A Report on

20TH PARTHENIUM AWARENESS WEEK – 2025

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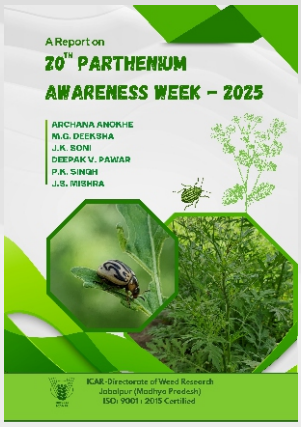

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1. INTRODUCTION

Parthenium weed, scientifically known as *Parthenium hysterophorus*, is one of the worst weeds in the world of Mexican origin, has now spread throughout India. It is an invasive plant species that has become a significant ecological and agricultural concern in the Indian context. Native to the Americas, this weed was inadvertently introduced to India in the early 1950s, likely through contaminated imported goods. Since its introduction, Parthenium weed has rapidly spread across the country, adversely affecting ecosystems, agriculture, and public health.

It has been considered one of the most problematic weeds in the country infesting about 35 million hactare of land. Parthenium has established in varied climate and extreme weather conditions ranging from mild to severe. In some of the states like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, Parthenium infestation is severe. By 1975, this weed used to be considered as a weed of wastelands and community lands but afterwards, it started to appear in crop fields also. Now, the weed has entered into forest and protected areas. In some of national parks, it has become a threat to survival of herbivores for want of palatable grasses due to invasion of Parthenium. Many national parks have been infested with Parthenium. In forest areas, this weed has become a great menace affecting biodiversity. It has also been found to occupy large areas of pasture lands and thus reducing the fodder availability to animals. Almost all types of crops are now severely infested with Parthenium. The various concerns arising due to Parthenium weed are as follows:

1. Ecological Impacts:

- **Aggressive Growth:** Parthenium weed is known for its rapid growth and adaptability, enabling it to invade diverse ecosystems ranging from agricultural lands to wastelands.
- **Biodiversity Loss:** The weed outcompetes native vegetation, leading to a reduction in biodiversity as it monopolizes essential resources, ultimately degrading natural habitats.

2. Agricultural Consequences:

- **Crop Competition:** Parthenium weed competes with crops for nutrients, water, and sunlight, resulting in decreased agricultural productivity and crop yields.
- **Allelopathic Effects:** The weed produces allelopathic chemicals that inhibit the germination and growth of other plants, further exacerbating its impact on agricultural lands.

3. Health Hazards:

- **Allergenic Pollen:** Parthenium weed pollen is highly allergenic, causing respiratory issues, skin allergies, and asthma in humans. It is a major contributor to respiratory problems in areas with high infestations.
- **Occupational Health Risks:** Individuals involved in activities such as agriculture or waste disposal in areas with Parthenium infestations are at risk of developing health issues due to prolonged exposure.

4. Livestock Concerns:

- **Toxicity to Livestock:** Parthenium weed is toxic to livestock, impacting their health and productivity. Ingestion of contaminated forage can lead to dermatitis, photosensitivity, and respiratory distress in animals.

Controlling Parthenium weed is a challenging task due to its aggressive growth and adaptability. Integrated pest management strategies that combine various control measures are often the most effective. Some common control measures for managing Parthenium weed:

1. **Manual Removal**:

   Hand Pulling: In small infestations, manually uprooting Parthenium plants can be effective. This method is labor-intensive but can be practical for localized control efforts.

2. **Chemical Control:** Herbicides: The use of herbicides is a common method for large-scale control of Parthenium weed. Selective herbicides that target the weed while minimizing harm to non-target plants are preferred. Glyphosate-based herbicides are commonly used, but care must be taken to minimize environmental impact.

3. **Biological Control:** Insect Biocontrol: Introducing specific insects that feed on Parthenium weed has shown promise as a biological control method. The most notable example is the introduction of the beetle *Calligrapha bicolorata*, which feeds on the leaves of Parthenium weed, reducing its growth.
4. **Cultural Control:**
   Crop Rotation: Implementing crop rotation practices can disrupt the life cycle of Parthenium weed and reduce its prevalence in agricultural fields.
   Competition: Promoting the growth of competitive crops that can outcompete Parthenium weed for resources is a cultural control method.

5. **Preventive Measures:**
   Quarantine Measures: Preventing the spread of Parthenium weed to new areas is crucial. Implementing quarantine measures for contaminated goods and vehicles can help curb its introduction to unaffected regions.
   Clean Farming Practices: Encouraging clean farming practices, including thorough cleaning of machinery and equipment, can prevent the unintentional spread of Parthenium seeds.
6. **Mechanical Control:**
   Mowing and Slashing: Regular mowing or slashing of Parthenium weed can help control its height and limit seed production. However, this method may not eliminate the weed entirely.
7. **Public Awareness:** Education Programs: Conducting public awareness campaigns to educate communities about the harmful effects of Parthenium weed and the importance of control measures can contribute to a collective effort in managing its spread.
8. **Research and Monitoring:**
   Continuous Research: Ongoing research is essential to develop new and more effective control methods for Parthenium weed.
   Monitoring Programs: Implementing monitoring programs to track the spread of Parthenium weed and assess the effectiveness of control measures is crucial for adaptive management.

The ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research (DWR) has been at the forefront of addressing the pervasive issue of Parthenium weed in India. Recognizing the need for widespread awareness and collaborative efforts, the DWR initiated the observance of the 'Parthenium Awareness Week' in 2004. This annual event serves as a platform to engage various stakeholders, including State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), ICAR institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs), state agricultural departments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other institutions across the country.

Objectives of Parthenium Awareness Week:

Educating Communities: The primary objective of the awareness week is to educate communities about the detrimental effects of Parthenium weed on agriculture, ecology, and public health. This includes raising awareness about its invasive nature, impact on biodiversity, and the health risks associated with exposure.

Promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM): The awareness campaign emphasizes the importance of integrated approaches to manage Parthenium weed. This includes advocating for a combination of manual, chemical, biological, and cultural control methods tailored to specific regions.

Fostering Collaborations: The initiative aims to foster collaborations among various stakeholders, encouraging a collective and coordinated effort in addressing the challenges posed by Parthenium weed. This involves cooperation between research institutions, agricultural bodies, governmental agencies, NGOs, and local communities.

Disseminating Best Practices: Parthenium Awareness Week serves as a platform to disseminate best practices for Parthenium weed management. This includes information on effective control measures, preventive strategies, and the promotion of clean farming practices.

Key Features of the Awareness Campaign:

Pan-India Participation: The Parthenium Awareness Week involves the active participation of institutions and organizations throughout the country. This widespread participation ensures that the message reaches diverse regions and communities facing the challenges of Parthenium weed infestation.

Workshops and Seminars: The campaign includes workshops, seminars, and training sessions conducted by experts from DWR and partnering institutions. These sessions focus on building the capacity of farmers, extension workers, and local communities to effectively tackle Parthenium weed.

Demonstrations and Field Visits: Practical demonstrations and field visits are organized to showcase successful Parthenium weed management practices. Farmers and stakeholders are given hands-on experience and guidance on implementing control measures.

Educational Material: The campaign involves the distribution of educational material, including pamphlets, brochures, and posters, highlighting key information about Parthenium weed, its impacts, and methods for control. This material is designed to be accessible and informative for diverse audiences.

Interactive Events: To engage the public actively, interactive events such as quizzes, competitions, and community discussions are organized during Parthenium Awareness Week. These activities aim to make the awareness campaign more engaging and memorable.

Over the years, the Parthenium Awareness Week has played a crucial role in disseminating knowledge, fostering collaborations, and empowering communities to combat the menace of Parthenium weed. The initiative continues to evolve, with ongoing efforts to assess its impact, adapt strategies based on research findings, and expand the reach to new regions.

During 2025, 'Parthenium Awareness Week' was organized from 16-22 August throughout the country. For effective participation of stakeholders and to facilitate the organizations to observe various activities during the week, basic extension materials like posters, folders and video films showing menace of Parthenium and its control were developed at the ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur and supplied to various stakeholders with the appeal to multiply the extension material at their own level and to distribute to other stakeholders. Responses received from various stakeholders from different parts of country proved that thousands of people actively participated to curb the menace of Parthenium.

Parthenium Awareness Week 2025: A Nationwide Endeavor for Sustainable Control

In 2025, the ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research (DWR) undertook a significant initiative by organizing the 'Parthenium Awareness Week' from 16th to 22nd August throughout India. This annual event marked a crucial period dedicated to educating communities, fostering collaboration among stakeholders, and disseminating effective strategies for the control of Parthenium weed. The approach adopted during this awareness week aimed to actively engage participants and ensure a broad and impactful outreach.

Strategic Period and Scope: The selected dates, from 16th to 22nd August, were strategically chosen to maximize the impact of the awareness campaign. This period allowed for a focused and concentrated effort, providing stakeholders with a dedicated timeframe to participate in various activities aimed at tackling the challenges posed by Parthenium weed.

Development of Extension Materials: To facilitate effective participation and engagement during the Parthenium Awareness Week, the ICAR-DWR took the initiative to develop basic extension materials. These materials, including posters, folders, and video films, were created at the Jabalpur facility. The content of these materials aimed to illustrate the menace of Parthenium weed and provide insights into effective control measures.

Distribution and Multiplication of Extension Materials: The extension materials developed by ICAR-DWR were not only distributed to various stakeholders but were also designed to be easily multiplied at the local level. Organizations and institutions involved in the awareness campaign were encouraged to reproduce

these materials and distribute them to a wider audience. This strategy aimed at creating a cascading effect, reaching more communities and increasing the overall impact of the awareness campaign.

Response from Stakeholders: The response to the Parthenium Awareness Week in 2025 was highly encouraging, with active participation reported from various stakeholders across different parts of the country. Thousands of people engaged in activities designed to curb the menace of Parthenium weed, showcasing the success of the initiative in mobilizing communities and raising awareness about the invasive species.

Engaging Various Regions: The success of the awareness campaign was evident in the widespread participation reported from diverse regions of the country. The initiative effectively transcended geographical boundaries, involving stakeholders from urban and rural areas, agricultural communities, research institutions, governmental bodies, NGOs, and more.

Impact on Participation and Awareness: The active involvement of thousands of people during the Parthenium Awareness Week demonstrated a growing awareness and commitment to addressing the challenges posed by Parthenium weed. The initiative not only disseminated crucial information but also fostered a sense of responsibility among stakeholders to actively contribute to controlling the spread of this invasive species.

The 'Parthenium Awareness Week' organized by the ICAR-DWR in 2025 exemplified a well-orchestrated and impactful approach to addressing the challenges posed by Parthenium weed. By developing and distributing extension materials, fostering collaboration, and encouraging widespread participation, the initiative contributed significantly to raising awareness and mobilizing communities for sustainable control measures against Parthenium weed across the nation.

2. Documentation of Public Participation

2.1. ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur

It was realized that Parthenium problem can be handled only by the collective efforts rather than the individual efforts. Keeping this in mind, Directorate of Weed Science Research (DWSR), Jabalpur has been organizing 'Parthenium Awareness Week' since 2004 to bring awareness among people about Parthenium. During 2025, the 'Parthenium Awareness Week' was organized from 16-22 August in different villages, schools and localities around Jabalpur. The week was also simultaneously organized throughout the country and centers of All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Control.

Preparation and distribution of extension material

To facilitate different stakeholders to organize various activities like exhibitions, demonstrations, rallies, film shows, corner meetings etc., Extension material like posters having various messages, extension folders giving information in detail about Parthenium and different ways of its management were prepared at Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur. A 12-minute video film was also developed giving all information about Parthenium and various tactics of its management. A kit of all these materials was sent to the State Agricultural Universities (SAUS), Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKS), ICAR institutes, many NGOs, municipalities, and other interested personnel with an appeal to multiply the same at their own level and observe 'Parthenium Awareness Week' by organizing some activities involving people's participation. The kit was sent to all schools and colleges around Jabalpur with the request to display the same and to motivate students to do some activities.

Following events were organized in and around Jabalpur during the Parthenium awareness week 2025:

14 August 2025

20th Parthenium Awareness Week to be organized by the Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur

On 14th August **Press Note was prepared and shared with local news channel for wide publicity.** The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week will be organized at the national level by the Directorate of Weed Research (DWR), Jabalpur from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the theme *"Awareness and Community Participation – Key to a Parthenium-Free India."* Parthenium (Gajarghas) is not only a serious problem for crops, humans, and animals, but also poses a grave threat to biodiversity and the environment. To control this invasive weed, DWR Jabalpur will coordinate the programme nationwide in collaboration with its 24 All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP)–Weed Management centres, 100 ICAR institutes, 75 agricultural universities, 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), as well as schools, colleges, and social organizations. The Directorate has issued a press release note to sensitize the public about this weed which is spreading like an epidemic. The programme will be formally inaugurated on 16th August at ICAR–DWR, Jabalpur. **Dr. J.S. Mishra**, Director of the Directorate, stated that this weed grows and spreads throughout the year, infesting vacant lands, wastelands, industrial areas, roadsides, railway tracks, as well as rural and urban landscapes. Its infestation has now spread to crops like rice, sorghum, maize, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, and horticultural crops. The toxic chemicals released from its roots suppress crop growth and adversely affect biodiversity and the environment. Experts explained that contact with Parthenium causes dermatitis, allergy, fever, asthma, and other health problems in humans, while in animals it leads to bitter milk, hair loss, and diseases. Its eradication is possible through manual removal before flowering or by mechanical methods, but these require more labor, time, and cost, with chances of re-infestation. Research has shown that herbicides such as Atrazine, Metribuzin, 2,4-D, Glyphosate, and Paraquat are effective in its control, for which correct usage guidelines are disseminated by ICAR–DWR. For biological control, DWR has conducted research on the Mexican beetle *Calligrapha bicolorata*, which feeds on Parthenium leaves, defoliating the plant and preventing seed formation, thereby reducing its spread. Recently, the Government of India has also approved the import of the highly specialized seed-feeding beetle S*micronyx lutulentus*. The combined use of both leaf-feeding and seed-feeding natural enemies offers a long-term and sustainable solution for the effective management of Parthenium. This will prove to be an important step. In addition, research has also been carried out on some plant species (such as *Chakoda* and *Marigold*), the results of which indicate that they can significantly suppress the growth of Parthenium. Compost prepared from Parthenium biomass has also been found to contain higher nutrient levels compared to ordinary compost. So far, the Directorate has released more than 2.5 lakh Mexican beetles (*Calligrapha bicolorata*) across different states of the country with the support of various institutions and local communities. This beetle can be obtained from the Directorate during the months of August–September. In several regions of Madhya Pradesh too, the beetle has been successfully released with people's participation, showing effective results. Keeping in view the importance of Parthenium management and to create public awareness, a variety of programmes and activities are being organized across the country from 16th to 22nd August. The programme will begin on 16th August, in which the Principal Scientist and Coordinator of the Parthenium Awareness Programme, **Dr. P.K. Singh**, along with scientists **Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. Deeksha M.G., Dr. Deepak Pawar, and Dr. J.K. Soni,** will actively participate.

16 August 2025

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025 was inaugurated today at the ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research (ICAR-DWR), Jabalpur, with a Parthenium eradication drive that saw the participation of around 80 staff members. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. J.S. Mishra, Director, ICAR-DWR, who expressed deep concern over the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus*. He cautioned that the weed not only causes heavy crop losses but also poses severe risks to human and animal health. Dr. Mishra noted that Parthenium thrives year-round, spreading rapidly across vacant lands, industrial areas, roadsides, and

residential zones, and is increasingly threatening food crops, vegetables, and horticultural plants. He emphasized its harmful impact on biodiversity and the environment, calling for urgent and coordinated management efforts. **Dr. P.K. Singh,** Principal Scientist and Coordinator of the awareness programme, elaborated on the weed's harmful effects and outlined available control measures. He highlighted the successful use of the beetle *Calligrapha bicolorata* as a biological control agent, which has shown promising results in Jabalpur and other regions. Dr. Archana Anokhe delivered a detailed presentation on the integrated management of Parthenium. The event concluded with a vote of thanks, acknowledging the contributions of scientists **Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. Deepak Pawar, Dr. J.K. Soni, and Dr. Deeksha M.G,** who played key roles in organising the programme along with the active participation of ICAR-DWR scientists, officers, and staff

18 August 2025

On August 18, 2025, ICAR- Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur organized 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025 i**n collaboration with** Government College, Narayanganj, Mandla, and Government Model Higher Secondary School, Narayanganj. On this occasion, a Parthenium eradication campaign was conducted, in which a large number of students and staff members enthusiastically participated. The program began with a welcome address delivered by the Principal of Government College, Narayanganj, Mandla, Mr. Edmon Lakra. The Chief Guest, **Dr. P. K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Coordinator of Parthenium Awareness Week 2025**, highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) in his address. He stated that this invasive weed not only reduces crop productivity but also poses serious threats to human and animal health. He explained that the weed spreads rapidly throughout the year across wastelands, industrial areas, roadsides, residential colonies, and agricultural fields, thereby damaging food crops, vegetables, and horticultural plants. It adversely affects biodiversity and the environment, making collective efforts essential for its management. He also shared the success of **biological control through the beetle** *Calligrapha bicolorata***.** On this occasion, **Dr. Archana Anokhe** delivered a detailed presentation on the integrated management of Parthenium. As part of the program, students and staff also organized an awareness rally. Additionally, *Calligrapha* beetles were released at Parthenium-infested sites, and some

students and staff members were provided with these beetles to use them for Parthenium control in their respective areas. The program concluded with a vote of thanks. The event witnessed the active participation of scientists **Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. J. K. Soni, Dr. Deeksha M. G., Mr. Sandeep Dhagat (CTO), Mr. M. K. Meena (ACTO)** along with **Mr. Edmon Lakra, Principal of Government College Narayanganj, and Mr. R. K. Bhande, Principal of Government Model Higher Secondary School, Narayanganj,** as well as the entire staff, whose contributions were commendable.

आयोजन बड़ी संख्या में छात्र-छात्राओं एवं स्टाफ सदस्यों ने सक्रिय भागीदारी की

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह का महाविद्यालय में हुआ आयोजन

• मण्डला / दा न्यूज नेटवर्क

18 अगस्त शासकीय महाविद्यालय नारायणगंज, मण्डला में 20 वां गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर गाजरघास उन्मूलन अभियान चलाया गया जिसमें बड़ी संख्या में छात्र छात्राओं एवं स्टाफ सदस्यों ने सक्रिय भागीदारी की। कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ स्वागत उद्बोधन प्राचार्य एडमम्मोन लाकड़ा द्वारा किया गया।

पत्रिका

शासकीय महाविद्यालय नारायणगंज में 20वां गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह आयोजित

सिर्फ फसलों की पैदावार ही नहीं मनुष्य व पशुओं के लिए भी खतरनाक है खरपतवार

दा वायरल। 20वां गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 का शासकीय महाविद्यालय नारायणगंज में आयोजन

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19 August 2025

On August 19th, ICAR- Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur organized 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025 **i**n collaboration with BSL Public School, Kareli, Narsinghpur. The objective of the program was to inform students and teachers about the harmful effects of Parthenium (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) and to provide knowledge about its management practices, so that public awareness could be developed and collective efforts could lead to its eradication. The program began with a Saraswati Vandana**,** followed by a welcome address delivered by the School Director, Mr. Chetan Lunawat. Subsequently, the School Principal, Mrs. Mitlesh Rajoria, extended greetings to all guests and participants.

On this occasion, the Chief Guest, Dr. P. K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Coordinator of Parthenium Awareness Week 2025**,** delivered a detailed lecture on the harmful impacts of Parthenium and its management measures. Using simple language, he explained various scientific facts, stating that Parthenium not only reduces crop productivity but also poses serious threats to human health, animal health, and the environment. He emphasized that raising awareness among students is key to ensuring public participation in its eradication. Dr. Archana Anokhe, Scientist (Entomology), shared information on integrated management and preventive measures of Parthenium. Live specimens of the Mexican beetle **(***Calligrapha bicolorata***)**, a natural enemy of Parthenium, were demonstrated, and boxes containing these beetles were distributed among students and teachers, encouraging them to release them in infested areas. Afterwards, students and school staff organized a rally to spread awareness messages, and Mexican beetles were released within and around the school campus. Around 120 students, 20 teachers, staff members, and media representatives actively participated in the program. The event concluded with a vote of thanks. The program

was successfully conducted in the presence of scientists, Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. Deepak Pawar, Dr. Deeksha M. G., Mr. Sandeep Dhagat (CTO), Mr. M. K. Meena (ACTO)- along with the school staff.

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन

करेली, जबलपुर (एक्सप्रेस)। लूनावत ने उद्घोषण दिया। तत्पश्चात् विद्यालय की प्राचार्य मिथिलेश राजीरिया ने सभी अतिथियों एवं प्रतिभागियों का अभिनंदन किया। इस अवसर पर मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. पी. के. सिंह, प्रधान वैज्ञानिक एवं गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 के समन्वयक ने गाजरघास के हानिकारक प्रभावों और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों पर विस्तृत व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया। उन्होंने सरल भाषा में विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक तथ्यों को समझाते हुए बताया कि गाजरघास न केवल फसल उत्पादन को प्रभावित करता है बल्कि मानव एवं पशु स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण के लिए भी गंभीर खतरा है। उन्होंने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि छात्र-छात्राओं ने जागरूकता बढ़ाकर ही इसके उन्मूलन में जनभागीदारी सुनिश्चित की जा सकती है। डॉ. अर्चना अनोखे, वैज्ञानिक (कीटविज्ञान) ने गाजरघास के समेकित प्रबंधन एवं रोकथाम के उपायों की जानकारी दी। कार्यक्रम में गाजरघास के प्राकृतिक शत्रु मैक्सिकन बीटल के जीवंत नमूने प्रदर्शित किए गए और विद्यार्थियों व शिक्षकों को इसके बीज वितरित किए गए, जिन्हें प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में छोड़ने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। इसके बाद विद्यार्थियों और विद्यालय परिसर द्वारा रैली निकालकर जागरूकता संदेश दिया गया तथा विद्यालय परिसर एवं आसपास के क्षेत्रों में मैक्सिकन बीटल छोड़े गए। विशेषज्ञों ने ऑडियो-विजुअल प्रेजेंटेशन के माध्यम से गाजरघास उन्मूलन तथा इसके दुष्प्रभावों पर विस्तारपूर्वक चर्चा की और उपस्थित छात्र छात्राओं व किसानों को जागरूकता अभियान से जोड़ा।

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन

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खास

विद्यालय परिसर एवं आसपास के क्षेत्रों में मैक्सिकन बीटल छोड़े गए

बीएसएल पब्लिक स्कूल, करेली में 20वाँ गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन

करेली - ग्रेसलैंड वेलफेयर सोसाइटी द्वारा संचालित बी एस एल पब्लिक स्कूल, करेली में 20वाँ गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह के अंतर्गत जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य विद्यार्थियों एवं शिक्षकों को गाजरघास ( ) के हानिकारक प्रभावों से अवगत कराना और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों की जानकारी प्रदान करना था, ताकि समाज में इस आक्रामक खरपतवार के प्रति जनचेतना विकसित हो और सामूहिक प्रयासों से इसका उन्मूलन किया जा सके। कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत सरस्वती वंदना से हुई, जिसके उपरांत विद्यालय के निर्देशक श्री चेतन लूनावत ने उद्घोषण दिया। तत्पश्चात् ग्रेसलैंड वेलफेयर सोसाइटी द्वारा संचालित बी एस एल पब्लिक स्कूल, करेली में 20वाँ गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह के अंतर्गत जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य विद्यार्थियों एवं शिक्षकों को गाजरघास के हानिकारक प्रभावों से अवगत कराना और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों की जानकारी प्रदान करना था, ताकि समाज में इस आक्रामक खरपतवार के प्रति जनचेतना विकसित हो और सामूहिक प्रयासों से इसका उन्मूलन किया जा सके। कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत सरस्वती वंदना से हुई, जिसके उपरांत विद्यालय के निर्देशक श्री चेतन लूनावत ने उद्घोषण दिया। तत्पश्चात् विद्यालय की प्राचार्य मिथिलेश राजीरिया ने सभी अतिथियों एवं प्रतिभागियों का अभिनंदन किया। इस अवसर पर मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. पी. के. सिंह, प्रधान वैज्ञानिक एवं गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 के समन्वयक ने गाजरघास के हानिकारक प्रभावों और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों पर विस्तृत व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया। उन्होंने सरल भाषा में विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक तथ्यों को समझाते हुए बताया कि गाजरघास न केवल फसल उत्पादन को प्रभावित करता है बल्कि मानव एवं पशु स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण के लिए भी गंभीर खतरा है। उन्होंने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि छात्र-छात्राओं ने जागरूकता बढ़ाकर ही इसके उन्मूलन में जनभागीदारी सुनिश्चित की जा सकती है। डॉ. अर्चना अनोखे, वैज्ञानिक (कीटविज्ञान) ने गाजरघास के समेकित प्रबंधन एवं रोकथाम के उपायों की जानकारी दी। कार्यक्रम में गाजरघास के प्राकृतिक शत्रु मैक्सिकन बीटल (जगणोग्रम्मा कोट) के जीवंत नमूने प्रदर्शित किए गए और विद्यार्थियों व शिक्षकों को इसके बीज वितरित किए गए, जिन्हें प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में छोड़ने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। कार्यक्रम में गाजरघास के प्राकृतिक शत्रु मैक्सिकन बीटल के जीवंत नमूने प्रदर्शित किए गए और विद्यार्थियों व शिक्षकों को इसके बीज वितरित किए गए, जिन्हें प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में छोड़ने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। इसके बाद विद्यार्थियों और विद्यालय परिसर द्वारा रैली निकालकर जागरूकता संदेश दिया गया तथा विद्यालय परिसर एवं आसपास के क्षेत्रों में मैक्सिकन बीटल छोड़े गए। विशेषज्ञों ने ऑडियो-विजुअल प्रेजेंटेशन के माध्यम से गाजरघास उन्मूलन तथा इसके दुष्प्रभावों पर विस्तारपूर्वक चर्चा की और उपस्थित छात्र छात्राओं व किसानों को जागरूकता अभियान से जोड़ा। जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 के समन्वयक ने गाजरघास के हानिकारक प्रभावों और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों की जानकारी दी। तत्पश्चात् विद्यालय की प्राचार्य मिथिलेश राजीरिया ने सभी अतिथियों एवं प्रतिभागियों का अभिनंदन किया। इस अवसर पर मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. पी. के. सिंह, प्रधान वैज्ञानिक एवं गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 के समन्वयक ने गाजरघास के हानिकारक प्रभावों और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों पर विस्तृत व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया। उन्होंने सरल भाषा में विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक तथ्यों को समझाते हुए बताया कि गाजरघास न केवल फसल उत्पादन को प्रभावित करता है बल्कि मानव एवं पशु स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण के लिए भी गंभीर खतरा है। उन्होंने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि छात्र-छात्राओं ने जागरूकता बढ़ाकर ही इसके उन्मूलन में जनभागीदारी सुनिश्चित की जा सकती है। डॉ. अर्चना अनोखे, वैज्ञानिक (कीटविज्ञान) ने गाजरघास के समेकित प्रबंधन एवं रोकथाम के उपायों की जानकारी दी। कार्यक्रम में गाजरघास के प्राकृतिक शत्रु मैक्सिकन बीटल (जगणोग्रम्मा कोट) के जीवंत नमूने प्रदर्शित किए गए और विद्यार्थियों व शिक्षकों को इसके बीज वितरित किए गए, जिन्हें प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में छोड़ने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। कार्यक्रम में गाजरघास के प्राकृतिक शत्रु मैक्सिकन बीटल के जीवंत नमूने प्रदर्शित किए गए और विद्यार्थियों व शिक्षकों को इसके बीज वितरित किए गए, जिन्हें प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में छोड़ने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। इसके बाद विद्यार्थियों और विद्यालय परिसर द्वारा रैली निकालकर जागरूकता संदेश दिया गया तथा विद्यालय परिसर एवं आसपास के क्षेत्रों में मैक्सिकन बीटल छोड़े गए। विशेषज्ञों ने ऑडियो-विजुअल प्रेजेंटेशन के माध्यम से गाजरघास उन्मूलन तथा इसके दुष्प्रभावों पर विस्तारपूर्वक चर्चा की और उपस्थित छात्र छात्राओं व किसानों को जागरूकता अभियान से जोड़ा। विद्यालय के निर्देशक श्री चेतन लूनावत ने स्वागत भाषण दिया और प्राचार्य श्रीमती मिथिलेश राजीरिया ने अतिथियों का अभिनंदन किया। मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. पी. के. सिंह (प्रधान वैज्ञानिक एवं गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025) ने बताया कि गाजरघास न केवल फसल उत्पादन घटाता है, बल्कि मानव व पशु स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण के लिए गंभीर खतरा भी है। उन्होंने कहा—खासों में जागरूकता सहभाग ही इसके उन्मूलन में अत्यधिक सुनिश्चित की जा सकती है।—डॉ. अर्चना अनोखे (वैज्ञानिक, कीटविज्ञान) ने गाजरघास के समेकित प्रबंधन की जानकारी दी और इसके प्राकृतिक शत्रु मैक्सिकन बीटल (जगणोग्रम्मा कोर्ट) के जीवंत नमूने प्रदर्शित किए। छात्रों व शिक्षकों को बीटल के बीजस वितरित किए गए जिन्हें प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में छोड़ने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया.विद्यालय परिसर ने जागरूकता रैली निकालकर गांव लगाए और विद्यालय परिसर व आसपास के क्षेत्रों में मैक्सिकन बीटल छोड़े। साथ ही ऑडियो-विजुअल प्रस्तुति के माध्यम से गाजरघास उन्मूलन एवं नियंत्रणपूर्वक चर्चा हुई।कार्यक्रम के अंतिम चरणमें एक पौधा लगा के साथ समाप्त किया गया। इस अवसर पर श्री चेतन लूनावत व डॉ. पी. के. सिंह ने स्वयं पौधा लगाया और सभी उपस्थित लोगों ने पर्यावरण संरक्षण की शपथ ली।लगभग 120 खण्डबुजनवासी, 20 शिक्षकों, स्टाफ सदस्यों और प्रेस प्रतिनिधियों की भागीदारी से कार्यक्रम सफलतापूर्वक सम्पन्न हुआ। आयोजन में डॉ. दीपक पवार, डॉ. दीक्षा एम. जी., श्री संदीप पगत (सीटीओ), श्री एम. के. मीणा (एसटीओ) समेत विद्यालय स्टाफ मौजूद रहा। कार्यक्रम का समापन धन्यवाद ज्ञापन के साथ हुआ।

बीएसएल पब्लिक स्कूल, करेली में 20वाँ गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह आयोजित

छात्र-छात्राओं में पर्यावरण संरक्षण की अलख जगी, मैक्सिकन बीटल के बांस वितरित

मध्यप्रदेश संवाद

20 August 2025

On August 20th, As part of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025, an awareness program was organized at Mada village, Patan block, Jabalpur**,** in collaboration with the Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur and the Department of Farmers' Welfare and Agriculture Development**.** The objective of the program was to educate the public about the harmful effects of Parthenium and to provide information on its management practices, thereby fostering public awareness and collective action towards its eradication. The program began with a welcome address by the village Sarpanch, Mr. Sneh Kumar**.** The Chief Guest**,** Dr. P. K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Coordinator of Parthenium Awareness Week 2025**,** highlighted the adverse impacts of Parthenium and explained scientific management strategies. He stressed that Parthenium poses serious threats not only to crop production but also to human and animal health as well as the environment. He emphasized that public awareness and participation are key to successful eradication. Dr. Indira Tripathi, Sub-divisional Agriculture Officer, Patan**,** discussed the utility of compost prepared from Parthenium, noting that it helps improve soil health by enhancing nitrogen content. She called for a participatory approach to make Mada village a "Parthenium-free village." During the event, live specimens of the Mexican beetle **(***Calligrapha bicolorata***)**, a natural enemy of Parthenium, were displayed and distributed to farmers, who were encouraged to release them in infested areas. Around 100 people participated in the program. The event concluded with a vote of thanks**.** The program was attended by scientists—Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. Deepak Pawar, Dr. J. K. Soni, Dr. Deeksha M. G., Mr. M. K. Meena (ACTO)—along with officials from the State Agriculture Department. Progressive farmers Mr. Kailash Yadav, Mr. Uttam Singh Thakur, and Mr. Khilawan Yadav also enriched the event with their participation. A large number of farmers, rural youth, women's groups, and children actively took part, pledging to make their village **f**ree from Parthenium.

समिति के सदस्य असाटी, मुकेश सेन, सौरभ मोंटी सेन ने रक्त की शामिल रहे।

उक्त ट्रांसफार्मर से एक फेस विद्युत आपूर्ति की जा रही है, जिससे गांव के राजकुमार पटेल, रामकृपाल काछी,

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह में हुआ चिंतन-मंथन

नईदुनिया प्रतिनिधि, पाटनः नगर के ग्राम मादा में 20वें गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 के अंतर्गत एक जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन खरपतवार अनुसंधान निदेशालय, जबलपुर एवं कृषि विभाग के सहयोग से किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य जनसाधारण को गाजरघास के हानिकारक प्रभावों से अवगत कराना और इसके प्रबंधन के उपायों की जानकारी प्रदान करना था। इस अवसर पर डा. इंदिरा त्रिपाठी अनुविभागीय कृषि अधिकारी, नेहा बर्वे एवं देव आनंद सिंह कृषि विस्तार अधिकारी, मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में उपस्थित रहे। मुख्य अतिथि डा. पीके सिंह, प्रधान वैज्ञानिक एवं सप्ताह के समन्वयक ने गाजरघास के दुष्प्रभावों और वैज्ञानिक प्रबंधन पर विस्तृत व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया।

यश भारत

गाजरघास से फसल उत्पादन व पर्यावरण के लिए भी गंभीर खतरा

कृषि अधिकारियों ने ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में चलाया जागरूकता अभियान

व्याख्यान किया प्रस्तुत

ग्रामीणों ने बढ़ चढ़ कर लिया भाग

20 August 2025

On August 20, 2025, ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research (ICAR-DWR), Jabalpur, in collaboration with Reliance Foundation, organized an online webinar on August 20, 2025, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM to raise awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium weed and its management strategies. The session featured a live phone-in interaction in which around 30 farmers from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Karnataka shared their concerns directly with experts. The panel included Dr. J. S. Mishra, Director of ICAR-DWR, Dr. P. K. Singh, Chairman of Parthenium Awareness Week, along with scientists Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. Deepak Pawar, Dr. Jithendra Soni, and Dr. Deeksha M.G. The event received an encouraging response with more then 300 live viewers, highlighting its successful outreach and impact among stakeholders.

21 August 2025

On August 19th, as part of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025**,** a one-day workshop on Parthenium management was organized at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jabalpur**,** jointly by the Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur **and** KVK Jabalpur**.** The objective of the program was to sensitize the public about the harmful effects of Parthenium (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) and to provide information on its management practices, thereby fostering collective awareness and joint efforts towards its eradication. The workshop witnessed enthusiastic participation from trainees, input dealers, and farmers. The program commenced with a Saraswati Vandana, followed by a welcome address delivered by Dr. Rashmi Shukla, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Jabalpur**.** The Chief Guest**,** Dr. P. K. Singh, Principal Scientist and Coordinator of Parthenium Awareness Week 2025**,** in his keynote address, highlighted the adverse impacts of Parthenium on crop production, human health, livestock, and the environment. He emphasized that only through public awareness and collective participation can eradication efforts be successful. He also stressed the importance of entrepreneurship development among rural youth through the mass rearing and utilization of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*) for biological control. Dr. Archana Anokhe, Scientist (Entomology), through an audio-visual presentation, explained the harmful impacts of Parthenium and shared integrated management strategies, particularly highlighting the role of biological control measures. She emphasized that the Mexican beetle, a natural enemy of Parthenium, has proven highly effective in suppressing this invasive weed.

