



INTERNATIONAL PEPPER COMMUNITY
JAKARTA - INDONESIA

35th PEPPERTECH MEETING

*“Breeding Strategies for improvement of Crop Production and
Good Agronomical Management of Pepper Plantation”*

**10th November 2010
(09.00 – 17.00 hrs)**

Hotel Taj Gateway, Cochin, Kerala, India

INTERNATIONAL PEPPER COMMUNITY

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INTERNATIONAL PEPPER COMMUNITY
REPORT OF THE 35TH PEPPERTECH MEETING

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Introduction

The 35th Peppertech Meeting was held on 10th November 2010 at Cochin, Kerala India. The meeting was held in conjunction with the 38th Session of IPC, which was hosted by the Government of India and organized jointly by the Spices Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the International Pepper Community.

The theme for this year Peppertech Meeting is “Breeding Strategies for improvement of Crop Production and Good Agronomical Management of Pepper Plantation”

The Meeting was attended by the officials, scientists and farmers’ groups from IPC member countries as well as representatives from USFDA and other international organizations dealing with the spice industry.

The list of delegates is given as **Annex 01**

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting unanimously agreed to adopt the proposed agenda as given in **Annex 02**.

2. Welcome address by Mr. S. Kannan, Executive Director of IPC

The Executive Director welcomed all the delegates and wish that this meeting will come up with recommendations for increasing the production and productivity of pepper in member countries.

He also mentioned that the IPC in close collaboration with the Spices Board has successfully launched the Manuals on Good Agricultural Practices and Integrated Pest Management, which would be helpful for the farmers, extension works and other agencies.

3. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of Drafting Committee

Mr. K.R. Viswabharan, Vice-Chancellor of the Kerala Agricultural University, India was elected as Chairman of the Meeting and Dr. Ir. Akbarshyah R. Saad of Indonesia as Vice-Chairman. The Vice Chairman will be the Chairman of the Drafting Committee which comprise of the following members

Dr. Oriel Filguera de Lemos	Brazil
Dr. J. Thomas	India
Mr. Chen Yii Shang	Malaysia
Mr. WDL Gunaratne	Sri Lanka
Mr. Ngo Duy Hai	Vietnam

4. Review of the progress report on recommendations of the 34th Peppertech Meeting

The meeting took note of the action sheet which is given as **Annex 03**

5. Presentation of a paper on “Overview of Pepper Research and Development Programme in India” by Dr. S. Devasahayam, Indian Institute of Spice Research

Dr. S. Devasahayam of Indian Institute of Spice Research (IISR) presented an overview of the research and development programmes in India highlighting the development in pepper varieties, changing climatological impact on pepper cultivation in growing areas in India and the major production constraints.

His paper is given as **Annex 04**

7. Virus diagnostics and planting material production by Dr. Ishwara Bhat of Indian Institute of Spice Research

Dr. Ishwara Bhat of IISR made a presentation highlighting the need for a quality planting material production for ensuring the sustainable pepper production. The viral diseases spread through planting materials and hence virus diagnostic is required right from selection of mother plants to planting units produced in the nursery.

He also explained various methods of sterilization of potting mixture using bio-agents and other organic inputs for better growth of seedling in the nursery. His paper is given as **Annex 05**

8. Experience of a farmer by Mr. Duleep Nanjappa

Mr. Duleep Nanjappa, a successful farmer from Coorg of Karnataka State shared his long experience in the pepper cultivation. He explained that a cropping system approach is more sustainable than pepper monocropping system. This intercropping system will help to maximize the resources utilization, increase biodiversity, and income generating from other crops as well as provide insurance against price fluctuations in a monocropping system, and will add to the total economy of pepper plantation.

His paper is given as **Annex 06.**

9. Presentation of country papers on Breeding Strategies for improvement of Crop Production and Good Agronomical Management of Pepper Plantation”

The country papers were presented by the following experts:

India

Dr. Neema V.P. of the Kerala Agriculture University, India presented a country paper explaining the successful breeding programme being carried out in India. Fourteen high yielding varieties suitable for various cropping system and location have been evolved,

including the first pepper hybrid Panniyur 1. The different method of breeding including the biotechnological tools employed for genetic upgradation was presented.

His paper is given as **Annex 07**

Dr. Sujatha of the Kerala Agriculture University in her lecture on Good Agronomical Management of pepper plantation, mentioned steps to be taken from selection of planting materials, varieties, location, and how to manage a good plantation without severe pest and disease loss. She further stressed the importance of irrigation, shade management and soil conservation for sustainable pepper production.

Her paper is given as **Annex 08**

Brazil

Dr. Oriel Filguera de Lemos of EMBRAPA Eastern Amazonia, Brazil gave a detailed description on the research and development programmes being undertaken in Brazil. He explained the hybridization programme, biotechnological intervention and the research focus on *Fusarium* disease. He explained that a low genetic variability is the problem faced by Brazil in their crop improvement programme.

He also demonstrated the novel technique of *in situ* micrografting in pepper. His paper is given in **Annex 09**

Malaysia

Mr. Chen Y.S, Expert from Malaysia presented his country paper highlighting the varieties developed in Malaysia and other management programs. The cover cropping system in pepper garden, manuring practices, planting methods, especially mound planting were explained.

His full paper is given as **Annex 10**.

10. Pepper development in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam by Dr. Y.R. Sharma, former Lead Consultant of FAO TCP Project on Pepper

Dr. Y.R. Sarma who was the Lead Consultant of the FAO TCP Project on Pepper implemented in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam explained the significant achievement of the FAO project. He stressed the importance of quality planting material production involving selection of good and healthy planting materials, implementation of IPM practices using of bio-agents and other PGPRs.

He further mentioned that the programme was successfully demonstrated in the three participating countries and such demonstration involving pepper farmers will lead to further development of the pepper farmers.

According to Dr. Sarma, phyto-sanitation and soil sterilization are the basic management requirement for successful diseases management. His paper is given in **Annex 11**

11. Discussion on the papers presented

Questions were largely directed towards management of viral and fungal diseases. The farmers urged scientists to develop practical tool for early detection of diseases infection and on diseases forecasting. The adverse effect on pepper production due to climatic change was another topic of discussion.

It was also noted that the major concerns of Sri Lanka was on adoption of diseases management strategy especially that of virus disease diagnosis at field level. Dr. Butt clarified that further technological development is essential for making virus detection kit available at field level.

The experts from Brazil wanted a general consensus in IPC for exchange of germplasm amongst the IPC member countries and requested each IPC member contact their respective Governments for initiating the exchange.

Meanwhile, the Indian farmers wanted newly developed high yielding varieties made available to them by the research institutes and Spices Board.

There was a general demand from the participants that the forth coming Peppertech meeting should deliberate in detail the “effect of climatic change on pepper plant and ways and means to mitigate the adverse impact on pepper production”

12. Discussion on the provisional agenda for the 36th Peppertech Meeting

The member countries are requested to suggest the IPC Secretariat on the items to be included in the agenda for the 36th Peppertech Meeting.

13 Discussion on the date and venue for the 36th Peppertech Meeting

The representative of Indonesia informed that the 36th Peppertech Meeting will be held along with the 39th Session during early November 2011. The dates and venue will be informed to IPC Secretariat in due course.

14 Other matters

There were no other matters were discussed

15 Consideration and adoption of the report of the 35th Peppertech Meeting

The report of the 35th Peppertech Meeting will be placed for consideration by the 38th Plenary Session of IPC.

16 Vote of thanks

Dr. J. Thomas, Director (Research) of the Spices Board of India proposed vote of thanks.