. One of MNSUAM joint project has been approved with Shanxi Agriculture University China funded by Chinese Government for dry land farming of quinoa. Dr. Didier Bazile (CIRAD Biodiversity Advisor Senior Researcher at UMR SENS FRANCE), who is leading global collaborative network on quinoa) and promoting quinoa all over the world, said that quinoa has spread to different parts of the world and has become an important crop internationally. This crop needs to be further improved so that its usefulness can be exploited

to full extent. He explained that how quinoa expanded all over the world. Second international speaker was Dr. David Wu. He is specialist in mechanized quinoa cultivation, processing and marketing. He is also known as quinoa king of China. He explained how he promoted quinoa in China. Total 350 participants attended the webinar.



Iqbal Day Celebration

Iqbal Day was celebrated at MNSUAM with national fervor to pay homage to Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal on November 9, 2021. A seminar and literary meeting on this occasion was organized at MNS Agricultural University under the auspices of Literary Club, and Public Relations and Publication Department. Prof. Dr. Syed Zafar Abbas was the guest speaker of the event. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali while addressing said that students should be made aware of Iqbal's thoughts and moral character. Our survival and prosperity lays in Iqbal's ideology, which is derived from Quran and the life of our Holy Prophet, Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). He highlighted the vision of Allama Muhammad Iqbal who laid the foundation stone of the Pakistan Movement and how he provided Muslims of the Sub-Continent guidance towards the development of a separate state. The guest Speaker highlighted the universal message of Allama Iqbal and his philosophy of self-consciousness, empathy, social sensitivity and concern for all human beings. He urged that Iqbal's ideology of freedom was the foundation of the ideology of Pakistan and it is the need of hour to change and amend ourselves as per Iqbal's message. He was a candle for those who were born in the time of decline of Muslims but instead of lamenting, he taught them self-knowledge, unity and thought process. He advised the students that they should seek direction from Allama Iqbal's poetry and follow it to achieve goals for which the country was created. A large number of faculty and students attended this event.



Webinar on Genome Sequencing and Molecular Breeding

The Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology organized an International webinar entitled "Genome Sequencing and Molecular Breeding in Crop Plants" on November 10, 2021 under the project National Crop Genomics and Speed Breeding Centre for Agriculture Sustainability. Keeping in view, the importance of the Crop Genome Sequencing and Marker Assisted Selection in recent times, this webinar was arranged to encompass novel approaches of biotechnology and their applications in plant breeding. Prof. Dr. Jing Ruilian from Institute of Crop Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing China, and Dr. Awais Rashied from Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan presented on "Discovering favourable gene resources for improving drought tolerance of wheat" and "Application of NGS in developing breeding-oriented genotyping platforms in crops" respectively. Prior the presentation of the key note speakers, Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali (Principal Officer, ORIC-MNSUAM) welcomed all the participants. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) highlighted the benefits of utilizations of latest and advanced biotechnological tools to further speed up the crop improvement programs. At the end, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hammad Nadeem Tahir gave concluding remarks and thanked all the participants of their active participation.

INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR
ON
"GENOME SEQUENCING & MOLECULAR BREEDING IN CROP PLANTS"
under project
"NATIONAL CROP GENOMICS AND SPEED BREEDING CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURE SUSTAINABILITY"

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/9172205541?pwd=cWV6UWFjMmx4NEREV3dw0zlkZ26dz09>
Passcode: 308762

WELCOME NOTE	KEYNOTE SPEAKERS		CONCLUDING REMARKS	VOTE OF THANKS
 Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Principal Officer ORIC, MNS-University of Agriculture, Multan	 Prof. Dr. Jing Ruilian CAAS, Beijing China	 Dr. Awais Rashied Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad	 Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) Vice Chancellor, MNS-University of Agriculture, Multan	 Prof. Dr. M. Hammad Nadeem Tahir Director IPBB, MNS-University of Agriculture, Multan

10 NOV 2021 | 10.30 AM

Organizers
Dr. Shoaib Ur Rehman / Mr. Furqan Ahmad / Dr. M. Asaf Khan
Mr. Ali Sher / Dr. Zulqumain Khan