Live specimens of the beetle were displayed during the event. In continuation, boxes of Mexican beetles were distributed to trainees and KVK staff**,** encouraging them to release the beetles in infested areas. Beetles were also released in and around the KVK Jabalpur campus. All participants collectively pledged to spread awareness in society about the ill effects of Parthenium and to take active roles at both individual and community levels for its management.

The program was conducted **by** Dr. D. K. Singh**,** and a vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. A. K. Singh. About 100 participants**,** including trainees, input dealers, and farmers, took part in the workshop with great enthusiasm and resolved to contribute towards building a Parthenium-free society. The event was attended

by scientists Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. J. K. Soni, Dr. Deeksha M. G., Mr. M. K. Meena (ACTO), along with scientists and staff members of KVK Jabalpur.

Workshop on tackling parthenium weed

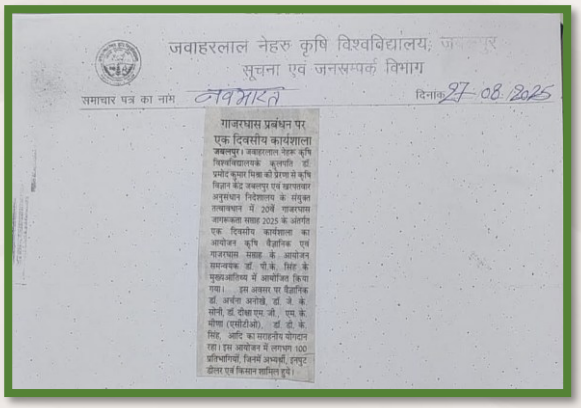
FP News Service
JABALPUR

The Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya held a one-day workshop to create awareness about Parthenium weed.

The event was a joint effort by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jabalpur, and Directorate of Weed Research (DWR), Jabalpur. The workshop's chief guest was Dr PK Singh, an agricultural scientist and coordinator of the Parthenium Week.

In his address, Dr Singh highlighted the harmful effects and scientific management of Parthenium weed (also known as Gajar Ghas). Dr Singh also stressed the importance of entrepreneurship development for rural youth and highlighted the significance of mass-rearing and using the Zygogramma beetle to control the weed. Dr Archana Anokhe, a scientist specialising in entomology, gave an audio-visual presentation on the ill effects of Parthenium and its integrated management. Dr Rashmi Shukla, senior scientist and Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jabalpur, delivered the welcome address.

Participants and staff from the Krishi Vigyan Kendra were provided with Mexican beetles to release in their respective areas where Parthenium infestation is high.



जवाहरलाल नेहरू कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जबलपुर
सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग

समाचार पत्र का नाम: जवभारत दिनांक: 27-08-2025

गाजरघास प्रबंधन पर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला

जबलपुर। जवाहरलाल नेहरू कृषि विश्वविद्यालयके कृषकुलपति डॉ. प्रभोद कुमार सिंघा की प्रेरणा से कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र जबलपुर एवं खरपतवार अनुसंधान निदेशालय के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में 2014 गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025 के अंतर्गत एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन कृषि वैज्ञानिक एवं गाजरघास सप्ताह के आयोजन समन्वयक डॉ. पी.के. सिंह के मुख्य आतिथ्य में आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर वैज्ञानिक डॉ. अर्चना अनोखे, डॉ. जे. के. सोनी, डॉ. दीक्षा एम. जी., एम. के. मीणा (एसीटीओ), डॉ. डी. के. सिंह, आदि का सराहनीय योगदान रहा। इस आयोजन में लगभग 100 प्रतिभागियों, जिनमें अभ्यर्थी, इण्टर्न डीलर एवं किसान शामिल हुये।

गाजरघास प्रबंधन हेतु एकदिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन

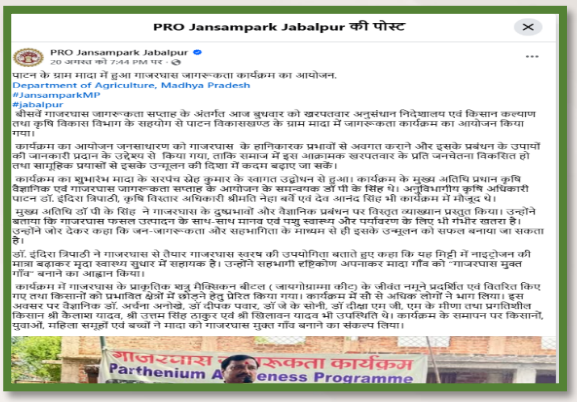
गाजरघास प्रबंधन हेतु एकदिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन

22 August 2025

On 22nd August a group of 30 farmers from Mandla visited ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, where they were sensitized about the harmful impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and the importance of its management. During the visit, experts explained various awareness activities and demonstrated effective management practices, enabling farmers to gain practical knowledge and skills for controlling this invasive weed in their respective fields and villages.

The ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research (ICAR-DWR), Jabalpur, successfully concluded the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025 with a valedictory programme at WINGS Convent School, Jabalpur. The week-long initiative, held from August 16–22, 2025, was celebrated across Madhya Pradesh and nationwide, generating widespread awareness on the threats posed by the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* and encouraging sustainable and integrated management practices. The campaign began with a mass eradication drive at the ICAR-DWR campus, inaugurated by Director Dr. J. S. Mishra, and was followed by expert lectures from scientists including Dr. P. K. Singh and Dr. Archana Anokhe on the harmful impacts of Parthenium and the role of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*) in its biocontrol. Intensive outreach programmes in Mandla and Narsinghpur districts, as well as in nearby schools and colleges, mobilized large groups of students and teachers through rallies, eradication drives, and live beetle releases, while also demonstrating composting practices and the use of competitive plants like *Cassia tora* and marigold for eco-friendly suppression. A major highlight was the community-level programme at Mada village in Patan block, where farmers, rural youth, and women's groups pledged to make their village Parthenium-free, guided by scientists such as Dr. P. K. Singh and Dr. Indira Tripathi, who emphasized composting, soil health, and biological control. On August 20, an online webinar organized in collaboration with Reliance Foundation attracted 176 participants from four states, providing farmers with practical solutions and live interaction with ICAR-DWR experts. A farmer-oriented workshop at KVK Jabalpur further highlighted entrepreneurship opportunities in mass rearing of the Mexican beetle, with live beetles distributed to

participants for field-level application. The week concluded with the valedictory function in collaboration with WINGS Convent School, where over 350 students and teachers actively participated in rallies and eradication activities. The event was presided over by Dr. J. S. Mishra, Director, ICAR-DWR, alongside chief guests Dr. P. K. Mishra, Vice Chancellor, JNKVV Jabalpur, and Mr. Rajiv Kumar Singh, Secretary, WINGS Convent Association. In their addresses, Dr. Mishra stressed the urgent need for integrated management, while Dr. P. K. Mishra encouraged students to act as "ambassadors of awareness" in their communities. Dr. P. K. Singh provided an overview of the week's achievements, particularly the success of *Calligrapha*-based biocontrol. Throughout the campaign, ICAR-DWR scientists including Dr. Archana Anokhe, Dr. Deepak Pawar, Dr. J. K. Soni, and Dr. Deeksha M. G. actively engaged with different stakeholders, highlighting the shared responsibility of communities, farmers, scientists, and students in tackling this menace. Simultaneously, the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was celebrated across all ICAR institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, and State Agricultural Universities through rallies, farmer meetings, workshops, and digital campaigns involving NGOs, schoolchildren, women's groups, and government agencies. This landmark 20th edition of the campaign not only showcased large-scale public participation but also strengthened the collective resolve to combat Parthenium through early uprooting, composting, competitive plants, and biological control, moving a step closer to the vision of a "Parthenium-free society."



***Parthenium* Awareness Programme was conducted on 22 August 2025 under Farmer FIRST Programme at Khukkham, (Kundam), Jabalpur**

ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research organized a programme on *Parthenium* Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August at ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur. Under this initiative, the Farmer FIRST Programme also organized a *Parthenium* awareness programme on 22nd August at Khukkham village, Kundam block, Jabalpur, to educate the farmers, local residents, and school children about the harmful effects and control measures of *Parthenium*. The programme began with an introduction by Dr. Jamaludheen A., Scientist and Co-PI, followed by a brief overview by Dr. Monika Raghuwanshi, Senior Research Fellow, FFP. Dr. P.K. Mukherjee, Principle Scientist and Principal Investigator, FFP, highlighted that *Parthenium hysterophorus* is a highly problematic weed spreading rapidly in cropped and non-cropped lands, reducing crop and horticultural productivity and posing a threat to the environment, biodiversity, human health, and livestock. Dr. Jamaludheen conducted an interactive quiz for children to enhance their knowledge about *Parthenium*. The event witnessed active participation of 31 school children and 14 farmers, including *3 female farmers*, who also took a pledge to create awareness among the community about the negative effect of *Parthenium* and to put efforts to control this weed. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Jamaludheen

***Parthenium* Awareness Programme was organized on 22 August 2025 under Farmer FIRST Programme at Khukkham, (Kundam), Jabalpur**

2.2 ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a predominantly agrarian economy with limited cultivable land (about 50,000 ha). Agriculture is mostly rainfed and practiced by smallholders. Major crops include paddy, coconut, arecanut, spices, and fruits like banana and papaya. Cropping intensity is low due to fragile ecosystems and soil constraints. Crop losses are often caused by cyclones, heavy rainfall, and pest infestations. The literacy rate is relatively high (above 85%), supporting awareness of improved practices. Total food grain production is modest, and the islands depend partly on imports. Sustainable and organic farming is increasingly promoted to conserve biodiversity.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nimbudera

ICAR-KVK Nimbudera observed Parthenium Awareness Week at Rangat from August 16 to 22, 2025. During the programme, experts delivered lectures on how this invasive weed harms crops by releasing toxic chemicals like parthenin, which prevent seed germination and damage root development leading to poor

harvests and degraded soil health. Parthenium also spreads rapidly in gardens and orchards, displacing native plants and reducing biodiversity. It poses serious risks to animals as well; even touching or consuming the weed can cause diarrhea, loss of appetite, skin irritation, and bitter-tasting milk. Humans are also vulnerable, as exposure to the plant or its pollen can lead to skin allergies, sneezing, asthma, and other respiratory problems. Overall, Parthenium is much more than a nuisance it is a serious threat to agriculture, the environment, animal health, and human well-being. Managing Parthenium is most effective when multiple methods are combined. Preventive measures are crucial to stop the spread of its seeds. Mechanical removal, such as hand-pulling or mowing before flowering, can be effective but must be done carefully to avoid allergic reactions. Cultural practices, like growing fast growing competitive plant species, help suppress its growth. Biological control using the Mexican beetle (Calligrapha bicolorata) has shown promising results reducing Parthenium density by up to 80%, improving biodiversity, and increasing nearby crop yields by around 12%.

2.3 ANDHRA PRADESH

Andhra Pradesh is located in the southeastern part of India, covering an area of approximately 162,968 square kilometers, bordered by Telangana to the northwest, Chhattisgarh to the north, Odisha to the northeast, and Tamil Nadu to the south, with a significant coastline along the Bay of Bengal. As of the most recent census, the state has a population of about 50 million, with a balanced gender ratio of approximately 25 million males and 25 million females. Known for its diverse agricultural production, Andhra Pradesh primarily cultivates rice, maize, pulses, and cotton, along with notable horticultural products such as mangoes and bananas. The soil types vary across the state, including red soil in the eastern and southern regions, and black soil predominantly in the north, ideal for cotton cultivation. The climate is primarily tropical, featuring hot summers, moderate winters, and a monsoon season, with annual average rainfall ranging from 700 mm to 1,200 mm, predominantly falling between June and September. The literacy rate in Andhra Pradesh is approximately 67.35%, with male literacy at around 75.56% and female literacy at about 59.74%, reflecting the state's ongoing efforts to improve educational access and quality.

ICAR- Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research, Pedavegi, Andhra Pradesh

ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research, Pedavegi, Andhra Pradesh organized Parthenium awareness week during August 16-22, 2025. A brief report on the activities under taken during this drive is presented below.

Visual Presentation: On 18th August 2025, an awareness activity on Parthenium control was organized at the main entrance and all the corridors of the office premises. As part of the programme, posters and banners were prominently displayed, showcasing the adverse effects of Parthenium weed on human health, livestock, and crop productivity. The display served as a visual tool to educate and sensitize people about the seriousness of this invasive weed, which causes skin allergies, respiratory issues, and reduces agricultural yields. The initiative received wide attention from the general public, office staff, and visitors, creating a

collective understanding of the urgent need for its effective management and eradication. Such activities contribute significantly to building awareness and encouraging community participation in combating Parthenium.

Oath Taking: On 19th August, 2025, as part of the Parthenium control drive, an oath-taking ceremony was organized to sensitize participants on the harmful effects of Parthenium on human health, livestock, crops, and the environment. Director of the institute Dr K Suresh explained the health hazards and losses due to this obnoxious weed. All the participants pledged to actively engage in its eradication from fields, office premises, and surrounding areas. They resolved to create awareness among farmers, students, and the general public and to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices. The oath reflected collective commitment and responsibility towards ensuring a healthy, Parthenium-free environment.

Experimental Plot Clean-up: On 20th August, 2025, a special cleanliness and awareness drive was organized to manage Parthenium infestation within the experimental blocks of the office premises. The Parthenium plants identified across different blocks were carefully uprooted to prevent further spread. All the uprooted plants were collected, loaded on to a tractor, and transported to a designated site for composting, thereby ensuring their safe and productive disposal. A total of 32 staff members and workers actively participated in this activity, contributing to both the cleanliness of the premises and the conversion of harmful weeds into useful organic compost.

Special drive on Parthenium free campus: On 21st August, 2025, a special drive was organized to make the campus Parthenium-free by using brush cutters for systematic uprooting of the weed. The activity was carried out in and around the experimental fields, pathways, and open spaces of the campus where Parthenium infestation was observed. A total of 23 participants including staff and workers actively took part in this initiative, working in a coordinated manner to ensure thorough cleaning. The use of brush cutters enhanced efficiency and speed, enabling the team to cover a large area within the stipulated time. By the end of the drive, the campus surroundings were effectively cleared of Parthenium, thereby contributing to a cleaner, healthier, and more eco-friendly research and work environment.

Awareness creation: On 22nd August 2023, an awareness programme on Parthenium control was organized for the staff members and residents of Palm Vihar residential quarters. During the campaign, participants were sensitized about the harmful effects of Parthenium, particularly the skin allergies, respiratory issues, and other health problems caused by contact with this invasive weed. As part of the practical demonstration, Parthenium plants growing in the Main Campus and Staff Quarters premises were systematically uprooted to ensure a cleaner and safer environment. The activity emphasized the importance of community participation in weed management and campus cleanliness.

Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University Krish Vigyan Kendra Lam, Guntur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Guntur actively organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August 2025 with a series of activities to create awareness about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (carrot grass) and promote effective management practices among farmers, students, and rural communities. The programme commenced with physical removal of Parthenium plants within the KVK campus to prevent further spread and seed dispersal. All staff members participated and later conducted an awareness session explaining health hazards such as skin allergies, asthma, and respiratory disorders affecting humans and livestock. Integrated management strategies, including mechanical removal, biological control using natural enemies, and promotion of competitive vegetation, were discussed. A rally and training programme for school children highlighted the role of youth in controlling invasive weeds. At Jonnalgadda village, a village-level awareness meeting and demonstration educated farmers, farm women, and rural workers through interactive sessions. Students took an oath to maintain Parthenium-free surroundings and actively participated in weed removal. On the concluding day, an elocution competition on Parthenium awareness encouraged student engagement, and prizes were awarded to winners. The programme was led by Dr. M. Yugandhar Kumar, Principal Scientist & Head, with support from KVK scientists, reinforcing community participation for improved public health, environmental safety, and agricultural sustainability.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Kadapa-1 (Utukur)

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from August 16 to 22, 2025, by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kadapa-1 (Utukur). This awareness programme was conducted to educate farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, a noxious weed that causes skin allergies, respiratory problems, and reduces crop productivity. KVK organized interaction sessions, demonstrations, and community drives to sensitize about Parthenium's hazards and management practices. People were encouraged to participate in uprooting Parthenium from public places, farm lands, bunds, waste lands etc., Awareness on extent of Parthenium's harmful effects on human health, livestock, agriculture, and the environment was inculcated. Through this programme, KVK promoted eco-friendly management practices, *viz.,* composting methods, integrated weed management among students, farm men & women, general public and encouraged community participation in controlling Parthenium's spread. The awareness week was concluded by pledging to contribute in making their surroundings Parthenium-free. Around 50 participants were engaged in this programme through interactions, meetings, and wall poster campaigns.

Parthenium awareness week at KVK Vonipenta, Kadapa-2

On 22.08.2025, KVK, Vonipenta has conducted Parthenium awareness week at premises of KVK Vonipenta. In this Dr. M. Balakrishna, Senior Scientist and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vonipenta explained about adverse effects of Parthenium weed on crops such as outcompeting them for resources, suppressing germination through allelopathic chemicals and interfering with nutrient uptake, inhibits vital processes like root growth and nodulation in legumes, leading to significant yield losses in crops such as maize, sorghum and pulses. Persons exposed to this plant for prolonged period manifest the symptoms of skin inflammation, eczema, asthma, allergic rhinitis, hay fever, black spots, burning and blisters around eyes, also causes diarrhoea, severe popular erythematous eruptions, breathlessness and choking. Exposure to P. hysterophorus also causes systematic toxicity in livestock. Also explained about eradication measures of P.hysterophorus such as burning, chemical herbicides and biological control by leaf feeding beetle, stem galling moth and stem boring weevil followed by cleaning and removal of Parthenium weed. In this Dr.T.Vijaya Nirmala, Scientist (Veterinary Science), Dr. S. Firoz Hussain, Scientist (Horticulture), non-teaching staff and farmers were participated.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kandukur

KVK Kandukur organized Parthenium awareness programme at TRR degree College Kandukur as part of 20th Parthenum Awareness Week' from 16-22 August 2025. Enlightened the students' on Parthenium weed origin, introduction into India, dispersal mechanisms, harmful effects on crop yield loss, livestock and environment. It acts as reservoir for many viral diseases as well some harmful insects like mealybugs. Imparted the knowledge on diverse control measures like cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical control methods to get rid of the Parthenium. KVK also abreast their knowledge on making compost out of this weed and application methods for soil enrichment. All students and staff participated in the eradication of parthenium weed in and around college premises.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Pandirimamidi

Scientists and staff of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pandirimamidi conducted Parthenium Awareness Week to create awareness on the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and its management. As part of the program, Parthenium plants were identified and manually uprooted from the KVK campus premises, followed by safe disposal to prevent further spread. The activity emphasized the importance of timely removal of Parthenium and collective efforts for maintaining a clean and Parthenium-free environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Prakasam-1 (Darsi)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Prakasam-1 (Darsi) successfully organized the Parthenium Awareness Week from August 16th to 22nd , 2025 in the adopted villages of Prakasam district. The Programme Coordinator and SMS's have created awareness among farmers, farming communities and school children about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass) on human health, livestock and crop productivity. Farmers were also sensitized on safe disposal methods and the importance of community participation in eradicating this invasive weed. A total of 275 farmers actively participated in various programmes, shared their field experiences and expressed interest in adopting eco-friendly management practices. The event helped enhance farmers' and stundents knowledge and motivated them to take collective action against the spread of Parthenium in their fields and surroundings.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Rastakuntubai

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Rastakuntubai organized Parthenium Awareness Week, from 16-22nd August at KVK, Ullibhadra and S. Gopala puram villages to create awareness among farmers, students, and rural communities about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. During the campaign, scientists highlighted its adverse impact on crop productivity, soil health, human and animal health. Demonstrations on mechanical removal, composting, and use of biological control agents like *Calligrapha bicolorata* were conducted.

Awareness rallies and interactive meetings were held in villages to educate people about safe disposal methods. Pamphlets and posters were distributed to spread the message widely. The program motivated farmers and local communities to take up regular eradication drives. Overall, the campaign successfully sensitized the public to manage parthenium effectively and protect agriculture and environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Reddipalli

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reddipalli, Ananthapuramu district, Andhra Pradesh, observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 to create awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and its management. Awareness programs were conducted at the KVK Reddipalli campus, KVK Instructional Farm, and KVK office premises involving farmers and students. Off-campus programs were organized in Siddarcherla village (Narpala Mandal) and Bhudedu village (Garladinne Mandal). Participants were educated on identification, ill effects on crops, human and animal health, and effective management practices, including safe mechanical removal and proper disposal.

The program successfully enhanced awareness among farmers, students, and the rural community, emphasizing collective efforts for effective control and eradication of Parthenium weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Srikakulam

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Amadalavalasa, Srikakulam District organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of educating farmers and the rural community about the harmful effects of the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus (commonly known as Congress grass) and promoting its effective management. During the programme, farmers were sensitized to maintain their farm premises and surroundings free from Parthenium to prevent its spread. Awareness programmes and interactions were conducted highlighting the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health, agricultural productivity, and the environment, including its role in causing allergies, reducing crop yields, and affecting biodiversity. Emphasis was laid on the importance of early detection and timely control, particularly uprooting the weed before flowering and seed setting.

As part of the practical activities, manual uprooting of Parthenium plants before flowering was carried out across the KVK campus with active participation of KVK staff and farmers. Safe handling and disposal practices were demonstrated to avoid health hazards and reinfestation. As a result of these concerted efforts, the KVK campus was successfully made Parthenium-free. The observation of Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025 at KVK Amadalavalasa effectively enhanced farmers' awareness and motivated them to adopt

preventive and eco-friendly measures for managing this invasive weed, thereby contributing to a cleaner, safer, and healthier agricultural environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- East Godavari-1 (Kalavacharla)

As part of the annual campaign to control and manage the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus, ICAR-NIRCA, KVK-East Godavari-1 (Kalavacharla), observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August 2025. The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects of parthenium on human and animal health, its negative impact on the environment, and the consequent loss of biodiversity and productivity.

During the week-long programme, several activities were undertaken, including parthenium uprooting drives, spraying of recommended herbicides, and demonstrations on the composting of uprooted biomass. Awareness programmes were also conducted involving RAWEP students to spread knowledge on various management practices. Practical demonstrations were arranged for farmers, focusing on both mechanical and integrated approaches for parthenium management. These activities helped to sensitize the local community on the importance of collective action in controlling this invasive weed. The campaign not only educated stakeholders about its adverse effects but also highlighted eco-friendly practices to prevent its spread, thereby contributing to improved environmental health and agricultural productivity.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kalyandurg

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalyandurg, Ananthapur (2) district organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among Agriculture and Horticulture farmers, school and college students, input dealers, and farming communities of KVK adopted villages about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and its effective management. During the awareness week, KVK organized a series of extension activities including training programmes for Agriculture and Horticulture farmers, group discussions with practicing farmers and input dealers, and distribution of literature on Parthenium management in adopted villages. Awareness programmes were also conducted in

school and college campuses on the topic "Ill effects of Parthenium and its management", in which 200 students actively participated.

Dr. E. Chandrayudu, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Kalyandurg explained the biology, harmful effects, and rapid spread of Parthenium, highlighting its impact on crops, livestock, human health, and biodiversity with the help of visual aids. He emphasized that Parthenium, though absent in India before 1955, has now spread over nearly 35 million hectares due to high seed production and efficient dispersal. The importance of integrated management was stressed as the most effective and sustainable approach. Students were advised on management practices such as manual removal or chemical control before flowering, release of Calligrapha bicolorata, cultivation of allelopathic plants like Cassia tora, and preparation of compost using Parthenium biomass.

Dr. M. Mallikarjun, SMS (Crop Production), conducted a group discussion with input dealers at the KVK premises on "Role of Parthenium in spreading viral diseases and its management in crops", in which 40 dealers participated. KVK, Kalyandurg also distributed farm literature titled "Heavy Infestation of Parthenium in Agricultural Fields" to farmers and college students to encourage community-based eradication of Parthenium weed. The programme significantly enhanced awareness and motivated stakeholders towards collective and sustainable management of Parthenium.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nellore-1

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nellore observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and promoting its effective and eco-friendly management. The programme was conducted at the KVK campus as well as in the surrounding villages of SPSR Nellore district, involving farmers, rural youth, women, students, and other stakeholders.

During the awareness week, awareness campaigns and rallies were organized in different villages to sensitize the community about the menace of Parthenium. Lectures and demonstrations were conducted by KVK scientists highlighting the ill effects of the weed on human health, livestock, crop productivity, and biodiversity. Practical demonstrations on control measures such as manual uprooting with safety precautions,

composting of uprooted plants, and the use of the Mexican beetle (Calligrapha bicolorata) for biological control were carried out. Training programmes at KVK Nellore provided hands-on guidance on safe eradication and proper disposal methods. To involve the younger generation, school-level programmes including essay writing and quizzes were organized, which helped in spreading awareness beyond the school premises. IEC materials such as leaflets and posters were also distributed among farmers and self-help groups for wider dissemination of information.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from farmers, self-help groups, students, and local officials. Participants appreciated the practical demonstrations and expressed readiness to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable practices for the management of Parthenium. Overall, the observation of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025 by KVK Nellore was effective in enhancing awareness and motivating collective action to mitigate the adverse impacts of this invasive weed on agriculture, livestock, and human health.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Undi

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Undi organized a Parthenium Awareness Campaign from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at the KVK premises, Rythu Seva Kendras, and selected villages. The campaign aimed to educate farmers, rural youth, and students about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and the importance of its timely removal.

KVK scientists disseminated information on safe and effective weed removal practices during farmer training programmes and village-level awareness meetings. Awareness campaigns were conducted at the KVK premises, Undi ITI College, and the villages of Tundurru, K. Bethapudi, Chittavaram, Navarasapuram, and Ramannapalem, involving 118 participants. Regular roughing and uprooting of Parthenium plants were carried out at the KVK premises as and when required, which helped in maintaining a Parthenium-free KVK campus.

Overall, the campaign successfully enhanced awareness and motivated the farming community to adopt collective efforts for effective management of Parthenium in their fields and surroundings.

Dr. K. L. Rao Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Garikapadu (Krishna-I)

20th Parthenium awareness week was celebrated from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 at Dr. K. L. Rao KVK, Garikapadu as per the instructions of ICAR and ATARI zone-X. *Parthenium hysterophorus* is also know as congress grass, carrot grass, gajarghas or dhanura. The weed commonly grows crop fields, pasture lands, waste lands and railway tracks. Parthenium, being a prolific seed producer (5,000-25,000 seeds/plant), has seeds that are easily transported by wind, water, and human activities due to their light weight nature.

Programme Coordinator Dr. K. Atchuta Raju explained about *Parthenium* weed about the various harmful effects of the weed to crop plants, yield losses in agriculture, horticulture and livestock. He suggested control measures of Parthenium remove at early stages, deep summer ploughing. Dr. PN. Siva Prasad explained different methods removal of Parthenium weed at work Places, offices and other open areas. The participants of the programme were Dr. K. Lakshmi Kala, SMS (Horticulture), Dr. I. Venkata Reddy SMS (Agricultural Extension), Dr. N. Rajasehkar, SMS (Plant Protection), Dr. R. Prabhavathi SMS (Home Science), farmers and farmers participated.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ghantasala

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ghantasala organized the Parthenium Awareness Programme from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 as part of the nationwide campaign to control the spread of Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass). The programme was conducted with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, students, and the general public regarding the harmful effects of Parthenium on human health, livestock, crop productivity, and the environment, while also demonstrating effective and eco-friendly management practices. The programme was implemented under the guidance of Dr. D. Sudha Rani, Programme Coordinator, along with the active involvement of all KVK staff members.

During the week, a series of awareness meetings were organized in all cluster adopted villages, as well as in schools and colleges. Participants were educated about the identification of Parthenium, its rapid

spread, and its adverse effects, including skin allergies, respiratory problems, toxicity to livestock, and reduction in crop yield due to its allelopathic nature. Field demonstrations were conducted to train participants on proper manual uprooting techniques and safe disposal methods to prevent further seed dispersal. The importance of composting Parthenium biomass after proper decomposition and the role of biological control methods were also explained.

An awareness rally involving farmers, students, and local officials was organized to disseminate the message of collective responsibility in controlling the weed. Agricultural scientists delivered lectures and training sessions on integrated weed management approaches, covering mechanical, cultural, and biological methods. Awareness pamphlets in the local language were distributed to ensure better understanding and wider dissemination of technical knowledge.

A total of 264 participants, including 107 farmers, 120 school and college students, 30 SHG members and women group representatives, and 7 officials and staff members, actively participated in the programme. The campaign resulted in increased awareness among rural communities about the health and environmental hazards of Parthenium, adoption of manual uprooting and safe disposal practices in selected villages, and initiation of community-led removal drives. The programme also strengthened linkages between farmers and agricultural departments for continuous technical support.

The successful observance of Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Ghantasala reflects the commitment of the KVK towards environmental sustainability, public health protection, and promotion of integrated weed management practices.

వయ్యారి భామపై రైతులకు అవగాహన

ఘంటసాల, కృష్ణా, రేపటి కోసం: ఆచార్య ఎన్జీరంగా వ్యవసాయ విశ్వవిద్యాలయం వారి కృషి విజ్ఞాన కేంద్రం ఘంటసాల వారు వయ్యారి భామ అవగాహన వారోత్సవాల్లో భాగంగా ప్రోగ్రాం కోఆర్డినేటర్ డాక్టర్ డి.సుధారాణి ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఘంటసాలపాలెం గ్రామంలో నిర్వహించారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో భాగంగా వయ్యారి భామ కలుపు మొక్క యాజమాన్యం, ఈ మొక్క వల్ల మానవ ఆరోగ్యం పై ఎలాంటి దుష్ఫలితాలు చూపిస్తుంది అనే విషయంపై గ్రామస్తులకు అవగాహన కలిగిస్తూ, కొంతమేరకు వయ్యారి భామ మొక్కలను తొలగించి నాశనం చేశారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో ప్రోగ్రాం కోఆర్డినేటర్ డాక్టర్ డి సుధారాణి, శాస్త్రవేత్తలు డా.బి.నవీన్, డా.వి.మంజు వాణి, డా.కె.రేవతి మరియు విద్యార్థులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ఆంధ్రప్రభ

వయ్యారిభామ అవగాహనకార్యక్రమం

ఘంటసాల, ఆగస్టు 22 (ఆంధ్రప్రభ) :ఆచార్య ఎన్జీరంగా వ్యవసాయ విశ్వవిద్యాలయం వారి కృషి విజ్ఞాన కేంద్రం ఘంటసాల వారు వయ్యారి భామ అవగాహన వారోత్సవాల్లో భాగంగా ప్రోగ్రాం కోఆర్డినేటర్ డా. డి సుధారాణి ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఘంటసాలపాలెం గ్రామంలో నిర్వహించారు.ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో భాగంగా వయ్యారి భామ కలుపు మొక్క యాజమాన్యం మరియు ఈ మొక్క వల్ల మానవ ఆరోగ్యం పై ఎలాంటి దుష్ఫలితాలు చూపిస్తుంది అనే విషయంపై గ్రామస్తులకు అవగాహన కలిగిస్తూ ఆ గ్రామంలో కొంతమేరకు వయ్యారి భామ మొక్కలను తొలగించి నాశనం చేశారు.ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో ప్రోగ్రాం కోఆర్డినేటర్ డాక్టర్ డి సుధారాణి, శాస్త్రవేత్తలు డా.బి. నవీన్, డా.వి.మంజు వాణి, డా.కె.రేవతి విద్యార్థులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

రైతులకు అవగాహన కల్పిస్తున్న డా.సుధారాణి

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Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Yagantipalle

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Yagantipalle organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 in its adopted villages and nearby schools. The program aimed at sensitizing farmers, students, and rural communities about the harmful effects of Parthenium weed on human health, livestock, and crop productivity. Subject Matter Specialists of Agronomy and Extension conducted a practical demonstration on the use of sodium salt solution for effective management of parthenium at village premises. Farmers were educated about the serious health hazards caused by parthenium, such as skin allergies, respiratory problems, and its negative impact on milch animals. The team highlighted the importance of regular weed removal along field bunds and community places to prevent further spread. Awareness was also created on how parthenium acts as an alternate host for pests and diseases, posing additional threats to agriculture. The campaign motivated farmers and students to adopt eco-friendly control measures.

Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Kalikiri, Tirupati

As part of efforts to create awareness on the harmful effects of Parthenium, an awareness programme was organized at the Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Kalikiri. Scientists explained the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health, livestock, and the environment. They informed that Parthenium causes allergies, skin diseases, and respiratory problems, and also leads to significant losses in agricultural productivity. It was highlighted that this invasive weed spreads rapidly and affects biodiversity. The scientists emphasized various management practices, including mechanical removal, use of herbicides, and biological control methods. They also encouraged students and farmers to actively participate in its eradication. During the programme, participants were educated about identifying the weed and adopting preventive measures. It was reported that Parthenium infestation has affected about 40% of cultivable land and nearly 90% of wastelands in some areas. Students, farmers, agricultural staff, and scientists participated in the programme and expressed their commitment to controlling the spread of Parthenium.

2.4 ARUNACHALA PRADESH

Arunachal Pradesh, located in the northeastern region of India, spans approximately 83,743 square kilometers and shares international borders with Bhutan to the west, China to the north, and Myanmar to the east, enhancing its strategic significance. The state has a population of around 1.4 million, with a balanced gender ratio of approximately 700,000 males and 700,000 females, comprising various indigenous tribes. Agriculture is the backbone of the economy, with major crops including rice, maize, millet, and wheat, along with significant horticultural products like oranges, apples, and potatoes, particularly in temperate regions. The soil is primarily loamy and clayey, rich in organic matter, featuring alluvial soils in valleys and forest soils in hilly areas, supporting diverse agricultural practices. The climate varies from subtropical in the lower regions to temperate in the higher altitudes, receiving substantial rainfall, with annual averages ranging from 2,000 mm to 4,000 mm, mainly during the southwest monsoon from June to September. The literacy rate stands at approximately 66.95%, with male literacy at around 73.69% and female literacy at about 60.80%, reflecting ongoing efforts to enhance educational access and quality throughout the state.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-West Kameng, Dirang

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), West Kameng, Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025 with the objective of sensitizing farmers, students and the general public about the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* (locally known as Gajar Ghaas) and its harmful impact on health,

agriculture and the environment. Throughout the week, a series of awareness programmes, demonstrations and community-based activities were organized across different schools, villages and public locations in the district. Awareness sessions in schools involved interactive discussions highlighting the health hazards such as allergies, skin irritation and respiratory problems caused by Parthenium, along with its negative influence on crop productivity and biodiversity. Students were also motivated to act as ambassadors of awareness in their homes and neighbourhoods. Village-level meetings and field demonstrations were held for farmers, focusing on eco-friendly and integrated management practices, including mechanical uprooting, safe disposal methods and the use of the biological control agent *Calligrapha bicolorata*. Public awareness drives were conducted in collaboration with Panchayati Raj bodies and local groups, wherein pamphlets and posters on Parthenium management were distributed. Hands-on training sessions on composting of uprooted biomass and safe handling practices further strengthened practical understanding among participants. The week-long campaign created significant awareness in the district, and participants collectively pledged to reduce Parthenium infestation in their surroundings. The successful observance of Parthenium Awareness Week by KVK, West Kameng stands as an important step toward community mobilization, sustainable weed management and protection of human health, livestock and natural ecosystems.

