



# Indian Meat Science Association

## IMSA NEWS LETTER

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### Message from President, IMSA

Dear readers, Indian Meat Science Association, Hyderabad is growing at a faster pace with more than 400 life members who are excelling and contributing in different areas of meat science. In order to recognise their contribution and to encourage researchers to excel in the area of worth the association has recently instituted several awards viz, IMSA Fellowship, Allansons Young Scientist Award, Dr. B.N. Kowale Award for Best Master's Theses, IMSA Travel Grant Award for Master's and Doctoral students with generous contributions from peers, mentors and corporate members. The December issue (Vol. 11, No. 1, 2015) of our Journal of Meat Science has been printed and is now available online at [www.imsa.org.in](http://www.imsa.org.in). The IMSA secretariat is updating its website regularly and communicating with all the members about the activities periodically. The final announcement of IMSACON-VII to be held at GADUVASU, Ludhiana from November 10-12, 2016 is now available online. I, on behalf of IMSA welcome all the EC members, Editors, IMSA life members, meat scientists, meat processors, exporters and other stakeholders to participate in IMSACON-VII and make it a grand success.

*V. V. Kulkarni*

### I. MEAT SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

#### Story of American chicken legs:

American chicken legs are back to haunt Indian poultry industry. India's resistance to import of American frozen chicken crumbled with ruling of World Trade Organization dispute panel ruling which termed restrictions on American chicken on the pretext of avian influenza are little less than honest with the reality. Following the WTO ruling which came on 19th June 2015, Indian government sought reasonable time for implementation of the order which expired on 19th June 2016. Consequently, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Govt. of India issued a notification allowing of import of frozen chicken from America on 07th July 2016. As per the notification, chicken will be imported from areas free from Avian influenza and areas affected by Avian Influenza will be defined on the basis of the guidelines laid down by Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). In USA, consumers prefer chicken breast meat which leaves vast chicken legs available for export. Chicken legs constitute about 1.7 mmt of the 3.3 mmt chicken meat exported from USA. It is assumed that import will increase significantly in coming days. This scare combined with raising cost of maize and decreasing demand due to note ban made third quarter of 2016-17, a challenging period for Indian poultry industry. However, record sowing of maize in 2016-17 and decreasing cash crunch have been assumed to avert the short term set back. Experts are divided over effect of import of American chicken legs on Indian poultry industry. Some expect fall in demand for Indian chicken by 20% while others do not find any threat as more than 90% of the Indian chicken retailing is through wet market and hence frozen chicken may not enjoy wide spread acceptance among consumers. Lack of good cold chain network, high import duties, cost of transportation and difference in taste of long time frozen chicken with that of fresh chicken are some of the challenges which American chicken legs have to face. Rising against the odds is an integral part of growing Indian poultry industry and resilience of robust Indian poultry industry will be on display in the year 2017-18 to thwart this latest challenge

#### Punjab emerges as leader in scientific pork production in the country

Appreciable efforts have been initiated by Government of Punjab to augment pork production in the state. After successful import of pig semen from UK, state is mulling to establish state-of-the-art facility for production of pork. Facility is estimated to process 4,00,000 pigs per year. State is already producing about 76,000 tonnes of pork per year. Officials of Punjab Animal

Husbandry Department are travelling across the world to gather best practices and use them in this progressive state. Officials visited UK recently and held extensive discussions with the stakeholders there. State is also deputing several teams of Veterinarians to get training on scientific piggery at ICAR – National Research Centre on Pig, Guwahati. It is hoped that these efforts will bear fruit and bring visible changes in piggery sector in coming years.

## II. NEWS BYTE

### Note ban alters meat demand in the country:

Indian meat industry is highly unorganized and thrives on liquid cash for marketing. Demonetization of high currency notes by Indian government on 08th November 2016 was bound to affect meat sector and as per Poultry Federation of India, demand for poultry meat fell by 30 % after note ban. However, it was also noticed that purchase of meat from super markets by using digitally payment mode sharply rose in the days following note ban. With cash crunch subsiding slowly, demand for meat is expected to bounce back in coming days.