INSTITUTE OF PLANT BREEDING & BIOTECHNOLOGY
MNS-UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MULTAN

Event to Mark the World Science Day

World Science Day for Peace and Development was celebrated at MNSUAM on November 10, 2021 to raise awareness of the benefits of science worldwide. To mark the event, a seminar to highlight the significant role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues was

held. With climate change becoming a serious threat to the lives of billions of people and the planet, this year's celebration highlighted the importance of "Building Climate-Resilient Communities". The event was presided over by the MNSUAM, VC, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I). Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali discussed in detail the global climate change and the disasters affecting Pakistan in particular. He also presented recommendations for innovation in agriculture and environment conservation. Dr. Habib-ur-Rehman, an agronomist on climate change, formulated recommendations for making agriculture more resilient against climatic disasters. He provided awareness to the students about climate change and how to deal with it. Dr. Ayesha Hakim presented recommendations for better awareness and coping with seasonal disasters through the adoption of modern technology. Debate and poetry competitions related to the vent theme were also held wherein student from different clubs and socieites participated. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.) in his concluding remarks said that scientific development in agriculture, medical, information technology and other fields would make the country prosperous. He urged that youth needs to be aware of the effects of greenhouse effect. He laminated over the concerns of food security, which could emerge as a serious non-traditional security threat in the future. The youth should not only think of passing exams but also focus on learning and conducting research in science. He further emphasized on the need for joint efforts to create a society free from climate disasters. Everyone has a duty to make the environment better and safer, he added.



Quality Assurance and Accreditation Awareness Seminar at MNSUAM

Quality Assurance and Accreditation Awareness Seminar was held on November 17, 2021 at MNSUAM for faculty and students of undergraduate programs of Human Nutrition and Dietetics (HND), Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Poultry Sciences degrees with HEC. In addition to the faculty members and students, Prof. Dr. M. Hammad Nadeem Tahir (Director QEC) and Prof. Dr. Nasir Nadeem (Director Graduate Studies) also



attended the seminar, whereas, the seminar was presided over by Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed (Acting Vice Chancellor). Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmed Rajwan (Chairperson, NAEAC) gave a detailed presentation showing all the milestones for the accreditation process. He also briefed the students and faculty members on the system and scope of NAEAC, Quality Assurance System, Program Evaluation Criteria and Standards further. He said that Human Nutrition and Dietetics (HND), Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Poultry Sciences are the most important needs of the present age and the quality and development of agricultural education are essential for the development of the country. Addressing the seminar, Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed said that students need to focus on their studies and play their role in effective learning process. Students of MNSUAM will become role models for others by completing research and course work in a better way. Accreditation Certificates of undergraduate programs of Biotechnology, Plant Pathology, Agribusiness, and Agricultural and Resource Economics were presented to the Chairpersons/Directors of respective Departments/Institutes. At the end of the seminar, students asked questions about the relationship between job, education and role of Accreditation Councils in assigning jobs. Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmed Rajwana gave satisfactory answers to the queries of the students. Prof. Dr. M. Hammad Nadeem Tahir presented souvenirs to the Chairperson NAEAC and extended gratitude to him and passing on valuable information regarding accreditation and quality education. He also thanked the faculty members and students for their presence and participation in the seminar.



Farmer Convention to Maximize Wheat Productivity

A Farmer Convention was organized at Jalalpur Pirwala Farm of MNSUAM on November 19, 2021. The purpose of holding this event was to educate the farmers about modern wheat production technology and to encourage them to grow more wheat. The Farmer's Convention was presided over by the Secretary Agriculture, South Punjab, Mr. Saqib Ali Ateel and Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed. Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed said that there is an urgent need to increase the production of wheat by three maunds per acre to meet the national demand. To achieve this goal, the Agricultural University Multan and Punjab Government are running the wheat campaign in full swing. MNSUAM in collaboration with different government and private organizations is organizing events for promotion of agriculture sector in the south Punjab. The experts

observed that timely sowing, mechanization, good land preparation, use of quality seeds and other inputs, integrated nutrient management and weed control are important to enhance per acre production of wheat. Mr. Saqib Ali Ateel while addressing the event said that we have to work together to make crop production successful by adopting modern techniques and embracing the innovations. Wheat production needs to be increased to cope with climate change. The government is subsidizing fertilizers and seeds to promote wheat cultivation. Farmers should take advantage of this and cultivate more wheat. He lauded the administration of MNSUAM and the students for actively participating in the wheat campaign.



Visit of Institutional Performance Evaluation Team by Higher Education Commission (HEC)

Institutional Performance Evaluation (IPE) committee constituted by Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) of Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan, visited MNS University of Agriculture, Multan, on November 22-24, 2021 for assessing the overall performance of the University regarding academic, administrative and other matters. The IPE committee members from HEC were Dr. Ayub Alvi (Ex. Rector, National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Islamabad), Dr. Farman Ullah (Agriculture University, Peshawar), Dr. Imran Rashid (LUAWAMS, Uthal), and Dr. Ghulam Nabi (University of Kotli). On the first day of the visit, the IPE committee met with the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), in the presence of Deans, Directors, Registrar, Treasurer and Principal Offices. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali presented the activities and achievements of the University.



