College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology

Anand Agricultural University, Godhra

Expert Lecture on Plasticulture Applications and their importance in Agriculture

An expert lecture on "Plasticulture Applications and Their Importance in Agriculture" was organized on 30 July 2026 by the Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, in association with the Agricultural Engineering Alumni Association, Godhra, at the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Anand Agricultural University, Godhra, for the undergraduate students. The programme aimed to familiarize students with the latest plasticulture technologies and their role in improving agricultural productivity, resource conservation, and sustainable farming.

The expert lecture was delivered by Shri Haiumkhan Pathan, Manager, Plasticulture Development Centre, Reliance Industries Ltd., Vadodara. During his insightful presentation, he explained the significance of plasticulture and its growing importance in modern agriculture. He covered a wide range of applications of plastics in agriculture, including; Manufacturing of drip irrigation components, Plastic mulching, Row covers, Fertigation, Sprinkler irrigation, Micro and mini sprinkler irrigation systems, Protected cultivation, Natural farming practices, Rain pipe irrigation, Sub-surface irrigation, Micro tube irrigation, Power requirements and pump selection for micro-irrigation systems, Plant protection applications, Pond lining and canal lining, Soil solarization, Fruit covers, Silage bags, Leno bags, Vermi beds, Azolla beds, Shade net houses. Shri Pathan highlighted how these technologies help improve water-use efficiency, conserve soil moisture, reduce weed infestation, enhance crop quality, increase farm productivity, and promote climate-resilient agriculture. He also discussed the role of plasticulture in addressing present-day challenges related to water scarcity and sustainable resource management.

The expert further provided an overview of the activities carried out at the Plasticulture Development Centre, Reliance Industries Limited, Vadodara. He explained the Centre's efforts in promoting advanced plasticulture technologies, capacity building, farmer awareness programmes, field demonstrations, and technology dissemination for the benefit of the farming community.

A live demonstration of various plasticulture components and systems available at the Plasticulture Development Centre was conducted by Shri M. J. Sumera, Plasticulture Development Centre, Reliance Industries Ltd., Vadodara enabling students to understand the practical aspects, installation, operation, and applications of different plasticulture technologies.

The programme was organized under the guidance of Dr. Shivamurti Srivastava, Principal and Dean, College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Anand Agricultural University, Godhra. The event was graced by the presence of Dr. R. C. Salunkhe, Chairman, Agricultural Engineering Alumni Association, and Associate Professor (FMPE) along with Dr. A. N. Kunpara, Head, Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering & Irrigation & Draining Engineering. The successful organization of the expert lecture was made possible through the dedicated efforts of Dr. M. A. Sojitra, Assistant Professor Dr. N. R. Sardar, Assistant Professor, Dr. P. A. Damor, Assistant Professor and Er. Akhil Memon, Assistant Professor whose valuable contributions ensured the smooth conduct of the programme.

The lecture concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session in which students enthusiastically participated and clarified their queries regarding the design, installation,

operation, and field applications of plasticulture technologies. The programme proved to be highly informative and beneficial, broadening students' understanding of modern agricultural engineering practices and encouraging them to adopt innovative technologies for sustainable agricultural development.

The Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering expressed its sincere gratitude to the expert speaker, the demonstration team from Reliance Industries Limited, the Agricultural Engineering Alumni Association, faculty members, and all participants for making the programme a grand success.









