

Horticultural Science

Horticultural Science Division is the one of the largest divisions of ICAR carrying the research programmes for developing high yielding varieties of fruits, vegetables, plantation crops, tuber crops, flowers, medicinal and aromatic plants and spices through its 12 national Institutes, 5 directorates, 6 national research centre, 11 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and 5 other projects through their 355 centres located in various ICAR Institutes / Central and State Agricultural Universities (CAU/SAUs) in different States of India.

All above Institutes/AICRPs/Other projects have been categorized in five major schemes viz.

1. Improvement and management of tropical, subtropical and temperate fruit crops.
2. Improvement and management of root, tuber, bulbous and arid crops.
3. Improvement and management of vegetable crops, floriculture and mushroom.
4. Improvement and management of plantation crops, spices, medicinal and aromatic plants and island ecosystems.
5. Enabling climate resilience and ensuring food & nutritional security through genome editing in horticultural crops.

During 2014 to 2023 National Agricultural Research System (NARS) under the aegis of ICAR has released & notified 485 improved varieties of horticultural crops. These include 42 in fruit crops, 23 in flowers and other ornamental crops, 17 in plantation crops, 52 in potato and tropical tuber crops, 55 in spices and 296 in vegetable crops. These varieties are high yielding, tolerant to various biotic and abiotic stresses and having improved quality and suitable for cultivation in different agroclimatic zones of the country.