He also informed the committee about 15-years plan for the growth of the University. He also mentioned the strengths of the faculty in terms of teaching and research, and training of the students with a better civic sense. Later, the IPE team examined the University Portfolio Report (UPR) and documentary evidences to support the claims regarding Planning and Evaluation, Organization and Governance, Integrity, Faculty, Students, Institutional Resources, Academic Programs and Curricula, Public Disclosure and Transparency, Assessment and Quality Assurance, and Student Support Services. On the second day, IPE team had meetings with Directors/Chairpersons of the Institutes/Departments, Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Profes-

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sors, and Lecturers, and Heads of Administrative offices (Registrar, Treasurer, Controller Examination, Chief Librarian, P&D, State Care of the University) in separate groups. The team also interacted with the students of MNSUAM to get first hand feedback. On the day third, committee visited the campus, classrooms, research laboratories, research fields, greenhouse, hostels and other infrastructure. The IPE committee appreciated the education and research performance of the Institute. Further, the committee remarked the University as the progressive institute for the people of Southern Punjab. At the end, IPE committee had an exist meeting with the Vice Chancellor (T.I) and Deans, Directors, Registrar, and Treasurer to share their observations during IPE visit. They admired faculty as well as the administration for their ownership, hard work, and contribution towards progress of the University. The Vice Chancellor appreciated the IPE committee as they keenly observed the performance of University and prepared IPE Report. He also ensured that the suggestions of the committee for the betterment of the University will be considered in preparing future action plans.



Visit of Institutional Performance Evaluation Team
by Higher Education Commission (HEC)



MNSUAM Signed Letter of Intent with FAO

The Letter of Intent has been signed between Multan MNS Agricultural University (MNSUAM) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the development of agriculture on November 30, 2021, at the MNSUAM. Mr. Hussain Shaheed Gardazi (Provincial Minister for Agriculture, Punjab) was the chief guest at this ceremony. On this occasion, the MNSUAM Vice, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) said that there is a need to work together for the interest of agriculture sector and farmers. Under this memorandum, the two institutions will work together to increase agricultural productivity in Pakistan in order to eliminate poverty and hunger from the country. He further termed this partnership as an important milestone for the agricultural development of South Punjab, Pakistan. The country head of FAO, Ms. Florence Rolle said that through this partnership we will work closely with MNSUAM for the promotion and development of agriculture in South Punjab. Furthermore, both parties agreed that the FAO will establish a joint resource facility, "Centre of Excellence for Climate Smart Agriculture" in MNSUAM which will serve as a hub for the development and validation of climate-smart technologies using evidence-based multi-dimensional data to ensure sustainable productivity for food and nutritional security.

MNSUAM Signed Letter of Intent with FAO



Capacity Building Workshops for Efficient Use of Tractor

MNS University has arranged a two-day workshop/training for faculty and students titled: (i). "Tractor Mechanics and Principles of Efficient Tractor Operation" (ii) "Environmental impact of diesel exhaust, its remedies, and EPA standards". Engr. Mansoor Rizvi, Country Manager of New Holland was the guest speaker/trainer. In the first quarter of the morning session, Pakistan Society of Agricultural Engineers (PSAE) conducted a brief meeting with the stakeholders including faculty members, progressive farmers and the Industrial representatives. Prof. Dr Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor inaugurated the session and appreciated the activities of PSAE for the promotion and enhancement of agricultural engineering profession. President, PSAE interacted with senior students and received their feedback. Engr. Rizvi described the role of society in dissemination of information and knowledge pertaining various area related to the Agricultural Engineering profession. The president (PSAE) said that Agricultural Engineering is multi-disciplinary profession and it is addressing various challenges in mechanized farming systems. Engr. Abdul Aleem, Director Agricultural Mechanization Research Institute (AMRI) and Vice President of the PSAE stressed upon the participants to join PSAE platform by becoming its member to strengthen the society in the pursuit of their goals which are mainly advocating the role of Agricultural engineering and providing concrete technical and commercial support to the institutions engaged in the manufacturing of farm machinery. Engr. Dr. Alamgir A. Khan, the Subject Expert, Agricultural Engineering, MNS University of Agriculture and an exponent of PSAE said that agro-based industry and farm machines are lagging in automation, on the other hand farmers are facing



