



# NEWSLETTER

BALUCHISTAN AGRICULTURE COLLEGE, QUETTA

VOLUME 1 2017



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To impart quality education, knowledge & skills to the agriculture professionals for meeting the future developmental needs & challenges of diversified agriculture.

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## EDITORIAL NOTE

The first and probably the most important field is education. With the rapid advances in computers and communication, it has become increasingly difficult for anyone in the agricultural community to keep pace with technical changes impacting field production. From understanding the genetics of seed relative to an environment, evaluating the best fertilizers, selecting the right combination of pesticides, or just understanding the day-to-day logistics of a farm operation, education is paramount for success.



In the near future, successful retailers will not be judged by price alone but also according to the materials they recommend in production and their support of sustainability practices on a farm. Consequently, retailers must develop a more “holistic” view of a farming operation. They must understand how each decision through a growing season impacts the next decision and how, collectively, decisions impact the environment and the final produce delivered to the food supply chain. Knowledge of production practices will be demanded not only by regulatory agencies but also be growing segment of the consuming public. The anticipated upstream pressure from the food supply chain can be met with on-farm operation that has accountability and traceability.

A subtler need in education is the modern understanding of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. With the rise of resistant pests, the choice of pest controls must be done more intelligently. Control decisions will require seasonal observations on the presence and movement of pests along with models predicting their future development. Visual observations will give way to diagnostic tests and written records will be replaced by electronic input using applications on smart mobile devices. Retailers that gravitate to these new tools and programs will save time and resources.

I hope you enjoy this issue and do let us know if there are any topics you’d like to see covered in the future. We want it to be entertaining and informative, at times contrary, but above all useful.

**Prof. Amjad Ali**

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## KAZAKHSTAN AMBASSADOR VISITS THE BALOCHISTAN AGRICULTURE COLLEGE, QUETTA

Mr. Abdul Salik Khan, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Republic of Kazakhstan visited Balochistan Agriculture College on 6-3-2017. He was welcome by the Principal, Prof. Mohammad Aslam Khan Niazi along with Prof. Qamar Raza and Prof. Amjad Ali.

The matter of mutual understanding was discussed. The Principal briefed the guest about on-going academic and developmental activities of the college. The ambassador expressed his deep pleasure over the achievements of academic staff towards excellence of educational vision. He appreciated the efforts made towards up-gradation of college to Agriculture University. The Principal informed that 40% construction of the project has been completed.



## FOLLOW-UP VISIT OF AIC

Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC) of National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC), Higher Education Commission performed follow-up visit to Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta from 14-8-2017 to 17-8-2017. The AIC was led by Dr. M.E. Tusneem, Chairman of NAEAC. The main objective was to determine the status of implementation of actionable recommendation of the concerned AIC for each discipline.

The on-site follow-up visit commenced with a meeting with the Principal and academic staff. The AIC was briefed about the college and also updated on the recent developments in the disciplines. After that, an overview of the degree programs was given by the Principal, Prof. Mohammad Aslam Khan Niazi. It was followed by a detailed discussion on various aspects of the faculty and degree programs. Subsequently, the committee had a detailed visit of the respective department. It visited college facilities which included laboratories, library, computer lab, academic block and field. It also visited the construction site of newly upgraded Agriculture University.









## HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION OF ZTBL VISIT BAC, QUETTA



A high level delegation of Zarai Taraqati Bank Limited (ZTBL) headed by Senior Executive Vice President visited Balochistan Agriculture College (BAC), Quetta on 20-4-2017. The delegation included Mr. Abdul Bari Tareen Member Board of Directors, Mr. Salman Raza Head Liability & Marketing Division, Mr. Sharaf-ud-din Khan Tareen Zonal Chief and Mr. Ikhlas Khan In-charge LLU. The delegation was briefed by the members from Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta consisted of Prof. Muhammad Aslam Niazi Principal, Prof. Amjad Ali Director Advanced Studies & Research, Dr. Arif Shah Associate Prof. and Mr. Sikander Shahzad Assistant Professor.