20th Parthenium Awareness Week observed by KVK, West Kameng

School children, farmers, public sensitised through week-long progs

DIRANG, Aug 22: The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), West Kameng, Dirang, observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from August 16 to 22, with a series of awareness and community outreach programmes aimed at sensitising the public about the harmful impacts of Parthenium hysterophorus, a noxious and invasive weed, on human health, livestock, agriculture, and the environment.

During the week-long programme, KVK scientists and staff reached out to school children, farmers, and the general public across various villages and institutions to spread awareness about the identification, hazards, and management practices of Parthenium.

A range of activities were conducted, including training programmes, hands-on demonstrations, lectures, and community participation drives. Special emphasis was laid on educating students in schools, equipping them with knowledge to identify and eradicate Parthenium in their surroundings. Farmers were provided practical exposure on safe disposal methods, biological control measures, and eco-friendly management techniques.

In different villages, community participation drives were organized where villagers joined hands in uprooting Parthenium from public places, thereby encouraging collective responsibility towards a cleaner and safer environment. Demonstrations on the use of bio-control agents such as Zygogramma bicolorata (a leaf-feeding beetle) were also showcased, along with integrated weed management practices.

Mudang Tana, SMS, Plant Protection, highlighted the growing threat of Parthenium infestation to agriculture and human health, causing skin allergies, respiratory problems, and reduction in crop productivity. He stressed that awareness and active participation of communities are key in curbing the spread of this invasive weed.

The programme also saw active participation from line departments, local leaders, and village communities who appreciated the efforts of KVK in carrying forward such a significant campaign. The sensitization week concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony where participants resolved to contribute towards making their surroundings Parthenium-free.

The observation of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week by KVK, West Kameng, thus not only created awareness but also fostered a spirit of collective action and responsibility towards protecting agriculture, biodiversity, and human health from the menace of Parthenium.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Namsai

A group of 25-fourth year students and faculty members of Agriculture Faculty of Arunachal University of Studies, Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh visited ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Namsai at Momong to witness climate resilient technologies in its demonstration farm. During the interaction programme Dr. Utpal Barua, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Namsai explained the students about the parthenium infestation is a concern for populous country like India and how climate resilience is also aggravating its effect on human, crops and livestocks. Dr. Shravani Sahani, SMS (Agricultural Extension) elaborated the various ill effects of partenium and its management practices. Dr. Madhusmita S Bora, SMS (Plant Protection) explained about control of parthemnium through release of Mexican Beetle. This was followed by an indepth interaction with the students while visiting around the vermicomposting unit in the demonstration farm.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Lower Dibang Valley

On 22nd Aug 2025, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lower Dibang Valley, Awareness on Parthenium a harmful weed at New Abali Village of Block Roing-Koronu.

Showing pictures and slides of Parthenium to farmers, Ms. Monika Panggam, SMS (Agronomy) delivered awareness on Harmful effects of Parthenium weed and its control measures. She also described the parthenium looks like Carrot so called "Gajar Ghas' weed is annual herb introduced from other countries with wheat seed and during flowering stage its pollen is very infectious and dangerous to human and animals. This weed is considered to be a cause of Asthama, contact dermatitis, hay fever, mutagenicity in human and livestock. She also suggested destroying and burning it before flowering for control its spreading.

Dr. S.K. Chaturvedi, SMS (Horticulture) urged to GPC New Abali and farmers to spread awareness about Parthenium among village community. Shri Tota Mili, GPC New Abali with his village farming community was present in the programme and appreciated to KVK team for such programmes. A total of 15 farmers and officials participated in the programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Longding

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed across India from 16–22 August 2025 under the directions of ICAR and coordinated by the ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, to create awareness on the harmful impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass). In Arunachal Pradesh, ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Longding successfully organized a series of awareness and outreach programmes in the Kanubari block, covering schools, farming communities, and public places. The campaign focused on highlighting the adverse effects of Parthenium on human health, livestock, crops, biodiversity, and the environment, and on promoting integrated and sustainable management practices, including biological control using *Calligrapha bicolorata*. Awareness programmes were conducted at St. Savio Senior Secondary School and Government High School, Kanubari, while farmer-oriented activities and field demonstrations on uprooting and safe disposal were organized at Sangsathan village. The programmes were led by Dr. Utpal Kumar Bhattacharyya, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Longding; Shri

Kiran Kumar Singh, Chief Technical Officer (Agronomy); and Dr. B. Shrishailam, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Extension). Kanubari ADC Shri Yashwanth Meena also participated and emphasized collective community action. Outreach activities included poster distribution in the local language, social media campaigns, and community mobilization drives. A total of about 300 participants, including 110 farmers, 150 school students, and 40 teachers and extension staff, actively participated. The programme significantly enhanced awareness, strengthened community involvement, and reinforced collective responsibility toward Parthenium management and environmental protection.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Papumpare

The Parthenium awareness week was observed by KVK Papumpare w.e.f 16th to 22nd August 2025 where in 90 farmers were made aware of the objective of the programme to eradicate the notorious and invasive weed for better crop production as well as human and livestock health. Subject matter specialist of the kendra demonstrated and highlighted the characteristic of the plant produces 15-25 thousands of seeds and its ecological and economic inputs to the participants during the awareness campaign.

2.5 ASSAM

Assam, located in the northeastern part of India, covers an area of approximately 78,438 square kilometers, with the Brahmaputra River flowing through the state, contributing to its fertile plains and diverse ecosystem. As of the latest census, Assam has a population of around 35 million, including approximately 17.2 million males and 17.8 million females. The state is primarily agricultural, with rice as the main crop, along with significant production of tea, jute, sugarcane, and various fruits and vegetables, all supported by its favorable climate and rich soil. Assam experiences a subtropical climate characterized by heavy monsoonal rainfall, averaging around 2,500 mm annually, primarily occurring during the monsoon season from June to September. The literacy rate in Assam stands at approximately 87.53%, with male literacy at about 91.28% and female literacy at around 83.16%, reflecting the state's significant progress in education through various initiatives aimed at improving access and quality.

ICAR-ATARI, Zone-VI, Guwahati

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed by 9 (Nine) Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh under ICAR-ATARI, Zone-VI, Guwahati to educate farmers, students, and other stakeholders on the menace of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, a highly invasive weed affecting agriculture, livestock, biodiversity, and human health. KVKs at Papumpare, Barpeta, Tinsukia, Bongaigaon, Namsai, Cachar, Golaghat, West Kameng, and Dhubri conducted awareness drives through lectures, demonstrations, community participation, and distribution of informative leaflets. Programmes highlighted Parthenium's rapid seed multiplication (15,000-25,000 seeds per plant), its adverse impact on crop productivity, asthma, skin allergies, and its role in biodiversity loss.

Following programmes:

1. Educational Campaigns: School awareness sessions, farmer meetings, and student interactions (KVK Barpeta, West Kameng, Namsai).
2. On-field Demonstrations: Weed identification, uprooting, composting, and safe disposal (KVK Papumpare, Golaghat).
3. Biological Control: Release of Mexican beetle **(***Calligrapha bicolorata***)** as a sustainable management practice (KVK Namsai, West Kameng).
4. Collaborative Efforts: Joint activities with farmer producer companies, agriculture departments, and Panchayati Raj institutions (KVK Tinsukia, Cachar).
5. Public Mobilization: Community spraying, distribution of pamphlets, social media campaigns, and pledges to control Parthenium at local levels (KVK Tinsukia, Cachar, Dhubri).

Total 885 no. of farmers, students, rural youths, and community members, teachers, faculty were sensitized. Participants pledged to maintain Parthenium-free surroundings, adopt eco-friendly practices like composting, and disseminate the knowledge within their communities.

Summary of the Parthenium Awareness Week (16-22 August 2025) organized by different Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs):

Sl No	Name of State	KVK Name	Days Organized	Total Participants
1	Arunachal Pradesh	Papumpare	7 days (16–22 Aug)	90 farmers
2		West Kameng	7 days (16–22 Aug)	200 (farmers & farm women)
3	Assam	Barpeta	7 days (16–22 Aug)	170 (students, farmers, teachers)
4		Tinsukia	7 days (16–22 Aug)	100 (students, farmers, teachers)
5		Bongaigaon	1 day (22 Aug)	25 (farmers, teachers)
6		Namsai	1 day (21 Aug)	25 (students, faculty)
7		Cachar	3 days (19, 20, 22 Aug)	120 (students, faculty)
8		Golaghat	7 days (16–22 Aug)	100 (farmers & farm women, students, faculty)
9		Dhubri	2 days (20–21 Aug)	55 (farmers & farm women)
		Total		**885 Paticipants**

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week 2025 successfully built mass awareness and encouraged integrated weed management practices. The collective efforts of KVK scientists, farmers, students, and community groups mark a significant step toward reducing the spread of this hazardous weed, contributing to improved crop yield, livestock health, and environmental sustainability.

AICRP on Weed Management, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

The AICRP on Weed Management, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat, successfully observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 across multiple locations in Assam. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful impacts of the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus and to promote effective and sustainable management practices, as the weed has become widespread across most districts of Assam, severely affecting agriculture, livestock, and human health. The week commenced on 16 August 2025 with a roadside spraying and awareness demonstration at Cinamara, Jorhat, showcasing practical control measures. On 18 and 20 August, online awareness programmes were conducted via Google Meet for farmers of Jorhat and Nagaon districts, respectively, with active participation of about 50 farmers.

On 19 August 2025, an on-ground awareness and spraying programme was organized in Jorhat in collaboration with ASPEE, focusing on ecological, agricultural, and health-related damages caused by

Parthenium and its mechanical and chemical control. Further outreach was carried out on 21 August at Mithamsapori village, Golaghat district, where 55 farmers were trained on identification, spread, and management of the weed. The programme concluded on 22 August 2025 along NH-37 with a live spraying demonstration organized jointly with SMAPRS, involving RAWEP students and local residents. Overall, more than 180 participants benefited from this coordinated awareness campaign, which successfully combined education, demonstration, and community participation to curb the menace of Parthenium in Assam.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Cachar

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week, observed from August 16th to 22nd, 2025, featured two primary awareness campaigns aimed at tackling the invasive Parthenium weed. The first campaign took place on August 19th at Borsangan, Tapang. This event saw the participation of key personnel from Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Cachar, including the Subject Matter Specialists (SMS) for Agronomy and Animal Science, and the Farm Manager. Also, the Agriculture Development Officer of Tapang Block and other officials from the Agriculture Department, Cachar were present. The event witnessed participation from around 35 individuals. The key personnel educated the local community on the identification, harmful effects, and management strategies for the Parthenium weed. The collaborative effort between KVK and the Agriculture Department underscored a unified approach to addressing this agricultural and environmental menace. A second awareness program was held at Siladahar, Kalibari, Borkhola on 20th August, 2025. At this event, the SMS (Agronomy) and SMS(Horticulture) from KVK, Cachar, directly engaged with the local community. They provided valuable insights into the effective management and control of Parthenium, focusing on methods that are practical and sustainable for the local agricultural context. There were about 40 participants These on-ground campaigns were crucial in disseminating practical knowledge and fostering a sense of shared responsibility among farmers and residents. A third awareness campaign was also conducted on 22nd August, 2025 at Banskandi, under Palonghat block, Cachar district. The event saw participation of around 45 individuals. In addition to these direct engagements, the awareness week leveraged digital platforms to reach a wider audience. A series of social media campaigns were conducted throughout the week, sharing important information bulletins and educational content. These digital efforts complemented the physical campaigns, ensuring that information about Parthenium's dangers and management was accessible to a broad spectrum of the population. The comprehensive approach, combining field-level workshops with digital outreach, successfully highlighted the significant threat posed by Parthenium and empowered communities

with the knowledge needed to combat its spread. This multifaceted strategy underscored the commitment of agricultural authorities and experts to mitigating the impact of this notorious weed, making the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week a notable success in the ongoing battle against agricultural pests and weeds.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Dhemaji

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhemaji, organized the Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 to sensitize farmers and local communities about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Gajar grass) and to promote eco-friendly management strategies. As part of the week-long activities, a focused awareness programme was conducted on 21st August 2025 at the KVK Dhemaji campus, which witnessed the active participation of 50 farm women from across the district. The programme included a hands-on session on manual removal of Parthenium weeds, emphasizing the importance of timely eradication to prevent its spread and adverse impact on crop fields, human health, livestock, and the environment. Experts delivered comprehensive talks on the Parthenium menace, highlighting biological control methods using Mexican beetles (*Calligrapha bicolorata*) and their role in sustainable weed management. Additionally, participants were educated on the preparation of compost from Parthenium biomass, demonstrating its potential as an organic resource, and on the use of eco-friendly chemical alternatives to manage the weed effectively. The interactive session allowed participants to clarify doubts and gain practical knowledge about integrated weed management approaches. Overall, the programme successfully enhanced awareness among farm women about the ecological, agricultural, and health risks posed by Parthenium and equipped them with actionable strategies for its management, thereby fostering community-level participation and sustainable agricultural practices in the district.

ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra -Goalpara, Assam

To make aware the farmers about the harmful effects of the Parthenium and its management, KVK Goalpara organize a number of programmes under the “Parthenium Awareness Week” from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. The incidence of Parthenium occurrence is low in the Goalpara district as on date, still programme were organised to make the people aware. To spread awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium, all the official staff along with farm staff actively participated in a number of activities. A jungle cleaning programme. Students from Jawaharlal Nehru High School, Simlitola attended the awreness

programme at KVK Goalpara training Hall. The students were made aware regarding the harmful effects of Parthenium like skin allergy (dermatitis), high fever and asthma in human beings and stressed the need to manage this weed an integrated mode i.e through mechanical, cultural and biocontrol methods. Parthenium besides hampering crop production becoming nuisance in non-cropped areas like residential areas, parks, road sides, railway tracks. The students were briefed about the harmful effect of Parthenium to animals.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Tinsukia

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Tinsukia observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025, by organizing a series of awareness programmes to highlight the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus, an invasive weed. As a part of the observance, an awareness programme was conducted on 21st August 2025 at Margherita, Town area, in collaboration with Patkai Green Farmer Producer Company Ltd. The programme aimed to raise awareness about the serious threats posed by Parthenium to agriculture, human health, biodiversity, and the environment, especially in both cropped and non-cropped areas.

During the event, Dr. Hem Ch. Saikia, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Tinsukia, urged participants to maintain Parthenium-free surroundings for improved health and productivity. Ms. Priyanka Amonge, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy), spoke about the weed's control measures and strategies for complete eradication. Shri Gitul Chowlu, AEA, Department of Agriculture, Margherita, explained the negative impact of Parthenium on humans and livestock, and encouraged attendees to spread awareness within their communities.

The programme witnessed active participation from KVK, Staff, Board of Directors and shareholders of Patkai Green FPC Ltd., local residents of ATT Colony, and shopkeepers from the town. A mass awareness drive and community spraying activity were also carried out along the roadside in the presence of KVK scientists. Informative leaflets on Parthenium were distributed among the participants. As part of the nationwide campaign, an additional awareness and discussion session was organized on 19th August 2025 at the KVK office. This session included participation from local farmers and students from the Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme (RAWEP) of Assam Agricultural University. Through these initiatives, KVK Tinsukia keeping its commitment to creating awareness and encouraging community action for a Parthenium-free environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Dhubri

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhubri has organized two programmes to create awareness among the farmers and farmwomen towards the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus or Carrot grass as part of the Parthenium awareness week. The awareness events were organized to raise awareness about the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as Congress grass/Carrot grass, which poses a significant threat to agriculture, biodiversity, and human health. The awareness programmes began with formal lectures and discussions on the historical background of parthenium emergence and spread in the country. The weed's small size, light weight, large number, and long viability make it a problematic weed that affects agricultural fields, rail tracks, road sides, and educational institutions. The first awareness programme was organized in the Gutipara village on 20th August 2025, where 31 numbers of farmers and rural youths participated. The second programme was organized on 21th August, 2025 in the KVK campus itself with 24 numbers of participants where majority of the participants were agricultural input dealers of Dhubri diatrict. In both the programmes, the participants were advised to grow fast growing crops like maize, sorghum to suppress the growth of parthenium in their filed. Other control methods like spraying herbicides biological control measures etc. were also explained to the farmers by the resource persons. During the week the KVK has also create awareness among the input dealers of South Salmara and Mankachar District who were enrolled in the self-financed agricultural input dealer certificate course.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kamrup

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kamrup successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on its campus as part of the nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The programme aimed to create awareness about the hazardous invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as "Congress grass," and to encourage community participation in its effective management and eradication.

The inaugural session was attended by farmers, scientists, and staff members of KVK Kamrup. During the opening address, experts elaborated on the harmful impacts of Parthenium on human and animal health, agricultural productivity, and the environment. It was highlighted that the weed causes skin allergies, asthma, dermatitis, and other respiratory disorders, while also suppressing useful vegetation and reducing biodiversity. The need for timely identification and preventive control measures was strongly emphasized.

Throughout the week, several awareness and field-based activities were carried out. Awareness campaigns were conducted through expert lectures and dissemination of information using the Krishi Rath to reach a wider audience. Demonstrations on mechanical and cultural control methods were organized to provide practical knowledge on safe uprooting and management of the weed. Campus and field cleaning drives were also undertaken with active participation from farmers and KVK staff to physically remove Parthenium plants and promote environmental sanitation.

A total of 120 farmers actively participated in the week-long programme. They engaged in training sessions, awareness initiatives, and eradication drives, thereby contributing significantly to the success of the campaign. Informational pamphlets and extension materials were distributed to encourage the adoption of eco-friendly and sustainable management practices and to spread awareness in surrounding villages.

The programme concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony in which participants resolved to work collectively toward creating a Parthenium-free environment. The observance of Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Kamrup successfully strengthened awareness among farmers and the local community and reinforced the importance of coordinated action in sustainable weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Karbi Anglong

An awareness programme cum cleanliness drive at the KVK premises was organised, where uprooting and disposing of the Parthenium weeds were done. Dr. Monuj Kumar Doley, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Karbi Anglong addressed the gathering about the ill effects of Parthenium and suggested to destroy the weed which causes yield loss of agricultural crops as well as affects grazing lands and increases allergy in cattle. Ms. Prakshipta Boruah, SMS (Agronomy) emphasized on management practices of Parthenium. All the Scientists and staff of the KVK and farmers from the nearby villages participated in the programme.

Another cleanliness drive was conducted in the premises of the new KVK Campus at Amlokhi, where Mr. Shourov Dutta, SMS (Horticulture) and Mr. Monuj Pegu, Farm Manager discussed among the farmers about the detrimental effects of Parthenium and spraying of weedicide was carried out to eradicate the weed. Moreover, a demonstration on compost preparation using Parthenium is ongoing in 5 different locations of the Amlokhi village.

Thekar

ARNIVANG

Diphu along KVK pen Parthenium kapavir cheroktok arui katalon

Our Correspondent, DIPHU, Thekar, Paipai 22: Karbi Anglong ahempi Diphu rongsopi along kedo Krishi Bigyan Kendra (KVK) , Karbi Anglong pen patirpisi Karbi Anglong along ta Paipai 16 arni pen Paipai 22 arni an Parthenium a bablangno kapavirji aphan pura hithi erui cheroktok asai amo pachun lo. Parthenium bablangno ke monit atum areng akeso, phukeso, chethe kevang seng, pasi i khok heihui akeso Parthenium pensi kelong lapen chainong ta areng kaheno akeso longi. Phar 3

Diphu along KVK...

La'an chot kalisi laso abab langno dothip lote sok katiki ta ale jum det. Parthenium kapavedetji aphan arong angkur aphelong phu si pave det nangpo pusi KVK akehoi Dr. Manuj Kumar Dolay pen chotiki arat aphan than pachini.

Parthenium kapavirji aphan kedeng cheroktok asai along pacheton dunsi Diphu KVK lapen Amdokhi akimi KVK along Parthenium kepan lapen kapangthai asai amo deng lo. Farm Manager Shourov Datta kejalin pen Amlokhi angkang long 5 adim Parthenium abab langno pen ho-or kaselam kechengbom alam ta KVK, Karbi Anglong pen nangthan pachini.

SAMPHRI KIMI

A Leading Karbi Daily Newspaper Published from Diphu

KVK pen Parthenium kapavirji aphan cheroktok arui katalon

SAMPHRI KIMI, Diphu, Paipai 22: Karbi Anglong ahempi Diphu rongsopi along kedo Krishi Bigyan Kendra (KVK) Karbi Anglong pen patirpi si Karbi Anglong along ta Paipai 16 arni pen ha Paipai 22 arni an Parthenium bablangno kapavirji aphan pura hithi erui cheroktok asai amo pachunpon. Parthenium bablangno lake Monit atum areng akeso, Phukeso, chethe kevang seng, pasi-i khok heihui akeso Parthenium pen si kelong lapen Chainong ta areng kaheno akeso long-i. La an chot kalisi laso abab langno dothip lote sok katiki ta ale jum det. Parthenium kapavedetji aphan arong angkur aphelong phu si pave det nangpo pusi KVK akehoi Dr. Manuj Kumar Dolay pen chotiki arat aphan than pachini. Parthenium kapavirji aphan kedeng cheroktok asai along pacheton dun si Diphu KVK lapen Amlokhi akimi KVK along Parthenium kepan lapen kapangthai asai amo dengpon. Farm Manager Shourov Datta kejalin pen Amlokhi long 5 adim Parthenium abab langno pen ho-or kaselam kechengbom alam ta KVK, Karbi Anglong pen nangthan pachini.

Krisi vigyan Kendra- Golaghat, Assam

Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass or gajar ghaas) is one of the most destructive invasive weeds in India, posing serious threats to human and animal health, agriculture, and biodiversity. It causes ailments such as asthma, skin allergies, bronchitis, and eye irritation, while also reducing crop productivity and degrading pasture lands. To address its growing spread, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Golaghat organized a week-long awareness campaign from 16–22 August 2025 across various locations in Golaghat district as part of Parthenium Awareness Week. The initiative aimed to educate farmers, students, and local communities about the harmful impacts of Parthenium and promote effective, eco-friendly management strategies, including mechanical removal, composting, and biological control. A total of **100** farmers and farm women actively participated in the programme. The campaign successfully enhanced public awareness, encouraging early-stage removal of the weed and community involvement in eradication efforts. Many participants expressed willingness to adopt sustainable practices such as composting. The programme concluded with the participation of Hon'ble MLA of Khumtai LAC, Shri Mrinal Saikia, who appreciated KVK Golaghat's efforts and emphasized the importance of continued awareness and collective action to manage this invasive weed.

2.6 BIHAR

Bihar, located in the eastern part of India, covers an area of approximately 94,163 square kilometers and is bordered by Nepal to the north, with West Bengal to the east, Jharkhand to the south, and Uttar Pradesh to the west. The Ganges River flows through the state, creating fertile plains that are highly conducive to agriculture. As per the latest census, Bihar has a population of around 125 million, with approximately 65 million males and 60 million females, making it one of the most populous states in India and characterized by a diverse demographic. The state is primarily agrarian, producing major crops such as rice, wheat, maize, sugarcane, and pulses, along with fruits like mangoes and litchis in favorable regions. The soil is predominantly alluvial, enriched with nutrients from the Ganges River, which supports a wide variety of crops and underpins the state's agricultural productivity. Bihar experiences a subtropical monsoon climate, with hot and humid summers and cooler winters, receiving average annual rainfall between 800 mm and

1,200 mm, primarily during the southwest monsoon from June to September. The literacy rate in Bihar is approximately 70.96%, with male literacy at around 80.51% and female literacy at about 60.01%, reflecting ongoing efforts to improve educational access and quality across the state.

ICAR-National Research Centre on Litchi, Muzaffarpur

ICAR-National Research Centre on Litchi, Muzaffarpur organized a Parthenium Awareness Programme on 22nd August 2025 at the institute farm as part of the nationwide observance of Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025). During the programme, scientific, technical, administrative staff, and farm workers were sensitized about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass), which poses a severe threat to agriculture, biodiversity, livestock, and human health. Practical demonstrations on eradication and integrated weed management practices were conducted, followed by a collective eradication drive at the institute farm. All staff and farm workers actively participated, reflecting the institute's commitment towards a clean, green, and safe farm environment. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Kumar, Scientist (Fruit Science) who emphasized the importance of community participation and integrated approaches for effective management of invasive weeds.

College of Agricultural Biotechnology, Sabour, Bhagalpur

College of Agricultural Biotechnology organized a Parthenium Uprooting Program on 22 August 2025 within the university campus. The activity was actively participated in by faculty members and students of the college.

The program aimed to raise awareness about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and to promote eco-friendly practices for its management. The uprooting drive was conducted in areas near the lecture hall (Gayan Ganaga Parisar) of the university campus, and the removed biomass was safely disposed of.

Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur, Bihar

Under the all India coordinated weed control research the Directorate of Research, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur the XXth parthenium (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) (commonly known as carrot/congress grass) awareness week was organized at Bihar Agricultural College, Sabour from 16 to 22 August 2025, under this, as part of the awareness drive, a campus-wide cleanup campaign was organized on 21th August 2025, in the college campus Sabour, along with the Dean, Director, of BAU, Sabour and Principal of BAC, Sabour and CABT, Sabour and hundreds students of BAC, Sabour and CABT, Sabour participated and got information about the harmful affect of carrot grass on soil and human health and the participants actively engaged in the manual uprooting and disposal of *Parthenium* plants from the university/college campus and adjoining areas to demonstrate eco-friendly management practices. Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, Department of Agronomy, BAC, Sabour said in his address that carrot grass is a very harmful plant. This plant was not present in our country earlier, but it has been seen in the last few years that its spread very fast. It cause very serious problem to society. This grass harm our ecosystem and disturb the biodiversity and its effective control not possible without public awareness and its participation, therefore it is the duty of all of us to make the general public aware to control this noxious grass.

This invasive and noxious weed is recognized as a major biological constraint in agriculture due to its ability to suppress crop productivity, deteriorate soil health, and adversely influence agro-ecosystems. Beyond its agronomic implications, Parthenium is also a public health hazard, being associated with dermatological disorders (eczema), respiratory problems (asthma, bronchitis), and severe allergic reactions in humans, while exerting toxic effects on livestock through feed contamination. Dr. Mukesh Kumar Sinha, Principal, BAC, Sabour also shared his experience and he said that carrot grass is affecting agricultural crop/land very rapidly. A lot of money has to be spent in the form of purchasing of herbicides and other thing to control it which is not acceptable by farmers therefore it is very important to spread awareness to control this grass. In this programme all the scientist and non-teaching staff of Department of Agronomy were participated, on this occasion the presence of PRO of the University Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dr. R. D. Ranjan and Dr. Anand Kumar from Department of PBG were highly appreciable. This type of programme was organized at each and every Krishi Vigyan Kendra for a week under jurisdiction of Bihar Agricultural University and The programme was efficiently coordinated by Dr. Saurabh Kumar Choudhary, Weed Agronomist, BAC, Sabour, ensuring wide participation and smooth execution of all activities. delivered a scientific discourse highlighting the biology, allelopathic effects, and integrated management strategies for *Parthenium*, including cultural, mechanical, chemical, and biological approaches. He emphasized the potential role of *Calligrapha bicolorata* (Mexican beetle) as an effective biocontrol agent and in last he gave the vote of thanks and by the permission of authorities declared the programme closed.

दैनिक जागरण भागलपुर
22 अगस्त 2025 पृष्ठ संख्या-3

गाजर घास से होने वाले नुकसान के बारे में लोगों को जानकारी दी

बीएयू में गाजर घास को लेकर किया गया जागरूक

सिटी रिपोर्टर| भागलपुर

बिहार कृषि विश्वविद्यालय में गाजर घास सप्ताह का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। अखिल भारतीय समन्वित खरपतवार नियंत्रण अनुसंधान परियोजना तहत किया जा रहा है। 20वां गाजर घास सप्ताह 16 से 22 अगस्त तक मनाया जाएगा। इस अवसर पर गुरुवार को विवि परिसर में कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। गाजर घास के नुकसान को लेकर लोगों को जागरूकता किया गया। इसमें छात्र-छात्राओं ने भाग लिया। गाजर घास के हानिकारक प्रभावों के बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त की। डॉ. संजय कुमार ने कहा कि गाजर घास एक अत्यंत हानिकारक पौधा है, जो पर्यावरण को गंभीर नुकसान पहुंचाता है। इसका प्रभावी नियंत्रण जनजागृति और जनभागीदारी से ही संभव है। वैज्ञानिक के प्रभार ने कहा कि गाजर घास के नियंत्रण के लिए सही शाकनाशी और श्रम की आवश्यकता होती है। जो किसानों के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। जनजागरूकता फैलाना आवश्यक है। मौके पर उपस्थ विज्ञान विभाग के वैज्ञानिक, गैर-शैक्षणिक कर्मचारी, जैव प्रौद्योगिकी महाविद्यालय के छात्र-छात्राएं मौजूद थे।

हिन्दुस्तान, भागलपुर शुक्रवार 22 अगस्त 2025 06

कैंपस 30s

बीएयू, सबौर के अन्तर्गत गाजर घास सप्ताह के आयोजन में मौजूद लोग।

बाहर से आई गाजर घास हानिकारक

भागलपुर। अखिल भारतीय समन्वित खरपतवार नियंत्रण परियोजना के तहत बीएयू में 20वां गाजर घास सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया। शस्य विज्ञान विभाग के अध्यक्ष डॉ. संजय कुमार ने कहा कि गाजर घास बहुत ही हानिकारक पौधा है। यह पौधा पूर्व में हमारे देश में नहीं था। बीते कुछ सालों में देखा जा रहा है कि गाजर घास का फैलाव देश में बहुत ही तेजी से हो रहा है। महाविद्यालय के प्राध्यापकों ने कहा कि गाजर घास आज के समय में बहुत तेजी से प्रभावित कर रहा है। बीएयू के पीआरओ डॉ. राजेश कुमार, डॉ. राकेश देव रंजन, डॉ. आनंद कुमार, डॉ. एसके चौधरी आदि मौजूद रहे।

Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai

The inaugural program of the “Parthenium Awareness Week 16-22 August 2025” at Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai, Nalanda held on August 18, 2025. The programme is Organized by the Department of Agronomy and constituted committee by the Associate Dean cum Principal. All the scientists, staffs & students of Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai participated during 16-22 August, 2025 at college premises, college farm, residential areas of college, at adopted Kasturba Gandhi Residential School campus and Daruara village during the week. The event marked the beginning of a week-long initiative focused on raising awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as Congress grass on human and animal health and it's negative impact on agriculture and environment.

Dr. R.B. Raman Assistant Professor and Hostel Superintendent welcomed participants and outlined the activities planned for August 16-22, 2025. The programme included a lecture by Dr. Santosh Kumar Chaudhary, Association Professor (Agronomy) on the ‘Adverse effects of Parthenium on human health and agriculture and its integrated management strategies’. Dr. C. S. Azad, Head, Department of Plant protection emphasized the need to educate farmers on the dangers of Parthenium and mentioned upcoming cleaning activities in Adopted villages and schools by NCOH as part of the awareness week. In his presidential remarks, Dr. Randhir Kumar, Associate Dean-cum-Principal, discussed the challenges of controlling Parthenium and urged the staff to remove the plant before it flowers, as this is the most practical approach to manage its spread. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Officer-In Charge Farm Er. Manish Kumar.

For the eradication of this weed, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi has declared 16-22 August as a Parthenium Awareness Week every year to generate awareness about harmful effects of parthenium among the peoples. Under the aegis of ICAR and direction given by Dean Ag, BAU Sabour, Nalanda College of Horticulture also observed the awareness week from 16-22 August, 2025 under the chairmanship of Associate Dean-cum-Principal. On the 2nd day, eradication programme of this weed was

organized at college premises and farm areas of the college. Scientists, staffs & students were uprooted the parthenium plants from the college campus and from the farm area and aware the harmful effects of these plants on humans and animals' health and its effects on reduction of productivities of agricultural & horticultural crops. This plant is noxious weed and causes various alignments in human health like asthma, nausea, fever, bronchitis, skin problems etc. due to presence of a harmful chemical constituent 'parthenin'. On third day, an on-field demonstration was organized on preparation of vermi-compost using parthenium grass and also uprooted the plants of parthenium from the campus premises. Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai organized awareness programme in college campus and outside campus at adopted village Daruara in Noorsarai block and Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girl School, Village Chandasi, Noorsarai Nalanda. On 22nd August, 2025 Scientists from the Nalanda College of Horticulture were visited residential area of the campus and eradicated parthenium. Scientist of this college also release Mexican beetle, Calligrapha bicolorata over the parthenium plants. On the last day of this week scientists, staffs & students of Nalanda College of Horticulture organized rally to aware people about the manace of partheniun. Dr. C. S. Azad, Dr. Santosh Chaudhury, Dr. Niru Kumari, Dr. Vinod Kumar, Dr. Manish Kumar, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Mandal, Dr. Beer Bahadur Singh, Dr. Sunil Kumar Yadav, Dr. S. S. Singh, Dr. Neha Sinha, Dr. R. B. Raman, Dr. Arti Kumari, Dr. Jaya Kumari, Dr. Ajeet Kumar, Mr. Devendra Mandal & others were actively participated in the awareness cum eradication programme.