### Kerala Govt imposes fat tax on junk food

Kerala government imposed additional 14.5 % tax on western style food products like pizzas, burgers, doughnuts, sandwiches, pastas etc. Consequently, consumption of these products is expected to reduce. As meat is part of many of these foods demand for meat in this non-vegetarian state is expected to reduce. However, traditional pork products like curries are not covered under the regulations making them cheaper as compared to their western counterparts.

### Punjab Government imports pig semen from UK

There was a long standing demand by piggery stakeholders and several State Governments to permit for import of exotic pig germplasm to overcome the problem of inbreeding depression which has set in as no exotic germplasm was imported into country since many decades. Punjab Government finally succeeded in its endeavour to address this issue and first ever pig semen doses were imported from UK. The state is endeavouring to develop a quality nucleus farm with pure bred exotic pig breeds by using the imported semen to cater to needs of the pig farmers. This initiative has raised the hope of augmenting pork production in India in the coming years. This also has encouraged other state governments to follow suit and take initiatives to import germplasm to meet the requirements of their respective states.

## III. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

### 'Rani' and 'Asha' new pig varieties released

To augment pork production in the country ICAR – National Research Centre on Pig, Guwhati has released two new varieties of cross bred pigs. "Rani", the crossbred pig variety has been developed by crossing Hampshire (exotic breed) with Ghungroo (indigenous breed) to have 50% inheritance of both the breeds. The breed characters of "Rani" crossbred has been stabilized for consistent crossbreeding of six generation. The breed can gain almost 75 kg body weight at slaughter age of 8 months with 1.98 cm of back fat thickness. "Rani" cross have widely been validated in farmers' field. Duroc, another exotic germplasm, was crossed with "Rani" to develop "Asha" cross to have 25% Ghungroo, 25% Hampshire and 50% Duroc inheritance. "Asha" can produce 80 kg lean pork at slaughter age of 8 months with 1.75 cm back fat thickness. Varieties were released on 15th October 2016 by Dr. H. Rahman, Deputy Director General (Animal Science), ICAR, New Delhi at ICAR-NRC on Pig, Rani, Guwahati

### Entrepreneurship Development Program on 'Production of Shelf Stable Food Products Using Retort Processing Technology' organized at Dudhnoi, Goalpara

Entrepreneurship Development Program on, 'Production of Shelf Stable Food Products using Retort Processing Technology' was organized by ICAR – National Research Centre on Pig, Rani, Guwahati in Collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dudhnoi, Goalpara, Assam on 30th July 2016. Dr D. K. Sarma, Director, ICAR – NRC on Pig, Guwhati chaired the program. About twenty prospective entrepreneurs from Goalpara district participated in the event. Dr



Participants of Entrepreneurship Development Program along with Dr D. K. Sarma, Director and other Scientists of ICAR - NRC on Pig and KVK, Dudhnoi

U. K. Baruah, Program Coordinator, KVK & Convener of the program welcomed the gathering. Dr Girish Patil, S., Senior Scientist, ICAR – NRC on Pig, Guwahati gave a presentation on principles, technology, advantages and cost of retort processing technology. Dr D. K. Sarma briefed regarding business prospects in post harvest processing of pork and advantages of retort processing technology. Participants of the program were given a taste of different retort processed pork and black rice products as part of consumer sensory evaluation.

## **IV. SEMINAR/SYMPOSIUM/TRAININGS IN MEAT SCIENCE**

### **International Symposium & VII-IMSACON- 2016**

International symposium & VII-IMSACON- 2016 on “*New Horizons for Augmenting Meat Production and Processing to Ensure Nutritional Security, Food safety and Environmental Sustainability*” held on 10 to 12th November, 2016,” along with a Preconference Workshop on Food Quality and Safety on November 9, 2016. Key Speaker for the workshop, Mr Tom Graham, Senior Director of the National Inspection Division in Operations Branch for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) conducted a special session on Meat Inspection. The workshop was attended by 64 young research workers of meat scientists.