The intended aim of the visit was sustainable collaboration between ZTBL and Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta for academic, research, internship, capacity building, job placement and financial aid.

The Principal, Prof. Mohammad Aslam Khan Niazi briefed the delegation regarding the BAC achievements in research, development and academic activities. Mr. Abdul Bari khan Tareen has admitted wording of thanks for arrangement of meeting at BAC for implementation and expansion of Agri. Business in a modernized manner being vision & mission of worthy President ZTBL. He further reiterated that ZTBL higher management intend to enhance credit facilitation to Balochistan farmer community and utilize the services of all Agriculture Research Graduates for better yield in Agriculture and Live Stock sectors.

Mr. Salman Raza also presented the purpose of his visit in the light of worthy President ZTBL mission & vision and informed that ZBTL would like to initiate collaboration with Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta to revive the situation to bring ionic financial institution for building the collaboration with academic institution in the given below areas:

1. Yearly fixation of Internship slots for BAC students.
2. Yearly fixation of scholarships for BAC graduates.
3. Provision of job placement for BAC graduates at ZTBL.
4. To support in research and knowledge building of the farmers in Agriculture and Live Stock sectors.
5. Capacity building of ZTBL staff through BAC faculty in Agriculture, Agri. Business, Enterprise and Live Stock Management.

He further added and briefed that ZTBL will organize the job fair at BAC and also develop the sustainable relationship with BAC for the internship program. In this context he also showed the interest of signing MOU with BAC, Quetta. Prof. Mohammad Aslam Khan Niazi appreciated the efforts of the ZTBL management for building sustainable relationship with BAC. Further, the Principal said that BAC will provide full cooperation and support for the strong linkages with ZTBL.

Meanwhile Mr. Sharaf-ud-din Khan Tareen has completely briefed both sides regarding loan portfolio, credit extension / recoveries of loans, infusion / importance of agriculture graduates in ZTBL for enhancement of Agri. Business and Live Stock potential in the Province in modernized way.

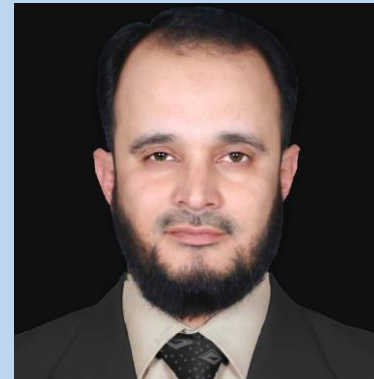
## EXTENDING HANDS TO COLLABORATE WITH FAO BALOCHISTAN

Balochistan Agriculture College (BAC), Quetta extended hands to collaborate with Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to establish a program for academic collaboration in the areas of mutual interest with Australia Balochistan Agri. Business Program. The goal of this cooperation is to foster collaboration, provide opportunity for global experience, and to facilitate advancement of knowledge, best efforts and frequent interactions.

A delegation of FAO consisting of Mr. Marcel Stallen, International Project Manager (IPM) and Mr. Ahmed Jan Essa, Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) visited the college on 31-5-2017 to explore possible areas of cooperation between FAO Balochistan and Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta. A detailed presentation was given to the delegation by the Principal, Prof. Mohammad Aslam Niazi. In reciprocation, Mr. Marcel Stallen briefed the participants of the meeting on FAO's presence in Balochistan and more specifically on the on-going and new FAO projects that will be started in 2017 such as the Australian funded Australia Balochistan Agri-business Project (phase I and II) and Women Economic Empowerment Project and the USAID funded Horticulture Value Chain Project. The areas of mutual interest were identified for possible future collaboration and it was discussed with BAC staff how to synergize efforts and extend cooperation between the FAO Balochistan Projects and the Balochistan Agriculture College.

The collaboration will bring mutual benefits among students, faculty and researchers.

## CONSEQUENTIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT BY MR. NAUMAN IRSHAD



Mr. Mohammad Nauman Irshad, Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy has successfully completed his M.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture in the discipline of Agronomy. The result has been declared by the University of Balochistan, Quetta. He conducted his research at Agriculture Research Institute, Quetta under supervision of his Research Supervisor Dr. Zafarullah Malghani, Co-Supervisor Syed Noor-Ud-Din Shah and Dr. Mohammad Sharif. His given research topic was "Evaluation of Brassica (*Brassica napus* L.) for suitable sowing time under Agro-climatic condition of Quetta." The objectives of the study were to find out the best sowing time of Brassica for high yield and to compare oil quality parameters, and to compare economic benefit of Brassica with respect to sowing dates in upland cropping system of Quetta. There was a need to enhance oil seed production and in spite, the seed and oil production that was following a decreasing trend. Keeping in view yield and quality reduction in Brassica the research was designed to evaluate *Brassica napus* for suitable sowing time under Agro-climatic condition of Quetta, Balochistan.

It was concluded that Brassica sown in last week of November gave the best results for seed yield. The farmers of Balochistan will definitely be benefited from the outcome of the conducted research.



## VISIT TO CHINA

Dr. Noorullah Kakar Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy has performed visit to China for training program under title “Agriculture Product Circulation Technology for Developing Countries” 2017 in Hunan Agriculture Company Changsha China.

He visited agriculture fields, livestock, business centers, trade organizations, garments factories and River of Changsha which is called Shau River in friendly environment with energetic Chinese people and who have very positive relationship with their neighbor countries. He also visited China Embroidery Museum which is the state of the art. He was benefited with the valuable lectures of the Professors of Hunan Academy of Agriculture Sciences.



## APPOINTMENTS

On the recommendations of Balochistan Public Service Commission, Mr. Attaullah and Mr. Rehmat Ali have been appointed as Controller of Examinations (B-18) and Registrar (B-18) respectively in Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta w.e.f. from 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. Both the officers have taken over the charge of their offices.



**Mr. Rehmat Ali**  
Registrar



**Mr. Attaullah**  
Controller of Examination

## **SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES UNDER POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT IN DECIDUOUS FRUITS OF BALOCHISTAN PROJECT**

The fruit sector has a significant role in farms' income improvement, food security, poverty alleviation and sustainable agriculture in developing countries. Post-harvest food loss reduction is an important mean to increase food security and it is a matter of concern for all those nations whose economy is based on agriculture. The production of fruits is of significance only when it reaches the consumer in good condition and at a reasonable price. Balochistan, covering 44% of the total area of Pakistan, produces a variety of fruits, where apple and grapes are the important cash crops. In Balochistan, Apple is grown on an area of 91945 hectares with the total production of 522729 tons while grapes are being grown on 15195 hectares area with production of 65005 tons. Due to lack of technical know-how, insufficient innovative research work, poor post-harvest management practices, deficiency of essential facilities and uneven marketing, a sizeable quantity (30-40%) of these fruits is lost.



A research project entitled “Post-harvest management in deciduous fruits of Balochistan” is being executing by Balochistan Agriculture College Quetta in collaboration with Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) Islamabad under its Agriculture Linkages Program.

The project is supervised by Dr. Syed A Sadiq Agha (Principal Investigator/Associate Professor (BAC)). This project aims at conducting research experiments on application of edible coating on different varieties of apple and grapes, farmers' capacity building and practical demonstrations to apple and grape growers at their farms/orchards on innovative post-harvest management practices in order to reduce fruit losses. Under the project the growers will also be made aware about cold chain and value chain of apple and grapes to improve their fruits' shelf life and market value, consequently the farmers would receive handsome prices of their produce.



Dr. Sadiq and his team has successfully conducted three research experiments on investigating the effects of edible wax coating on quality and shelf life of grapes and apple. Four edible waxes viz. Shellac, Bee wax, Paraffin and Carnuaba wax was firstly dissolved in various organic solvents and then applied (coated) to grape local cv. Kishmishi (*Vitis venifera*) and both apple cv. Thor Kolu (Red Delicious) and Shin Kolu (Golden Delicious). The treated grapes and apple samples have been kept for recoding data under room temperature as well as under cold store ( $\pm 1C^0$ ) conditions. It is worth mentioning that splendid findings have been achieved which will be disseminated among the grape growers. Hopefully the findings of edible coating of apple fruits will also be admirable.