उद्यान महाविद्यालय में मनाया गया गाजर घास उन्मूलन सप्ताह

प्रातः आवाज़

नूरसरायः नालन्दा उद्यान महाविद्यालय नूरसराय में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया जा रहा है। इसी को लेकर महाविद्यालय के सभागार में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का शुभारंभ प्राचार्य डॉ. रणधीर कुमार ने दीप प्रज्ज्वलित कर किया। कार्यक्रम में सभी वैज्ञानिक,कर्मी व छात्र छात्राओं ने भाग लिया।प्राचार्य डॉ. रणधीर कुमार ने कहा कि गाजर घास के लगातार संपर्क में आने से मनुष्यों में एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार, दमा आदि जैसी बीमारियां हो जाती हैं। पशुओं के लिए यह गाजर घास अत्यधिक विषाक्त होती है। कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. सौएस आजाद ने बताया कि इस घास को खत्म करने के लिए प्राकृतिक शत्रु किट जैसे मेक्सिकन बीटल का उपयोग लाभकारी होगा।

हॉर्टिकल्चर कॉलेज में कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ करते प्राचार्य डॉ.रणधीर कुमार व अन्य

कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. महेश कुमार,डॉ. संतोष कुमार ,डॉ. दिव्या तिवारी, डॉ. रामबाबू रमण ,डॉ. एपी सिंह ने इस घास के उन्मूलन को लेकर विस्तार पूर्वक बताया।कृषि वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि इस घास का प्रजनन क्षमता बहुत ज्यादा होता है।एक पौधा से 10 से 25 हजार तक बीज उत्पन्न होता है। कृषि वैज्ञानिकों,कर्मियों व छात्रों ने महाविद्यालय परिसर में उगे गाजर घास को नष्ट भी किया।मौके पर पीआरओ डॉ. विनोद कुमार ,डॉ. बिनोद कुमार,ई.मनीष,संजय कुमार सिंह,सिर बहादुर सिंह,डॉ. सौमा, डॉ. विजय कुमार,डॉ. नेहा रानी,डॉ. नीरू,डॉ.देवेंद्र मंडल,कुमारी आरती, डॉ. पुष्पा कुमारी,डॉ. जया कुमारी,डॉ.फातिमा प्रवीण,डॉ. पंकज कुमार मंडल सहित अन्य मौजूद थे।

गाजर घास की प्रजनन क्षमता बहुत ज्यादा, एक पौधे से 10 से 25 हजार बीज उत्पन्न

निरीरिपोर्टर | नूरसराय

नालंदा उद्यान महाविद्यालय, नूरसराय में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया जा रहा है। 16 से 22 अगस्त एक महाविद्यालय परिसर, कस्तूरबा विद्यालय परिसर, दरुआरा गांव सहित अन्य स्थानों को गाजर घास मुक्त किया जाएगा। महाविद्यालय के सभागार में जागरूकता सप्ताह का शुभारंभ प्राचार्य डॉ. रंधीर कुमार ने दीप प्रज्ज्वलित कर किया। कार्यक्रम में सभी वैज्ञानिक, कर्मी और छात्र-छात्राओं ने भाग लिया।प्राचार्य डॉ. रंधीर कुमार ने बताया कि गाजर घास के लगातार संपर्क में आने से मनुष्यों में डरमेटाइटिस, एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार और दमा जैसी बीमारियां हो सकती हैं। पशुओं के लिए यह घास अत्यधिक विषाक्त है। इसे खाने से पशुओं में अनेक रोग हो जाते हैं और दूध में कड़वाहट आने के साथ उत्पादन में भी कमी हो जाती है।

वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया बड़ा खतरा :

कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. संतोष कुमार चौधरी ने कहा कि पार्थेनियम घास यानी गाजर घास फसलों के लिए जितनी खतरनाक है, उतनी ही इंसानों और पशुओं के लिए भी है। इससे खाद्यान्न फसलों को पैदावार में लगभग 40 प्रतिशत तक की कमी हो सकती है। कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. सौएस आजाद ने कहा कि इस घास को खत्म करने के लिए प्राकृतिक शत्रु कीट मेक्सिकन बीटल का उपयोग बेहद लाभकारी होगा। कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. महेश कुमार, डॉ. दिव्या तिवारी, डॉ. रामबाबू रमण और डॉ. एपी सिंह ने बताया कि गाजर घास की प्रजनन क्षमता अत्यधिक होती है। एक पौधे से 10 से 25 हजार तक बीज उत्पन्न होता है, जिसके कारण यह तेजी से फैलती है। कृषि वैज्ञानिकों, कर्मियों और छात्रों ने महाविद्यालय परिसर में उगे गाजर घास को नष्ट भी किया। इस मौके पर पीआरओ डॉ. विनोद कुमार, ई. मनीष, संजय कुमार सिंह, वीर बहादुर सिंह, डॉ. सौमा, डॉ. विजय कुमार, डॉ. नेहा रानी, डॉ. नीरू, डॉ. देवेंद्र मंडल, कुमारी आरती, डॉ. पुष्पा कुमारी, डॉ. जया कुमारी, डॉ. फातिमा प्रवीण, डॉ. पंकज कुमार मंडल सहित अनेक लोग उपस्थित थे।

जागरूकता अभियान में शामिल लोग।

Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa

A Parthenium (Gajarghas) Eradication Program was successfully organized on 22nd August 2025 at Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, as part of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of nearly 300 students, scientists, and staff members, demonstrating the university's strong commitment to creating a Parthenium-free campus. Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor P. S. Pandey stated that the eradication drive is an annual initiative of the university fraternity. He emphasized extending awareness beyond the campus and urged everyone to pledge to make the university premises free from Parthenium within a year. He elaborated on integrated management practices and stressed collective responsibility in controlling this invasive weed. The programme featured an awareness procession to sensitize the community, physical uprooting of Parthenium plants around hostel boundaries and farm bunds, and a technical lecture on preventive and eradication strategies. Dr. Pandey highlighted that Parthenium is highly allergenic, causing dermatitis, asthma, bronchitis, and livestock health issues such as salivation and ulcers, and advised removal before flowering to prevent seed dispersal. Organized under the supervision of the Directorate of Research, Director of Research Anil Kumar Singh reiterated the need for sustained and collaborative efforts to safeguard environmental and public health.

Mandan Bharti Agriculture College, Agwanpur, Saharsa

Mandan Bharti Agriculture College, Agwanpur, Saharsa in collaboration with ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur organized 20th Parthenium Awareness Week-2025 during 16-22 August, 2025 to provide awareness among all faculty members, non-teaching staffs, students and farmers. It was organised by NSS, MBAC, Agwanpur at MBAC, Agwanpur campus. Assoc. Dean-cum-Principal (acting), MBAC, Agwanpur, Dr. Riyaz Ahemad, appealed to stakeholders to sensitise about the importance of Parthenium awareness week, causing health hazards like skin allergy, asthma nasal diseases etc. due to parthenium and he also emphasized about the control measures of parthenium plants by spraying glyphosate (1-1.5%) in non-cropped areas or metribuzin (0.3-0.5%) or 2,4-D (1%) in grass areas. He also mentioned that soon, MBAC,

Agwanpur will become parthenium free campus. The Assoc. Dean-cum-Principal interacted with all staffs and students regarding the different organic control measures of parthenium plants and compost making methods from uprooted unflowered parthenium biomass. He mentioned about its threat on native biodiversity besides loss to crop productivity. He appealed to sensitise about parthenium eradication week, complete control measures like uprooting, making manures, releasing Mexican Beetles, spraying of different effective herbicides etc. Dr. Vinod Kumar Singh, Asstt. Prof.-cum-Jr. Scientist, Dept. of Extension and Education MBAC, Agwanpur gave a brief lecture on parthenium grass. It is popularly known as congress grass, carrot weed, gaajar ghas, safed topi, chatak chandani etc. and its serious problem to agricultural productivity, human and animal health. Dr. Sunil Kumar, organizing secretary of the programme mentioned about the significance to celebrate this programme and motivated the students and farmers to eradicate parthenium plants from our surroundings as parthenium causes many health problems like - nasal dermal, skin allergy, hay fever, dermatitis and asthma in human beings and it is also toxic to livestock. Parthenium has invaded cultivated, uncultivated, wasteland, road side and railway tracks etc. For its management, besides spraying of chemicals it was also advised to uproot the weeds before flowering and make compost by pit method and vermicompost making. Management of this obnoxious weed requires collective and continuous efforts through awareness and adoption of integrated approach like release of bio-agent Zygograma bicolorata in infested areas during June to August. All faculties of different departments and non-teaching staffs of the college actively participated in this programme during the whole week.

Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai

The inaugural program of the “Parthenium Awareness Week 16-22 August 2025” at Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai, Nalanda held on August 18, 2025. The programme is Organized by the Department of Agronomy and constituted committee by the Associate Dean cum Principal. All the scientists, staffs & students of Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai participated during 16-22 August, 2025 at college premises, college farm, residential areas of college, at adopted Kasturba Gandhi Residential School campus and Daruara village during the week. The event marked the beginning of a week-long initiative focused on raising awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as Congress grass on human and animal health and it's negative impact on agriculture and environment.

Dr. R.B. Raman Assistant Professor and Hostel Superintendent welcomed participants and outlined the activities planned for August 16-22, 2025. The programme included a lecture by Dr. Santosh Kumar Chaudhary, Association Professor (Agronomy) on the ‘Adverse effects of Parthenium on human health and agriculture and its integrated management strategies’. Dr. C. S. Azad, Head, Department of Plant protection emphasized the need to educate farmers on the dangers of Parthenium and mentioned upcoming cleaning activities in Adopted villages and schools by NCOH as part of the awareness week.

In his presidential remarks, Dr. Randhir Kumar, Associate Dean-cum-Principal, discussed the challenges of controlling Parthenium and urged the staff to remove the plant before it flowers, as this is the most practical

approach to manage its spread. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Officer-In Charge Farm Er. Manish Kumar.

उद्यान महाविद्यालय में मनाया गया गाजर घास उन्मूलन सप्ताह

प्रात: आवाज़

नूरसराय: नालन्दा उद्यान महाविद्यालय नूरसराय में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया जा रहा है। इसी को लेकर महाविद्यालय के सभागार में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का शुभारंभ प्राचार्य डॉ. रणधीर कुमार ने दीप प्रज्ज्वलित कर किया। कार्यक्रम में सभी वैज्ञानिक,कर्मी व छात्र छात्राओं ने भाग लिया।प्राचार्य डॉ. रणधीर कुमार ने कहा कि गाजर घास के लगातार संपर्क में आने से मनुष्यों में एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार, दमा आदि जैसी बीमारियां हो जाती हैं। पशुओं के लिए यह गाजर घास अत्यधिक विषाक्त होती है। कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. सीपस आजाद ने बताया कि इस घास को खत्म करने के लिए प्राकृतिक शत्रु किट जैसे मेक्सिकन बीटल का उपयोग लाभकारी होगा।

कॉलेजकर्त्तव्य कॉलेज में कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ करते प्राचार्य डॉरणधीर कुमार व अन्य

कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. महेश कुमार,डॉ. संतोष कुमार ,डॉ. दिव्या तिवारी, डॉ. रामबाबू रमण ,डॉ. एपी सिंह ने इस घास के उन्मूलन को लेकर विस्तार पूर्वक बताया।कृषि वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि इस घास का प्रजनन क्षमता बहुत ज्यादा होता है।एक पौधा से 10 से 25 हजार तक बीज उत्पन्न होता है। कृषि वैज्ञानिकों,कर्मियों व छात्रों ने महाविद्यालय परिसर में उगे गाजर घास को नष्ट भी किया।मौके पर पीआरओ डॉ. विनोद कुमार,ई.मनीष,संजय कुमार सिंह,बिर बहादुर सिंह,डॉ. सीमा, डॉ. विजय कुमार,डॉ. नेहा रानी, डॉ. नीरू, डॉ. देवेंद्र मंडल, कुमारी आरती, डॉ. पुष्पा कुमारी,डॉ. जया कुमारी,डॉ.फातिमा प्रवीण,डॉ. पंकज कुमार मंडल सहित अन्य मौजूद थे।

Figure. 1. Inaugural Session of Parthenium awareness week on 18 August 2025

गाजर घास की प्रजनन क्षमता बहुत ज्यादा, एक पौधे से 10 से 25 हजार बीज उत्पन्न

स्टाफ रिपोर्टर | नूरसराय

नालंदा उद्यान महाविद्यालय, नूरसराय में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया जा रहा है। 16 से 22 अगस्त तक महाविद्यालय परिसर, कल्याण विद्यालय परिसर, दरुआरा गांव सहित अन्य स्थानों को गाजर घास मुक्त किया जाएगा। महाविद्यालय के सभागार में जागरूकता सप्ताह का शुभारंभ प्राचार्य डॉ. रंधीर कुमार ने दीप प्रज्ज्वलित कर किया। कार्यक्रम में सभी वैज्ञानिक, कर्मी और छात्र-छात्राओं ने भाग लिया।प्राचार्य डॉ. रंधीर कुमार ने बताया कि गाजर घास के लगातार संपर्क में आने से मनुष्यों में डरमेटाइटिस, एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार और दमा जैसी बीमारियां हो सकती हैं। पशुओं के लिए यह घास अत्यधिक विषाक्त है। इसे खाने से पशुओं में अनेक रोग हो जाते हैं और दूध में कड़वाहट आने के साथ उत्पादन में भी कमी हो जाती है।

वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया बड़ा खतरा : कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. संतोष कुमार चौधरी ने कहा कि पार्थेनियम घास यानी गाजर घास फसलों के लिए जितनी खतरनाक है, उतनी ही इंसानों और पशुओं के लिए भी है। इससे खाद्यान फसलों की पैदावार में लगभग 40 प्रतिशत तक की कमी हो सकती है। कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. सीपस आजाद ने कहा कि इस घास को खत्म करने के लिए प्राकृतिक शत्रु कीट मेक्सिकन बीटल का उपयोग बेहद लाभकारी होगा। कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. महेश कुमार, डॉ. दिव्या तिवारी, डॉ. रामबाबू रमण और डॉ. एपी सिंह ने बताया कि गाजर घास की प्रजनन क्षमता अत्यधिक होती है। एक पौधे से 10 से 25 हजार तक बीज उत्पन्न होता है, जिसके कारण यह तेजी से फैलती है। कृषि वैज्ञानिकों, कर्मियों और छात्रों ने महाविद्यालय परिसर में उगे गाजर घास को नष्ट भी किया। इस मौके पर पीआरओ डॉ. विनोद कुमार, ई. मनीष, संजय कुमार सिंह, वीर बहादुर सिंह, डॉ. सीमा, डॉ. विजय कुमार, डॉ. नेहा रानी, डॉ. नीरू, डॉ. देवेंद्र मंडल, कुमारी आरती, डॉ. पुष्पा कुमारी, डॉ. जया कुमारी, डॉ. फातिमा प्रवीण, डॉ. पंकज कुमार मंडल सहित अनेक लोग उपस्थित थे।

जागरूकता अभियान में शामिल लोग।

Figure 2. Awarerees programme in NCOH Campus on 18 August 2025

For the eradication of this weed, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi has declared 16-22 August as a Parthenium Awareness Week every year to generate awareness about harmful effects of parthenium among the peoples. Under the aegis of ICAR and direction given by Dean Ag, BAU Sabour, Nalanda College of Horticulture also observed the awareness week from 16-22 August, 2025 under the chairmanship of Associate Dean-cum-Principal. On the 2nd day, eradication programme of this weed was organized at college premises and farm areas of the college. Scientists, staffs & students were uprooted the parthenium plants from the college campus and from the farm area (Fig. 2) and aware the harmful effects of these plants on humans and animals' health and its effects on reduction of productivities of agricultural & horticultural crops. This plant is noxious weed and causes various alignments in human health like asthma, nausea, fever, bronchitis, skin problems etc. due to presence of a harmful chemical constituent 'parthenin'. On third day, an on-field demonstration was organized on preparation of vermi-compost using parthenium grass and also uprooted the plants of parthenium from the campus premises. Nalanda College of Horticulture Noorsarai organized awareness programme in college campus and outside campus at adopted village Daruara in Noorsarai block (Fig. 3) and Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girl School, Village Chandasi, Noorsarai Nalanda (Fig. 4)

Figure 3. Awarerees programme at adopted village Daruara, block Noorsarai, District Nalanda on 19 August 2025

Figure 4. Awarerees programme at adopted Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girl School, Village Chandasi, Noorsarai Nalanda on 21 August 2025

On 22nd August, 2025 Scientists from the Nalanda College of Horticulture were visited residential area of the campus and eradicated parthenium (Fig. 5). Scientist of this college also release Mexican beetle, *Calligrapha bicolorata* over the parthenium plants (Fig.6). On the last day of this week scientists, staffs &

students of Nalanda College of Horticulture organized rally (Fig. 7) to aware people about the manace of partheniun. Dr. C. S. Azad, Dr. Santosh Chaudhury, Dr. Niru Kumari, Dr. Vinod Kumar, Dr. Manish Kumar, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Mandal, Dr. Beer Bahadur Singh, Dr. Sunil Kumar Yadav, Dr. S. S. Singh, Dr. Neha Sinha, Dr. R. B. Raman, Dr. Arti Kumari, Dr. Jaya Kumari, Dr. Ajeet Kumar, Mr. Devendra Mandal & others were actively participated in the awareness cum eradication programme.

Fig. 5. Parthenium Eradication Programme at NCOH Residential area on 21 August 2025

Fig.6 Release Mexican beetle, *Calligrapha bicolorata* over the parthenium plants

Fig. 7 organized rally to aware people about the menace of Parthenium

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Munger

As part of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025) initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Munger organized a series of awareness and eradication activities to sensitize farmers, rural youth, and local communities about the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus (locally known as Gajarghas) and its sustainable management. The programme was conducted across different venues with the active participation of farmers, KVK staff, and local stakeholders. The week-long campaign began on 16th and 17th August 2025 with uprooting drives by KVK staff in the KVK farm, Kisan hostel surroundings, and institute premises, where Parthenium was removed and safely disposed of. On 18th August, an awareness programme was held at Haweli Kharagpur with 49 participants, followed by a training programme at Tarapur on 19th August, which engaged 47 participants. Subsequent days witnessed Kisan Gosthis at Asarganj (45 participants) and Tetia Bamber (48 participants) on 20th and 21st August respectively, focusing on Parthenium's ill effects and its management through cultural, mechanical, chemical, and biological methods. The week concluded on 22nd August with an awareness programme at Sangrampur, attended by 52 participants. In total, 280 participants (170 male and 110 female) took part in the activities. The initiative effectively combined demonstrations, community discussions, and practical eradication exercises, thereby enhancing awareness and encouraging community-based integrated weed management practices. The programme created strong local impact and reinforced the role of collective action in combating invasive weeds for sustainable agriculture and a healthier environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Saran

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Saran, successfully organized the Congress Grass (Parthenium hysterophorus) Eradication Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at the KVK center and in neighboring villages. The programme was led by the Head of the KVK and actively supported by the center's team, with the objective of educating farmers and rural communities about the ecological, agricultural, and health impacts of Parthenium. During the awareness week, the participants were informed that Parthenium, commonly known as Congress grass in India, is one of the most aggressive annual herbaceous weeds. It invades vacant lands, disturbed sites, roadsides, railway tracks, wastelands, watercourses, and agricultural fields. Its rapid spread not only reduces biodiversity but also poses serious health risks, including allergic reactions in humans and livestock. Farmers were briefed on how this invasive weed has now infiltrated almost all types of crops, becoming a significant threat to agricultural production. The programme emphasized the importance of integrated management strategies, including mechanical uprooting, community-based eradication drives, biological control using natural enemies, and eco-friendly composting of the biomass. The sessions were interactive, allowing the 65 participating farmers to gain practical knowledge and clarify doubts regarding Parthenium control measures. The KVK staff also demonstrated techniques for safe disposal of uprooted weeds and shared insights on maintaining Parthenium-free fields. The observance of the awareness week at KVK Saran successfully enhanced the understanding of the farming community regarding the menace of Parthenium and encouraged collective action to manage its spread. Farmers were motivated to adopt timely and sustainable management practices, contributing to healthier agricultural ecosystems, improved crop productivity, and safer rural environments.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Rohtas, Bikramganj

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rohtas organized a Parthenium Awareness Programme at its campus in Bikramganj with the objective of sensitizing farmers, farm women, rural youth, and local community members about the harmful effects of the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress grass). The programme was conducted as part of the nationwide campaign to control the spread of this noxious weed which poses a serious threat to human and animal health, crop productivity, and the environment. During the event, scientists of KVK explained that parthenium causes skin allergies, asthma, and other health hazards, apart from reducing soil fertility and competing aggressively with agricultural crops and fodder species. Farmers were made aware of mechanical, cultural, chemical and biological methods of its management, including the use of *Calligrapha bicolorata* beetle as an effective biocontrol agent. Demonstrations were given on safe uprooting and disposal methods, as well as use of protective clothing to avoid health impacts. The awareness programme emphasized the importance of community participation in eradicating parthenium, as isolated efforts are often ineffective. Farmers shared their experiences and assured active cooperation in controlling this weed in their villages. Educational materials and practical tips were also distributed among the participants.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Saharsa

As per the directives of the ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, and Director Extension Education, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Saharsa organized *Parthenium Awareness Week* from 16th to 22nd August 2025 across different villages of Saharsa district. Awareness programmes were conducted in villages Sisai and Agwanpur (Sattarkattaiya), Padampura & Etahara (Sour Bazar), Dorma (Sattarkattaiya) and Tulsiyahi (Kahra) with active participation of farmers, youth and community members. On 22nd August 2025, a special programme was held at the KVK Saharsa campus to eradicate Parthenium within the campus premises. Staff along with local villagers undertook manual removal of Parthenium, while the surrounding households were sensitized about associated health hazards such as skin allergies, hay fever, asthma, and the toxic effects of Parthenium on livestock and contamination in milk. During the village-level activities, the KVK team explained the rapid spread and damaging impact of this invasive weed on humans, animals, crops and environment. Community members were encouraged to take collective action for its eradication, following which volunteer groups were formed in each village to regularly uproot Parthenium from roadsides, homesteads and farmland margins. The KVK team also participated in these field uprooting drives along with volunteers. Special leaflets on Parthenium control were distributed, highlighting control options such as manual uprooting, use of herbicides (Glyphosate 1.5–2.0% or Metribuzin 0.3–0.5% after flowering), and biological suppression through competitive plants like *Marigold* and *Cassia tora* by broadcasting seeds between February–April. Villagers were also advised to utilize uprooted Parthenium biomass for vermicompost preparation before flowering stage. The programme significantly boosted awareness and community engagement towards Parthenium management in Saharsa district.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Birauli (Samastipur)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Birauli organized various activities under **Parthenium Awareness Week–2025** to sensitize farmers and rural stakeholders about the harmful effects and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. During the campaign, farmers were made aware of the serious impacts of this invasive weed on agriculture, human health, and livestock. KVK scientists actively participated in Kisan Gosthis across different blocks, highlighting issues such as reduced crop productivity due to resource competition, as well as health problems including skin dermatitis, allergies, and asthma caused by exposure to Parthenium. Special emphasis was given during the Goatry Training Programme conducted from 25.08.2025 to 29.08.2025, where participants were informed about the negative effects of Parthenium on animal health and fodder quality. Similarly, under the Integrated Nutrient Management training programme held from 13.08.2025 to 27.08.2025, farmers were educated on the agricultural impacts of Parthenium infestation and trained in integrated management strategies. These included mechanical removal, cultural practices, biological control methods such as the use of specific bio-control agents, and safe composting techniques to utilize Parthenium biomass without causing health hazards. An eradication drive was also organized by farmers and KVK staff to remove Parthenium plants from the KVK campus and surrounding public areas. The Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Birauli also participated in an awareness-cum-eradication programme organized by RPCAU, Pusa under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. The week-long initiative strengthened awareness and encouraged collective action toward effective management of this noxious weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Manpur, Gaya

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Manpur, Gaya, successfully observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of educating farmers and other stakeholders about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and promoting its effective management and eradication. During the week, awareness and training programmes were organized for farmers, extension workers, and local youth,

focusing on the identification of Parthenium, its adverse impacts on agriculture, human and animal health, and its biological and mechanical control measures. Demonstrations on safe removal and disposal methods were conducted within and around the KVK campus, along with field visits to help participants observe the extent of infestation and understand practical control strategies. A massive cleanliness and weeding drive was also carried out across the KVK premises, in which staff members, farmers, and volunteers actively participated in the physical removal of Parthenium plants, ensuring proper and environmentally safe disposal. The week-long campaign significantly enhanced awareness among participants regarding the invasive nature of Parthenium and highlighted the importance of community participation in its sustainable management and control.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Katihar

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Katihar, organized Parthenium Awareness Week during August 16-22, 2025. The approach emphasized combining mechanical, chemical and cultural methods for effective and sustainable parthenium control to safeguard human health, crop production and biodiversity. Major activities were integrated management methods i.e. manual uprooting of parthenium plants and use of selective herbicides such as glyphosate in uncultivated areas or less sensitive areas for management of parthenium. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Katihar organized awareness campaign on parthenium among farmers, RAWE students, trainees of input dealers, local communities and public on weeds health hazards and management techniques. Program featured discussions on the harmful effects of parthenium and alternative use of parthenium co-ordinated by KVK scientists.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kishanganj

Gramin Vikas Trust–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (GVT-KVK), Godda organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 in villages of Godda and Boarijor blocks, including Gangta Govindpur, Badhauna, Kusma, and Sabejora. The programme focused on creating awareness among farmers about *Parthenium hysterophorus* L., an invasive weed belonging to the family Asteraceae, commonly known as Congress grass or gajar ghas. Farmers were trained to identify the weed and informed about its harmful effects on crops, livestock, human health, biodiversity, and the ecosystem due to its strong allelopathic nature. The programme included rallies, poster displays, leaflet distribution, and live-streamed awareness sessions. About 131 participants attended and were encouraged to spread awareness for effective Parthenium management and ecosystem protection.

Gramin Vikas Trust–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (GVT-KVK), Godda organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 in villages of Godda and Boarijor blocks, including Gangta Govindpur, Badhauna, Kusma, and Sabejora. The programme focused on creating awareness among farmers about *Parthenium hysterophorus* L., an invasive weed belonging to the family Asteraceae, commonly known as Congress grass or gajar ghas. Farmers were trained to identify the weed and informed about its harmful effects on crops, livestock, human health, biodiversity, and the ecosystem due to its strong allelopathic nature. The programme included rallies, poster displays, leaflet distribution, and live-streamed awareness sessions. About 131 participants attended and were encouraged to spread awareness for effective Parthenium management and ecosystem protection.

KVK, Lakhisarai

20th Parthenium awareness week was organised by KVK Lakhisarai in campus as well as in villages during 16th to 22nd Aug 2025. In these programme various aspect of parthenium grass was highlighted by the scientists of KVK like its health hazards to human, animals and envioronment. It was stressed that the parthenium grass should be uprooted whereever you find in your periphery and farm to participants. Ways of utilisation and compost making was also disscussed among the participants.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhagalpur, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhagalpur, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour organized Parthenium Awareness Week from *16th to 22nd August 2025* under the nationwide campaign to control the menace of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress grass). During the week-long programme, various awareness activities such as farmer meetings, training sessions, and distribution of educational literature were conducted to sensitize farmers, RAWE (Rural Agricultural Work Experience) students, rural youth, and the general public about the harmful effects of Parthenium. RAWE students along with farmers actively participated in the programme, engaged in practical demonstrations, and pledged to keep their fields, homesteads, and public places free from Parthenium.

Date	Place of Events	Male	Female	Total
16.08.2025	KVK field	10	30	40
17.08.2025	uprooting in first campus	7	25	32
18.08.2025	uprooting near dragon fruit area	9	28	37
19.08.2025	uprooting near ifs model	6	24	30
20.08.2025	uprooting near guava orchard	10	29	39
21.08.2025	training of students and farmers	9	23	32
22.08.2025	awareness program	10	22	32
	Total	**61**	**181**	**242**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Saran

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Saran organized 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025. In this, a mass Parthenium weed removal programme was organized. All technical & supporting staff, contractual workers, and farmers participated in the removal of Parthenium weeds at the KVK premises. In Krishi Vigyan Kendra Sara, awearness prgramme also organized about the harmful impacts of the Parthenium weed, also known as Congress grass or Carrot weed, and to promote its integrated management and control. During the programme, Dr. S. K. Rai, Senior Scientist and Head, explained that the observation of Parthenium Awareness Week aims to raise awareness among farmers and the general public about the menace of Parthenium, which is responsible for causing health problems in humans and animals, as well as deteriorating the environment, leading to loss of productivity and biodiversity. Dr. J.C. Chandola explained to farmers that parthenium is a poisonous, pernicious, problematic, allergenic, and aggressive weed posing a serious threat to human beings and livestock. Dr. Vijay Kumar talks about its enormous capability of spreading, health issues and remedies, different available and possible control methods of manual, mechanical, chemical and biological control methods. Farmers from the different blocks were participated in the programme and take a pledge to take responsivity for making their area free from parthenium grass.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Jehanabad

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jehanabad successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on its campus. The programme was conducted as part of a nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to raise awareness about the hazardous weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as “Congress grass,” and to encourage community participation in its eradication.

The inaugural session was attended by scientists, staff members, farmers etc. At the beginning, experts highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium on human and animal health, crop productivity, and the environment. It was emphasized that the weed causes skin allergies, asthma, and reduces biodiversity by suppressing useful vegetation.

During the week, various activities were carried out, including:

- Demonstrations on mechanical and cultural control methods.
- Practical training on the use of biological control agents such as Calligrapha bicolorata.
- Campus and field cleaning drives with active participation from farmers and staff.

A total of 85 farmers actively participated in the activities and contributed to the progress of the programme by engaging in training sessions, cleaning drives, and awareness initiatives.

The programme also encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices for controlling Parthenium. Pamphlets and informational materials were distributed to spread the message further in surrounding villages.

The event concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony in which all participants committed themselves to creating a Parthenium-free environment. The week-long activities like awareness among farmers and the local community about the importance of collective action in weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Raghopur, Supaul

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Supaul Celebrated Parthenium awareness week from 16 to 22 Aug 2025 in which Krishi Vigyan Kendra Scientist, staff, RAWE students, farmers and farm women actively participated in this programme. The aim of this programme to create awareness on the harmful effect of parthenium for human, animals' health, environment & agriculture etc. under this programme Krishi Vigyan Kendra staff, RAWE students, farmers and farm women were actively participated in uprooting parthenium weed from campus, field & surrounding area. KVK, Supaul organized one day awareness programme on 21 Aug 2025. In this programme 25 women farmers and 7 farmers participated. Dr. Nityanand Senior Scientist & Head delivered a lecture on harmful effects of parthenium on human health, animals, environment, soil health and productivity.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Aurangabad

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Aurangabad, Bihar organized Parthenium Awareness Week with an aim to sensitize farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful impacts of Parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorus) and its effective management practices. During the week-long program, the scientists of KVK carried out multiple activities at different locations. Awareness programs were conducted in Government High School and 10+2 School, where around 350 students participated enthusiastically. The students were educated about the adverse effects of Parthenium on field crops, livestock, and human health. Scientists also explained the different management approaches including mechanical, cultural, chemical, and biological control methods to curb the menace of this invasive weed. At the KVK campus as well as in nearby villages, awareness campaigns were organized involving farmers and local residents. A live demonstration was conducted for RAWEP students on the preparation of compost from Parthenium, highlighting its potential use as an organic amendment after proper decomposition. To widen the outreach, awareness was also spread through social media platforms such as Facebook, WhatsApp groups, and local newspapers, ensuring that the message reached a larger audience beyond the physical participants. The

program successfully created awareness among students, farmers, and rural communities, and motivated them to adopt effective measures for the management of Parthenium. The initiative by KVK, Aurangabad, stands as a significant step towards safeguarding agriculture, environment, and public health from the ill effects of this noxious weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nawada

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nawada organized the 14th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 at the KVK campus and nearby villages with the objective of creating awareness among farmers about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, a highly invasive weed. Farmers were sensitized about health hazards caused by Parthenium, including skin allergies, hay fever, and asthma in humans, as well as its toxic effects on livestock. The weed's adverse impact on crop productivity and native biodiversity was also highlighted. Awareness programmes emphasized effective management strategies, including chemical control through recommended herbicides and biological control using the bio-agent *Calligrapha bicolorata*, promoting sustainable and eco-friendly weed management practices.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Khagaria

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Khagaria, successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on its campus. The programme was conducted as part of a nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to raise awareness about the hazardous weed *Parthenium hysterophorus*, commonly known as "Congress grass," and to encourage community participation in its eradication.

The inaugural session was attended by scientists, staff members, farmers, and RAWE students. At the beginning, experts highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium on human and animal health, crop productivity, and the environment. It was emphasized that the weed causes skin allergies, asthma, and reduces biodiversity by suppressing useful vegetation.

During the week, various activities were carried out, including awareness campaigns through lectures and group discussions, demonstrations on mechanical and cultural control methods, practical training on the use of biological control agents such as *Calligrapha bicolorata* and campus and field cleaning drives with active participation from farmers, students, and staff.

A total of 150 farmers actively participated in the activities and contributed to the progress of the programme by engaging in training sessions, cleaning drives, and awareness initiatives. The programme also encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices for controlling Parthenium. Pamphlets and informational materials were distributed to spread the message further in surrounding villages. The event concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony in which all participants committed themselves to creating a Parthenium-free environment. The week-long activities successfully generated significant awareness among farmers and the local community about the importance of collective action in weed management.

Activity	Photographs
Awareness of farmer and farm women	
Weeding of Parthenium by Rural Youths	

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Aurangabad

A comprehensive awareness and sanitation campaign was conducted at the KVK campus, focusing on the systematic removal and safe disposal of Parthenium infestation. The initiative highlighted the need for environmentally sound and sustainable approaches for managing this invasive weed, motivating farmers to adopt appropriate control measures. Educational pamphlets and extension materials were circulated to amplify outreach efforts in adjoining villages. The programme concluded with a collective pledge ceremony, where participants affirmed their commitment to eliminating Parthenium from their surroundings. The series of activities carried out throughout the week effectively strengthened awareness among farmers and community members about the critical role of collective participation in successful weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Begusarai

A comprehensive awareness and campus sanitation initiative was organized at the KVK premises with a focused objective of sensitizing farmers and local stakeholders about the hazards of Parthenium infestation. The programme began with a practical demonstration involving the systematic identification, uprooting, and scientific disposal of Parthenium plants to prevent further spread through seed dispersal. Experts explained the adverse impacts of this invasive weed on human health, livestock productivity, biodiversity, and crop yields, thereby underlining the urgency of its effective management.

The campaign strongly advocated the adoption of eco-friendly, integrated, and sustainable weed management strategies, including mechanical removal, biological control options, and preventive measures to restrict its proliferation. Interactive discussions were conducted to address farmers' queries and to share locally adaptable management practices. Informative pamphlets, technical bulletins, and awareness materials were distributed to ensure wider dissemination of knowledge in neighboring villages and farming communities.

The programme concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony, wherein participants collectively resolved to actively contribute towards maintaining clean surroundings and promoting a Parthenium-free environment. Overall, the week-long observance fostered a sense of responsibility and collective action among farmers, rural youth, and community members, significantly enhancing awareness about the ecological, economic, and public health implications of invasive weeds and the importance of coordinated weed management efforts.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Lada

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), LADA, Samastipur-II successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at its campus as part of the national initiative launched by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The programme aimed to create awareness about the hazardous invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as "Congress grass," and to encourage collective community participation

in its management and eradication. Originally introduced as an ornamental plant, Parthenium has spread aggressively across agricultural and non-agricultural lands, leading to serious ecological imbalance, decline in crop productivity, and health hazards to humans and livestock.

During the week-long campaign, experts emphasized the harmful effects of Parthenium, including skin allergies, respiratory disorders, and toxicity to grazing animals. Its strong allelopathic nature and ability to suppress beneficial vegetation were also highlighted, underscoring the need for timely intervention and integrated management strategies. A total of 120 farmers actively participated in the programme, contributing significantly through their involvement in training sessions, awareness campaigns, and campus cleaning drives.

Various educational and field-based activities were conducted to ensure effective dissemination of knowledge. Awareness campaigns comprising lectures and group discussions were organized to sensitize participants about the adverse impacts of Parthenium on health, agriculture, and the environment. Live demonstrations were conducted to showcase mechanical and cultural control methods, equipping farmers with practical skills for weed management. Training sessions were also organized on biological control, particularly focusing on the role of Calligrapha bicolorata, a leaf-feeding beetle used as an eco-friendly bio-agent for suppressing Parthenium growth.

The event concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony, wherein participants committed themselves to working collectively toward creating a Parthenium-free environment. The observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK LADA, Samastipur-II successfully strengthened awareness among farmers and the local community, reinforcing the importance of coordinated and sustained efforts in managing invasive weeds for environmental protection and agricultural sustainability.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalalgarh, Purnea, Bihar

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Jalalgarh, Purnea, organized Parthenium Awareness week from 16th-22nd August, 2025 at the Centre, different villages and in schools, focusing on creating awareness amongst rural communities, extension personnel and students about the detrimental effect of *Parthenium hysterophorous*, commonly known as Carrot grass or Congress grass. This noxious weed significantly reduces the crop yield and causes serious health issues including allergic reactions, contact dermatitis and respiratory problems in humans. Parthenium is highly adaptable to various soil and climatic conditions and spreads rapidly through its prolific seed production and various dispersal methods. The initiative began with campus cleanup involving Scientists, non-teaching staffs, trainees and RAWE students from BPSAC College, Purnea and LNCT University, Bhopal. Activities throughout the week included uprooting and safe disposal of parthenium weed, awareness on compost preparation before its flowering. The conclusive remarks on Parthenium awareness were given by Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Purnea, Dr. K.M. Singh by addressing the farmers and students to adapt the Integrated management of weed through mechanical and manual methods, use of bio-control agent *Zygogramma bicolorata*, and compost preparation. Lastly, we took an oath to maintain the area/farm free from Parthenium.