serious challenges due to upcoming shortage of labor particularly the skilled labor. He said that academic institutions should focus on capacity building of their existing faculty with special emphasis of automation. Trained faculty can further educate the future technologists/engineers. In his opinion, the PSAE can play a vital role in connecting the national and international stakeholders. Dr. Alamgir made strong recommendations for the establishment of two centers: i) "Agro-Industrial Center of excellence at MNSUAM" to support local agro-based industry for specialized tasks and ii). "Establishment of region-wise agro-Industrial Parks (AIP)" with the aim to serve as one window platform to farming community. AIP would also help produce high standard farm machines in the country and resultantly increase national export. Engr. Dr. Sarfraz Hashim, Chairman, Agricultural Engineering, MNSUAM said that the training program is very useful for faculty members and students to get awareness about field issues and the optimum operations of the tractor. The carbon emission test (CET) is crucial for diesel operating vehicles. Launching of emission testing system with special prominence on the testing of the CET is very important to control the environment pollution.

Mansoor Rizvi imparted training on different parts of tractors and their better use. He also guided the students about the problems faced while using tractors in the field. He further said that only by getting complete information of the tractor, one can get maximum benefit by using minimum fuel. On this occasion, Engr. Alamgir Akhtar appreciated the tireless efforts of Engr. Mansoor Rizvi and vowed to conduct such trainings in future also.



Recruitment Drive for JK Sugar Mills for Agronomists

Recruitment drive was conducted on November 14, 2021 by JK Mills in the first phase of Agricultural Graduate Training Program organized by Career Development Center at MNSUAM. Mr. Kashif Badar (HR Manager) and Mr. Mohammad Imran from JK Sugar Mills spoke about the Agri Graduate Training Program and its importance to the audience. They gave a detailed introduction of JK Sugar Mills, JK Dairies and Ali Tareen Farm and briefed the students about the AGT program. Mr. Kashif Badar said that he would select and train fresh agricultural graduates whose major subject is agronomy for one year. And this training will be in three stages. At the end of each stage, it will be evaluated, If any graduate could not perform, he will be dropped. He further said that the students would be given complete training on modern cultivation, marketing of crops, orchards and dairy farming. After one year of training, they will be given a permanent job at Ali Tareen

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Farm and JK Mills where they will be able to demonstrate their skills. Addressing to the students, Assistant Professor, Dr Muhammad Ishtiaq (Focal Person Career Development and Placement Center) said that Tareen Farm is like an academy for introducing modern agriculture in Pakistan and training of students through internships. He told the students that he knew many agricultural graduates who had received training from Tareen Farm and are able to find very good jobs and earning. He thanked the guests for visiting our university and providing opportunity to our graduates. JK mills team were obliged to Prof. Dr Asif, VC MNSUAM for allowing to conduct said activity. Many male and female students took part in the test and interviews were conducted for the eligible students.



Scouts Training Course

The Rover Scouts Unit, MNS University of Agriculture Multan organized Scout Leader Course (for Male Leaders) and Shaheen Leader Course (for Female Leaders) at MNS University of Agriculture, Multan from November 21-27, 2021. This camp was carried out under the kind supervision of Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice-Chancellor / Patron in-chief Rover Scouts Unit, MNSUAM, Mr. Muhammad Tariq Qureshi, Provincial Secretary, Punjab Boy Scouts Association and Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig, Dean FSS&H / Patron Rover Scouts Unit, MNSUAM and in collaboration with Muhammad Bin Qasim Scouts Open Group. There were 27 participants of the Scout Leader Course and 26 of the Shaheen Leader Course. The course included training on Social, Mental, Physical, and Spiritual Development of the Scouts. The major topics covered in this course were Scout promise



and law, uniform, basic first aid, discipline, unit meeting, Policy Organization Rules (POR), National Youth Program Policy and System, unit establishment, responsibilities of unit leader, basic and advanced knots, lashings, campfire. There was also a motivational seminar on "Secrets of Success" and the guest speaker was Mr. Muhammad Shahzad Zafar. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM and Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed, Dean FAES graced the opening ceremony; while, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig, and Dr. Tanveer Ahmad decorated the closing ceremony of the event.



