

National Events Organized to Celebrate the International Year of Soils – 2015



2015 International Year of Soils

September 28-29, 2015 - New Delhi - IPNI South Asia Program co-organized a **National Dialogue on Efficient Nutrient Management for Improving Soil Health** in collaboration with the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia (CSISA), and the Fertiliser Association of India (FAI).

“Nutrient management is one of the common denominators in the seemingly contrasting objective of maintaining a healthy soil under intensive agricultural production systems,” said Dr. Kaushik Majumdar, Director, IPNI South Asia Program. “Application of nutrient best management practices (BMPS) in diverse ecologies and crops is critical to enhance crop production, improve farm profitability and resource efficiency, and reduce environmental footprints of crop production.” The dialogue was organized with multiple stakeholder participation to highlight the role of nutrient management in improving soil health and to develop a road-map for implementing nutrient



BMPs nationally to ensure food and nutrient security and maintain our soils healthy for future generations. The two-day program was attended by leading scientists, policy makers, the extension specialists from public and private sectors, the fertilizer industry, and the farmers. The outcome of the event is now being used to develop a policy brief for submission to the National Government as a guideline for improving nutrient management strategies for sustainable soil health.



October 8-10, 2015 - Kolkata - IPNI South Asia Program and Indian Society of Soil Science Kolkata Chapter jointly organized a **National Seminar on Soil Health Management and Food Security: Role of Soil Science Research and Education.**

Distinguished speakers from the National Agriculture Research and Extension System, International Organizations and Fertilizer Industry made presentations on topical issues on Soil Health Management, Management of Soil Organics, Climate Change Mitigation, Soil Degradation and Management, and field studies research outcomes during the first two days. The third day of the seminar was devoted to Farmer-Scientist interactions to address on-farm challenges that impact soil health issues. The event was attended by nearly 200 participants from a broad range of stakeholders such as scientists, extension professionals, industry agronomists, and farmers. An educational video on **4R Nutrient Stewardship of Rice** was released during the occasion in an effort to build capacity of the extension system to provide nutrient decision support to large number of rice farmers.

New Video Available: 4R Nutrient Stewardship of Rice

4R Nutrient Stewardship is helping to enhance rice productivity in South Asia with better economic returns and environmental sustainability. The video from Burdwan, West Bengal describes an example of how to implement the concept of 4R Nutrient Stewardship in rice. *(Bengali with English subtitles).*

All IPNI videos are available at our YouTube Channel: [PlantNutritionInst](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqWz8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8)