2.7 CHHATTISGARH

Chhattisgarh, located in central India, covers an area of approximately 135,192 square kilometers and is bordered by Madhya Pradesh to the northwest, Maharashtra to the west, Telangana to the south, Odisha to the southeast, and Jharkhand to the northeast. The state's diverse topography features a mix of plains, hills, and plateaus, including the Maikal range in the north and the Chhattisgarh plain in the central region. According to the latest census, Chhattisgarh has a population of around 30 million, with an equal distribution of approximately 15 million males and 15 million females, reflecting a balanced gender ratio and a rich cultural diversity, particularly with various tribal communities. Known as the "Rice Bowl of India," Chhattisgarh primarily cultivates rice, alongside important crops such as maize, pulses, sugarcane, and oilseeds. The state also produces a variety of horticultural crops, benefiting from its favorable agro-climatic conditions. The predominant soil types include red soil, black soil, and alluvial soil, with black soil particularly well-suited for cotton cultivation. Chhattisgarh experiences a tropical monsoon climate, marked by hot summers, mild winters, and a rainy season from June to September, with average annual rainfall ranging from 1,200 mm to 1,800 mm, higher in the southeastern regions. The literacy rate stands at approximately 70.28%, with male literacy at around 80.99% and female literacy at about 60.00%, reflecting the state's ongoing efforts to enhance educational access and quality.

ICAR–National Institute of Biotic Stress Management (NIBSM), Raipur

As part of the nationwide observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025) launched by ICAR, the ICAR–National Institute of Biotic Stress Management (NIBSM), Raipur, organized a Parthenium Awareness Programme on 21st August 2025 under the guidance of the Director, Dr. P. K. Rai. The event was actively attended by scientific, technical, administrative, and supporting staff of the institute. The programme aimed to sensitize participants about the menace of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, an invasive weed posing severe risks to human health, livestock safety, crop production, and biodiversity. The awareness

session highlighted its harmful effects such as allergic reactions, respiratory problems, livestock poisoning, soil fertility depletion, and ecological imbalance. Sustainable management strategies, including mechanical uprooting, biological control through Mexican beetles, safe composting, and community awareness, were emphasized. Following the session, a campus-wide cleanliness and uprooting drive was carried out, during which staff members enthusiastically identified and removed Parthenium patches, ensuring their safe disposal. The collective effort reflected the institute's commitment to maintaining a clean, green, and Parthenium-free environment. The programme witnessed active participation from scientists, research scholars, field assistants, and supporting staff, who also shared personal experiences, making the session more impactful. Young researchers were encouraged to spread awareness to nearby villages, schools, and farming communities. The event concluded with a pledge to continue eco-friendly management of Parthenium and to extend outreach activities beyond the campus. The programme reaffirmed ICAR-NIBSM's dedication to safeguarding human health, ensuring crop productivity, conserving biodiversity, and promoting sustainable agriculture in alignment with ICAR's national campaign against invasive weeds.

Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur (C.G.)

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur (C.G.) from 16–22 August 2025 by the AICRP on Weed Management, Department of Agronomy. During the programme, various activities such as Parthenium uprooting, herbicide application, and mechanical weeding using power weeders were carried out at different locations. As a result of these concerted efforts, the Research Farm of IGKV was successfully made Parthenium-free. Awareness lectures on the harmful effects of Parthenium on human health and livestock, along with demonstrations on its management including the release of Mexican beetles, were delivered to undergraduate and postgraduate students of the College of Agriculture, Raipur. In addition, the centre organized a training programme for 120 female farmers from all districts of Chhattisgarh at the State Agriculture Management & Extension Training Institute on 22 August 2025. Several constituent colleges and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of IGKV also conducted awareness activities focusing on the ill effects and control measures of Parthenium. The programme received wide appreciation from dignitaries, including Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Director Research Services, IGKV, Dr. D. K. Chandrakar, Professor & Head, Agronomy, along with heads of departments, faculty members, and students. Relevant photographs are enclosed for kind perusal

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Anjora, Durg

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Anjora celebrated Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness about the harmful effects and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. A mass Parthenium weed removal drive was organized at the KVK premises, in which all faculty members, technical and supporting staff, along with farmers, actively participated. During the programme, Dr. V.N. Khune, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Anjora, highlighted that the observance of Parthenium Awareness Week aims to sensitize farmers and the general public about the menace of this invasive weed, which causes serious health problems in humans and animals, deteriorates the environment, and leads to loss of productivity and biodiversity. On 18 August 2025, an awareness programme was organized at KVK Anjora where farmers were educated about the health hazards, biodiversity loss and adverse agricultural impacts caused by Parthenium. Various eradication methods were discussed, and farmers were urged to disseminate the information within their communities. Dr. Roshan Sahu (Horticulture), Dr. Umesh Patel (Soil Science), Dr. Nisha Sharma and other staff members participated actively. From 20 to 22 August 2025, awareness programmes were conducted at Government Higher Secondary School, Thanod, Block Durg. Dr. Umesh Patel explained the physical, chemical and biological control measures for effective management, while Dr. Nisha Sharma elaborated on the toxic and allergenic nature of Parthenium and its role in causing dermatitis, asthma and other respiratory disorders. Teachers, students and staff actively participated, strengthening awareness and collective action against this problematic weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Bhatapara

Parthenium Awareness Week is conducted from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhatapara and nearby adopted villages. During this week, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhatapara organized various activities to sensitize farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects of

Parthenium and methods of its management. Activities include demonstrations of mechanical uprooting, use of biological control agents like the beetle *Calligrapha bicolorata*, spray of herbicide, cleanliness drives, awareness campaigns on safe disposal, and promotion of integrated weed management practices. In these activities on total 115 farmers, students, employees, and the general public participated. The aim of the campaign is not only to control the spread of this weed but also to protect public health, livestock, and biodiversity. Public participation plays a crucial role, as effective management requires community effort and sustained vigilance. By spreading awareness and encouraging timely control measures, Parthenium Awareness Week contributes to safeguarding agriculture and the environment from this noxious weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kabirdham

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kabirdham organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 under the observance of Important Day Celebrations, with the objective of creating awareness among farmers and rural communities regarding the adverse impacts of Parthenium hysterophorus and promoting its effective and sustainable management. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers about the harmful effects of Parthenium on agriculture, livestock, human health, and biodiversity, while encouraging integrated and eco-friendly management strategies and community participation for its eradication.

During the week, a series of awareness meetings, group discussions, field demonstrations, and practical sessions were conducted on 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, and 22nd August 2025. Participants were trained on identification of Parthenium, mechanical uprooting before flowering, and safe disposal methods to prevent seed dispersal. Technical guidance was provided on mechanical, biological, and preventive control measures to ensure long-term management. Informational pamphlets and awareness materials were distributed to extend outreach to surrounding villages. A total of 151 participants benefited from the programme, with daily participation ranging from 26 to 35 beneficiaries, reflecting consistent engagement throughout the campaign.

Similarly, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Khagaria successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on its campus as part of the nationwide initiative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The inaugural session was attended by scientists, staff members, farmers, and RAWE

students. Experts elaborated on the harmful effects of Parthenium on human and animal health, including skin allergies and asthma, and highlighted its impact on crop productivity and biodiversity due to its suppressive and allelopathic nature.

Throughout the week, awareness campaigns were conducted through lectures and group discussions, along with demonstrations on mechanical and cultural control methods. Practical training sessions were organized on biological control approaches, particularly focusing on the use of Calligrapha bicolorata, a leaf-feeding beetle employed as a bio-agent for sustainable weed suppression. Campus and field cleaning drives were undertaken with active participation from farmers, students, and staff members.

A total of 150 farmers actively participated in the Khagaria programme, contributing to training sessions, awareness initiatives, and eradication drives. Pamphlets and informational materials were distributed to enhance awareness in nearby villages. The event concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony, wherein participants committed themselves to working collectively toward a Parthenium-free environment.

The observance of Parthenium Awareness Week at both KVK Kabirdham and KVK Khagaria successfully strengthened awareness among farming communities and reinforced the importance of coordinated and sustained efforts in managing invasive weeds for environmental protection and sustainable agricultural development.

Participation details: Parthenium Awareness Week 16-22 August 2025

S. No.	Topic	No. of beneficiaries												
		Male				Female				Total			TOTAL	
		ST	SC	OBC	GEN	ST	SC	OBC	GEN	ST	SC	OBC	GEN	
	IMPORTANT DAY CELEBRATION *Parthenium Awareness Week 16-22 August 2025*													

1	Parthenium Awareness Week on 18.08.2025 during 16-22 August 2025	5	5	20	4			1		5	5	21	4	35
2	Parthenium Awareness Week on 19.08.2025 during 16-22 August 2026	5	2	20	4			1		5	2	21	4	32
3	Parthenium Awareness Week on 20.08.2025 during 16-22 August 2027	2	5	18	2			1		2	5	19	2	28
4	Parthenium Awareness Week on 21.08.2025 during 16-22 August 2028	5	3	15	3			4		5	3	19	3	30
5	Parthenium Awareness Week on 22.08.2025 during 16-22 August 2028	5	3	12	3			3		5	3	15	3	26
		22	**18**	**85**	**16**	**0**	**0**	**10**	**0**	**22**	**18**	**95**	**16**	**151**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Rajnandgaon

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Rajnandgaon actively participated in the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week organized from 16th to 22nd August 2025, with the objective of sensitizing farmers, rural youth, and other stakeholders about the serious hazards posed by Parthenium hysterophorus. A series of awareness-oriented activities were conducted to highlight the adverse impacts of this invasive weed on agriculture, the environment, and public health.

During the programme, detailed deliberations were made on the harmful effects of Parthenium on human health, including skin allergies, dermatitis, respiratory problems, asthma, and other allergic reactions caused by direct contact and airborne pollen. Participants were also informed about its detrimental effects on animal health, such as toxicity, reduced palatability of fodder, skin irritation, and decreased milk production in livestock due to contamination of grazing lands.

The programme further emphasized the role of Parthenium in environmental degradation, including soil nutrient depletion, suppression of native vegetation, and disruption of ecological balance. Its aggressive growth habit and allelopathic properties were discussed as major causes of loss of crop productivity and biodiversity, as it competes with crops and native plant species for nutrients, moisture, and sunlight, thereby reducing agricultural yields and altering natural ecosystems.

Experts from KVK Rajnandgaon also educated farmers on integrated and eco-friendly management strategies, including mechanical removal before flowering, biological control using Calligrapha bicolorata, and preventive measures to curb its spread. Informational pamphlets and technical guidance were provided to ensure wider dissemination of knowledge at the village level.

The week-long observance successfully enhanced awareness among participants and encouraged collective action for the effective management and eradication of Parthenium, contributing towards a healthier environment and sustainable agricultural production system.

2.8 DELHI

ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi

The Division of Agronomy, ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, observed 'Parthenium Awareness Week' from 16–22 August 2025 to sensitize faculties, field staff, students, farmers, and the community about the hazards of Parthenium weed. A Field Day was held on 20 August 2025 at the Agronomy Research Farm, inaugurated by Dr. C. Viswanathan and Dr. R.N. Padaria, with the presence of Dr. P.S. Brahmanand. Scientists, students, and staff from the Division of Agronomy and Division of Agricultural Extension actively participated. Dr. S.S. Rathore welcomed the gathering and highlighted the

harmful impacts of Parthenium on agriculture, environment, and health. Dr. T.K. Das elaborated on its biology, spread, and management, calling it a major invasive threat, and promoted the slogan "One person, One day, Five Parthenium." Dr. C. Viswanathan emphasized the need for eco-friendly control technologies, while Dr. R.N. Padaria stressed community participation. An uprooting drive followed the awareness programme. On 22 August 2025, a lecture-cum-awareness campaign was conducted at the Government Senior Secondary School Pusa Campus by a team including Dr. S.S. Rathore, Dr. T.K. Das, Dr. Ramanjit Kaur, Dr. Teekam Singh, Dr. Kapila Shekhawat, and Dr. Rishi Raj. Over 400 students attended, gaining awareness and motivation to act as ambassadors. Throughout the week, field visits and weed removal campaigns were conducted. The programme concluded on 22 August 2025 with a pledge by divisional staff to make the IARI campus Parthenium-free.

Parthenium uprooting drive & Field Day at Research Farm, Division of Agronomy, ICAR-IARI

Parthenium Awareness amongst staff and school children

दिल्ली न्यूज़7
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आईएआरआई ने मनाया पार्थेनियम जागरूकता सप्ताह

खतरनाक खरपतवार पार्थेनियम: कृषि और स्वास्थ्य दोनों के लिए खतरा!

20/08/2025 by Krishi Times Desk

विशेषज्ञों ने बताया पार्थेनियम नियंत्रण का फार्मूला

आईएआरआई ने मनाया पार्थेनियम जागरूकता सप्ताह, विशेषज्ञों ने दी नियंत्रण की सलाह

नई दिल्ली, भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान (**आईसीएआर–आईएआरआई**), नई दिल्ली ने बुधवार को **पार्थेनियम जागरूकता सप्ताह** का आयोजन किया। इस अवसर पर वैज्ञानिकों और विशेषज्ञों ने पार्थेनियम हिस्टेरोफोरस नामक खतरनाक खरपतवार से कृषि, पर्यावरण, मानव और पशु स्वास्थ्य को होने वाले गंभीर खतरों के प्रति लोगों को जागरूक किया।

संस्थान की पहल

Awareness campaign in Government Senior Secondary School, Pusa Campus, New Delhi

2.8 GUJARAT

Gujarat, located in the western part of India, covers approximately 196,024 square kilometers, making it the sixth-largest state in the country. It is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Rajasthan to the northwest, Madhya Pradesh to the northeast, and Maharashtra to the south, showcasing a diverse landscape that includes coastal areas, deserts, hills, and fertile plains, which contribute to its rich agricultural heritage. According to the latest census, Gujarat has a population of around 65 million, consisting of approximately 33 million males and 32 million females, reflecting its ethnic diversity and vibrant social fabric. The state is renowned for its robust agricultural sector, producing major crops such as cotton, groundnut, wheat, bajra (pearl millet), and various pulses, alongside significant horticultural output, including fruits like mangoes, bananas, and pomegranates, which play a crucial role in both the state and national economy. Soil types in Gujarat vary regionally, with black soil (regur) predominant in areas suitable for cotton cultivation, while alluvial soil in river basins supports diverse crops; sandy soil is found along the coast, and saline soil is present in the Kutch region. The climate is semi-arid, characterized by hot summers, mild winters, and a monsoon season, with average annual rainfall ranging from 800 mm to 1,500 mm, mostly occurring between June and September, necessitating irrigation in many areas due to variable rainfall. The literacy rate in Gujarat stands at approximately 78.03%, with male literacy at about 85.65% and female literacy at around 70.73%, reflecting significant advancements in education aimed at improving literacy rates and access, particularly for women and marginalized communities.

AICRP on Weed Management, BACA, AAU, Anand

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025) was successfully observed in Gujarat by the AICRP on Weed Management, B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, in collaboration with various constituent colleges, extension agencies, and development support centres of Anand Agricultural University. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers, students, and rural communities about the serious menace of Parthenium hysterophorus and its adverse impacts on agriculture, livestock, human health, biodiversity, and the environment. A total of 10 awareness programmes were organized across different locations in Chhotaudepur, Anand, Mehsana, and Vijapur districts, with 607 farmers and students actively participating. The activities included expert lectures, interactive discussions, screening of documentary films, distribution of technical literature, and appeals for community-driven eradication of Parthenium from farms and public places. Scientists emphasized the weed's aggressive spread, high seed production, allelopathic effects, and severe health hazards such as dermatitis, respiratory problems, and livestock toxicity. Participants were strongly advised to uproot Parthenium at the pre-flowering stage to prevent seed dispersal and to utilize uprooted biomass safely through composting. The programmes also

highlighted integrated management approaches combining mechanical, cultural, and chemical methods. Appeals were made to students and farmers to adopt regular monitoring and eradication as a social responsibility and to further spread awareness within their communities. Overall, the week-long campaign significantly strengthened mass awareness and collective commitment toward sustainable and long-term management of Parthenium in Gujarat.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Surat

Parthenium Awareness Week-2025 was celebrated by KVK, Surat during 16/08/2025 to 22/08/2025**.** During the week, different programmes on Parthenium awareness were organized. A Kisan Gosthy was organized on 16.08.2025 at Kuvad village (Ta: Olpad Dist.Surat), Total 48 farmers participated in this programme. Dr. R.K. Patel, Scientist (Pl. Protection) delivered speech on all the aspects for creating awareness about Parthenium weed. He also highlighted control of the weed and its hazardous effects on human beings. Being a Plant Protection Scientist, he especially highlighted biological control of the hazardous weed. Second programme was organized at Vad Village (Ta: Mangrol)-Surat on 17.08.2025.Dr. B. B. Panchal, Scientist (Horticulture), delivered lecture on Parthenium control and its effect on human and animal health. She also highlighted on hazardous effect of the weed on biodiversity as well. Total 49 students participated in this programme. Third and Fourth programme were organized on 18.08.2020 at Ognisa and Zarni villages of Mangrol block of Surat district. Prof. G.J. Bhimani, Scientist (Home science) created awareness among female farmers about harmful effects of Parthenium weed on crop production, animal health and human health. In this programmes, 25 and 24 female farmers remained present at respective village. In fifth Programme, crop production specialist Prof. S.J. Trivedi narrated harmful effects of Parthenium weed on crop production, animal health, animals milk production and human health to farmers of Choryasi block at KVK-Surat. He also aware farmers about how useful compost can be made from the weed. He explained Parthenium as a problematic weed as it has profuse seed germination production & dispersal potential. Total 13 farmers remained present in the programme. Sixth programme was organized on 21.08.2025 at village Dabholi (Choryasi). Prof. G.J. Bhimani, Scientist (Home science) created awareness among female farmers about harmful effects of Parthenium weed on crop production, animal health and human health. Press note in vernacular language are also published in daily newspaper.

Parthenium awareness by Dr. R.K. Patel at Kuvad (Olpad))

Awareness & Discussion by Prof. B. B. Panchal, Scientist (Horticulture) at Vad (Mangrol)

Prof. G.G. Bhimani, Scientist (Home Science)-Awareness of Parthenium weed at Ognisa (Mangrol)

Prof. G.G. Bhimani, Scientist (Home Science)-Awareness of Parthenium weed at Zarni (Mangrol)

Prof. S. J. Trivedi, Scientist (Crop Production)-Awareness Programme at KVK-Surat

Prof. G.G. Bhimani, Scientist (Home Science)-Awareness of Parthenium weed at Dabholi (Choryasi)

ખેતરમાં ઉગતું વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસ પાક માટે નુકસાનકારક

ભારતીય કૃષિ અનુસંધાન પરિષદ-ડાયરેક્ટોરેટ ઓફ વિડ રિસર્ચ, જબલપુર દ્વારા દર વર્ષે ઓગસ્ટ 16 થી 22 દરમિયાન ગાજરઘાસ જાગૃતિ સપ્તાહ અંતર્ગત ખેડૂતોને જાગૃત કરવામાં આવે છે. જુના ભાગડુ કૃષિ વિજ્ઞાન કેન્દ્ર-સુરત દ્વારા જિલ્લાના વિવિધ ગામોમાં ખેડૂત જાગૃતિ કાર્યક્રમો યોજાયા હતા. ડો.આર.કે.પટેલે તા.16મીએ કુવાદરા 48 ખેડૂતો, મો. બી. બી. પીપળી તા.17મીએ વડ ગામે 49 ખેડૂતોને, તા.18 ઓગસ્ટના રોજ મો.લા.જે. બીલપાડીને માંગરોળના વાહકોના અભિપ્રાયો લીધા ઝરણી ગામે અમૂકને 25 તથા 24, તા.21મીએ કમોલી ગામના 35, મો. એસ. જે. ત્રિવેદીએ ચોર્યાસી તાલુકાના 13 ખેડૂતોને વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસની જમીન, પર્યાવરણ, પશુ અને માનવ આરોગ્ય પર થતી હાનિકારક અસરો વિષે સમજ આપી હતી. વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસનું નિંદામણ ઝડપથી દેશમાં ફેલાઈ રહ્યું છે.

Press Note in Divya bhaskar Daily Gujarati News Paper on 26.08.25

ખેતરોમાં ઉગતા વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસથી ખેતીપાકને નુકસાન

(પ્રતિનિધિ દ્વારા) સુરત, સોમવાર

ખેડુતોના ખેતરોમાં ઉગતા વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસનું ઝડપથી નિંદામણ ફેલાતુ હોવાથી ખેતીપાકને નુકસાનની સાથે સાથે માણસો માટે પણ હાનિકારક હોવાથી ખેત નિષ્ણાંતો આ ઘાસને ખેતરમાંથી ત્વરિત દૂર કરવાની સલાહ આપી રહ્યા છે.

ગાજર ગાસથી દમની બિમારી પણ થઈ શકે છે: આ ઘાસને ખેતરોમાંથી દુર કરવા કૃષિ વૈજ્ઞાનિકોનું સૂચન

ચોમાસાની ઋતુ સાથે જ ખેતરોમાં વિવિધ પ્રકારની વનસ્પિતિઓ, જંગલી ઘાસો ઉગી નિકળે છે. અને આ ઘાસો ખેતરોમાં ઉગતા હોવાથી ખેતીપાકને પણ અસર પહોંચાડે છે. આ ઘાસના વિવિધ પ્રકારોમાં વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસને લઈને કૃષિ વૈજ્ઞાનિકોએ ખેડુતોને ચેતવ્યા છે. સાથે જ ગામે ગામ કેમ્પ રાખીને ખેડુતોને જાગૃત કરવામાં આવી રહ્યા છે. કૃષિ વૈજ્ઞાનિકોના જણાવ્યા મુજબ આ વિદેશી ગાજર ઘાસ ખેતીપાકને તો નુકસાન કરે જ છે. સાથે આ ઘાસના સંપર્કમાં ખેડુતો વધુ આવે તો દમની બિમારી પણ કરી શકે છે. અને વધારે ખંજવાળ આવાવની સાથે તાવ પણ આવે છે. આથી આ ઘાસને ખેતરોમાંથી તાત્કાલિક દૂર કરવા માટે કૃષિ વિજ્ઞાન કેન્દ્ર સુરતે દ્વારા ઉપાયો અને ઘાસમાંથી કમ્પોસ્ટ ખાતર બનાવવાની જાણકારી પણ આપી રહ્યા છે. આ ઘાસ આમ તો આખી સિઝનમાં ઉગે છે. પરંતુ ચોમાસાની સિઝનમાં વધુ ફેલાવો થાય છે. અને આ ઘાસ તમામ તાલુકામાં જોવા મળે છે.

Press Note in Gujarat Samachar Daily Gujarati News Paper on 26.08.25

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Amreli (JAU)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Amreli, under the aegis of Junagadh Agricultural University, is pleased to announce the successful celebration of the **20th Parthenium Awareness Week** from **16th to 22nd August 2025**. This annual initiative, observed nationwide, aims to raise awareness about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress grass, Gajar ghas, or Famine weed) and promote effective management strategies to curb its spread. KVK Amreli organized a series of impactful activities to sensitize the community about the menace of Parthenium and its management.

Sr. No.	Types of Training	No. of Training	No. of Participate
1.	Off Campus Training	01	25
2.	Field visit	02	68
3.	Kisan Goshthi	01	15
4.	Campaign	01	37
5.	Lecture Delivered (Preparation of Compost)	03	74
6.	Demostration of Ark from Parthenium	01	37
Total		**09**	**256**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Navsari

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari organized Parthenium Awareness Week on 22nd August 2025 with active participation of farmers and rural youth of khapariya villages of Navsari district and at KVK, Navsari. The event was conducted to sensitize farming communities about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (locally known as "Gajar Ghas" or “Congress Grass”) and to demonstrate effective management practices.

At the beginning of the program, Dr. S R. Salunkhe, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK highlighted the hazardous impact of Parthenium on human health, livestock, crop productivity, and biodiversity. Farmers were informed about its role in causing skin allergies, respiratory problems, and soil degradation. Special emphasis was given on integrated management practices including mechanical uprooting, cultural control, biological control using *Calligrapha bicolorata* beetle, and safe use of herbicides. Following the awareness session, a Parthenium uprooting drive was organized in the Khapariya villages of Navsari district by Mrs Nital N. Patel.Where farmers, KVK scientist were actively participated in removal of Parthenium from farmers’ field. A field demonstration was also conducted to show farmers practical methods of uprooting and composting Parthenium biomass in a safe manner.

In total 26 farmers and farm women, 5 KVK scientist and other KVK staff had participated in the program. Farmers shared their experiences and assured active involvement in keeping their fields and surroundings free from Parthenium. The program successfully created awareness and motivated farmers to take preventive and remedial steps against Parthenium infestation in South Gujarat.

2.9 HARYANA

Haryana, located in northern India, spans approximately 44,212 square kilometers and is bordered by Punjab to the north, Himachal Pradesh to the northeast, Uttarakhand to the east, and Rajasthan to the west and south. It also shares its southwestern border with Delhi, making it an integral part of the National Capital Region (NCR). The state's terrain is predominantly flat, with some hilly regions in the northeast. According to the latest census, Haryana has a population of around 25 million, comprising approximately 13 million males and 12 million females, with significant growth attributed to its agrarian economy and industrial development. Known as one of India’s leading agricultural states, Haryana boasts high productivity in major crops such as wheat, rice, sugarcane, and cotton, along with pulses and various oilseeds, earning it the title of the "Granary of India" for its substantial contributions to the nation's food supply. The soil in Haryana is primarily alluvial and nutrient-rich, with sandy soils in the west and more fertile loamy and clayey soils in the east, supporting both kharif (monsoon) and rabi (winter) crops. The state experiences a humid subtropical climate with distinct seasons, where summers can exceed 40°C and winters drop to around 5°C. The monsoon season, from June to September, accounts for most of the annual rainfall, averaging between 600 mm and 1,000 mm, essential for agricultural activities. The literacy rate in Haryana is approximately 83.1%, with male literacy at around 87.4% and female literacy at about 77.9%, reflecting significant improvements in educational access and quality, particularly for women.

ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal

As per the appeal received from the Director, ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, and the instructions of Dr. M.L. Jat, Secretary DARE and DG ICAR, the "20th Parthenium Awareness Week" was observed at ICAR–NDRI, Karnal. Dr. Dheer Singh, Director of ICAR–NDRI, showed great enthusiasm in celebrating this awareness week and encouraged all staff members to actively participate in the programme to eradicate this harmful weed from the NDRI premises. The day-wise activities carried out at NDRI are listed below: On the first day, i.e., 16th August 2025, banners and folders were displayed in the farm section, highlighting the harmful effects of Parthenium weed on crop and quality of produce. The staff of Agronomy, Farm Section and Estate section jointly carried out the uprooting of Parthenium hysterophorus from the campus premises, farm areas and buried it in pits for decomposition. During this activity, Dr. Anurag Saxena, Head of Agronomy, and Dr. Hardev Ram, In-charge of the Farm Section, were present and encouraged the staff to actively participate in making the programme a success. The programme saw the active participation of over 60 students and staff members. On the second day (17th August 2025), weed expert Dr. Hardev Ram delivered a lecture on the management of Parthenium hysterophorus dissemination in cropped areas. The session was attended by all Agronomy students and technical staff. Following the lecture, the students and staff actively participated in uprooting Parthenium hysterophorus from the roadside areas of the farm section. Dr. Anurag Saxena, Head of Agronomy, also spoke on the occasion and emphasized the importance of awareness activities in managing and controlling invasive weeds such as Parthenium. He highlighted the significance of the topic and provided a brief overview of the research work carried out by various ICAR institutes for the control of invasive weeds in general and Parthenium in particular.

From the third to the seventh day, all staff members, agronomy students, and the Farm Section jointly organized weed eradication activities across the NDRI premises. During this programme, the Estate Section also actively participated by removing Parthenium hysterophorus from residential areas. The health hazards associated with Parthenium hysterophorus and its biological control measures were explained by Dr. R.K. Meena, Scientist, Agronomy. All activities of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week, held from 16-22 August 2025, were carried out under the guidance of Dr. Dheer Singh, Director, ICAR-NDRI, Karnal.

AICRP-WM, CCS HAU, Hisar

With the objectives to create awareness about hazards of alien weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* popularly known as Congress grass, Gajar ghas, Chatak chandni, **AICRP-WM, Hisar Centre** organized "**Parthenium Awareness Week**" under the aegis of **All India Coordinated Research Programme on Weed Control**, **DWR, Jabalpur** on **16-22 August, 2025**. To spread awareness regarding this weed, both rural and urban areas were covered under this programme with the Inauguration of the week by the Director of Research, CCS HAU, Hisar. During the occasion UG, PG students and teaching and non-teaching staff was present and lecture was delivered. During the week a series of events like lectures among farmers, extension officers of state department of Agriculture and students of schools under the Chairmanship of Dr. Todar Mal, PI, AICRP-WM, Hisar Centre at different location across the Haryana State.

List of activities under taken during week is given as under

Sr. No.	Date	Activity	Place	Partici pants	Important persons
1.	18.08.2025	Lecture on Parthenium management	Research Farm, Department of Agronomy, CCS HAU, Hisar	100	Director of Research, HoD, Agronomy, Teaching and non-teaching staff, PG students of Agronomy
2.	19.08.2025	Parthenium Awareness lecture	COA, CCS HAU, Hisar	40	UG students
3.	19.8.2025	Awareness camp at Sr. Sec School, Spray of herbicides in the campus	Neoli Kalan, Hisar	100	Principal, School Staff and students
4	19.08.2025	Display of documentary film and lecture on Parthenium, Spray of herbicides in the campus	Adampur, Hisar	150	Principal, College staff and students
5	20.08.2025	Parthenium Awareness lecture	COA, CCS HAU, Hisar	40	UG students
6	20.08.2025	Lecture on Parthenium, Display of documentary, Spray of herbicide	Darbi, Sirsa	60	KVK Staff, Farmers from the village
7	20.08.2025	Lecture on Parthenium, Display of documentary, Spray of herbicide	Bajekan, Sirsa	30	KVK Staff, Farmers from the village
8	20.08.2025	Display of documentary and play of song on Parthenium composed by AICRPWM, CCS HAU, Hisar	Regional Research Station, Rohtak	60	Director of Research, Official from Agriculture Department, Govt. of Haryana, RRS and KVK Staff
9	21.08.2025	Lecture on Parthenium Awareness Week	Bawanikhera, Bhiwani	250 (15 female)	Official from Agriculture Department, Govt of Haryana and Farmers from adjoining villages

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Yamunanagar

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Yamunanagar, successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Eradication Awareness Campaign from 16th to 22nd August 2025 to educate farmers and local communities about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass/Carrot weed) and promote sustainable management practices. The campaign aimed to enhance awareness on the ecological, agricultural, and health hazards caused by Parthenium and to encourage community participation in its eradication. During the week-long campaign, awareness programmes were conducted across five locations. On 18th August, a programme was held at Bakana, attended by 31 participants. On 19th August, 23 participants attended the session at Sabapur, followed by 29 participants at Mustfabad on 20th August. On 21st August, the programme at Bahadurpur was attended by 31 participants, and the campaign concluded at KVK Damla on 22nd August, with 29 participants. In total, 143 participants actively participated in the campaign.

The sessions focused on identification, harmful effects, and integrated management strategies of Parthenium, including mechanical uprooting, biological control using Mexican beetles (Calligrapha bicolorata), safe disposal, and chemical control in non-crop areas. Participants were encouraged to take community-based initiatives for regular monitoring and eradication of this invasive weed. The campaign successfully enhanced awareness, promoted practical management techniques, and reinforced the importance of collective action to control Parthenium, contributing to sustainable agriculture and a healthier environment.

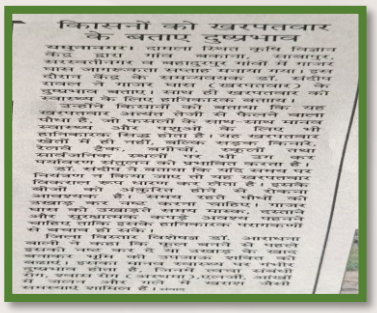
कृषि विज्ञानिकों ने ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास के नुकसान और नियंत्रण के उपायों बारे बताया

भास्कर न्यूज | राजौंद

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दामला की ओर से शुक्रवार को गांव चकाना, सावापुर, मुस्तफाबाद, बहादुरपुर गांवों के साथ-साथ कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दामला के परिसर में 20वां गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा किसानों और ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास (पार्थेनियम हिस्टरोफोरस) के नुकसान और नियंत्रण के उपायों के बारे में जानकारी दी गई। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के समन्वयक डॉ. सतीश रावल ने गाजर घास के दुष्प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने बताया कि यह खरपतवार अत्यंत तेजी से फैलने वाला पौधा है, जो फसलों के साथ-साथ मानव स्वास्थ्य व पशुओं के लिए भी हानिकारक है। उन्होंने गाजर घास नियंत्रण के उपाय बताए। उन्होंने कहा कि इसके बीजों को अंकुरित होने से रोकना आवश्यक है। समय रहते पौधों को उखाड़कर नष्ट करना चाहिए। गाजर घास को उखाड़ते समय मास्क, दस्ताने व सुरक्षात्मक कपड़े अवश्य पहनने चाहिए, ताकि इसके हानिकारक परागकणों से बचाव हो सके। सामूहिक स्तर पर अभियान चलाकर इसकी रोकथाम करना अधिक प्रभावी सिद्ध हो सकता है। चकोरी घास व गेंदा अपनाने से इसकी रोकथाम की जा सकती है। कार्यक्रम में जिला विस्तार विशेषज्ञ डॉ. आराधना वाली ने गाजर घास के आगमन से लेकर उसके रोकथाम की पूरी जानकारी किसानों को दी।

शनिवार SATURDAY 23 अगस्त 2025

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र में किसानों और ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास बारे दी जानकारी


किसानों की खरपतवार के खतरे दूरदर्शन

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Karnal

KVK Karnal organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. During the programmes, KVK staff actively participated in cleaning the KVK premises. The event was also celebrated with scientists and students of the Farm Section, where KVK scientists and KVK experts addressed, discussed about problems by parthenium plants, precautionary measures to be adopted, and effective management practices such as crop rotation and ploughing methods for weed control. Meanwhile, all participants jointly carried out cleanliness activities in the Farm Section premises.

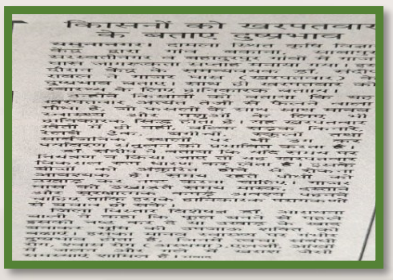
CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar
Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Yamunanagar

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Yamunanagar organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Campaign from 16–22 August 2025 in various villages of the district to educate farmers, rural youth, and school children about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. Awareness programmes were conducted at Bakana, Sabapur, Mustfabad, Bahadurpur, and the KVK campus at Damla. A total of 143 participants, including farmers, farm women, students, and other stakeholders, attended the events. KVK experts explained the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health, livestock, biodiversity, and crop productivity, and demonstrated uprooting, safe disposal, and integrated management practices. Participants were encouraged to adopt collective action for effective local-level eradication of this invasive weed.