The symposium was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr Harpreet Kochhar, Chief Veterinary Officer Canada, Vice President Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Guest of Honour was Dr C. K. Thota, Director International Business Alliances. The symposium was attended by 12 international delegates (2 Canada, 2 South Korea, 1 Kuwait, 3 Ghana, 2 Sri Lanka) including foreign students. There was footfall of more than 400 in the conference. A special session on Industry-Academia-Farmer Interface was also organised in which 56 leading farmers from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, U.P., Rajasthan has participated. In the symposium 24 lead lectures and 3 key note lectures were presented. More than 75 oral presentations and more than 150 posters were presented. In the conference IMSA has awarded 6 scientist life time achievement award and 4 scientists inducted as IMSA fellow.

### **Model Training Course organized at ICAR –NRC Pig, Guwahati**

Directorate of Extension, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture Farmers’ Welfare, Govt. of India sponsored Model Training Course (MTC) on, ‘**Value addition and post harvest management of pork for ensuring hygienic pork production**’ was organized at ICAR – National Research Centre on Pig, Rani, Guwahati from 01st to 08th November 2016. Twenty two Veterinarians working in eleven states of India viz., Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura, Chattisgarh, West Bengal and Assam participated in the training program.

### **Pig Expo 2016 Successfully Organized**

The maiden Pig Expo was organized successfully at ICAR-National Research Centre on Pig, Rani, Guwahati on 28th - 29th November, 2016. The North Eastern Council, Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India, Shillong, Meghalaya has given major financial support for organizing the event. More than one thousand and five hundred farmers, researchers, academicians, developmental agency representatives, entrepreneurs, processors, consumers and other pig sector stakeholders from across the country especially from



*Participants of Pre-Symposium Workshop conducted in Ludhiana*



*Launching of 'Cystvax' a vaccine against Porcine Cysticercosis by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam and other dignitaries in the Inaugural ceremony of Pig Expo on 28th November 2016*



North Eastern India participated in the Expo. Two days programme started with inauguration on 28th November, 2016 by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Chief Minister, Assam. Shri Atul Bora, Minister for Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Govt. of Assam, Shri Ram Muivah, Secretary, NEC, Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India, Dr K. M. Bujarbaruah, Vice Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat graced the function as Guests-of-Honour. Dr. H. Rahman, Deputy Director General (AS), ICAR, New Delhi presided over the function and Dr. Dilip Kumar Sarma, Director, ICAR - NRC on Pig welcomed the dignitaries and participants of Pig Expo 2016. A vaccine against porcine cysticercosis developed by Indian Immunologicals Ltd. In collaboration with GAVL med, U.K. and University of Mebourne, Australia was launched in the Inaugural function. The Chief Minister also inaugurated the exhibition arranged on the occasion. A Farmer – Scientist Interaction was held on the first day which was chaired Dr V. K. Taneja, Former DDG (AS), ICAR and Former VC, GADVASU, Ludhiana and attended by experts and distinguished scientists from various disciplines. The valedictory function was chaired by Dr. D. K. Sarma, Director, ICAR - NRC on Pig. Shri Khrunuhu Rhakho and Shri Vineikho Sechu of Nagaland were honoured with breed savior awards for contributing towards conservation of “Tenyi Vo”, local pig breed of Nagaland. The Expo has ushered in a new dimension in pig production in the country and provided a platform for congregation of different players in pig value chain and thereby established network between different entities for strengthening pig value chain.



*Participants of the Model Training Course in ICAR – National Research Centre on Pig, Guwahati*

#### **Others News from Dept of LPT, GADVASU, IUDHIANA**

- GADVASU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ICAR with National Research Centre (Meat), Hyderabad for collaboration in teaching, research and extension activities on the day of inaugural function of VII- IMSACON, 2016 on 10.11.2016.
- Department of Livestock Products Technology has transferred technology of Fiber enriched/ low-calorie Functional Meat Products to Banga Co-operatives, District Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Punjab for the commercial exploitation of the product.
- Department has transferred technologies of Egg paneer, Egg Drink concentrate to four different entrepreneurs of Haryana, Punjab on multiple user basis for the commercial exploitation of the product.

#### **IMSA Executive Committee**

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**PS: Please send your contributions for the newsletter to editors**

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