

**Second Circular**

**International Conference  
on**

***Rainfed Agriculture: Building Pathways for  
Resilience & Sustainable Livelihoods***

**29-31 January, 2025**

**at**

**ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture  
Hyderabad, Telangana, India**



**Organised by**

**Indian Society of Dryland Agriculture  
ICAR- Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture**

**In collaboration with**

**Indian Council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi**

## The Conference in Brief

### Closing Dates

Event	Date
Receipt of Extended Summaries	November 15, 2024
Issue of Acceptance Letters for Papers	November 30, 2024
Receipt of Registration Fee without late Fee	December 15, 2024
Request for Accommodation	December 15, 2024
Willingness for Congress Field Visit/Tour	December 15, 2024

### Conference programme

Event	Date
Inaugural	January 29, 2025
Symposia	January 29-31, 2025
Poster Sessions	January 29-30, 2025
Plenary Lectures	January 29-31, 2025
Valedictory Session	January 31, 2025
Field Visits	January 31, 2025

**Conference Venue:** ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad, Telangana, India

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Globally, Rainfed farming is practiced in about 80% of cultivated land and contributes 60% of world food. In India, rainfed agriculture occupy about 50% of net cultivated area, practiced in diverse agro-ecologies and contributes 40% of country's food basket and dominant producer of oilseeds, cotton, jute and allied fibres. In India, contribution of rainfed production to nutritious cereals and pulses is about 84-87%, cotton- 60% and 77% in oilseeds and support 60% of livestock and 40% of human population. Despite significant strides made in enhancing irrigated area and irrigation potential, dependence on monsoon rainfall continues to be high for agriculture production in India. Spatial and temporal distribution of rainfall and the increase in extreme events are impacting the rainfed production systems in the country. While stability and enhancing cropping intensity is observed in irrigated systems, lower cropping intensity and higher risk are prevalent in rainfed systems. Despite the progress made so far, rainfed agriculture in India still encounters multiple risks and constraints relating to biophysical, socio-economic and policy related issues.

The major challenge of rainfed agriculture would be to sustain the livelihoods of the small and marginal farmers and to enhance their income by various means. In the absence of proactive measures, rainfed farming will no longer be attractive and retaining farmers may be difficult. In addition to the traditional problems, of late, climate variability and shrinking land holding size, market driven choices of commercial crops disregarding the available natural resources etc. are emerging as new threats for rainfed farming. While enormous opportunities exist in high rainfall regions specially in the eastern, parts of central and north eastern region for enhancing the cropping intensity either by effective management of available rainfall through harvesting and reuse or through ground water resources, less endowed regions are the ones which need specific attention. These less endowed regions are the ones significantly contributing to pulses and oilseeds which are very important for India. There is a need to diversify the production of pulses and oilseeds as a second crop in post rainy season in high rainfall regions with residual soil moisture. Preference for growing commercial crops even in less endowed areas is witnessed which are often causing pressure on land and water resources and hastening land degradation and contributing to risk. The challenge therefore lies in balancing the land use and cropping pattern as per the resource endowments and also meeting the demand of market forces as well as the national requirements. Some of the challenges like retaining area under the nutritious cereals can be converted into opportunities by creating awareness on the health benefits of these crops and by way of realising higher profits through value addition.

Drought is a major weather aberration observed in India. Every year, some part of the country is witnessing drought. Production deficiencies are also observed during normal rainfall due to untimely and variable rains. It is not exaggerated to indicate that drought and high intense rainfall lead floods are occurring in the same season specially in western regions of the country. The risk involved in successful cultivation of crops depends on the nature of drought; probable duration, intensity and periodicity of occurrence within the season. Inherent constraints such as poor water and nutrient retention capacity, low soil organic matter, nutrient deficiencies make rainfed agriculture highly vulnerable and less resilient requiring a different outlook and strategy. Besides the three primary nutrients, deficiency of S and micro nutrients like Zn and B in many of states, and of Fe, Mn and Mo in some states, have become limiting factors for increasing food productivity.

