

# ORIC Newsletter

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

March 15 to 30, 2023



## HIGHLIGHTS

### FOUR-WEEK PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The Officers from the Govt. of the Punjab Agriculture Department (Research Wing and Pest Warning & Quality Control of Pesticides and Agri. Information) imparted Four Week Professional



Training on Finance, Administration, Management and E-Governance organized by ORIC from February 20, 2023 to March 17, 2023. The concluding session was chaired by Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Khan, Chief Scientist/Director General, Ayub Agricultural Research Institute (AARI), Faisalabad, and Mr. Muhammad Ayub, Resource Person and Dr. Amir Rasul, Deputy Director, Pest Warning & Quality Control of Pesticides (PW&QCP) were the guests of honor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani, Director ORIC/Focal Person briefed about the expectations of the Govt. about this training and highlighted the contents covered during the four weeks training. DG, AARI appreciated the efforts made by University of Agriculture, Faisalabad through ORIC for training of scientists by formulating modules of diversified nature. He expected that outgoing scientists will cascade this training for improving the office management practices. Deputy Director, PW&QCP pointed out that such trainings should be the continuous feature for enhancing capacity of the officers. He also appreciated the support extended by ORIC UAF for the officers. The outgoing participants were awarded with certificates.

### FOUR-WEEK PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

### QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING 2023

### UAF VARIETIES APPROVED BY PUNJAB SEED COUNCIL

### UAF DEVELOPED TWO HIGH-YIELDING VARIETIES OF SUGARCANE

### WORLD WATER DAY

### PCSIR OFFERS FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR INSTRUMENTAL ACCESS

### HEC RESEARCH AWARD



## UAF VARIETIES APPROVED BY PUNJAB SEED COUNCIL



It is a matter of great pleasure for the campus and research community that as a reward of rigorous efforts of UAF scientists three crop/flower varieties of Rose (*Rosa centrifolia*), CHIA (CHIA UA), Okra (P-21) by Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Associate Professor, Institute of Horticultural Sciences, Dr. Irfan Afzal, Associate Professor, Department of Agronomy and Dr. Amer Shakeel, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, respectively along with their teams have been approved by Punjab Seed Council in its 56th meeting held at Lahore under the Chairmanship of Secretary Agriculture, Govt. of the Punjab. Prof Dr Iqar A Khan (SI), Vice Chancellor UAF also attended the meeting where all the cases of variety approval were discussed in detail and finally approval was granted for general cultivation. The ORIC congratulates the researchers who under the Patronage of the Vice Chancellor and Technical/Financial Assistance by ORIC achieved this milestone.



**Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad**  
Associate Prof.  
Inst. of Horti. Sciences



Rose (*Rosa centrifolia*)



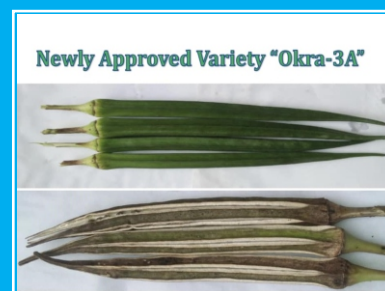
**Dr. Irfan Afzal**  
Associate Prof.  
Dept. of Agronomy



CHIA (CHIA UA)



**Dr. Amir Shakeel**  
Associate Prof.  
Dept. of PBG



Okra (P-21)

## WORLD WATER DAY

Under the facilitation of ORIC, the Engro Fertilizers on the eve of World Water Day (March 22, 2023) in collaboration with University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF), Department of Irrigation and Drainage (I&D), Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) and World Wide Fund (WWF) organized an interactive session with faculty members, students and other stakeholders directly or indirectly involved to promote Agriculture and strategizing water conservation technologies in Pakistan. They shared the innovative technologies to



increase per acre yield of field crops and emphasized the challenges of scarcity of water at Engro Learning Center UAF. Dr. Adnan Shahid, Associate Professor, Chairman, Irrigation & Drainage, Dr. Lubna Anjum, I&D, Engr. Farhan Ali, Deputy Director WASA, Ms. Shahida Rehman, Assistant Director WASA Faisalabad and Mr. Waseem Ashraf of WWF shared their experiences to save water through multiple approaches. They highlighted that because of rising temperature and other natural/human activities, water quality and quantity is under threat. It is high time to save even single drop of water for drinking as well as crop cultivation. The session ended with awareness walk to sensitize the campus community regarding the importance of this water.



