

ICAR-IASRI Organized a Training Programme on Data Science in Agriculture

Data science is a multidisciplinary field that combines techniques from statistics, mathematics, computer science, and domain-specific knowledge to extract valuable insights and knowledge from data. As ICAR-IASRI is premier institution of ICAR, with amalgamation of agricultural statistics, computer applications and Bioinformatics and ideal to organize such programs with its faculty strength who is working in the area for model development with AI/ML and collaborations in these areas.

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) successfully conducted a twelve days training programme on “Data Science in Agriculture” from September 04 – 15, 2023, through online mode on a Blended Learning Platform (BLP).

Inaugural of the program was graced by Honorable Dr. Padam Singh Ji, Former ADG, ICMR Delhi. This training program was well designed to help researchers have a fundamental understanding of Data Science and basic concepts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) techniques. The program also covered key concepts of Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Vision used in Data Science, and Data Analysis and Visualization tools along with Case Studies in different domain of agriculture. Faculty from IASRI, along with guest faculties from IIT Delhi, ICMR, NIC, BITS-Pilani and USA delivered lectures in the program.

For this course, nominations were invited online in the month of August with the nominal fees of Rs. 1000 using the newly designed training portal at IASRI site. As nominations were invited from NARES organizations for faculty members, we have received 115 applications and 90 participants have attended this program. We received various queries/request from technical and student categories too which we are hopeful to take up in next series of this program. In this training program, 40 participants were from ICAR institutes, 44 from SAU's and 6 from other institutes which comprised of 51 Male and 39 female participants. Revenue of Rs. 90000 was generated for ICAR-IASRI with this training program.

This program was organized in online mode using NARES-Blended Learning Platform (BLP). Classes were held on daily basis (except holidays) from 9.30 to 5.30. Whatsapp and Email groups were formed to help in technical issues. At the end of the program, online assessment was conducted in BLP. Attendance was monitored automatically in BLP.

Dr. R.C. Agrawal was the chief guest in the valedictory program. Participants were appreciative for the training program be on content, faculty strength and topics covered. They had shown interest to do the program on different aspects of Data Science in future. A significant number of participants (98%) recommend for an ICAR-IASRI three-month certificate course on data science.

Dr. Rajender Parsad, Director, ICAR-IASRI introduced the concept of Data Science in Agriculture through a presentation. For this course, Course Director was Dr Rajender Parsad, Course Coordinator was Dr. Alka Arora and Course Co-Coordinators were Dr. Chandan Deb, Dr. Sapna Nigam, Dr. Mrinmay Ray and Dr. Upendra Kumar Pradhan.