Climate change impacts are evident in agriculture sector particularly the rainfed agriculture as it is dependent on monsoon and the likelihood of increased extreme weather events due to the

aberrant behaviour of south-west (SW) monsoon. The aberrations in SW monsoon are impacting the crops and production systems, are likely to further aggravate in future. Technological interventions can play a significant role in enhancing the current capacity of rainfed farmers to cope with climate change.

While continuous efforts are being made to augment the water resources, the approach should be to increase the water use productivity and efficiency by reducing losses associated with utilization of water, to maximize returns from every drop of harvested water and to enhance cropping intensity. Improving soil health, by various management practices such as crop residues and composting are key for stabilizing the rainfed productivity.

The proposed international conference is aimed to bring together the researchers, farmers, NGOs, policy makers to discuss on research outcomes, the successful initiatives made for development of rainfed regions by state, central governments, NGOs etc, latest technological interventions adopted in different states, policy support needed to support rainfed farmers and to enhance farm income. Opportunities emanating to convert rainfed regions as production hubs of nutritious cereals, pulses, oilseeds, diversified land use promotion for mitigation of climate change impacts would be discussed extensively. Proceedings of the conference would be brought out to provide a direction for development of rainfed areas in the years to come for secured livelihoods and enhanced farm income.

## **Theme**

The theme of the International Conference will be **“Rainfed Agriculture: Building Pathways for Resilience & Sustainable Livelihoods”**

Tentatively there will be the following sub-themes for the Conference. Each sub-theme will have a separate symposium

## **Broad Themes**

1. Resource Characterization, Conservation, Management and Governance
2. Livelihood Diversification for Risk mitigation & Ecosystem Services
3. Crop Improvement and Management for Biotic & Abiotic Stress Mitigation
4. Sustainable Soil Management for Resilient Rainfed Agro-ecosystem
5. Next-Gen Technologies: AI & ML, Remote Sensing, Modelling, Drones
6. Enabling Technology & Knowledge Dissemination for Scaling Impacts
7. Resilience Through Livestock and Fisheries in Rainfed Regions
8. Agroforestry and Horticulture for Risk Minimization
9. Mechanization, Processing and Value chains for Rainfed Crops and Systems

## **Interaction sessions**

1. Farmer and Scientist interaction on Rainfed Agriculture-Pathways for Resilience & Sustainable Livelihoods
2. Industry-Scientist-Policy Interface on Climate Resilient Rainfed Agriculture

## **Panel discussions**

1. Conservation Agriculture for Rainfed Cropping Systems
2. Carbon Trading in Agriculture

## Call for Extended Summaries

The extended summaries of all the contributory papers will be published and provided to the delegates as soft copy in a pen-drive during the Conference. These must reach the Organizing Secretary in the prescribed format latest by 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2024. The guidelines for extended summary are available on [www.isda-rainburs.in](http://www.isda-rainburs.in) Extended summary prepared without following the style and format and guidelines will not be accepted for publication. Extended summary need to be submitted through website [www.isda-rainburs.in](http://www.isda-rainburs.in) after registration. For any further information, pl contact through mail: Organizing Secretary. Email: [secretaryisdaconf2024@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryisdaconf2024@gmail.com)

## Advertisement

The Souvenir of the Conference, which will contain messages from VVIPs and articles from renowned scientists, policy makers and administrators has provision for advertisement by the Companies/Organisations. Souvenir is a very important publication of the Conference and is usually kept by the delegates for long period and used as reference book. Apart from this virtual/electronic format of advertisement will also be available, by which advertisement can be made to the global forum. Interested Companies/Organizations may contact the organizers for giving their advertisements. The rates for the advertisement are as follows:

Standard benefits	Charges	
	INR (₹)	USD (\$)
Back cover page	50,000	1000
Inner page of back cover	40,000	900
Full page insertion	35,000	800
Hall page insertion	25,000	600
Quarter page	20,000	550

## Exhibition Stalls

An exhibition will be organized at the conference venue. Exhibitors will get 3x3 m<sup>2</sup> space within exhibition area, having 3 side walls, carpet, 1 table, 2 chairs, 1 standard power point, 2 spotlights & dustbin.