Under the on-going research project, ten trainings/capacity building of apple & grape growers have been conducted in five project districts. Dr. Syed Sadiq (PI), Dr. Shahjahan Shabir Ahmed (Co PI) and Mr. Asif Zehri (Consultant) imparted on farm trainings. The apple & grape growers were practically demonstrated and lectured on innovative post-harvest management practices such as proper picking, sorting, grading, packing, cold storage, transportation and efficient marketing. Besides, Seminars on Cold Chain & Value Chain of apple & grapes have also been conducted in the project districts. Among progressive growers, agriculture officers, exporters, manufactures and other stake holders also attended these seminars and appreciated the efforts of the Research Team for arrangement of these enlightening seminars.







## **MR. RAHEEL BABAR TAKES CHARGE OF THE OFFICE OF IN CHARGE PUBLICITY CELL**



It is a matter of great pleasure that Mr. Raheel Babar, Chairman Department of Forestry, Range and Wildlife Management has been assigned an additional duty of In charge Publicity Cell of Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta. He has taken over the charge of the office with immediate effect. His first priority is to publish Annual College Magazine for the year 2017. Academic Staff and students will be contributing their articles for the magazine. The literary intelligent writings of out aspiring staff will share their feelings and thoughts. We appreciate the utmost support of worthy Principal Prof. Mohammad Aslam Khan Niazi for his cooperation which will enable to publish college magazine in time. Any suggestion, recommendation and idea regarding the improvement of college magazines format would highly be appreciated and welcome.

## **NARC & JICA DELEGATIONS VISIT BAC FOR LAUNCHING OF NEW PROJECT**

National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC) Pakistan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) are collaboratively planning to prepare a project for the “Capacity Development of Agriculture Extension Services in Balochistan Province”. The successful implementation of “Capacity Development of Agriculture Extension Services in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provided opportunity to develop a new project for “Capacity Development of Agriculture Extension Services in Balochistan Province.”

In this regard, Dr. Khalid Farooq, Director (API) NARC, Islamabad and Mr. Arshad Abbasi, Program Officer, JICA-Pakistan visited Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta on 28-3-2017. Various issues and methodology regarding the project were discussed.

Later on a Detail Planning Survey Mission on the Project consisting of Mr. Akira Koto, Consultant for above mentioned project visited BAC in the month of September, 2017. The Mission was dispatched by JICA Headquarters Tokyo. The purpose of the visit of Mission was to identify the objective and detail planning of the project. The Mission hold discussions with Mr. Mohammad Aslam Niazi, Principal and senior academic staff of the college. The Principal and his staff assured their full support and cooperation to the Mission in implementation of project.



## **MR. MOHAMMAD RAZA SIDDIQUI ELECTED AS VICE PRESIDENT CHEVENING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN, BALOCHISTAN CHAPTER**

Mr. Mohammad Raza Siddiqui Associate Professor, Department of Agronomy has been elected as Vice President Chevening Alumni Association of Pakistan, Balochistan Chapter. The election was held on 18-11-2017 at Serena Hotel, Quetta. This nonprofit organization will provide the platform to share the experience of British Scholars for development of education system in institutions at Balochistan level by conducting seminars, trainings, and workshops. The event was presided over by Ms. Rahila Hameed Khan Durrani, Speaker Balochistan Assembly.





## **BAC PARTICIPATES IN SPECIAL JOINT SESSION OF IPARCC & VICE CHANCELLOR FORUM**

Special Joint Session of 7<sup>th</sup> Inter Provincial Agricultural Research Coordination Committee (IPARCC) & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chancellor's Forum was held on 7-8-2017 at Pakistan Agriculture Research Council's (PARC) Headquarters, Islamabad. As a representative of Balochistan Agriculture College Quetta, Prof. Amjad Ali participated in the meeting. Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta is the member of both forums. The forum representing four provinces and Gilgit-Baltistan. The main objective is to have greater research coordination among the federal and provincial research partners, to avoid duplication, overlapping, maximize synergy and to direct efforts in deficient areas of agriculture research.



