

3rd Mango Festival at The Centaurus Mall Islamabad in collaboration with MNS University of Agriculture, Multan

MNS University of Agriculture Multan organized a two-day Mango Festival at the Centaurus Mall Islamabad on 12-13 August, 2020. The festival has been consecutively held since last three years. The objective of the mango festival is to promote the agriculture based business in local and international market. The event was inaugurated by the Honorable Provincial Minister for Agriculture Mr. Nauman Ahmad Langrial. The minister was accompanied by the Chairman, Centaurus Mall and Punjab Board of Investment Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, the Vice Chancellor MNS University of Agriculture Multan Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, diplomats from different countries, social and political workers and dignitaries from the capital city. The promotion of mango in the federal capital has attracted attention of different countries from central Asia and helped boost the export potential of this agricultural commodity. This will help stabilizing the economy of Pakistan and also the farmers will have better profitability. Mango is the second highest produce of Pakistan after Citrus. All districts of South Punjab grow various varieties of mango like Dosahri, Sindhri, Anwar ratol, Chaunsa, Langra etc. The mango of Pakistan is known for its aroma and taste in the international market particularly the Middle East, England and Europe. High Density Mango cultivation has been introduced in Multan where about 1300 mango plants can be grown on one acre of land. A model orchard of High Density Mango cultivation has been established in the MNS University of Agriculture Multan.

Dr. Muhammad Abid from Agricultural engineering department was a part of organizing team from MNSUAM.



DISPLAY OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROJECTS

Area Head of the British Council visited MNSUAM on 24th November 2020. He was briefed on the different entrepreneurship projects running by the young entrepreneurs of the University, doing under the mentoring of ORIC and with the coordination of Agriculture Volunteers. Dr. Muhammad Abid Coordinator of Agriculture Volunteers along with his team explained the details of startups. The guest appreciated the efforts and encouraged the group for becoming a beneficial person and leader for their community.



Training on Honey Beekeeping

Honey bees are the most beautiful creatures in this universe. MNSUAM is working on honey bees for the last two years under the leadership of Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization and AV. Agriculture Volunteers team developed triple story hives that offer 5 times more honey than a single chamber hive. The Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan started the billion-tree honey initiative. In this regard, MNSUAM team initiated a training program in which 100 farmers from Punjab and Sindh participated. Initially, ORIC offered training on honey bees in which 40 participants physically and more than 100 participants online participated. Farmers and the common public were happy to have the idea of beekeeping within their homes and agriculture orchards. Further, it was decided by the facilitators to deliver triple story hives of bees at farmer's doorsteps in February 2021. MNSUAM left no stone unturned in the complementation of training on honey beekeeping by shearing advanced methods and philosophical techniques. Hopes are there this small training will surely boost entrepreneurial activities in promotion of honey business in the south of Punjab and Sindh. The master trainer and organizer is Dr. Muhammad Abid and he is leading the program very aggressively for the betterment of farmer community.



Manufacturing Hives Lifters and Hive Tools by Agriculture Volunteer

To boost ongoing Honey Beekeeping business Agriculture Volunteers offered tools for enhancing production of honey. According to the ultimate goal of Agriculture Volunteers Society, one of the AV international facilitator Engr. Arshad Jamil suggested manufacturing the tools for an already established AV Entrepreneurial business i.e., Honey Bee Keeping. Mr. Saad took this initiative to get these tools made and be a part of this business. He made these tools with good quality materials and Engr. Arshad Jamil appreciated Mr. Saad regarding manufacturing these tools. The purpose of these tools was to provide efficient and good quality tools to our entrepreneurial customers and businessmen. Moreover, hive lifters can help to relocate the Hives from one place to another easily by gripping from lifter's handles. Meanwhile, the hive tools proved to be effective in opening the hives and for other purposes. Dr. Muhammad Abid from Agricultural Engineering department MNSUAM coordinated the team to complete volunteer work with serenity. During the month, about 40 different Hive Lifters and 80 Hive Tools were manufactured by AV.



ORIC's initiative Honey Bee Hives Distribution

Distribution of Honey bee hives is an indispensable part of the Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization MNS University of Agriculture to promote agriculture entrepreneurship among farmers. After the successful training of honey beekeeping in Sindh and Punjab among farmers on a very economical cost which has been appreciated at large by bona fide farmers community of Sindh. They not only appreciated the services of MNS University of Agriculture but also mentioned the modus operandi of facilitators pertaining honey bee proliferation. Experts from Agricultural Engineering department and team from ORIC MNSUAM distributed triple story Beehives to farmers. Initially, distribution started from Sindh province as mango blossoms come earlier than in Punjab. These honey bees not only make honey but enhance the pollination of Mango which can easily increase the production yield twice. The purpose of this project is not only to develop the interest of farmers in Beekeeping for collecting honey but also to increase the pollination process for enhancing yields of different crops. Dr. Muhammad Abid and his team successfully delivered these Beehives to 65 farmer doorsteps in Sindh and Punjab. Now the team is providing candid consultancy to these farmers for the success of this project through social media application WhatsApp group and also paving the way by visiting their place.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) BETWEEN Tabeer – Youth Economic Empowerment and MNSUAM

MNS University of Agriculture is promoting agriculture entrepreneurship among females of Punjab. Being coordinator of entrepreneurship, Dr. Muhammad Abid invited head of Tabeer Pakistan to visit MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali welcomed and tendered the ongoing activities of the research engagement program. Dr. Asif said that Agriculture University is trying its best to nurture the farmer community. Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali welcomed Tabeer Pakistan's team. Both sisterly institutions tendered their presentations. Tabeer, an initiative of Solutions Ahead, is a mission to train and develop 1 Million micro-entrepreneurs (50 percent are women) by 2025. MNSUAM and Tabeer have decided to cooperate in the fields of entrepreneurship, innovative ideas of students, and commercialization as well as to facilitate the diffusion of knowledge and culture on the following basis: The development and implementation of joint efforts are to create maximum opportunities for jobs that are needed for the country. Resources and facilities sharing for entrepreneurial behavior in students. Both organizations sent positive vibes to promote micro-entrepreneurs (50 percent are women) by 2025 through reciprocal understanding. Capacity building of researchers, faculty, students, technicians, and skilled/unskilled labor involved in research, innovation, commercialization, and production of qualitative entrepreneurs. Tabeer will organize joint outreach activities in the form of symposia, conferences, seminars, workshops, exhibitions, festivals, international meetings, farmer's meetings, field days, etc. Joint activities and exchanges of human resources for mutual benefit. Tabeer will provide the facilities of the entrepreneurial environment to the students of MNSUAM at different units depending upon the field of study.