Details of the 20th Parthenium eradication awareness campaign from 16.8.25-22.8.25 –KVK Yamunanagar:

S.No.	Date	Venue	No. of participants
1	18.8.25	Bakana	31
2	19.8.25	Sabapur	23
3	20.8.25	Mustfabad	29
4	21.8.25	Bahadurpur	31
5	22.8.25	KVK Damla	29
Total			**143**

Glimpses of the campaign organized by KVK Yamunanagar from 16.8.25-22.8.25:



किसानों को खरपतवार के खतरे से कराया अवगत

कृषि विज्ञानिकों ने ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास के नुकसान और नियंत्रण के उपायों बारे बताया

भास्कर न्यूज | रादौर

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दामला की ओर से गुज्जर बाहुल्य गांव भकाना, सायापुर, मुस्तफाबाद, बहादुरपुर गांवों के साथ-साथ कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दामला के परिसर में 20वां गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा किसानों और ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास (पार्थेनियम हिस्टेरोफोरस) के नुकसान और नियंत्रण के उपायों के बारे में जानकारी दी गई। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के समन्वयक डॉ. संदीप राखल ने गाजर घास के दुष्प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने बताया कि यह खरपतवार अत्यंत तेजी से फैलने वाला पौधा है, जो फसलों के साथ-साथ मानव स्वास्थ्य व पशुओं के लिए भी हानिकारक है। उन्होंने गाजर घास नियंत्रण के उपाय बताए। उन्होंने कहा कि इसके बीजों को अंकुरित होने से रोकना आवश्यक है। समय रहते पौधों को उखाड़कर नष्ट करना चाहिए। गाजर घास को उखाड़ते समय मास्क, दस्ताने व सुरक्षात्मक कपड़े अवश्य पहनने चाहिए, ताकि इसके हानिकारक परागकणों से बचाव हो सके। सामूहिक स्तर पर अभियान चलाकर इसकी सफाई करना अधिक प्रभावी सिद्ध हो सकता है। चकोरी घास व गेंदा अपनाने से इसकी रोकथाम की जा सकती है। कार्यक्रम में जिला विस्तार विशेषज्ञ डॉ. आराधना वाली ने गाजर घास के आगमन से लेकर उसके रोकथाम की पूरी जानकारी किसानों को दी।

शनिवार SATURDAY 23 अगस्त 2025

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र में किसानों और ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास बारे दी जानकारी

कृषि विज्ञानिकों ने ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास के नुकसान और नियंत्रण के उपायों बारे बताया

भास्कर न्यूज | रादौर

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दामला की ओर से गुज्जर बाहुल्य गांव भकाना, सायापुर, मुस्तफाबाद, बहादुरपुर गांवों के साथ-साथ कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दामला के परिसर में 20वां गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा किसानों और ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास (पार्थेनियम हिस्टेरोफोरस) के नुकसान और नियंत्रण के उपायों के बारे में जानकारी दी गई। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के समन्वयक डॉ. संदीप राखल ने गाजर घास के दुष्प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने बताया कि यह खरपतवार अत्यंत तेजी से फैलने वाला पौधा है, जो फसलों के साथ-साथ मानव स्वास्थ्य व पशुओं के लिए भी हानिकारक है। उन्होंने गाजर घास नियंत्रण के उपाय बताए। उन्होंने कहा कि इसके बीजों को अंकुरित होने से रोकना आवश्यक है। समय रहते पौधों को उखाड़कर नष्ट करना चाहिए। गाजर घास को उखाड़ते समय मास्क, दस्ताने व सुरक्षात्मक कपड़े अवश्य पहनने चाहिए, ताकि इसके हानिकारक परागकणों से बचाव हो सके। सामूहिक स्तर पर अभियान चलाकर इसकी सफाई करना अधिक प्रभावी सिद्ध हो सकता है। चकोरी घास व गेंदा अपनाने से इसकी रोकथाम की जा सकती है। कार्यक्रम में जिला विस्तार विशेषज्ञ डॉ. आराधना वाली ने गाजर घास के आगमन से लेकर उसके रोकथाम की पूरी जानकारी किसानों को दी।

शनिवार SATURDAY 23 अगस्त 2025

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र में किसानों और ग्रामीणों को गाजर घास बारे दी जानकारी

Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (LUVAS), Hisar

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (LUVAS), Hisar, from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. The campaign was organized under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Vinod Kumar Verma, and led by the Dean Student's Welfare, Dr. Sajjan Sihag. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Sajjan Sihag highlighted that collective efforts of students, faculty, and the community are essential in combating such dangerous weeds. As part of the campaign, various activities were organized by Pranvayu Club, LUVAS in which students were sensitized about the adverse effects of Parthenium (commonly known as Congress grass) and its control measures in the university campus as well as in the hostels. During the awareness programs, students were informed that Parthenium is an invasive and noxious weed posing serious threats to human and animal health. It causes skin problems, allergies, respiratory disorders, and adversely affects milk production and quality in livestock. Throughout the week, students participated in awareness rallies, group discussions, and shramdaan (voluntary work) for Parthenium uprooting and to spread the message of Parthenium eradication. The awareness drive saw active participation of ADSW (General), members of Pranvayu Club, hostel wardens, faculty members, and a large number of students, who pledged to make the campus free from Parthenium.

लुवास में पार्थेनियम जागरूकता सप्ताह आयोजित

हिसार। लाला लाजपत राय पशु चिकित्सा एवं पशु विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय में 20वां पार्थेनियम जागरूकता सप्ताह आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर डॉ. सज्जन सिहाग ने कहा कि पार्थेनियम जैसी हानिकारक खरपतवारों से निपटने के लिए विद्यार्थियों, शिक्षकों और समाज को मिलकर सामूहिक प्रयास करने होंगे। इस अवसर पर प्राणवायु क्लब, लुवास द्वारा विद्यार्थियों को विश्वविद्यालय परिसर एवं छात्रावासों में पार्थेनियम (गाजर घास) के दुष्प्रभावों और इसके नियंत्रण के उपायों के प्रति जागरूक किया गया।

Maharana Pratap Horticultural University (MHU), Karnal

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at Maharana Pratap Horticultural University (MHU), Karnal, from 16–22 August 2025, in alignment with the national programme of ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur. The initiative aimed to sensitize students and staff about the serious agricultural, environmental, and public health threats posed by the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus*. Key objectives included building awareness on identification and integrated management of Parthenium, promoting active student participation in eradication activities, and supporting the "One Health" approach and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan through a weed-free campus drive.

B.Sc. (Hons) Horticulture students actively participated in field-based identification exercises, learning to recognize Parthenium at different growth stages. This was followed by a safe uprooting drive carried out before flowering, using protective gear. Awareness demonstrations on judicious herbicide use in non-cropped areas, including glyphosate, metribuzin, and 2,4-D, were conducted with emphasis on environmental and crop safety. Creative posters highlighting the weed's adverse effects on human health, livestock, and biodiversity were displayed. Group discussions and feedback sessions enhanced understanding of integrated weed management.

The programme was also extended to MHU's Horticulture Research Centres, where farmers, farm women, and rural youth were trained. The initiative improved awareness, contributed to a Parthenium-free campus, and is expected to generate long-term impact through continued student and community engagement.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ambala

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ambala organized '20th Parthenium Awareness Week' from 16-22 August 2025. During this week the following activities organized were displaying of the Poster of Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Gallery, demonstration on Removal & collection of parthenium grass for composting on the Tepla –Phulelmajra Road, lecture on disadvantages of Parthenium and awareness on Eradication of parthenium & harmful effects of Parthenium on human and animal health.

A total of 50 farmers and 14 KVK staff actively participated in the activities and contributed to the progress of the programme by engaging in training sessions, cleaning drives, and awareness initiatives. The event concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony in which all participants committed themselves to creating a Parthenium-free environment. The week-long activities successfully generated significant awareness among farmers and the local community about the importance of collective action in weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Faridabad

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Faridabad organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on its campus and in the nearby villages of Bhupani, Tajupur Kalan, and Nachauli from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. The programme was conducted as part of the nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to create awareness about the hazardous invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as "Congress grass," and to promote collective action for its eradication.

The inaugural session, held at the KVK premises, was attended by scientists, staff members, and farm women. During the session, KVK scientists delivered expert lectures highlighting the adverse effects of Parthenium on crop productivity, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability. The harmful impacts on human and animal health, including skin allergies, dermatitis, and respiratory disorders such as asthma, were also emphasized. Participants were sensitized about the need for early identification and timely management of the weed to prevent its rapid spread.

Throughout the week, a series of awareness programmes were conducted through lectures and interactive group discussions in the adopted villages and on campus. Demonstrations were organized on mechanical and cultural control methods, including manual uprooting before flowering and proper disposal of weed biomass. Cleaning campaigns were undertaken both within the KVK campus and in farmers' fields, with active and enthusiastic participation from students, farmers, and staff members.

A total of 104 farmers actively participated in the programme, engaging in training sessions, awareness drives, and cleanliness campaigns. Educational pamphlets and information sheets were distributed to extend the outreach to neighbouring villages and strengthen awareness at the community level. The programme encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices for effective control of Parthenium.

The week concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony, wherein participants committed themselves to contributing towards a Parthenium-free environment. The observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Faridabad successfully mobilized community participation and reinforced the importance of collective and sustained efforts in managing this invasive weed for the protection of agriculture, environment, and public health.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra -Kaithal, Haryana

The **Parthenium Eradication Week 2025** was a successful initiative that mobilized a wide cross-section of society in the fight against a serious environmental threat. Continued follow-up activities and long-term strategies are essential to sustain the efforts and prevent regrowth. Collaborative action between government agencies, academic institutions, and local communities remains the cornerstone of effective

parthenium management. As part of the nationwide effort to combat the spread of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, a highly invasive and harmful weed, **Parthenium Eradication Week** was observed from **16th to 22nd August 2025**. Various activities were organized across institutions, villages, schools, and public areas to raise awareness and promote active participation in the eradication and management of parthenium infestation. Posters, pamphlets, and banners were distributed and displayed in strategic public places. Awareness rallies were organized in collaboration with schools, colleges, and farmer groups. Manual uprooting and slashing of parthenium weeds were carried out in roadsides, school grounds, farmland borders, and public spaces. Widespread awareness was generated regarding the identification and harmful effects of parthenium. Active participation was seen from schools, farmers, women's groups, and youth. A significant area of public land was cleared of parthenium during the week. The initiative strengthened community cooperation in managing invasive species and promoted sustainable weed control measures. Progressive farmer group of the district Kaithal named **Kisan Club** was invited at KVK Farm for awareness and lecture was delivered along with uprooting of Parthenium was demonstrated.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Rohtak, Haryana

CCS HAU KVK Rohtak organized a series of activities during Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August, 2025 to create awareness about the harmful effects and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. A total of three programmes were conducted at different locations. On 20 August 2025, a Parthenium awareness video programme was organized at RRS Rohtak, in which 46 participants (37 general male and 9 general female) attended. This was followed by an awareness programme on 21 August 2025 at KVK Rohtak, with participation of 15 individuals (8 general male and 7 general female). The final programme was conducted on 22 August 2025 at KVK Farm, Samargopalpur, where 13 participants (9 general male and 4 general female) took part. Overall, a total of 74 participants (54 general male and 20 general female) were reached through these awareness activities, with no participation recorded under the SC category. These programmes effectively contributed to enhancing awareness regarding identification, impacts, and control measures of Parthenium among the local community.

S.No.	Title of Programme	Date	Venue	SC(M)	G(M)	SC(F)	G(F)	Total No. of participants
1	Parthenium awareness program video	20.8.2025	RRS Rohtak	0	37	0	9	46
2	Parthenium awareness program	21.8.2025	KVK Rohtak	0	8	0	7	15
3	Parthenium awareness program	22.8.2025 `	KVK Farm, Samargopalpur	0	9	0	4	13
	Total			**0**	**54**	**0**	**20**	**74**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonipat

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sonipat, successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Campus at adopted village Sandhal Kalan. The programme was conducted as part of a nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) about the awareness against the hazardous weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as "Congress grass. The KVK Scientists and staff made aware the farmers of the adopted villages about the harmful effect of Partheniunm and encouraged for its eradication. They villagers were made aware about the harmful effects of Parthenium on human, animal health, crop productivity and environment. This weed could be a possible reason of skin allergies, asthma, which is sometimes threat to life.

During the week, following activities were conducted:

- Group discussion and Awareness campaigns about harm effect of Parthenium weed.
- Eradication of weed through mechanical and chemical measures.
- Campus and field cleaning drives with active participation from farmers and staff.
- Distribution of the pamphlets having the information about control and eradication of Parthenium weed

A total of 162 farmers and farm women actively participated in the activities and contributed to the progress of the programme by engaging in training sessions, cleaning drives, and awareness initiatives. The pamphlets of Parthenium awareness information were circulated through social media i.e WhatsApp group in 8 blocks of 5260 farmers of district Sonipat.

2.10 HIMACHAL PRADESH

Himachal Pradesh, located in the northwestern region of India, spans approximately 55,540 square kilometers and is renowned for its breathtaking mountainous terrain, part of the greater Himalayas, with elevations ranging from 450 meters to over 7,000 meters. Bordered by Jammu and Kashmir to the north, Punjab to the west, Uttarakhand to the southeast, and Tibet in the east, the state boasts a diverse demographic with a population of about 7.5 million, comprising approximately 3.7 million males and 3.8 million females, indicating a balanced gender ratio. This diversity is enriched by various ethnic groups and languages, primarily Hindi and Pahari dialects. Agriculture plays a vital role in the economy, with major crops including apples—the state's flagship fruit—alongside pears, plums, peaches, and cherries, as well as staple crops like wheat, maize, barley, and pulses, benefiting from the region's favorable climatic conditions. The soil is predominantly sandy loam and clayey, with alluvial soil in river valleys being highly fertile, while the mountainous areas feature less fertile soil types rich in organic matter, ideal for horticultural practices. The climate varies from subtropical in the lower regions to alpine in the higher altitudes, experiencing mild summers and harsh winters with significant snowfall. Annual rainfall averages between 1,000 mm to 2,500 mm, primarily occurring during the monsoon season from June to September. With a literacy rate of

approximately 83.6%, including 90.5% male literacy and 76.6% female literacy, the state has made notable advancements in educational access and quality, especially in rural areas. Himachal Pradesh is also home to several key agricultural institutions that contribute to research and development, supporting the growth and sustainability of its agricultural sector.

AICRP-WM, PALAMPUR

The Palampur centre of the All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Management (AICRP-WM) at CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, under the guidance of ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, successfully observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025. The objective of the programme was to sensitize farmers, students, and the general public about the threat posed by the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus and to demonstrate practical management measures. Four awareness programmes were organized across different villages of Kangra district, benefiting 103 farmers through training and hands-on demonstrations on herbicide use and mechanical removal. Farmers were also supplied with recommended herbicides for field-level management. Alongside field activities, two awareness-cum-video lecture sessions were conducted for undergraduate and postgraduate students of the College of Agriculture, Palampur, engaging 119 and 26 students respectively, and enhancing their understanding of Parthenium control strategies. The centre also mobilized other university units, research stations, and Krishi Vigyan Kendras to participate in the campaign. KVK Una conducted multiple programmes across villages and at campus from 16–22 August involving large community participation, while KVK Kangra, KVK Kullu, KVK Bilaspur, KVK Hamirpur, and RSS Akrot organized awareness events, demonstrations, and eradication drives with enthusiastic local involvement. The collective efforts significantly strengthened awareness on Parthenium management across the region, promoting community participation and sustainable weed control practices.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sirmaur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sirmaur, successfully organized a Parthenium awareness week from 16th to 22nd August 2025. The event aimed to educate farmers, field staff, and local stakeholders about the harmful effects of Parthenium and to promote effective control measures. Dr. Pankaj Mittal, in charge of KVK Sirmaur, highlighted that the main objective of the program was to raise awareness among people about the dangers posed by Parthenium, a highly invasive and harmful weed. Dr. Mittal emphasized that Parthenium not only affects crops but also has adverse effects on human and animal health.

The campaign involved active participation from KVK officials, farmers, and field staff. Experts, including Dr. Shivali Dhiman and Dr. Harpita Sood, guided participants on adopting appropriate measures to control the spread of this weed. Parthenium, commonly known as Carrot Grass, is native to the Americas and has rapidly spread across India. The weed is highly detrimental to crop productivity and is associated with respiratory and skin-related health issues in humans and animals. In line with directives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, such weekly awareness campaigns are conducted across the country to educate the public on the environmental and health hazards of Parthenium and the steps that can be taken for its management. The program successfully conveyed the importance of timely eradication and integrated management of Parthenium to minimize its harmful impact on agriculture, human health, and livestock.

बेहद हानिकारक है गाजर घास

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र सिरमौर ने पार्थेनियम उन्मूलन पर चलाया जागरूकता अभियान

कार्यालय संवाददाता-पांवटा साहिब

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र सिरमौर द्वारा 16 से 22 अगस्त तक पार्थेनियम (गाजर घास) उन्मूलन एवं जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र सिरमौर के प्रभारी डा. पंकज मित्तल ने बताया कि 16 से 22 अगस्त तक केंद्र द्वारा पार्थेनियम (गाजर घास) उन्मूलन जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का मुख्य उद्देश्य गाजर घास जैसी हानिकारक खरपतवार के दुष्प्रभावों के प्रति लोगों को जागरूक करना और इसके नियंत्रण के लिए समुचित उपायों को अपनाना है। इस अवसर पर केंद्र की डा. शिवाली धीमान, डा. हर्षिता सूद समेत किसानों, कार्यालय के कर्मचारियों और समस्त फील्ड स्टाफ ने भाग लिया। डा. मित्तल ने बताया कि गाजर घास अत्याधिक खतरनाक खरपतवार है जिसे आम तौर पर गाजर घास के नाम से जाना जाता है।

यह मूलतः अमेरिका महाद्वीप से आया हुआ पौधा है जो अब पूरे भारत में बहुत तेजी से फैल चुका है। गाजर घास न केवल फसलों के लिए हानिकारक है, बल्कि यह मनुष्यों और पशुओं के स्वास्थ्य पर भी प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालती है।

पांवटा साहिब। जागरूकता सप्ताह के दौरान किसान-कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के अधिकारी

दिव्य हिमाचल Sun, 24 August 2025 https://epaper.divyahimachal.com/c/78013097

बेहद हानिकारक है पार्थेनियम, उन्मूलन जरूरी : डॉ. मित्तल

यह फसलों, मनुष्यों और पशुओं के स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक

नाहन, 23 अगस्त (आशु): कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र सिरमौर द्वारा पार्थेनियम (गाजर घास) उन्मूलन एवं जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया।

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के प्रभारी डॉ. पंकज मित्तल ने बताया कि इस दौरान केंद्र द्वारा पार्थेनियम (गाजर घास) उन्मूलन जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का मुख्य उद्देश्य गाजर घास के दुष्प्रभावों के प्रति लोगों को जागरूक करना और इसके नियंत्रण के लिए समुचित उपायों को अपनाना है। इस अवसर पर केंद्र की डॉ. शिवाली धीमान, डॉ. हर्षिता सूद, समेत किसानों, कार्यालय के कर्मचारियों और समस्त फील्ड स्टाफ ने भाग लिया।

डॉ. मित्तल ने बताया कि पार्थेनियम अत्यधिक खतरनाक खरपतवार है, जिसे आमतौर पर गाजर घास के नाम से जाना जाता है। यह मूलतः अमरीका महाद्वीप से आया हुआ पौधा है, जो अब पूरे भारत में बहुत तेजी से फैल चुका है। गाजर घास न केवल फसलों के लिए, हानिकारक है, बल्कि यह मनुष्यों और पशुओं के स्वास्थ्य पर भी प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालती है।

इसलिए भारत सरकार के केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्रालय के निर्देशानुसार पूरे देश में प्रतिवर्ष यह साप्ताहिक अभियान चलाया जाता है, ताकि लोगों को इसके विषय में जागरूक किया जा सके और मानव स्वास्थ्य एवं पर्यावरण को इसके दुष्प्रभावों से बचाने के लिए क्या-क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं, यह जानकारी दी जा सके, क्योंकि इसके नियंत्रण से श्वसन और त्वचा संबंधी बीमारियां होती हैं। यह फसलों की उत्पादकता को भी नुकसान पहुंचाता है।

नाहन : कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र सिरमौर में गाजर घास को लेकर जागरूक करते कृषि वैज्ञानिक। (आशु)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Mandi, Sundernagar H.P.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Mandi organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 at the KVK farm, campus surroundings, and villages namely Handeti, Kharidi, Paura Kothi, Sundernagar, and Sheard. The programme aimed to create Parthenium-free campuses and villages by promoting eco-friendly and integrated management approaches and by highlighting the serious health, environmental, and agricultural impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. KVK scientists and staff emphasized Integrated Parthenium Management, including manual uprooting before flowering with safety precautions, composting of uprooted biomass to prevent seed spread, biological control under expert guidance, and judicious chemical control in non-cultivated areas. Awareness was also created on the adverse effects of Parthenium on human and animal health, crop productivity, and biodiversity, stressing the need for community-based action. During the week, six on- and off-campus awareness programmes were conducted through lectures, demonstrations, film shows, exhibitions, posters, and social media messages. Uprooting drives were carried out by KVK scientists and staff at the campus and village level. An exhibition of literature

was displayed, and printed materials were distributed. In total, 481 farmers and farm women participated. Under the leadership of KVK scientists and extension staff, participants were motivated to collectively eradicate Parthenium and utilize it for composting to protect agriculture, health, and the environment

Awarness on Parthenium at Paurakothi village in Kisan Goshthi in collaboration with Dept of Agriculture

Awarness on hralth Hazards of Parthnium at KVK and KVK farm to the farmers of Chchyot and Nihri block during their visit to KVK

Awareness on Integrated Management and health precautions during eradication of Parthenium at FTC Sundernagar

Awareness on Parthenium at FTC Sundernagar

Exhibition of Literature on Parthenium at KVK

ICAR-Directorate of Mushroom Research, Solan

At ICAR-Directorate of Mushroom Research, Chambaghat, Solan (H.P.) 20th Parthenium Awareness Week-2025 was observed w.e.f. 16-22 Aug., 2025. All the staff members including contractual workers (65 Nos.) of the Directorate were made awared about the ill effects of obnoxious weed-Parthenium during this week as it is very harmful for the human health, environment, productivity of the soil as well quality of the milk if fed to the milching animals. As the plants is having deep roots and is hardy, is found growing in almost all the places on the roadside, railway tracks, grasslands and areas which are not under cultivation up to mid hills having white-coloured flowers. As per the reports plant was introduced to India during 1955 which is having very small seeds (5,000-25,000/ plant) having no dormancy, may spread by wind, water, animals, moving vehicles and agricultural implements from place to place. The pollens present in the flowers which opens about 11.00 am are allergic and create irritation on the skin of persons working in the areas where it is growing.

The posters sent by ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur were displayed in ICAR-DMR, Solan for the information of all the staff members, visitors and trainnes. All the staff members of the Directorate were taken to the fields in the campus and a programme for the eradication of very harmful weed was carried out. The parthenium growing in Mushroom Vihar, the residential complex of the Directorate, was also uprooted and disposed-off so that the residents do not have any harmful effects. The staff members including contractual workers were requested to uproot the plants of this weed before flowering followed by dumping in a pit. Further, they were also requested to create awareness in their locality so that parthenium is eradicated completely in the coming years. Under MGMG the villagers (10 Nos.) were also awared about the ill effects of parthenium and were requested to eradicate it on community basis. On the wrap up day of parthenium awareness week Dr V.P. Sharma, Director, ICAR-DMR, Solan called upon all the staff members to work together for eradication of this harmful weed from the Directorate and make the campus parthenium free. Dr Brij Lal Attri, Principal Scientist, co-ordinated the programme from 16-22 Aug., 2025 at ICAR-DMR, Solan.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Shimla

To raise awareness and promote active community involvement in controlling this weed, Parthenium Awareness Week was held from August 16th to 22nd, 2025, at KVK Rohru. The week featured a range of activities including interactive sessions, practical demonstrations, and community engagement efforts. During this week practical demonstration sessions for KVK field staff and 30 other participants on various control techniques for Parthenium eradication, including mechanical removal and herbicide application were organized. These sessions aimed to equip KVK field staff and other participants with practical skills for effective Parthenium management. These demonstrations showcased real-life applications of control techniques, emphasizing their effectiveness in managing Parthenium infestations along with Parthenium eradication drive in and around KVK premises by all the participants.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Chamba

Parthenium awareness week is celebrated at different locations from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chamba at Saru. On 16th of August, an awareness campaign started from KVK campus, Parthenium weed or Congress grass is uprooted from Office premises, farmer hostel and residential area. All staff members actively participated in this campaign. On 17th of August, Gajar ghas is uprooted from Saru Farm by all staff members. On 18th of August, a special lecture was delivered to Teacher trainees of district Chamba at District Institution of Education and Training, Saru and they were made aware about the harmful effects of this harmful weed. On 19th of August, a special lecture was delivered to JBT trainees and they were made aware about the harmful effects of this harmful weed. They were made aware how to recognize this weed and how to get rid out of it by using different methods. On 20th of August, Gajar ghas is uprooted from Bhagot Farm by all staff members. On 21st of August, Gajar ghas is uprooted from Haripura Farm by all staff members with active participation of locals. A lead lectures on Parthenium hysterophorus at different locations were delivered by Dr. Kehar Singh Thakur, Scientist, KVK Chamba. The staff member of this institute had been made aware about the harmful effects of this weed. This weed was uprooted from this campus with active participation of students. On this occasion, teachers of District Institution of Education and Training, Saru, Chamba, were present there. During one week campaign, around 635 people

including teachers, trainees JBT and students were made aware about the importance of celebrating this week.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Una Himachal Pradesh

Krshi Vigyan Kendra Una, Himachal Pradesh organized series of awareness programme as a part of "Parthenium awareness week" from 16th – 22nd August, 2025 on campus as well as in different villages of Una district - KVK, farm (16-08-2025), Boul village of Block Bangana (17-08-2025), Chandpur Village of Block Haroli (18.08.2025), Teuri village of Block Una (19-08-2025) and again in KVK farm (21-08-2025) etc. In these programmes, awareness on ill effects of congress grass both on agriculture, horticulture crops and on human and animal health were highlighted. Need for eradication of the wide spread weed in farm lands, public places, uncultivable lands were clearly explained to the participants highlighting the increasing respiratory, skin and ophthalmic allergies to humans, effects on major organs in livestock. Compost preparation with Parthenium and biological control of Parthenium also were explained. Dr Yogita Sharma Programme Coordinator, Dr. Meenakshi SMS (Agronomy), Dr Sanjay Kumar Sharma Extension Specialist (Entomology), Dr Deepali Kapoor Extension Specialist (Animal Sciences) acted as resource persons for these events. A total of 138 farmers attended the awareness programmes.

Awareness programme on *Partheium* management at **Village Boul** Distt Una

Eradication of *Parthenium* on roadside at **Rampur** Distt Una

Parthenium awareness programme at **KVK Una**

Parthenium awareness programme at **KVK Una**

Parthenium eradication at KVK Farm

2.11 JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Jammu and Kashmir, located in the northernmost part of India, spans about 42,241 km² and exhibits diverse topography ranging from the Pir Panjal Range and Kashmir Valley to the plains of Jammu and the high-altitude Ladakh Plateau. Major rivers such as the Jhelum River, Chenab River, and Indus River shape its landscape. As per the 2011 Census, it has a population of about 12.54 million, with 6.58 million males and 5.96 million females. The economy is largely agrarian and horticulture-based, producing rice, maize, wheat, apples, saffron, walnuts, and almonds. Climatic conditions range from temperate in the valley to subtropical in Jammu and arid in Ladakh, with 650–1,000 mm annual rainfall. The literacy rate is 67.16%, with notable gender disparities despite steady educational progress.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Budgam

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was recently held w.e.f 16-22 August 2025. As part of this initiative organized by the ICAR-Directorate of Weed Science Research in Jabalpur, the KVK Budgam, SKUAST-K, Shalimar Srinagar conducted a Parthenium Awareness Program at their office and at different villages of Dist. Budgam and also involved school children, farm labourers, and technical officers from the institute. During the session, participants were awared about the importance of eradicating Parthenium from crop fields and vacant areas and also briefed about the general disadvantages of weeds in agriculture. But luckily, our UT Jammu and Kashmir particularly KVK Budgam Campus is free from this noxious weed. Parthenium is an invasive weed that poses a threat to agriculture and the environment. These awareness programs play a crucial role in educating people about its harmful effects like allergic reactions, contact dermatitis, livestock health, crop yield reduction, Biodiversity impact, soil degradation, economic losses etc and promoting effective management strategies. After the awareness programme pamphlets were distributed among the rural youth.

AICRP ON WEED MANAGEMENT
Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu

Day to day of the Programme

S. No.	Date	Venue	Activities
1.	16, Aug. 2025	Village- Raipur Gujran (R.S. Pura)	Awareness lectures will be delivered to the farmers by Dr. B.R. Bazaya PI, Dr. Manpreet Kour, Co PI AICRP-Weed Management and Dr. M.C. Dwivedi, Professor, Div. of Agronomy regarding Parthenium management. The activities like, uprooting of parthenium and spraying of herbicides are included in this awareness programme.
2.	18, Aug. 2025	Chatha Pind (Chatha)	Awareness lectures will be delivered to the Farmers by Dr. B.R. Bazaya, PI, Dr. Manpreet Kour, Co-PI AICRP-Weed Management, Dr. Neetu Sharma, Professor, Div. of Agronomy. Parthenium management strategies like uprooting and spraying of herbicide on the affected areas are included in these activities.
3	19, Aug. 2025	FVSc &A.H, R.S. Pura Campus, SKUAST-Jammu (Collaboration with KVK, Jammu)	Awareness lecture will be delivered by Dr. B.R. Bazaya, PI, Dr. Manpreet Kour, Co-PI AICRP-Weed Management and Dr. Puneet Choudhary, KVK Head, R.S. Pura to the farmers regarding parthenium management.
4.	20, Aug. 2025	Village- Katera (Collaboration with KVK Samba)	Awareness lectures will be delivered by Dr. B.R. Bazaya, PI, Dr. Manpreet Kour, Co-PI AICRP-Weed Management and Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, KVK, Head, Samba to the farmers regarding parthenium management. Uprooting of parthenium will be carried out in affected areas of the village.
5.	21, Aug. 2025	SKUAST-J, Chatha Campus	Awareness lectures will be delivered to the field functionaries/students by Dr. A.P. Singh, Head, Div. of Agronomy, Dr. B.R. Bazaya, PI & Dr. Manpreet Kour, Co-PI AICRP-Weed Management regarding parthenium management. Other activities like uprooting of parthenium and spraying of herbicide on parthenium affected area of the university campus and road side areas is included.
6.	22, Aug. 2025	Village Bidhipur	Awareness lectures will be delivered to the Students/Farmers by Dr. B.R. Bazaya, PI, Dr. Manpreet Kour, Co PI AICRP-Weed Management, Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Assistant Professor. Parthenium uprooting and spraying of herbicide activities will be included during the awareness programme.

Northlines

Parthenium awareness camp organized at SKUAST-J

NL CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU TAWI, AUG 18 : The Division of Agronomy, SKUAST-Jammu, under AICRP-Weed Management, organized its 30th Parthenium Awareness Camp at village Chatha Pind on Monday to sensitize farmers about the harmful impact of the invasive weed.

The event was held under the guidance of Vice-Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi and Director Research Prof. S.K. Gupta. Chief Scientist Dr. B.R. Bazaya highlighted the health hazards and ecological damage caused by Parthenium, urging farmers to launch vigorous campaigns to eradicate it at the block level. He also discussed biological methods for its control. Senior Scientist Dr. Manpreet Kour suggested ways to utilize Parthenium through composting and its potential as a bio-pesticide, while Prof. Neetu Sharma elaborated on chemical management practices. Associate Professor Dr. S.K. Mishra emphasized integrated management approaches. Over 35 farmers and university staff participated, pledging to spread awareness and adopt effective control measures. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Ravinder Singh Chib, Sarpanch of Chatha Pind Panchayat.

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SKUAST Kashmir

Parthenium Awareness Week has been observed nation-wide from 16th – 22nd August every year to raise awareness about health and environmental risks of the weed *Parthenium hysterophorus*, commonly known as congress grass or *Gajar Ghaas*. The event was also held this year at the Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Wadura Campus. This campaign was organised under the banner of PARTHENIUM FREE CAMPUS as this weed was not found in the campus till date. It is the virtue of Kashmir valley that the entire region is still not invaded by this exotic and noxious weed. Farmers of different FPOs (Farmer Producer Organisation), officers from the line departments and the students of the Faculty actively participated in this awareness programme. They were educated about its identification, spreading and threats on health, agriculture and biodiversity. They were also encouraged to report the weed, *Parthenium* whenever and wherever it is found in the valley.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Jammu

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jammu observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, rural youth, and the general public regarding the harmful effects and management of Parthenium hysterophorus. The campaign was organized in collaboration with AICRP on Weed Management, SKUAST-Jammu.

The week-long programme commenced with a Parthenium eradication campaign, during which awareness activities were conducted across various Village Panchayats and public places in Jammu district. Farmers, rural youth, and school dropouts actively participated in the campaign. Informative leaflets detailing integrated management practices of Parthenium were distributed among participants to enhance their understanding and encourage adoption of scientific control measures.

Practical demonstrations on effective weed management techniques-including mechanical removal, safe herbicide use, and preventive measures-were conducted at different locations. To ensure safety during eradication activities, masks and hand gloves were distributed among participants.

A rally comprising students and farmers was organized at the SKUAST-Jammu, R.S. Pura campus in collaboration with AICRP on Weed Management. Placards displaying key messages on identification, harmful impacts, and control measures of Parthenium were showcased to spread awareness among the public and reinforce the message of collective action for eradication. The observance of Parthenium Awareness Week by KVK Jammu significantly contributed to sensitizing stakeholders about the ecological, agricultural, and health hazards posed by this invasive weed and promoted integrated management strategies for sustainable control.

2.12 JHARKHAND

Jharkhand, situated in the eastern part of India, spans approximately 79,710 square kilometers and is bordered by Bihar to the north, West Bengal to the east, Odisha to the south, and Chhattisgarh to the west. The state's landscape features hilly terrain and plateaus, rich in natural resources such as forests and minerals.

As of the latest census, Jharkhand has a population of around 32 million, comprising approximately 16.5 million males and 15.5 million females, resulting in a gender ratio of about 945 females for every 1,000 males. The population is diverse, including various indigenous tribes and ethnic groups, with Hindi, Bengali, and regional dialects being the predominant languages. Agriculture plays a vital role in Jharkhand's economy, with major crops including rice, wheat, maize, and pulses, alongside horticultural products like potatoes, tomatoes, and spices. The soil composition varies, featuring red soil rich in iron, black soil suitable for cotton, and fertile alluvial soil along riverbanks. The state experiences a humid subtropical climate, with annual rainfall ranging from 1,200 mm to 1,600 mm, predominantly during the southwest monsoon from June to September. Summer temperatures can reach up to 40°C, while winter can drop to around 5°C. The literacy rate in Jharkhand stands at approximately 66.37%, with male literacy at 76.84% and female literacy at 56.21%.

ICAR-National Institute of Secondary Agriculture, Ranchi

In observance of Parthenium Awareness Week 2025, the ICAR-NISA, Ranchi, successfully organized a comprehensive awareness program to educate the community on the severe threats posed by Parthenium hysterophorus. The event featured an expert-led awareness-cum-lecture that detailed the multifaceted perils of this invasive weed, focusing specifically on its profound impact on human and animal health. The lecture further elaborated on its devastating consequences for agricultural productivity, highlighting its allelopathic nature that suppresses crop germination and growth, leading to significant yield losses, and its detrimental effect on local biodiversity by outcompeting native flora. To provide practical solutions, the session also encompassed effective management strategies, including physical removal, chemical control, and biological methods utilizing bio-agents like the Mexican beetle. Complementing the lecture, a documentary on Parthenium management was screened, offering visual guidance on identification and control techniques. The program witnessed active and enthusiastic participation from approximately 70 attendees, including scientists, technical officers, administrative staff, researchers and students, fostering a crucial dialogue on community-driven approaches to mitigate the parthenium menace and promoting collective action for healthier ecosystems and sustainable agriculture.