Dr. Yusuf Zafar (T.I), Chairman PARC in a group photo along-with Vice Chancellors Forum members. (Directorate of PR & Protocol, PARC)  
ڈاکٹر یوسف ظفر (تمغہ امتیاز) چیئرمین پی اے آر سی کا واٹس چانسلر فورم کے اجلاس کے موقع پر شرکاء کے ہمراہ گروپ فوٹو۔ (شعبہ تعلقات عامہ، پی اے آر سی)



Dr. Yusuf Zafar (T.I), Chairman PARC chairing the meeting of Inter Provincial Research Coordination Committee (IPARCC) and Vice Chancellor Forum at PARC HQs. (Directorate of PR & Protocol, PARC)  
ڈاکٹر یوسف ظفر (تمغہ امتیاز) چیئرمین پی اے آر سی انٹرویو بائی تحقیقاتی معاونت کمیٹی کے شرکاء سے میٹنگ کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں۔ (شعبہ تعلقات عامہ، پی اے آر سی)



## **BAC PARTICIPATES IN THE FOURTH TRAINING WORKSHOP OF PEs**

The National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) of Higher Education Commission (HEC) has conducted 4<sup>th</sup> Training Workshop for its subject experts/Program Evaluators (PEs) from September 28–30, 2017 in Margala Hotel Islamabad. Prof. Amjad Ali, Chairman Department of Agriculture Extension participated in the workshop as an expert of the discipline of Agriculture Extension. Key Resource Person was Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, President of the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN), Chief Expert of Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center in China, Professor & Director of RSHE of Research Institute of Higher Education of Yunnan University, Advisor of Council for CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) in the USA. The Council maintained a roster of more than 124 subject experts/PEs of different disciplines of Agriculture.





## PROMOTIONS

It is a matter of great pleasure that the following faculty staff members of Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta have been promoted in the rank and discipline mentioned against their names:

S.No.	Name	Designation	Department
01	Mr. Arshad Ghani	Associate Professor	Entomology
02	Mr. Ahmed Khan	Associate Professor	Plant Pathology
03	Mr. Gul Shah	Associate Professor	Basic Sciences
04	Mr. Afzal Kasi	Associate Professor	Horticulture
05	Mr. Muhammad Nauman Irshad	Assistant Professor	Agronomy



### MR. SIKANDER SHAHZAD GETS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES

Mr. Sikander Shahzad, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science has got additional responsibilities. He has been made In charge of IT, Publications and Liaison Officer of the Principal. He will monitor and maintain the computer systems and networks of the college. He will supervise in installing and configuring computer systems, diagnosing hardware and software faults and provide solutions for technical

and applications problems. He will also perform specific duties of publications and supervise all the people associated with publications. Furthermore he will liaise between college and other organizations to communicate and coordinate their activities.



## ARRIVAL OF NEW LECTURERS

The following Lecturers (B-17) have been appointed by Balochistan Public Service Commission, Quetta in the disciplines mentioned against their names.

S.No.	Name	Department
01	Mr. Rizwan Wahid	Agricultural Economics
02	Mr. Barkat Ali	Agronomy
03	Mr. Naseer ud Din	Agronomy
04	Mr. Israr Ahmed	Computer Science
05	Mr. Nizam ud Din	Entomology
06	Mr. Safeer Ahmed	Horticulture
07	Mr. Muhzzam Anwar	Horticulture
08	Mr. Khalil Asghar	Plant Breeding & Genetics
09	Mr. Sad Ud Din	Soil Science
10	Mr. Aurang Zaib	Soil Science

With the induction of new Lecturers the academic activities will boost up and quality of education will be strengthened.







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