

Promotion of National Sunflower and Canola Hybrid Seed

Background

- Import bill of edible oil is around 250 billion rupees
- Low Yields of conventional varieties (OPVs)
- High cost of imported hybrid seed
 - Sunflower: Rs. 1000/Kg
 - Canola: Rs. 1200/ per Kg)
- Adaptability problem in Imported hybrids
- Import bill of hybrid seed 1.2 billion

Why National Hybrids

- National hybrid development expertise available
- Precious 170 parent line of sunflower and 250 of canola developed over 25 years
- Yield compatibility of national versus multinational hybrids established
- Sunflower and Canola hybrids are being introduced to farmers

Issues/Challenges

- Intellectual Property rights of national hybrids not in place
- Limited land and water resources available at NARC
- Limited technical manpower
- Isolation problems in parent lines seed multiplication
- Seed distributors charge higher margins
- Low technical know how of farmers
- Small oil extraction units for local processing

Implementation Strategy

- IPR and breeders right act promulgation
- Identification of isolated sites for hybrid seed production
- Public-private partnership development
- Technical manpower recruitment
- Training of scientists/technicians
- Regulations for quality seed availability
- Manufacturing small oil extraction units
- Local packaging and marketing

Benefits

- Cheap availability of local hybrids
- Decrease in import bill of hybrid seeds
- Enhanced local production
- Private sector entrepreneurship
- Development of local extraction
- Employment generation
- Reduction in import bill of edible oils
- Increase in productivity per unit area
- Popularization of hybrid technology in the country