**Stall Charges: Rs 25,000/- or equivalent currency. "only one registration kit would be provided for one exhibition stall, for additional kits, the participants need to register as a physical participant."**

*Organisers may be contacted for booking stall on or before 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2024.*

## Virtual/Electronic Format

**Online advertisement (Scrolling) on: [www.drylandagri.in](http://www.drylandagri.in) & [www.isda-rainburs.in](http://www.isda-rainburs.in)  
(Rates for 30 seconds view per cycle)**

1 to 24 January 2025: ₹ 1,50,000

15 to 24 January 2025: ₹ 1,50,000

24 to 31 January 2025: ₹ 1,50,000

# Themes of the Conference

<b>1. Resource Characterization, Conservation, Management and Governance</b>	
Chair	Dr. AK Singh, Former Vice Chancellor, RVSKVV, Gwalior
Co-Chairs	Dr. YS Ramakrishna, Former Director, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad, Dr. Anjani Kumar, Director, ATARI, Patna
Conveners	Dr. G Ravindra Chary, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. N Timme Gouda, AICRPAM, Bengaluru
<b>2. Sustainable Soil and Water Management for Resilient Rainfed Agro-ecosystem</b>	
Chair	Dr. B.S. Dwivedi, Member, ASRB, New Delhi
Co-Chairs	Dr. K Sammi Reddy, Director, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati, Dr. JS Mishra, Director, ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur
Conveners	Dr. K Srinivas, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Bharath Singh, AICRPDA, Indore
<b>3. Crop Improvement and Management for Biotic &amp; Abiotic Stress Mitigation</b>	
Chair	Prof. (Dr.) Arvind Kumar, Former Vice-Chancellor, RLBCAU, Jhansi
Co-Chairs	Dr. OP Yadav, Director, ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur, Dr. RM Sundaram, Director, ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad
Conveners	Dr. B Sarkar, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. DVS Reddy, ATARI, Bengaluru
<b>4. Agroforestry and Horticulture for Risk Minimization</b>	
Chair	Dr. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, DDG (Horticultural Science), ICAR, New Delhi
Co-Chairs	Dr. A Arunachalam, Director, ICAR-CARI, Jhansi, Dr. SK Roy, Director, ATARI Pune
Conveners	Dr. G Venkatesh, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Amarendra Kumar, ATARI, Patna
<b>5. Resilience Through Livestock and Fisheries in Rainfed Regions</b>	
Chair	Dr. A.K. Srivastava, Vice-Chancellor, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya Evam Go-Anusandhan Sansthan (DUVASU), Mathura
Co-Chairs	Dr. SB Barbuddhe, Director, ICAR-NRC Meat, Hyderabad, Dr. Kadirvel Govindasamy, Director, ATARI Guwahati
Conveners	Dr. DBV Ramana, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. M Muralidhar, CIBA, Chennai
<b>6. Mechanization, Processing and Value chains for Rainfed Crops and Systems</b>	
Chair	Dr. S.N. Jha, DDG (Agricultural Engineering), ICAR, New Delhi
Co-Chairs	Dr. K. Narsaiah, ADG (Process Engineering), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. P. Sheoran, Director, ICAR-ATARI Ludhiana
Conveners	Dr. I Srinivas, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. M Pendke, AICRPDA, Parbhani
<b>7. Next-Gen Technologies: AI &amp; ML, Remote Sensing, Modelling, Drones</b>	
Chair	Dr. IM Mishra, Vice Chancellor, VNMKV, Parbhani
Co-Chairs	Dr. Prakash Chauhan, Director, NRSC, Hyderabad, Ms. Lakshmi Eswari, Joint Director, C-DAC, Hyderabad
Conveners	Dr. SK Bal, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Lateef Ahmed, AICRPAM, SKUAST, Srinagar

# Themes of the Conference

## 8. Enabling Technology & Knowledge Dissemination For Scaling Impacts

Chair	Dr. AK Singh, Vice Chancellor, RLBCAU, Jhansi
Co-Chairs	Dr. B. Uday Bhaskar, CGM (Telangana), NABARD, Hyderabad, Dr. SRK Singh, Director, ATARI Jabalpur
Conveners	Dr. CA Rama Rao, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. AP Singh, AICRPDA, Rakh Dhiansar