Scouts Training Course



Training on Exploring Skill and Strength for Professional growth

An international training on Exploring Skill and Strength for Professional growth was organized by Department of Agricultural Engineering, MNSUAM MNS University of Agriculture Multan. The International mentor and trainer Miss Farhana Rizvi was the resource person for this training. She is an ICCRC registered consultant and has been engaged in business for Immigration and International student admissions for the last 10 years. She provided counseling to prospective students who were interested in considering higher education opportunities abroad especially within Canada. She guided students in choosing a program from a wide selection of universities and colleges across the country and helped them with the admission process. She provided suggestions based on student's interests and ability and also guided international students upon arrival in Canada on boarding and lodging. During her address she focused on the need of educational assessment and linguistic preparations. She also announced that she will provide free consultancy to MNSUAM graduates and also help them with their initial documentation requirements.

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Training on Exploring Skill and Strength for Professional growth



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Gold Medal Awarded to Dr Aziz-Ul-Rahman

It is a matter of great pleasure and proud moment for the Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, MNS-UAM that Dr Aziz-Ul-Rahman, Assistant Professor has won Gold Medal in the field of Microbiology from Applied Zoological Society of Pakistan. Heartiest congratulations to Dr Aziz-Ul-Rahman and MNS-UAM Family.



MNSUAM Won 4th Position in PASTIC-UAF Expo 2021

A Team from MNSUAM participated in the PASTIC-UAF Expo on November 25, 2021 which was held at University of Agriculture Faisalabad. In this event 42 + Universities and industries participated from all over the Country and 300+ projects were displayed in the Expo. MNSUAM Presented 7 Projects from the Department of Agricultural Engineering including Honey bee Hives, Roller Body, Self Driven Robotic Car, and Smart Trap System. MNSUAM Got 4th Position in PASTIC-UAF Expo. The projects were prepared by BS students. Faculty members from MNSUAM Dr. M. Abid, Dr. Shazia Hanif, Dr. Mohsin Khan and students participated in this competition. Visitors and industrialist from different backgrounds visited the MNSUAM stall and showed their deep interest in the newly develop ideas.

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Gold Medal Awarded to Dr Aziz-UI-Rahman



Poster Presentation

Sustainable cotton production using artificial intelligence (SCP-AI0 is a project lead by MNSUAM, Pakistan, University of Plymouth UK and SAWIE as an industrial partner. Under the umbrella of this project, the PI, Dr. Salman Qadri, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, MNSUAM presented a poster on COPE 26 on November 9, 2021.

Poster Presentation



Training on Crop Husbandry in Spate Irrigated Areas

MNS University of Agriculture, Multan aims at capacity building of the farmers beyond the provincial boundaries. In this context, Dr. Khuram Mubeen, Assistant Professor, Agronomy Department, MNSUAM was invited by Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO) and Flood Based Livelihoods Network Pakistan to train the farmers and the project staff for practices of better crop production in spate irrigated areas of Bhag, Balochistan. Dr. Khuram Mubeen successfully trained the farmers and project staff w.e.f. November 11-19, 2021 and imparted the agronomic knowledge and suggested ways to get economical and better crop production. Field visits and farmer meetings were also arranged in Tehsil Bhag, Balochistan. Farmers were also advised about the outcomes of the research studies undertaken at MNSUAM for efficient water conservation techniques including the pre-monsoon deep tillage on feasible fields of hill torrent ecologies for improving the water infiltration and reducing the surface run-off for better crop production. Farmers were also advised about the wise selection of crops and improved crop cultivars to avoid the disease infestation lowering the crop productivity and to make the efficient use of water available. Demonstrations for legume seed inoculation and seed treatment with fungicide were also carried out along with their importance.



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Training on Crop Husbandry in Spate Irrigated Areas



Advertisement for Research Associate and DPL

Applications are invited for a Research Associate in the research project 20-70 entitled "Evaluation of advancements in saline agriculture technology related interventions for food security, climate change resilience and its dissemination to stakeholders" under MNSUAM component entitled "Treatment of brackish water for growing of vegetables and irrigation management of mango orchards" funded by PARB, Lahore. The details and eligibility criteria for research associate is given below.

Sr. No.	Designation and eligibility	Salary
1	<p>Research Associate Qualification: M.Sc. (Hons.) Soil Science</p> <p>TORs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to Team Leader (TL) of the project • Willing to travel and work in the field areas • Full time dedicated to the project. • Responsible for day-to-day activities of the project including implementation of the plan, procurement, and report writing. • Assist in preparation of fortnightly and quarterly progress report and assist in hosting monthly team visit at the work site. <p>Contract period: Initially for one year which is extendable up to three years based on good performance.</p>	<p>Rs. 40,000 per month</p>

(Dr. Tanveer-UI-Haq)
 Professor/TL: PARB Project
 Deptt. of Soil & Environmental Sciences