

International Certified Crop Adviser Program—India’s Journey Thus Far

The pilot exam for the India Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Program took place in August 2010 in New Delhi. Out of 22 candidates, 19 passed and were awarded certificates from the American Society of Agronomy (ASA). Two open exams were also held in the months of December 2010 and June 2011 at three locations—New Delhi, Hyderabad, and Chandigarh, where around 200 candidates took the exam.

The CCA program has been recognized by the public and private sector around the world as a tool to enhance and upgrade one’s knowledge in agriculture. The certification not only prepares the extension work force to do its job more efficiently and effectively, but it also provides better job opportunities. Most of all, CCA certification helps guarantee that this new breed of crop advisers has attained a level of knowledge and experience and is most qualified to work in the field with farmers, who are in dire need of the advisers’ expertise.

Presently, the total number of CCAs in India has reached 146. Several agribusiness companies in India have endorsed this program as a skill enhancement and continuing education tool for their employees in the field. Companies have made the CCA program a part of their employee goal sheet and other major companies in the agribusiness sector are looking towards CCAs as a source of prospective employees.

Information regarding the exam is available at www.certifiedcropadviser.org/india. Candidates can also get the information regarding the India CCA exam from Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals at +91-11-43154100 and through e-mail at indiacca@isapindia.org or by contacting Mr. Saveen Randhawa, India CCA Program Manager at saveen@isapindia.org. **ICSA**



Conversion Factors for U.S. System and Metric

Because of the diverse readership of our publications, this Table is provided as a convenience to those wishing to convert results provided within *Better Crops – South Asia* into U.S. System standard units.

Several factors are available to quickly convert units from either system to units more familiar to individual readers. Following are some examples which will be useful in relation to various articles in this issue of *Better Crops – South Asia*.

To convert Col. 1 into Col. 2, multiply by:	Column 1	Column 2	To convert Col. 2 into Col. 1, multiply by:
		Length	
0.621	kilometer, km	mile, mi	1.609
1.094	meter, m	yard, yd	0.914
0.394	centimeter, cm	inch, in.	2.54
		Area	
2.471	hectare, ha	acre, A	0.405
		Volume	
1.057	liter, L	quart (liquid), qt	0.946
		Mass	
1.102	tonne ¹ (metric, 1,000 kg)	short ton (U.S. 2,000 lb)	0.9072
0.035	gram, g	ounce	28.35
		Yield or Rate	
0.446	tonne/ha	ton/A	2.242
0.891	kg/ha	lb/A	1.12
0.0159	kg/ha	bu/A, corn (grain)	62.7
0.0149	kg/ha	bu/A, wheat or soybeans	67.2

¹The spelling as “tonne” indicates metric ton (1,000 kg). Spelling as “ton” indicates the U.S. short ton (2,000 lb). When used as a unit of measure, tonne or ton may be abbreviated, as in 9 t/ha. A metric expression assumes t=tonne; a U.S. expression assumes t=ton.