## 9. Livelihood Diversification for Risk mitigation & Ecosystem Services

Chair	Dr. ML Jat, Global Research Program Director - Resilient Farm and Food Systems, ICRISAT, Hyderabad
Co-Chairs	Dr. Sunil Kumar, Director, ICAR-IIFSR, Modipuram, Dr. JP Mishra, Director ATARI, Jodhpur
Conveners	Dr. M Prabhakar, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Mudalagiriappa, AICRPDA Bengaluru

### Interaction Sessions

#### 1. Farmer and Scientist interaction on Rainfed Agriculture-Pathways for Resilience & Sustainable Livelihoods

Chair	Dr. Praveen Rao, Former Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU, Hyderabad
Co-Chairs	Dr. Shaik N Meera, Director, ATARI, Hyderabad, Dr. V Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru
Conveners	Dr. K Nagasree, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Pourouchottamane, Head, NTRS, Garsa

#### 2. Industry-Scientist-Policy Interface on Climate Resilient Rainfed Agriculture

Chair	Shri. Yogendra Kumar, Marketing Director, IFFCO, Gurgaon
Co-Chairs	Dr. NP Singh, Member CACP, New Delhi, Dr. Binaya Kumar Parida, Sr AVP and Chief Agronomist, Coromandal International, Hyderabad
Conveners	Dr. Neeraj Awasthi, Country manager, Anglo-American Dr. Arun K Shankar, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad

### Panel Discussions

#### 1. Conservation Agriculture for Rainfed Cropping Systems

Chair	Dr. CH Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad
Co-Chairs	Dr. Rajbir Singh, ADG (AAF&CC), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. SK Dubey, Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone-III, Kanpur
Conveners	Dr. G Pratibha, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Pallab Kumar Sharma, AICRPDA, Biswanath Chariali

#### 2. Carbon Trading in Agriculture

Chair	Dr. B. Venkateswarlu, Former Vice Chancellor, VNMKV, Parbhani
Co-Chairs	Shri Franklin L. Khobung, Joint Secretary (NRM/RFS), New Delhi, Mr. Neelesh Kumar Sah, Joint Secretary, MoEF & CC, New Delhi
Conveners	Dr. KA Gopinath, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad Dr. Sandeep Sandhu, AICRPAM, PAU, Ludhiana

## REGISTRATION FEE

### Indian delegates:

S. No	Category	Physical mode fee (Rs.)		Virtual mode fee (Rs.)	
		Within due date	After due date	Within due date	After due date
1	ISDA members (In-service)	7000	8000	3500	4000
2	ISDA members (Retired)	5000	6000	2500	3000
3	Non – ISDA members (Scientist/NGO)	8000	9000	4000	4500
4	Farmers	3000	4,000	1500	2000
5	Industry and private organizations	10000	12000	5000	6000
6	Students & research scholars	5000	6000	2500	6000
7	Accompanying family member	2500		-	

### Foreign delegates:

S. No	Category	Physical mode fee (US \$)		Virtual mode fee (US \$)	
		Within due date	After due date	Within due date	After due date
1	Scientists	500	600	250	300
2	Industry and private organizations	800	900	400	450
3	Students & research scholars	350	400	175	200
4	Accompanying family member	300			

- The registration fee for the participant will cover participation in all scientific sessions, the proceedings and other soft and printed material of the meeting, welcome reception, lunch and dinner, tea/coffee during lecture brakes. It does not include charges for accommodation.
- Registration need to be done through website: [www.isda-rainburs.in](http://www.isda-rainburs.in) on or before 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2024.
- Registration fee may be sent through demand draft/at par Cheque in favor of **"ISDA (Current A/c no. 4630002100001586)"** payable at Hyderabad only from within India. For Electronic Transfer to Congress Bank Account, please remit funds through **IFSC code: PUNB0463000, Account number: 4630002100001586**, Account Name: ISDA CRIDA, Beneficiary: ISDA, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad 500059, Telangana, Bank: Punjab National Bank, Santosh Nagar, Hyderabad 500059. Payment can also be made through website: [www.isda-rainburs.in](http://www.isda-rainburs.in) after registration through online payment, UPI and QR code as shown here.
- Fees for Foreign delegates are in US dollars or equivalent in Indian Currency





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