## SAMPLE ANALYSIS FACILITY BY PCSIR

In order to promote research culture in the country, the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) has announced the provision of financial support to the research entities in the country for instrumental access under a development programme "Data Repository of Scientific Instrumentation". According to PCSIR sources, the objectives behind this initiative include providing funds for instrumental access to the research institutions, universities, Research and Development organizations and strategic research centers of Pakistan to carry out sample analysis. This would also facilitate faculty and research staff of newly developed as well as existing institutions that lack the scientific instrumental facility for conducting their research and create an online database of scientific instruments available in research centers, institutes and industries of Pakistan. Research scholars, students of MSc/MS/MPhil/PhD or equivalent in the field of Natural/Applied Sciences enrolled in a public or private university recognized by the Higher education Commission and researchers working in Research and Development organizations can benefit from this program. The application can be submitted including a summary or description of the research proposal, a copy of the approved research synopsis or proposal, a consent letter obtained from the service provider and a brief profile of the research supervisor. The mechanisms include submission of the application, review or approval by the Project Execution Committee (PEC), proceeding to the concerned service provider and billing information and payments. For the application form and details of other pre-requisite documents, the applicant can visit the PCSIR website.



The application can be submitted to the Office of the Project Director/Member (Science), Data repository of Scientific Instrumentation PCSIR, PCSIR Head Office, 1-Constitution Avenue, Sector G-5/2, Islamabad. For any further query, the applicants can also contact through email: [pcsirmemberscience@gmail.com](mailto:pcsirmemberscience@gmail.com), [pcsirdrsi@gmail.com](mailto:pcsirdrsi@gmail.com) and telephone No. 051-9225380.



(Organization office in London)

The Campus Community is  
delighted to share the recent  
**QS World Univ. Rankings 2023**

**Subject Category (Agriculture & Forestry)**

**World**  
**66<sup>th</sup>/420**  
**2023**

**Asia**  
**12<sup>th</sup>/112**  
**2023**

**Pakistan**  
**01<sup>st</sup>/07**  
**2023**



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**11<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

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## UAF DEVELOPED TWO HIGH-YIELDING VARIETIES OF SUGARCANE

The University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) has developed two high-yielding varieties of the sugarcane i.e. Insect-resistant transgenic sugarcane (CABB-IRS) and Herbicide-tolerant transgenic sugarcane (CABB-HTS) which have been approved for field trials by the National Biosafety Committee (NBC) of Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad on the recommendations of the IBC-UAF and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), Pak-EPA, Islamabad. These varieties are developed by Prof Dr Muhammad Sarwar Khan, Dean Faculty of Agriculture Faisalabad and his team from the Centre of Agricultural Biochemistry and Biotechnology, UAF. The Vice Chancellor Prof Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI) congratulated Dr. Khan and his team and anticipated that it will have sugarcane per acre increment. The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) being the secretariat of Institutional Biosafety/Bioethics Committee (IBC) felicitates this breakthrough in the university research where ORIC provided all the technical support to NBC as and when needed.



## Call for Applications

# HEC Research Awards 2023



The Higher Education Commission (HEC) invites Pakistani researchers / scholars to submit applications for HEC Research Awards competition. The objective of these Awards is to recognize excellence in research, contributions to intellectual development and to promote high impact publications.

### Award Categories

The awards will be given in the following three categories:

1. Best Researcher
2. Best Young Researcher
3. Best Publication (with special emphasis to submit research publications on constitution of Pakistan in view of Golden-Jubilee of 1973 Constitution of Pakistan)

### Eligibility Criteria

#### General Eligibility

- The applicant has never been blacklisted by HEC.
- The applicant / publication has not received the same award earlier.
- None of the publications on Applicant / Authors' credit is plagiarized as per HEC plagiarism policy.

#### a) Best Researcher

- i. The applicant must be resident of Pakistan for at least three years on January 1, 2023.

#### b) Best Young Researcher

- i. The applicant must be under 40 years of age on January 1, 2023.
- ii. The applicant must be resident of Pakistan for at least one year on January 1, 2023.

#### c) Best Publication

- i. The publication must be a scholarly book or journal article.
- ii. The publication must not be more than three years before January 1, 2023.
- iii. The publication must be written by no more than three authors.
- iv. All authors must be residents of Pakistan for at least three years on January 1, 2023.
- v. Research articles only published in a W-category journal in HEC Journal Recognition System (HJRS).
- vi. Research articles must have a minimum citation count of 100.
- vii. Publications (including extended version of a paper) that have previously been submitted for the same category of award are not eligible for resubmission.
- viii. Books must be published by a recognised academic press.

**Deadline: Wednesday, April 26, 2023**

### How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via HEC online portal. The deadline for application submission is **Wednesday, April 26, 2023**. Incomplete or late applications will not be entertained.

For further information and application submission please visit

HEC website: <http://www.hec.gov.pk/site/HRA>

Email contact: [info-r&d@hec.gov.pk](mailto:info-r&d@hec.gov.pk)



**Higher Education Commission**  
Sector H-9, Islamabad

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**Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI)**  
Vice Chancellor  
UAF (Patron in Chief)

**Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani**  
Director, ORIC (Chief Editor)

#### Editorial Board

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