

## **Field Day on Rice Residue Management and Quality Seed Production under Farmer FIRST Project**

A field day on Rice Residue Management was organized at village Mundri, District Kaithal under ICAR-CSSRI led Farmers First Project on 20 October 2018. About 120 farmers from nearby villages participated in the programme. The farmers were given live demonstration on situation based rice residue management options and awareness on importance of residue retention in conserving soil health and environmental quality. The usefulness of combine harvester equipped with Super Straw Management System (SSMS) followed by direct wheat sowing with Happy Seeder in anchored residues and uniformly spreaded rice straw was also demonstrated. The farmers were convinced and satisfied with the performance of SSMS fitted combine harvesting and happy seeder option. The farmers were also taken to the fields where soil and water quality based application of neutralization amendments (Gypsum/ Pressmud) were given to tackle the problem of reproductive sterility (Ukasha) in rice. Farmer viewpoints on target oriented demonstrations and scientific interactions were also covered by the officials from DD Kisan channel.

Farmer to farmer extension (F2FE) targeting availability of good quality seed of salt tolerant variety CSR 30 basmati was also visited by the participants. Farmers were also shown the brackish water aquaculture entrepreneurship unit being established with the technological support of Farmers First Project at village Sampli Kheri.

Later on, a farmers'-scientists interface meeting was organized at village Geong in which 80 farmers participated. Dr. V.P. Chahal, ADG (Agricultural Extension), Indian Council of Agricultural Research was the chief guest. In his address, he urged the farmers to use maximum benefits of technologies developed by Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal to cope up their field problems aggravated by continuous use of high RSC irrigation water and soil sodicity. Dr. R.K. Yadav, Head (SCM) emphasized on importance of soil and water analysis and discussed in details the reclamation technologies. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Parvender, Principal Scientist and PI of the project. Drs. Satyender Kumar, Sohanveer Singh, R.K. Singh, Kailash Prajapat and Yousuf Jaffer Dar were also present.