Awareness-cum-lecture delivering by experts

ICAR-IARI, Jharkhand

In a significant initiative by ICAR “20th Parthenium Awareness Week” was celebrated at ICAR-IARI-Jharkhnad. On occasion of this event various activities like expert lectures (From Awreness to Action: Tackling Parthenium Together and Bio-control measures for Parthenium management), debate competition for students on topic “Parthenium could be used for beneficial purposes rather than being eradicated” and Parthenium cleaning drive to make IARI Jharkhand as Parthenium free were undertaken involving all staffs and students of IARI Jharkhand. Dr. Vishal Nath, OSD, IARI-Jharkhand delivered his insight regarding harmful and beneficial aspects of Parthenium. Organizers Dr. Kashinath Teli and Dr. Akash A coordinated all the activities of this event to make it successful.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Godda

20th Parthenium Awareness Week during 16-22, August, 2025 was organized by Gramin Vikas Trust- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Godda with different village of farmers. 4 Villages viz. Gangta Govindpur and Badhauna Block- Godda, Kusma and Sabejora Block- Boarijor. In this programme, farmers identified the *Pathenium hyterophosus* L. plant. Farmers were made aware about the harmful effect on ecosystem, crops, animals and human beings.

Dr. Ravi Shanker (Senior Scientist cum Head), Dr. Ritesh Dube (SMS-Agril. Extension), Dr. Satish Kumar (SMS- Animal Science), Dr. Surya Bhushan (SMS-Plant Protection), Dr. Hemant Kumar Chaurasia (SMS-Horticulture), Rajnish Prasad Rajesh (SMS- Agrometeorology), Rakesh Roshan Kumar Singh (Farm Manager), Suprakash Ghosh (SRF-NICRA Project), Laurance Hansda, Anupam, Mausami Chaudhary (EFICOR NGO Members), Raushan Kumar (PRADAN NGO Member) Shyamakant Jha(Samaj Sewak) and Dhruv Sharma(Innovative Farmer) were present in 20th Parthenium Awareness Week Programme-2025.

About 131 participants were present about origin, distribution, harmful effect, and management of this obnoxious weed and advised to carry this message and make the people of surrounding areas aware about harmful effects of parthenium and save ecosystem.

Programme with Progressive Farmers at Seminar Hall, GVT-KVK, Gooda

Training and Awareness Rally at Gangta Govindpur Village Block-Gooda

Programme with Progressive Farmers at Badhauna Village, Block-Gooda

Live streaming Programme at GVT-KVK, Godda

Parthenium Awareness Rally at GVT-KVK, Godda Campus

हानिकारक खरपतवार की जानकारी दी गई

संवाद सहयोगी, जागरण, गोड्डा : ग्रामीण विकास ट्रस्ट – कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र की ओर से सदर प्रखंड के गंगटा गोविंदपुर गांव में हानिकारक खरपतवार, गाजरघास समाप्ति को लेकर जागरूकता शिविर आयोजित किया गया। यह अभियान 22 अगस्त 2025 तक विभिन्न गांव, कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, आंगनबाड़ी केन्द्र एवं स्कूल में चलाया जायेगा। कृषि प्रसार वैज्ञानिक डा. रितेश दुबे ने हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को पहचान कराते हुए बताया कि गाजरघास एक विदेशी हानिकारक खरपतवार है। इसका विस्तार खाली पड़े हुए खेत, सड़क के किनारे, रेलवे ट्रैक, स्कूल एवं अस्पताल के पीछे खुला स्तर पर होता है। हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास के सम्पर्क में आने से त्वचा रोग, खुजली एवं दमा की बीमारी हो जाती है। पशुपालन वैज्ञानिक डा. सतीश कुमार ने कहा कि हानिकारक गाजरघास को यदि गाय, भैंस और बकरी खा लेते हैं तो

किसानों को जानकारी देते कृषि वैज्ञानिक • जागरण

दूध में करीलापन आ जाता है तथा पशु बीमार भी पड़ सकते हैं। इसलिए हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को जड़ से समाप्त करने की आवश्यकता है। हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को समाप्त करने की दिशा में जागरूकता रैली भी निकाली गई। कार्यक्रम के अंत में सभी प्रगतिशील किसानों को हानिकारक गाजरघास समाप्ति से संबंधित लीफलेट, अमरुद, सबबूल के पौधे एवं नेपियर घास की जड़ वितरित किया गया। मौके पर समाज सेवी श्यामाकांत झा, ग्रामीण विकास ट्रस्ट–कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र की ओर से किसानों को गंगटा गोविंदपुर में हानिकारक खरपतवार, गाजरघास समाप्ति को लेकर लगाया जागरूकता शिविर

ध्रुव शर्मा, रूपलाल सोरेन, सुबोध सोरेन, भोगेन सोरेन, देव नंदन हेम्ब्रोम, शर्मिला हेम्ब्रोम, कनकलता सोरेन, सरिता हेम्ब्रोम, सरला देवी, विनीता देवी आदि प्रगतिशील किसान उपस्थित थे।

दैनिक जागरण, 19.08.2025

Training Programme at Kusma Village, Block-Boarijor

हिन्दुस्तान, 19.08.2025

पशुओं के लिए हानिकारक है गाजर घास : डॉ. सतीश

गोड्डा, प्रतिनिधि। कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र, गोड्डा के परिसर में गोड्डा प्रखंड के गंगटा गोविंदपुर गांव में हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास समाप्ति जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। यह अभियान 22 अगस्त 2025 तक विभिन्न गांव, कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र, आंगनबाड़ी केन्द्र एवं स्कूल में चलाया जायेगा। कृषि प्रसार वैज्ञानिक, डॉ. रितेश दुबे ने हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास की पहचान कराते हुए बताया कि गाजरघास एक विदेशी हानिकारक खरपतवार है। इसका विस्तार खाली पड़े हुए खेत, सड़क के किनारे, रेलवे ट्रैक, स्कूल एवं अस्पताल के पीछे खुला स्तर पर होता है। हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास के सम्पर्क में आने से त्वचा रोग, खुजली एवं दमा की बीमारी हो जाती है। पशुपालन वैज्ञानिक डॉ. सतीश कुमार ने कहा कि हानिकारक गाजरघास को यदि गाय, भैंस और बकरी खा लेते हैं तो दूध में करीलापन आ जाता है तथा पशु बीमार भी पड़ सकते हैं। इसलिए हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को जड़ से समाप्त करने की आवश्यकता है। हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को समाप्त करने हेतु जागरूकता रैली भी निकाली गई। मौके पर समाज सेवी श्यामाकांत झा, ध्रुव शर्मा, रूपलाल सोरेन, सुबोध सोरेन, भोगेन सोरेन, देव नंदन हेम्ब्रोम, शर्मिला हेम्ब्रोम, कनकलता सोरेन, सरिता हेम्ब्रोम, सरला देवी, विनीता देवी आदि सम्मिलित हुए।

गोड्डा प्रखंड के गंगटा गोविंदपुर गांव में आयोजित कार्यक्रम में मौजूद अधिकारी।

किसानों को उन्नत खेती की जानकारी

संवाद सहयोगी, जागरण, गोड्डा : ग्रामीण विकास ट्रस्ट – कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र, गोड्डा के सभागार एफीकोर संस्था की ओर से प्रगतिशील किसानों का तीन दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का सफलता पूर्वक समापन हो गया। प्रशिक्षण के दौरान समेकित कृषि प्रणाली, बहुस्तरीय सब्जी उत्पादन तकनीक, पशुपालन, प्राकृतिक खेती, फसलों में रोग एवं कीट प्रबंधन की जानकारी दी गई। वरीय वैज्ञानिक –सह– प्रधान डा. रवि शंकर ने प्रगतिशील किसानों को राज्य एवं केन्द्र सरकार की योजनाओं से लाभ लेने का आह्वान किया। डा. सूर्य भूषण ने फसलों एवं सब्जियों में रोग एवं कीट प्रबंधन, बीज उपचार एवं ट्राईकोडर्मा जैविक खाद तैयार करने की विस्तृत जानकारी दी। उद्यान वैज्ञानिक डा. हेमंत कुमार चौरसिया ने बहुस्तरीय सब्जी उत्पादन तकनीक, फलों की उन्नत खेती एवं प्राकृतिक खेती के बारे में जानकारी दी। पशुपालन वैज्ञानिक डा. सतीश कुमार ने

कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त करते किसान • जागरण

सुकरपालन करने हेतु चारा प्रबंधन, आवास प्रबंधन, टीकाकरण एवं रोग प्रबंधन की विस्तृत जानकारी दी। कृषि प्रसार वैज्ञानिक डा. रितेश दुबे ने हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास के कारण मनुष्यों एवं जानवरों पर पड़ने वाले हानिकारक प्रभाव के बारे में बताया। फैलेरिया से बचाव के लिए आईडीए एवं एमडीए दवा की खुराक लेने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। फॉर्म मैनेजर राकेश रोशन कुमार सिंह ने कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र के परिसर का भ्रमण कराते हुए नर्सरी की तैयारी, मड़ुआ की खेती, अमरूद में गूटी विधि के कलम तैयार करना, करौंदा के स्वास्थ्यवर्धक गुण के बारे में बताया। कार्यक्रम के अंतिम में हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास समाप्ति हेतु जागरूकता रैली निकाली गई।

दैनिक जागरण, 22.08.25

किसानों को मिला कीट नियंत्रण का प्रशिक्षण

दैनिक जागरण, 23.08.25

संवाद सहयोगी,जागरण, गोड्डा : ग्रामीण विकास ट्रस्ट-कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र के तत्वावधान में बोआरीजोर प्रखंड के कुसमा एवं साबेजोरा ग्राम में प्रगतिशील किसानों का एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम, अग्रिम पंक्ति प्रदर्शन, हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास समाप्ति सप्ताह, फाईलेरिया उन्मूलन जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। पौधा सुरक्षा वैज्ञानिक डा. सूर्य भूषण ने धान में लगने वाली फली छेदक एवं रोग की रोकथाम करने की विस्तृत जानकारी दी। धान के खेत में कीट नियंत्रण हेतु दवा का छिड़काव करना कर किसानों को दिखाया गया। कृषि प्रसार वैज्ञानिक डा. रितेश दुबे ने हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को पहचान करते हुए इसके दुष्परिणाम को बताया। हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास के सम्पर्क में आने से मनुष्यों में चर्म रोग, दमा की बीमारी तथा मवेशी द्वारा गाजरघास को खाने से मवेशियों के मुंह में छाले पड़ जाते हैं एवं दूध में कड़वाहट आ जाता है। हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को समाप्त करने के लिए नमक के घोल का छिड़काव करना चाहिए। गड्ढे में हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास को गोबर के साथ मिलाकर जैविक खाद बना सकते हैं। खेत में गेंदा, झरबेरा की खेती करने के हानिकारक खरपतवार गाजरघास दुबारा नहीं उगता है। फाईलेरिया के बचाव के लिए स्वास्थ्य विभाग द्वारा आईडीए एवं एमडीए की खुराक भोजन करने के बाद खाने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। कार्यक्रम के अंत में कीट एवं रोग प्रबंधन संबंधित दवाई, लीफलेट एवं अमरुद के पौधें का वितरण प्रगतिशील किसानों के बीच किया गया। मौके पर प्रदान संस्था के सदस्य रौशन कुमार, मनोज सुर्मू, सुशीला सोरेन, चामलेट मुर्मू, मेरी मरांडी, सुलेखा देवी, ममता कुमारी, रीना देवी आदि प्रगतिशील किसान उपस्थित थे।

हिन्दुस्तान, 23 08 2025

प्रगतिशील किसानों का एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र के तत्वावधान में एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण में शामिल किसान।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sahibganj

20th Parthenium Awareness Week 16-22 August 2025 was organised under the aegis of Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Sahibganj district in various villages viz; Chanan, Adro, Madansahi village of Block Borio. KVK campus too had been made free from menace of parthenium awareness programme, demonstrations were conducted to make people and farmers aware about environmental hazards of parthenium and how it is affecting human health, animal health, loss in productivity of agricultural crops. The farmers were encouraged to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices for controlling parthenium. During the programme extension pamphlets and related literatures were also distributed among the farmers for further dissemination. The weeklong programme ended with a good notion and farmers were quite satisfied with activities initiated by KVKs for eradication of this weed.

GVT- Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Godda

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized by Gramin Vikas Trust–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (GVT-KVK), Godda, during 16–22 August 2025 in selected villages of Godda and Boarijor blocks, namely Gangta

Govindpur, Badhauna, Kusma, and Sabejora. The programme aimed to enhance farmers' understanding of *Parthenium hysterophorus* L., an invasive weed belonging to the family Asteraceae, locally known as Congress grass or gajar ghas. Farmers were trained to identify the weed and made aware of its severe impacts on crops, animals, human health, biodiversity, and the ecosystem due to its strong allelopathic nature. Parthenium was highlighted as one of the world's most dreaded weeds, capable of growing in diverse soils throughout the year. Its invasion of agricultural lands, wastelands, roadsides, and grazing areas leads to significant yield losses, biodiversity reduction, and ecological imbalance. The weed causes dermatitis, respiratory disorders, and allergies in humans, toxicity and health disorders in animals, and crop yield losses of up to 40 percent. A major focus of the programme was the safe utilization of Parthenium biomass through composting. Farmers were trained in pit-based composting methods using dung, urea or rock phosphate, soil, and microbial inoculants such as *Trichoderma*, resulting in quality organic manure after 4–5 months. Awareness was also created on the use of waste decomposers. The week included poster displays, awareness rallies, leaflet distribution, and live-streamed sessions. Scientists, KVK staff, NGO members, and local resource persons actively participated. About 131 participants attended the programme and were motivated to disseminate awareness on Parthenium management for safeguarding agriculture, human health, and the ecosystem.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Gumla, Vikas Bharti Bishunpur

An awareness programme on Parthenium eradication was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gumla, Vikas Bharti Bishunpur on 20th August, 2025. A total of 37 farmers participated in the programme. During the event, farmers were described about the harmful effects of Parthenium on human health, livestock, environment, and crop productivity. The programme was followed by a cleaning drive, in which farmers actively participated in the removal of Parthenium from the surroundings.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ranchi

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ranchi observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August 2025 under the nationwide ICAR initiative to create awareness on the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass). A total of 94 participants, including students, farmers, and members of the rural community (ST, SC, OBC, and General categories), actively took part in the programme, which also received wide publicity through newspapers, television, and radio. The week-long programme included lectures and group discussions on the ecological impact, allergenic properties, and invasive nature of Parthenium; field demonstrations on mechanical and cultural control methods such as manual uprooting, deep ploughing, and competitive cropping; and hands-on training on biological control using *Calligrapha bicolorata*. Sanitation and eradication drives were carried out on the KVK campus and nearby agricultural fields with active community participation. At the conclusion, all participants took a pledge to eradicate Parthenium from fields and public places and to spread awareness, reinforcing collective responsibility for a Parthenium-free environment.

ई-पेपर

राज राजिका

Tan's JAL HI JEEVAN

UDYAM-JH-21-0000220

"गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह": दिव्यायन कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र में जागरूकता कार्यक्रम

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह कार्यक्रम

अनगड़ा (आजाद सिपाही)। आइसीएआर निदेशालय खरपतवार अनुसंधान (डी डब्ल्यू आर) जबलपुर (मध्यप्रदेश) के तत्वावधान एवं आईसीएआरी अटारी जोन-चार के निर्देशन में गुरुवार को दिव्यायन कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, रांची में गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का संचालन दिव्यायन केवीके रांची के कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ मनोज कुमार सिंह ने किया। मौके पर डॉ सिंह ने गाजरघास के दुष्प्रभाव को जानकारी देते हुए कहा कि यह एक आक्रामक खरपतवार है जो मानव, पशु और कृषि तीनों के लिए हानिकारक है। इसका दुष्प्रभाव मानव स्वास्थ्य पर भी पड़ता है। इससे त्वचा पर चकते, खुजली, एलर्जी, दमा, जुकाम, आँखों में जलन और सांस की बीमारियाँ होती हैं। पशुओं में चर्म रोग, भूख न लगना और दूध उत्पादन में कमी देखी जाती है। गाजरघास का दुष्प्रभाव सबसे अधिक खेती पर होता है। यह मिट्टी से नमी और पोषक तत्व सोख लेती है, जिससे फसलों की उत्पादकता घटती है साथ ही यह एलीलोपैथिक प्रभाव के कारण दूसरी फसलों की वृद्धि को रोक देता है। यह पर्यावरण को भी प्रभावित करता है। देसी घासों और वनस्पतियों को खत्म कर जैव विविधता को नुकसान पहुँचाता है। डॉ मनोज ने किसानों और छात्रों को गाजरघास की पहचान और नियंत्रण हेतु कई व्यावहारिक उपाय बताए। कहा कि फूल और बीज बनने से पहले पौधों को जड़ समेत उखाड़कर नष्ट करने, खेतों की बार-बार गहरी जुताई, रासायनिक उपायों में 2,4-ऊ अथवा ग्लाइफोसेट का छिड़काव कर, जैविक नियंत्रण हेतु जायगोग्रामा बाईकोलोराटा व मैक्सिकन बीटल का प्रयोग तथा चकवड़, हिप्टिस, जंगली चौलाई जैसी स्थानीय झाड़ियों को लगाकर गाजरघास को विस्थापित किया जा सकता है। उन्होंने गाजरघास के नियंत्रण, सुरक्षित उपयोगिता पर प्रकाश डाला।

22.8.2025 प्रभात खबर Page

दिव्यायन में गाजर घास से बचाव के लिए जागरूकता कार्यक्रम

रांची. कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र दिव्यायन में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह के तहत कार्यक्रम किया गया. दिव्यायन के कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ मनोज कुमार सिंह ने बताया कि खरपतवार गाजर घास मानव, पशु व कृषि, तीनों के लिए हानिकारक है. यह मिट्टी से नमी और पोषक तत्व सोख लेता है. साथ ही देसी घासों और वनस्पतियों को खत्म कर जैव विविधता को भी नुकसान पहुंचाता है. कहा कि इससे बचने के लिए पौधों को जड़ समेत उखाड़ कर लेट करना जरूरी है. खेतों की बार-बार गहरी जुताई भी करना चाहिए. कार्यक्रम के अंत में प्रतिभागियों ने अपने खेतों, घर-आंगन, विद्यालयों और सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर गाजर घास को उन्मूलन करने का संकल्प लिया. आइसीएआर-डीडब्लूआर जबलपुर के तत्वावधान में हुए आयोजन में आइसीएआर-एटीएआई, जोन चार का भी सहयोग रहा.

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2.13 KARNATAKA

Karnataka, located in the southwestern region of India, covers an area of approximately 191,791 square kilometers, making it the sixth-largest state in the country. It shares borders with Goa to the northwest, Maharashtra to the north, Telangana to the northeast, Andhra Pradesh to the east, Tamil Nadu to the southeast, and Kerala to the south. The state's diverse landscape includes the Western Ghats, coastal regions along the Arabian Sea, and extensive plateaus, contributing to a rich variety of ecosystems. As per the latest census, Karnataka has a population of around 68 million, with approximately 34 million males and 34 million females, indicating a nearly balanced gender ratio. The state is known for its cultural diversity, with languages such as Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu spoken by various ethnic groups. Karnataka is a major agricultural state, recognized for its diverse crop production, including key staples like rice, ragi (finger millet), jowar (sorghum), and sugarcane. It is also a significant producer of cash crops such as coffee, cashews, and spices, particularly in the hilly regions of the Western Ghats. The soil varies across the state, comprising red soil, black soil, and alluvial soil, with black soil being ideal for cotton and alluvial soil supporting rice cultivation. The climate ranges from tropical in coastal areas to temperate in the highlands, with annual rainfall averaging between 800 mm and 1,200 mm, primarily during the southwest monsoon from June to September. The literacy rate in Karnataka stands at approximately 77.2%, with male literacy around 84.2% and female literacy at about 70.3%. The state has made significant progress in enhancing educational access, particularly for women and marginalized communities. Additionally, Karnataka is home to key agricultural research institutions such as the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) and the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), which play a vital role in advancing sustainable agricultural practices.

AICRP-WM, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru

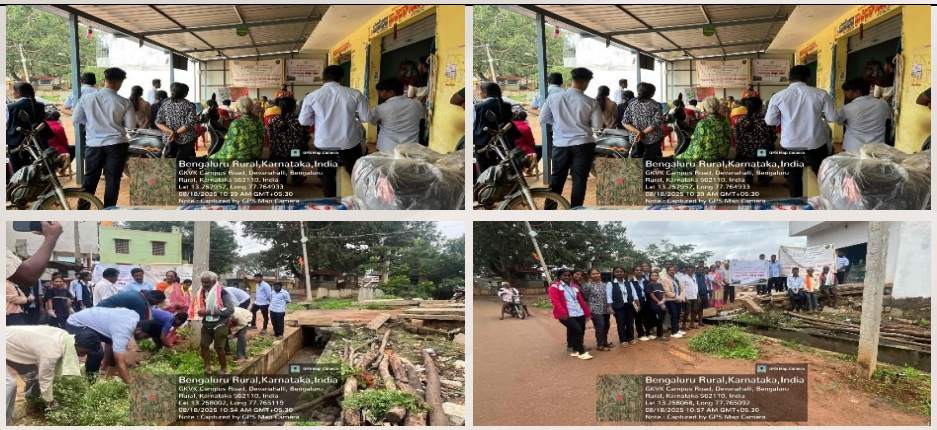
Date	Programme	Participants
16/8/2025	The **AICRP on Weed Management, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru,** initiated the **"20th Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025"** at Kothanur village, Sidlaghata taluk, Chikkaballapur District. The programme was subsequently organized at **Kalanayakanahalli** and **Anemaddagu** villages of Sidlaghata Taluk, Chikkaballapur District. On this occasion, Dr. K. N. Geetha, Professor and Scheme Head, AICRP on Weed Management, emphasized the significance of Parthenium Awareness Week by tracing the history of Parthenium introduction into India in 1956 and its rapid spread across the entire country, explained that Parthenium infestation poses serious health hazards, including allergic skin rashes, contact dermatitis, respiratory disorders, and asthma, particularly in sensitive individuals living in infested areas. The weed predominantly colonizes uncultivated lands, barren areas, and wastelands. Highlighted the importance of biological control measures, specifically the use of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which feeds on Parthenium foliage and tender twigs during the rainy season, thereby suppressing growth and reducing seed production and further noted that release of these beetles is necessary to regulate Parthenium populations annually with the onset of the rainy season. Also emphasized the importance of Parthenium composting, elaborating on its nutrient composition and the methods involved in its preparation. Address the gathering on the role of competitive plant species such as *Cassia uniflora*, *Cassia tora*, *Tagetes spp.* (Marigold), and *Mirabilis jalappa* in gradually suppressing Parthenium dominance. When established in wastelands, vacant areas, and along roadsides, these plants effectively reduce the spread of Parthenium over time. 	55 farmers (W-13: M-42) and 60 students (G-30: B-30)

To enhance awareness, live specimens of Parthenium-suppressing plants and Mexican beetles were displayed during the programme, providing participants with practical insights and sustainable methods of Parthenium management. Farmers and students of RAWE were actively involved in uprooting the *Parthenium*.

Kalanayakanahalli Village, Sidlaghata Taluk, Chikkaballapur District

Anemaddagu Village, Sidlaghata Taluk, Chikkaballapur District

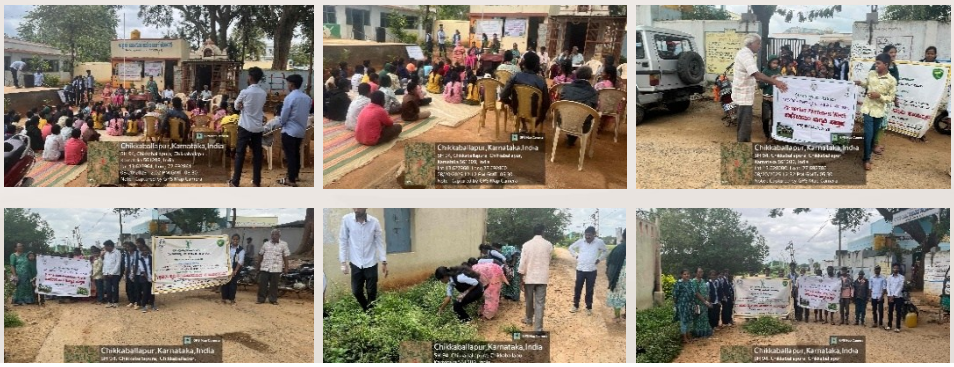
17/8/2025	**Creating Awareness for Public walkers** The University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru, renowned for its rich biodiversity and green surroundings, attracts walkers from across the city. Leveraging this platform, the AICRP on Weed Management organized a special awareness programme as part of the Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025, with the objective of educating the walkers on the harmful effects and management of Parthenium. Dr. K. N. Geetha, Professor and Scheme Head, AICRP on Weed Management, highlighted the significance of Parthenium Awareness Week and explained how weed poses severe health hazards such as allergic skin rashes, contact dermatitis, respiratory disorders, and asthma, especially among sensitive individuals. Emphasized the role of biological control through the release of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which feeds on Parthenium leaves and tender shoots during the rainy season, thereby suppressing growth and reducing seed production. Also stressed the importance of introducing competitive plant species such as *Cassia uniflora*, *Cassia tora*, and *Mirabilis jalappa* along wastelands, vacant sites, and roadsides to gradually suppress Parthenium dominance over time. Handouts containing practical information on Parthenium management were distributed to walkers. Additionally, live specimens of Parthenium-suppressing plants and Mexican beetles were displayed to provide participants with hands-on awareness and education.	207-Walkers (W-94: M-113)
18/8/2025	The Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025 was meaningfully observed in Yeleyuru, Hindiganala, and Thimmasandra villages of Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. On the occasion, Dr. K. N. Geetha, Professor and Scheme Head, AICRP on Weed Management, explained that Parthenium infestation poses serious health risks, including allergic skin rashes, contact dermatitis, respiratory disorders and asthma. Elaborated on the role of biological control through the release of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which feeds on Parthenium leaves and suppresses its growth. Also highlighted the methods of Parthenium composting and emphasized the nutrient value of Parthenium compost. Dr. S. Kamala Bai, Junior Agronomist briefed the participants on the role of competitive plant species such as *Cassia uniflora*, *Cassia tora*, *Tagetes spp.* (Marigold), and *Mirabilis jalappa* in suppressing Parthenium populations and reducing its dominance in affected areas. Farmers and students of RAWE were actively involved in uprooting the *Parthenium.*	47 farmers (W-18: M-29) and 76 students (G-29: B-47)

	 **Yeleyuru Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District** **Hindiganala Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District** **Thimmasandra Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District**	
19/8/2025	An awareness programme on **Parthenium management** was successfully organised for **school students and farmers** in the villages of Thavarekere, Chakrabhavi, and Halashettahalli of Magadi Takuk, Ramanagara District, as part of *Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025*.	69 farmers (W-24: M-45) and 118 students (G-45: B-73)

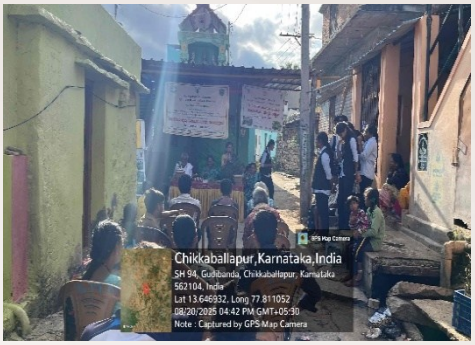
Addressing the gathering, Dr. K. N. Geetha, Professor and Scheme Head, AICRP on Weed Management, explained in simple terms the harmful effects of Parthenium weed, said that this weed not only reduces crop yields but also affects human health by causing skin rashes, allergies, breathing problems, and asthma. To control its spread, she demonstrated the role of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which feeds on Parthenium leaves and helps in reducing its growth. She also encouraged participants to prepare Parthenium compost, which turns the harmful weed into a useful organic manure rich in nutrients for crops.

Dr. S. Kamala Bai, Junior Agronomist, interacted with students and farmers about the role of friendly plants that can naturally suppress Parthenium. She highlighted species such as *Cassia uniflora*, *Cassia tora*, *Tagetes* (Marigold), and *Mirabilis jalappa*, explaining that planting these species in infested areas will help reduce Parthenium and make the environment cleaner and healthier.

The programme created good awareness among school children and farmers, motivating them to actively take part in Parthenium control activities in their schools, homes, and farmlands.

	Chakrabhavi Village, Magadi Takuk, Ramanagara District Thavarekere Village, Magadi Takuk, Ramanagara District **Halashettahalli, Magadi Takuk, Ramanagara District**	
20/8/2025	Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025 was meaningfully observed in the villages of Ramapatana, Dapparthi, and Jambegemaradahalli of Gudibande Taluk, Chikkaballapura District. As part of the programme, school students enthusiastically took part in a jatha (awareness rally) through the village streets creating awareness among the community about the harmful effects of Parthenium weed. On the occasion, Dr. K. N. Geetha, Professor and Scheme Head, AICRP on Weed Management, addressed both students and farmers that Parthenium is a noxious weed causing serious health problems like skin allergies, rashes, breathing difficulties, and asthma. Also spoke about a natural method to control this weed – the release of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which feeds on Parthenium leaves and reduces its growth. Further encouraged farmers to make Parthenium compost, stressing that it is not only a way to manage the weed but also a source of valuable nutrients for the soil. Dr. S. Kamala Bai, Junior Agronomist, highlighted the use of competitive plants to fight against Parthenium and explained how plants such as *Cassia uniflora*, *Cassia tora*, *Tagetes* (Marigold), and *Mirabilis jalappa* can suppress the weed naturally and help to restore balance in affected fields and surroundings.  **Ramapatna, Gudibande Taluk, Chikkaballapura District**	44 farmers (W-14: M-30) and 125 students (G-36: B-89)

Dapparthi, Gudibande Taluk, Chikkaballapura District



Jambegemaradahalli, Gudibande Taluk, Chikkaballapura District

21-8-2025	As part of Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025, a special programme was organised in Gowdagere, Maddapanahalli, and Sondalgere villages of Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District. The event saw enthusiastic participation from farmers and school students. In her address, Dr. K. N. Geetha, Professor and Scheme Head, AICRP on Weed Management, highlighted the hazardous nature of Parthenium, pointing out its impact on human health, including allergies, dermatitis, breathing problems, and asthma. Emphasized on biological control through the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which feeds on Parthenium foliage, and highlighted the importance of Parthenium composting as both a management tool and a nutrient source. Dr. S. Kamala Bai, Junior Agronomist, explained the importance of competitive plant species such as *Cassia uniflora*, *Cassia tora*, *Tagetes* (Marigold), and *Mirabilis jalappa* in controlling Parthenium. She stressed that these plants suppress its spread and promote healthier ecosystems. The programme proved impactful, spreading awareness among farmers while also instilling responsibility in school children to act as change agents in Parthenium management. 	73 farmers (W-34: M-41) and 84 students (G-36: B-48)

	 Gowdagere, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District **Sondalgere, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District**	
22/8/2025	As part of Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025, an awareness programme was organised in the villages of Nelegala, Teetha, and Kodhalalli of Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District. The event witnessed active participation of school students. Addressing the students, Dr. S. Kamala Bai, Junior Agronomist, AICRP on Weed Management, explained that Parthenium is a noxious weed known to cause health issues such as skin allergies, rashes, respiratory problems, and asthma. Further, thought about Parthenium composting, noting its dual benefit of weed management and enrichment of soil nutrients. Sinchana J. K. Technical Assistant, AICRP on Weed Management, highlighted the importance of competitive plant species (*Cassia uniflora, Cassia tora, Tagetes* (Marigold), and *Mirabilis jalappa*) role of the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), in suppressing Parthenium weed. The programme was impactful in spreading awareness and inspiring school children to act as ambassadors of Parthenium management in their villages.	47 farmers (W-15: M-32) and 210 students (G-74: B-136)

Nelegala, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District

Teetha, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District

Kodhalalli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District

A live phone in programme was hosted on Chandana channel Krishidarshana TV programme on

Krishi Darshana | Live | Phone-in | "ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಜಾಗೃತಾ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ" |...

548 views • Streamed 2 days ago

Parthenium Awareness weed at 6.00 pm.

https://www.youtube.com/live/Z2yMeK3BX5s?si=iAHD_3Mcu1_B02YY

Live phone in Programme / TV chandana Programme – 22-08-2025

At UAS, GKVK, continuous monitoring was carried out in 2025 with the objective of achieving a *Parthenium-Free Campus*. As part of this initiative, students and scheme laborers actively participated in uprooting parthenium across the GKVK premises.

Mass Media Coverage (Different Local Newspapers)

ಉದಯವಾಣಿ

ಕೊತ್ತನೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ

ಜಕೆವಿಕೆ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರಿಂದ ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಕಳೆಯ ಮಹತ್ವ ಹಾಗೂ ದುಷ್ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ

ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಾ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ ಆರಂಭ

ಮಾಗಡಿ ಗ್ರಾ: ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಾ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ 2025ರ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್‌ವಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಮಾಗಡಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ನಾಗಶೆಟ್ಟಿಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮಸ್ಥರಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಶಾಲಾ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.

ಡಾ.ಕೆ.ಎನ್. ಗೀತಾ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಒಂದು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ವಿನಾಶಕಾರಿಯಾದ ಕಳೆ. ಈ ಕಳೆಯು ಮಾನವ, ಪಶು ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಸರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅತೀವ ಹಾನಿಕಾರಕ. ಈ ಕಳೆಯು 2 ಮೀಟರ್‌ಗಳಷ್ಟು ಎತ್ತರ ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕಳೆಯು ಉತ್ಪಾದಿಸುವ ಬೀಜಗಳು ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಗಾಳಿಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಇತರೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಪಸರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕಳೆಯಿಂದ ಇತರೆ ಸಸ್ಯ ರಾಶಿಗಳ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾನವನ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ತೊಂದರೆಯುಂಟು

ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಸಪ್ತಾಹದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳು ಮಾತನಾಡಿದರು.

ಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಭಾರತದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕಳೆಯು 37 ದಶಲಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಆವರಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಡಾ. ಪ್ರಮೋದ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಸಮಗ್ರ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದ ಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಿವರಿಸಿದರು. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ ಡಾ.ಎಸ್. ಕಮಲಬಾಯಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಕಳೆಯಿಂದ ಆಗುತ್ತಾಗುವ ದುಷ್ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಮತ್ತು ಆವಾಯದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವನ್ನು ಗಮನದಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ಐ.ಸಿ.ಎ.ಆರ್. ಡೈರೆಕ್ಟರೇಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಏಡ್ ರಿಸರ್ಚ್, ಜಬಲ್‌ಪುರ್ 2004 ರಿಂದ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂನ ಹಾನಿಕಾರಕ ಪರಿಣಾಮಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸಲು ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್ 16ರಿಂದ ಒಂದು ವಾರದ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದರು ಎಂದರು. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಗಶೆಟ್ಟಿಹಳ್ಳಿ ಹಾಲಶೆಟ್ಟಿಹಳ್ಳಿ ಮುಂತಾದ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಜನರು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದ್ದರು.

ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಹಾಲಶೆಟ್ಟಿಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ ಆಚರಣೆ

ಕೆ.ವಿ.ಕೆ ರಾಮನಗರ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಪಾರ್ಥೇನಿಯಂ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಸಪ್ತಾಹ

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Shivamogga

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Shivamogga organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Programme with the objective of sensitizing farmers, students, and the public about the harmful impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and the strategies for its effective management. The programme highlighted precautionary measures to minimize the spread of this invasive weed, which poses serious threats to human and animal health, crop productivity, and biodiversity. Detailed discussions were held on Integrated Weed Management (IWM) practices, emphasizing a combination of physical, chemical, and biological methods to control Parthenium in both cropped and non-cropped areas. Special focus was given to safe handling practices during weed removal, composting methods to utilize Parthenium biomass as organic manure, and the potential role of biological control agents such as the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*). The awareness programme was graced by the presence of Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, who addressed the participants on the ecological and economic importance of weed management. Dr. Sunil C., Senior Scientist and Head, along with all scientists of KVK, Shivamogga, actively contributed to the technical sessions and demonstrations. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 30 students and 20 farmers, making it a collaborative and impactful effort towards community-based weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Directorate of Extension, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

During the Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025), a total of 28 programmes were successfully conducted across 28 villages by seven Krishi Vigyan Kendras under the Directorate of Extension, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore. These initiatives were strategically organized to create awareness about the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus and its harmful effects on agriculture, human and animal health, and the environment, while promoting effective identification, eradication, and integrated management strategies. The campaign witnessed the active participation of 836 farmers, including 603 male and 255 female farmers, reflecting strong inclusivity and gender-sensitive outreach efforts. The substantial involvement of women farmers highlighted the commitment to engaging all sections of the farming community in collective weed management. Additionally, 153 stakeholders, such as extension personnel and local leaders, contributed to the effective implementation of the programmes. The awareness drive received significant media attention, with 14 press and news coverages enhancing public visibility. Furthermore, 60 social media initiatives across platforms like YouTube, WhatsApp, and Facebook expanded outreach to an estimated 34,669 individuals, demonstrating strong community interest. Through awareness sessions, field demonstrations, and media engagement, the programmes achieved comprehensive dissemination. Continued awareness, farmer training, and sustained community participation remain essential for long-term Parthenium control and safeguarding agricultural productivity and environmental health.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Chitradurga

Parthenium Awareness Week was organized at ICAR-KVK, Chitradurga from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. Dr. Parshuram Chandravanshi, Senior Scientist and Head, briefed the gathering on the history and spread of parthenium weed, which is now commonly found in habitats such as roadsides, wastelands, and cropped fields. He emphasized the importance of managing the weed before flowering and suggested several control measures, including: Uprooting of parthenium and cultivation of *Cassia tora* an allelopathic crop whose root exudates inhibit the germination of parthenium seeds. Dr. S. Onkarappa**,** Scientist (Plant Protection), elaborated on the biological control of parthenium using *Calligrapha bicolorata***,** a host-specific beetle that predominantly feeds on parthenium plant parts. Dr. Mahantesh P. S**.,** Scientist (Horticulture), explained the process of utilizing parthenium waste for composting and highlighted that compost prepared from parthenium is rich in nutrients and highly beneficial for perennial horticultural crops. Dr. Saraswathi J. M, Scientist (Home science) explained the harmful effects of parthenium on human beings**,** stressing the health hazards caused by exposure to the weed. Dr. Preethi, Scientist (Agril. Extension) emphasized the importance of a community approach in managing Parthenium, underlining that collective efforts are essential for its effective and sustainable control. The programme concluded with a parthenium clean-up campaign, during which participants removed weeds from the KVK office premises and its surroundings.

2.14 KERALA

Kerala, located in the southwestern part of India, covers an area of approximately 38,863 square kilometers, bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Karnataka to the north and northeast, and Tamil Nadu to the east and south. The state is known for its diverse ecosystems, featuring a long coastline, lush green hills, and extensive backwaters. As per the latest census, Kerala has a population of about 35 million, with approximately 17 million males and 18 million females, indicating a balanced gender ratio of around 1,051 females for every 1,000 males. The population is culturally diverse, predominantly composed of Malayalis alongside various other ethnic groups. Agriculture plays a vital role in the economy, with key crops including rubber, coconut, tea, coffee, and spices like pepper and cardamom, while rice remains a staple in low-lying

areas. The soil types in Kerala vary significantly, with alluvial soil in river deltas, red soil in hilly regions, and laterite soil in the midlands, supporting a range of agricultural practices. The state experiences a tropical monsoon climate, characterized by high humidity and significant rainfall, averaging between 2,500 mm and 3,500 mm annually, primarily during the southwest monsoon from June to September. Kerala boasts one of the highest literacy rates in India at approximately 96.2%, with male literacy around 97.4% and female literacy about 95.0%, reflecting the state's commitment to education. Furthermore, Kerala hosts several important agricultural research institutions that contribute to sustainable farming practices, enhancing agricultural productivity and innovation.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Koderma

The 19th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized at ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Koderma from 16 to 22 August 2025 under the guidance of ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers, students, and the local community about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* on health, agriculture, and the environment. Awareness programmes, interactive discussions, and distribution of extension literature were conducted. A mass uprooting drive was organized at the KVK campus and nearby villages, and the campus was declared Parthenium-free. Demonstrations on biological control using *Calligrapha bicolorata* and safe chemical control practices promoted integrated and sustainable management approaches.

2.15 MADHYA PRADESH

Madhya Pradesh, located in central India, covers approximately 308,350 square kilometers, making it the second-largest state in the country. It is bordered by Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Maharashtra, featuring diverse landscapes of plateaus, forests, and river valleys, along with the Vindhya and Satpura mountain ranges. As of the latest census, the state has a population of around 85 million, consisting of approximately 43 million males and 42 million females, yielding a gender ratio of about 981 females per 1,000 males. Madhya Pradesh is known as the "Rice Bowl of India," with major crops including wheat, rice, maize, pulses, and oilseeds like soybean and groundnut, supported by favorable agro-climatic conditions for horticulture. The soil types vary, with black soil prevalent in the western regions suitable for cotton, red soil

in the east supporting various crops, and fertile alluvial soil along riverbanks. The state experiences a diverse climate, from tropical in the south to subtropical in the north, with annual rainfall ranging from 800 mm to 1,200 mm, primarily during the southwest monsoon from June to September. The literacy rate stands at approximately 69.32%, with male literacy at 76.8% and female literacy at 60.0%, reflecting ongoing efforts to enhance educational access, especially for women and marginalized communities.

ICAR - Central Potato Research Institute, Regional Station, Gwalior

Under the guidance of ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research (DWR), Jabalpur, a national campaign for Parthenium uprooting was organized this year. The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute, Regional Station, Gwalior (MP) from 16th to 22nd August 2025. During the week-long program, institute employees uprooted Parthenium plants growing at various locations, including the entry gates, vehicle parking areas, field blocks A and B, and around the net house. The plants were destroyed, and herbicidal chemicals were applied to prevent further growth. On 22nd August 2025, the closing session was held, during which scientists and officials discussed various aspects of Parthenium management and the outcomes of the awareness program. The in-charge scientist highlighted the importance, utility, and achievements of the program, formally concluding the awareness week activities.

The campaign reinforced the institute's commitment to weed management and environmental safety, creating awareness among staff and ensuring the maintenance of weed-free research and field areas.

Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was celebrated in the Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur with great enthusiasm from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 at College of Veterinary Science & A.H. (Jabalpur, Mhow and Rewa) and College of Fishery Science, Jabalpur. This event was organised under the guidance and leadership of Honorable Vice Chancellor Dr. Mandeep Sharma and under the coordination of Director Extension Education Dr. Sunil Nayak with Dr. Rajesh Shjarma (Dean, CoVS,

Jabalpur), Dr. B.P. Shukla (Dean, CoVS, Mhow), Dr. A.P. Singh (Dean, CoVS, Rewa), Dr. S.K. Mahajan (Dean, CoFS, Jabalpur). The objective of the programme was to sensitize students and farmers about the growing menace of Parthenium hysterophorus and its adverse impact on human health, animal well-being, agricultural productivity, and biodiversity.

Various programs were organized in the different colleges of Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur during the week, the most important among them were awareness rally, farmer's seminar, Parthenium eradication campaign, and awareness lecture. Through the rally, students made people aware of the harmful effects of Parthenium by putting up banners and slogans. In the seminar, farmers were given information about scientific management of animal husbandry, disease control and measures related to control of Parthenium grass. Dr. Yogesh A. Chatur, Assistant Professor at the Collegeof Vety. Science & A.H., Rewa, delivered an insightful lecture highlighting the invasive nature of this weed, commonly known as Gaajar Ghaas or Congress Grass. He explained that Parthenium hysterophorus (Family: Asteraceae), an alien species accidentally introduced into India during the early 1950s through imported wheat consignments from the USA, has since spread aggressively across the country. He also elaborated on how the pollen grains, airborne fragments, and root exudates of this plant act as potent allergens, causing severe health disorders in humans such as contact dermatitis, hay fever, asthma, and bronchitis. He also discussed its negative effects on livestock health and its role in environmental degradation, loss of soil fertility, and decline of native biodiversity. Various eradication measures—such as burning, application of chemical herbicides, use of eucalyptus oil, and biological control methods employing leaf-feeding beetles, stem-galling moths, stem-boring weevils, and pathogenic fungi—were reviewed, noting that these approaches have met with only partial success. Following the awareness session, students of the College actively participated in a campus-wide drive to physically remove Parthenium weeds from the premises, reinforcing the importance of practical engagement alongside theoretical learning. Also, the Dean and Professors addressed the farmers of Dhar, Jhabua, Khandwa and Dewas districts and shed light on the health side effects caused by Parthenium and scientific methods for its elimination.

The successful organization of the programme was made possible in the direction of Dr. Rajesh Shjarma (Dean, CoVS, Jabalpur), Dr. B.P.Shukla (Dean, CoVS, Mhow), Dr. A.P. Singh (Dean, CoVS, Rewa), Dr. S.K. Mahajan(Dean, CoFS, Jabalpur) and through the dedicated efforts of the faculty members, Dr. Vipin Gupta, Dr. Yogita Pandey, Dr. Kavita Rawat, Dr. Pawan Maheshwari and Dr. Alka Suman Dr. Upendra Singh Narwaria, Dr. Yogesh A. Chatur, and Dr. Anil Kumar Singh, whose contributions were instrumental in

ensuring its smooth conduct. Along with this, with the cooperation of all the professors, staff and students of all the colleges, this event was successfully completed. Director Extension Dr. Sunil Nayak congratulated the colleges for the successful organization of the program.

College of Agriculture, RVSKVV, Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh)

All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Management (AICRP-WM), College of Agriculture, RVSKVV, Gwalior (M.P.) celebrated "20th *Parthenium Awareness Week"* from 16-22 August, 2025 under the guidance of Dr. R.S. Chundawat, Head of Department (Agronomy) with the corporation of staffs, scientists and students of College of Agriculture, Gwalior successfully. Throughout the week, various activities were carried out at college and village levels. The main aim of this programme was to spread the awareness among farmers, students and residents of college campus, about ill-effects of *Parthenium* and its control measures. The publicity was done through newspaper, pamphlets and giving lectures. During the 7 days programme the PI of the Project Dr. Sudhir Singh Bhadauria, Scientists Dr. Janmejay Sharma, CO-PI Dr. Nisha Singh, FEO Sh. Shivnarayan Kushwah, FEO Dr. Y.K. Singh, Miss Neelam Singh, Guest Teacher, Ku. Prashansha Verma, Ph.D. Scholar and other staff Mr. Sunil Kushwah, field men Shri. Rajesh were present and involved in the programme with full of energy and zeal.

16 August, 2025: Awareness programme in the Bal Bhawan, Gwalior: A programme was organized in the Bal Bhawan, Gandhi Road, district Gwalior. The programme was chaired by the PI of the project Dr. Sudhir Singh Bhadauria. The lecture on the harmful effects of *Parthenium* and its control measures were delivered by Dr. Janmejay Sharma. Near about 20-25 city folks participated in the programme.

Bal Bhawan, Gandhi Road, District: Gwalior

17 August, 2025: Awareness programme at Power House, Birla Nagar, Gwalior: This programme was organized at the Power House, Birla Nagar, Gwalior. Project Co-PI Dr. Nisha Singh gave information about the harmful effects of carrot grass on soil, crops, animals and humans. After this, carrot grass was controlled by spraying glyphosate herbicide with sprayer on the carrot grass growing on the power house and road side. The program was conducted by Dr. Y.K. Singh, FEO and at the end of the program, Sh. Shivnarayan Kushwah, FEO expressed gratitude towards all the guests.

Power House, Birla Nagar, Gwalior

18 August, 2025: Awareness programme in Residential Campus College of Agriculture, Gwalior: A programme was successfully organized at Residential campus, College of Agriculture, Gwalior. Around 25-30 girls were present in the meeting. Scientists suggested various measures to control the *Parthenium* and also informed about the ill effects of this weed on health, environment, animals and agricultural productivity. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Y.K. Singh. All villagers were promised to eradicate *Parthenium* and make their village free from *parthenium*.

Residential Campus, College of Agriculture, Gwalior

19 August, 2025: Awareness programme at Line No. 3 Birla Nagar Hazira, Gwalior: A programme was successfully organized at Line No. 3 Birla Nagar Hazira, Gwalior. During yoga session the lectures were delivered by Dr. Sudhir Singh Bhadauria and Dr. Janmejay Sharma followed by the demonstration of herbicide application in the field to control the *Parthenium*. Around 20-25 residents including AICRP-WM staff and other scientists from college participated in this programme. After this, carrot grass was eradicated by spraying glyphosate herbicide by spray pump on the carrot grass growing on the park grounds and road side.

Village: Aganupura, District: Bhind

20 August, 2025: Awareness programme at C.N. Convent Higher Secondary School, Gwalior: A programme on "*Parthenium awareness"* was successfully organized in the C.N. Convent Higher Secondary School, Indramani Nagar, Gwalior during yoga session. Lectures on *Parthenium* control including biological control using different plant species of the region were delivered by Dr. Sudhir Singh Bhadauria and Dr. Janmejay Sharma followed by demonstration of herbicide application in the field to control the *Parthenium*. The scientists of AICRP-WM also emphasized the residents of C.N. Convent Higher Secondary School, Gwalior to clean the place nearby own house and use *Cassia tora* and marigold seed/ plants for its control. In this programme near about 15-20 residents of Gwalior were present.

C.N. Convent Higher Secondary School, Gwalior

21 August, 2025: Awareness programme in the ITI College Gwalior: This programme was organized with the help of Shri Vijay Sadh, Professor, ITI College, Gwalior. Around 35-40 residents were present in the meeting. Scientists suggested various measures to control the *Parthenium* and also informed about the ill effects of this weed on health, environment, animals and agricultural productivity. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Y.K. Singh. All Professors, staffs & students of ITI College, Gwalior promised to eradicate *parthenium* and make their campus free from *parthenium*.

ITI College Gwalior (M.P.)

22 August, 2025: Awareness programme at College of Agriculture, Gwalior: On 22nd August, 2025 the closing ceremony of the programme "*Parthenium* awareness week" was organized in College of Agriculture, Gwalior. Dr. Nisha Singh, Co-PI, AICRP-WM, Gwalior highlighted the harmful effects of *Parthenium* on human health and various methods of its management. She also emphasized on the utilization of *Parthenium* as compost. At the end of this programme student have asked many questions on *Parthenium* and they were very happy to know about *Parthenium*. About 70-75 students participated in this programme. Dr. Y.K. Singh expressed the vote of thanks at the end of this programme.

स्वदेश

ग्वालियर, शुक्रवार 21 अगस्त 2025

गाजरघास के प्रति किया जागरूक

नगर संवाददाता ▸ ग्वालियर

राजमाता विजयाराजे सिंधिया कृषि विश्वविद्यालय में संचालित अखिल भारतीय समन्वित खरपतवार प्रबंधन परियोजना, कृषि महाविद्यालय द्वारा 20वां गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया जा रहा है। इसी क्रम में 19 अगस्त को चौथे दिन का कार्यक्रम बिरला नगर हजीरा में आयोजित किया गया। कार्यक्रम में प्रभारी डॉ. सुधीर सिंह भदौरिया ने गाजरघास नियंत्रण विधियों और महत्व पर प्रकाश डाला। डॉ. जनमेजय शर्मा ने खरपतवारों से फसल, मिट्टी व स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ने वाले दुष्प्रभाव बताए, वहीं डॉ. निशा सिंह ने जैविक नियंत्रण उपायों की जानकारी दी। कार्यक्रम का संचालन डॉ. वाई.के. सिंह ने किया और आभार प्रदर्शन शिवनारायण कुशवाह ने किया।

News Paper Clip (Lashkar Kiran)
21.08.2025

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह : खरपतवार प्रबंधन विधि एवं महत्व के बारे में जानकारी दी

अखिल भारतीय समन्वित खरपतवार प्रबंधन परियोजना

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राजमाता विजयाराजे सिंधिया कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, ग्वालियर में संचालित अखिल भारतीय समन्वित खरपतवार प्रबंधन परियोजना, कृषि महाविद्यालय, ग्वालियर द्वारा 16 से 22 अगस्त तक 20 वाँ गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। विभागाध्यक्ष (सस्यविज्ञान) डॉ. आर.एस. चूँडावत के निर्देशन में कार्यक्रम बनाया गया। जागरूकता सप्ताह के चौथे दिन का आयोजन लाईन नं. 3, बिरला नगर, हजीरा, जिला ग्वालियर में किया गया। कार्यक्रम में डॉ. सुधीर सिंह भदौरिया, परियोजना प्रभारी अखिल भारतीय समन्वित खरपतवार प्रबंधन परियोजना, ग्वालियर, डॉ. जनमेजय शर्मा, वैज्ञानिक (सस्यविज्ञान), डॉ. निशा सिंह, वैज्ञानिक (सस्यविज्ञान), डॉ. वाई. के. सिंह, प्रक्षेत्र विस्तार अधिकारी, शिवनारायण कुशवाह, प्रक्षेत्र विस्तार अधिकारी एवं सुनील कुशवाह उपस्थित रहे। गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह में प्रभारी डॉ. सुधीर सिंह भदौरिया, वैज्ञानिक द्वारा गाजरघास खरपतवार प्रबंधन विधि एवं महत्व के बारे में जानकारी दी गई। इस कार्यक्रम में लगभग बड़ी संख्या में शहरवासी उपस्थित रहे।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Rajgarh

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rajgarh, under RVSKVV, successfully organized the "Parthenium Awareness Programme" from 16th to 22nd August 2025, aimed at educating farmers and community members about the adverse effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass or Gajar Ghas) on human and animal health, crop productivity, biodiversity, and the environment. On 19th August 2025, a focused session was conducted for 24 participants, who actively engaged in creating a Parthenium-free campus at KVK Rajgarh. During the programme, participants were informed about the health hazards posed by the weed, its invasive nature, and the urgent need for timely management. On 22nd August 2025, during the commencement of the five-day Natural Farming training, discussions were held with "Krishi Sakhis" regarding the widespread impact of Parthenium, which affects approximately 35 million hectares across India. The participants were sensitized on its detrimental effects on milch animals and human health. Dr. Kaushik, Senior Scientist and Head, explained biological control methods using *Calligrapha bicolorata*, highlighting that even a low population of beetles can help manage the weed, while deploying more than 15 pairs accelerates control effectively. Dr. Khandwe and Dr. Lal Singh demonstrated methods for preparing Parthenium compost, an eco-friendly organic fertilizer made from the invasive weed, emphasizing its potential in sustainable agriculture. Smt. Ghazala Khan presented a video detailing the effects of Parthenium on human health, while Dr. Anil K. Mishra provided insights into the history and spread of this invasive species. The programme successfully enhanced awareness among farmers and Krishi Sakhis, equipping them with practical knowledge on mechanical, biological, and compost-based management strategies. Participants were encouraged to actively adopt these measures in their fields and communities, contributing to a cleaner, healthier environment and sustainable farming practices.

प्रेस राजगढ़-अशोक नगर-भोपाल-गुना भोपाल, सोमवार, 25 अगस्त 2025 6

कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र, राजगढ़ द्वारा गाजरघास उन्मूलन जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Betul

The parthenium awareness program was conducted in Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Betul from 16-22 August 2025.The activities like Awareness program conducted in Government Agriculture School Betul Bazar in which 50 students were involved. The students were given the information about the harmful effects of parthenium, how it causes skin infections and the process of removal of it from the school campus. The Awareness program was also organized in the village Sai Khandara and in campus of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Betul where 54 farmers were demonstrated about the harmful effect of Parthenium in their fields. The farmers were also given the information about the release of Mexican Beetle for controlling the weed in the field. The method of preparation of vermi-compost was also defined to the farmers.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ratlam

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ratlam, under the mandate of ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, successfully organized *Parthenium Awareness Week* from 16 to 22 August 2025. The programme was conducted under the leadership of Dr. Loshesh Tripathi along with scientific staff of the KVK, with active participation of farmers, farm women, students, and rural youth. Various awareness activities were carried out throughout the week focusing on the identification, harmful effects, and management strategies of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass). During the programme, participants were educated about the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human and animal health, including skin irritation, allergies, asthma, and the decline in livestock productivity. It was highlighted that rapid spread of this invasive weed leads to a loss of nearly 30–40% yield in affected crops. Experts demonstrated scientific management practices for Parthenium control, emphasizing mechanical removal and safe disposal techniques. Methods of compost preparation from Parthenium biomass were demonstrated to encourage farmers in converting uprooted weed into useful organic compost. Technical sessions also focused on integrated weed management, biological control options, and precautionary measures in agricultural fields. Farmers were motivated to regularly remove Parthenium from their surroundings and adopt eco-friendly management practices. The programme recorded active participation of 108 farmers, marking a significant outreach effort. The event was successfully conducted with valuable contributions from Dr. Brajraj Sharma, Dr. S.R. Katoda, Dr. Ramesh Chouhan, Dr. Rohit Singh Bhadauya, Dr. Sukhdev Kumar, Dr. Kanhaiya Pratap Firoji, Dr. Shishir Takad, Shri Manish Kumar Jat and Shri Vanu Meena. The programme resulted in increased awareness and strengthened community responsibility towards Parthenium eradication for healthier crop fields and safer environments.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Tikamgarh

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Tikamgarh organized Parthenium Awareness Week under the nationwide campaign to eradicate the noxious weed Parthenium hysterophorus (commonly known as Congress grass). The program aimed to create awareness among farmers, students, and rural communities about the harmful effects of Parthenium on agriculture, livestock, human health, and the environment, along with its management practices.

Activities Conducted -

- **Awareness program:** Farmers and students participated in a rally carrying placards and slogans against Parthenium.
- **Lectures & Demonstrations:** Scientists of KVK briefed participants about its negative impacts on crop productivity, livestock health (causing skin allergies, eye irritation), and biodiversity loss.
- **Weed Eradication Campaign:** Practical demonstrations were conducted in the KVK campus and nearby villages for uprooting Parthenium.
- **Biological Control Promotion:** Distribution and demonstration of bio-control agent Calligrapha bicolorata was carried out.
- **Farmers' Interaction:** Farmers shared their experiences about Parthenium infestation in fields and were guided on integrated management practices (manual uprooting, chemical control using glyphosate/metribuzin, biological control).

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh, is a key agricultural extension institution committed to improving farm productivity, sustainability, and farmers' livelihoods in the district. KVK Mandsaur also actively observes national awareness programmes to address emerging agricultural and environmental issues. As part of its extension mandate, the KVK regularly celebrates **Parthenium Awareness Week** (16–22 August) in coordination with ICAR initiatives. During this week, awareness programmes are organized in villages, schools, and public places to educate farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass) on human health, livestock, crops, and biodiversity. Activities include lectures, group discussions, field demonstrations on mechanical uprooting and safe disposal, poster and leaflet distribution, rallies, and interaction with farmer groups and self-help groups. Emphasis is laid on integrated management approaches, community participation, and eco-friendly control measures. Through such programmes, along with its regular extension activities, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mandsaur plays a significant role in promoting sustainable agriculture, environmental protection, and awareness-based weed management for the benefit of the farming community and society at large.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Bhojpur

Parthenium Awareness Week (16-22 August 2025) was successfully observed at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Bhojpur under the active monitoring and guidance of Dr. Shobha Rani, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Bhojpur. The programme featured the dedicated efforts of KVK scientists and staff at both the KVK campus and various villages in the district, aiming to educate farmers about the numerous adverse effects of Parthenium weed on human health, animal wellbeing, and agricultural productivity. During the awareness activities, in village Dhamar and Chandi farmers were informed about the aggressive growth of Parthenium and its ability to occupy vast areas, leading to a decline in forage availability and thus affecting animal nutrition. Its pollen causes respiratory allergies in humans and skin diseases, which was highlighted as a serious concern by the scientists. Practical demonstrations were held on manual removal techniques, safe disposal methods, and the importance of regular monitoring to prevent its establishment. The staff also emphasized integrated management approaches combining mechanical, chemical, and biological methods. RAWE students of Veer Kuwar Singh Colladge of Agriculture also participated in these programmes. In her address, Dr. Shobha Rani stressed, "Combating Parthenium requires sustained community participation and adoption of practical control measures. Awareness among farmers is the first crucial step toward effective management, and KVK Bhojpur is committed to facilitating this change." The weeklong programme concluded with a strong commitment from all stakeholders at KVK Bhojpur to continue efforts in Parthenium awareness, sustainable control, and to mobilize more farmers and institutions for collective action. The campaign significantly enhanced local understanding of Parthenium's threat and fostered a community-driven approach toward its eradication.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Katni

Under the guidance of the Senior Scientist and Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Katni, **Dr. Sanjay Vaishnavayan**, and in the presence of agricultural scientists **Dr. R. K. Mishra, Dr. Arpita Srivastava, Dr. K. P. Trivedi, Dr. R. P. Ben, and Dr. Sandeep Chandravanshi**, a **Parthenium (Gajar Ghas) Awareness Programme** was organized at KVK, Katni. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Katni observed **Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August, 2025** to create awareness about the harmful effects caused by parthenium weed. During this period, awareness activities were conducted at the KVK campus as well as in various villages by visiting farmers' fields. Farmer meetings, training programmes, and field-level activities related to the eradication of parthenium weed were organized. The Senior Scientist and Head, **Dr. Sanjay Vaishnavayan**, informed that **Parthenium Awareness Week is observed every year from 16 to 22 August**. Parthenium is a poisonous weed that adversely affects human and animal health and is also harmful to the environment. Its heavy infestation in agricultural fields leads to reduced crop productivity. He emphasized that this weed should be destroyed at an early growth stage. The problem can be effectively managed through **collective community action at the village level**. The senior scientists of KVK provided detailed information on the **identification and management practices of parthenium weed**. They explained that the weed is commonly found in large quantities during the rainy season along roadsides, vacant lands, and field bunds. Contact with its pollen causes **skin allergies and respiratory problems**. Farmers were also informed about **preparing compost from parthenium weed** as a method of safe utilization.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Govindnagar, Narmadapuram

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Govindnagar Narmadapuram successfully organized 20th *Parthenium* Awareness Week 2025 at KVK. The programme was conducted as part of a nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to raise awareness about the hazardous and noxious weed *Parthenium hysterophorus,* commonly known as "Congress grass," and to encourage community participation in its eradication.

The programme was attended by scientists, staff members, farmers, and RAWE students. During the programme Brajesh K. Namdev Scientist –Entomology highlighted the harmful effects of *Parthenium* on human and animal health, crop productivity, and the environment. It was emphasized that the weed causes skin allergies, asthma, and reduces biodiversity by suppressing useful vegetation. He also interacts with RAWE students for its biological control (*Calligrapha bicolorata*). Dr Rajendra Patel, Scientist, Agronomy provides information on manure preparation by *Parthenium* and its nutrient composition.

During the week, various activities were carried out, including awareness campaigns through lectures and group discussions, demonstrations on mechanical and cultural control methods and practical training on the use of biological control agents such as *Calligrapha bicolorata*.

A total of 450 RAWE students' and farmers actively participated in the activities and contributed to the progress of the programme by engaging in training sessions and awareness initiatives. The programme also encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices for managing *Parthenium*.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Barwani

20th Parthenium Awareness Weeks, was held at RVSKVV-KVK Barwani during 16-22 August 2025. The main objective of this programme was highlight the negative impacts of the invasive Parthenium weed on health, agriculture, and biodiversity. During celebrations Dr. S. K. Badodiya Head of KVK Barwani delivered lecture including manual eradication drives, Farmers awareness campaigns, educational lectures on biological control using Mexican beetles, and discussions on alternative uses of the weed viz. vermi-composting and NADEP manure preparation from parthenium. The goal is to promote integrated and eco-friendly management practices and to make farmers field, agricultural campuses, School and college campuses and surrounding communities free from Parthenium weed. During farmers awareness campaign and educational lectures delivered (by Dr. D. K. Jain Scientist-Horticulture) important facts about spread of parthenium viz. each plant of parthenium having capacity to produce more than 25000 numbers of seeds, and suggested parthenium should be weed out before flowering and disposed properly for minimizing further multiplication

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Morena

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Morena had been celebrating the parthenium awareness programme during August 16-22, 2025. During the programme different extension activities were conducted to create awareness in farming community about the hazardus effects of parthenium on human, Animals, cops and Environment.

During parthenium awareness week various activities were performed for create awareness about the hazardous effect of parthenium. Total 7 different activities i.e. Awareness programme, Field visits, group meetings, sanitation and spray at parthenium field with farmers. Total 135 farmers of 3 blocks of Morena district were participated in different programme during parthenium awareness week from 16-22 August 2025.

2.16 MAHARASHTRA

Maharashtra, located in the western region of India, spans approximately 307,713 square kilometers, making it the third-largest state in the country. It is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Gujarat to the northwest, Madhya Pradesh to the north, Chhattisgarh to the east, and Goa to the south, featuring a diverse geography that includes coastal areas, the Western Ghats, plateaus, and fertile river valleys. As per the latest census, Maharashtra has a population of around 124 million, with approximately 64 million males and 60 million females, resulting in a gender ratio of about 937 females for every 1,000 males. The state is ethnically diverse, with Marathi as the official language. Agriculture is a crucial part of the economy, with major crops including sugarcane, cotton, rice, jowar (sorghum), and pulses, alongside significant fruit production in the Nashik region, renowned for its vineyards. The soil types vary, with black soil prevalent in the Deccan plateau, alluvial soil in river valleys, and red soil in the eastern and southern regions. Maharashtra experiences a varied climate, from tropical along the coast to temperate in the hills, with distinct seasons and average annual rainfall ranging from 600 mm in rain shadow areas to over 4,000 mm in the Western Ghats. The literacy rate stands at approximately 82.34%, with male literacy at 88.37% and female literacy at 75.87%, reflecting significant investments in education. The state hosts several key agricultural research institutions and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) that enhance agricultural development and support farmers, contributing to the overall growth of the agricultural sector.

ICAR-National Research Centre on Pomegranate, Solapur

The 20th "Parthenium Awareness Week" was conducted at ICAR–National Research Centre on Pomegranate (ICAR–NRC on Pomegranate), Solapur, Maharashtra, from 16th August 2025 to 22nd August 2025. Various activities were organized during the week, including the release of Mexican beetles (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), awareness programmes for scientists, farmers, and school students, uprooting of Parthenium, spraying of recommended herbicides, and a student rally to disseminate awareness messages in the surrounding areas.

The programme was inaugurated by the competent authority of ICAR–NRC on Pomegranate with the ceremonial release of Mexican beetles as a biological control agent against *Parthenium hysterophorus*. The inaugural event also included the uprooting of Parthenium plants within the campus and an awareness interaction session with the students of S. M. Shankarrao Mohite Patil School.

Parthenium, commonly known as carrot weed in Hindi-speaking regions and Congress grass in other parts of India, had spread extensively across the country after its first noticeable occurrence in Pune (Maharashtra) in 1955. Over the years, it attained the status of one of the country's worst weeds due to its strong allelopathic effects on agricultural crops and its harmful impacts on human and animal health. While during the 1980s it was largely confined to fallow and wastelands, it had gradually invaded cultivated fields, orchards, roadsides, and even forested areas.

Activity No. 1: Creation of Parthenium Awareness

The competent authority and staff of ICAR–NRC on Pomegranate actively participated in the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week. Awareness programmes were conducted for the students and staff of S. M. Shankarrao Mohite Patil School through lectures and interactive sessions.

Comprehensive knowledge was imparted to the participants regarding the history and spread of Parthenium, its adverse effects, compost preparation from uprooted biomass, safe and judicious herbicide spraying techniques, and the significance of Mexican beetles in sustainable weed management. The activities successfully enhanced awareness among students, scientists, and farmers about the importance of collective and integrated efforts for effective control of Parthenium.

Inauguration of 20th Parthenium Awareness Week by Director, ICAR-NRCP, Solapur

Creating awareness among S. M. Shankarrao Mohite Patil School Students

Release of Parthenium biocontrol agents

ACTIVITY NO 2: Students Rally

A students' rally was conducted in collaboration with the students of Sahakar Shankarrao Mohite Patil School, Kegaon, along with the staff of ICAR–NRC on Pomegranate, Solapur. The rally was organized to create mass awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and the need for its effective management. Students actively participated by carrying placards and raising slogans highlighting the health hazards, environmental degradation, and agricultural losses caused by the weed.

Following the rally, an interactive awareness session was organized for the school students. During the session, detailed information was provided about the Mexican beetle (Calligrapha bicolorata), including its life cycle, lifespan, feeding behavior, and its role as an effective biological control agent against Parthenium. The students were educated on how both larvae and adult beetles feed on the leaves of Parthenium, thereby suppressing its growth and reducing seed production. The session enhanced the students' understanding of eco-friendly and sustainable weed management approaches.

ICAR–Central Institute for Cotton Research

ICAR–Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur observed the 20th *Parthenium Awareness Week* from August 16–22, 2025. A special eradication drive was carried out in and around the institute's campus with the active participation of scientific, technical, administrative, supporting and contractual staff. Addressing the gathering, Dr. V.N. Waghmare, Director, ICAR-CICR, emphasized the importance of removing the parthenium weed before flowering, linking it to the broader objectives of *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* and *One Health*. He also highlighted its relevance in managing the emerging Tobacco Streak Virus (TSV) disease in cotton-growing regions of Central and Southern India. In his remarks, Dr. A.S. Tayde stressed the need for collective action involving farmers, school children, local communities, and institutions. He outlined effective management practices such as creating awareness through training, meetings, and demonstrations, uprooting the weed before flowering broadcasting competitive plant species like *Cassia tora* and *Tagetes erecta* to suppress Parthenium, applying suitable herbicides in crop and non-crop areas under expert guidance and Releasing biocontrol agents like *Calligrapha bicolorata* during July-August. The programme was also graced by Dr. G.T. Behre and Dr. Vinita Gotmare. Following the formal session, eradication activities were undertaken in different experimental fields of all the divisions, the KVK fields and farm sections of the institute. The programme was successfully coordinated by Dr. Ramkrushna G.I., Senior Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.

'सीसीआरआय'कडून गाजर गवत निर्मूलन मोहीम

अॅग्रोवन वृत्तसेवा

नागपूर : गाजर गवताचे विविध क्षेत्रातील परिणाम लक्षात घेता फुलोरा येण्यापूर्वीच त्याच्या निर्मूलनावर भर देण्याची गरज असल्याचे मत केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेचे संचालक डॉ. विजय वाघमारे यांनी केले. केंद्रीय कापूस संशोधन संस्थेत गाजर गवत निर्मूलन जागृती सप्ताह राबविण्यात आला. या निमित्ताने आयोजित कार्यक्रमात ते बोलत होते.

कार्यक्रमाला डॉ. जी. टी. बेहरे, डॉ. विनीता गोतमारे, डॉ. रामाकृष्णा जी.आय., अर्जुन तायडे यांची उपस्थिती होती.

या वेळी डॉ. वाघमारे म्हणाले, की गाजर गवत निर्मूलन सप्ताह दरवर्षी ऑगस्ट महिन्यात राबविला जातो. परथेनियम हिस्टेफोरस या तणाबाबत जागृती तसेच त्याच्या नियंत्रणासाठी प्रभावी उपाययोजनांचा प्रसार असा उद्देश यामागे आहे. गाजरगवत किंवा कॅरट वीड म्हणून ओळखले जाणारे हे परदेशी तण शेतीपिके, मानवी आरोग्य, पशुधन, चराऊ जमीन तसेच जैवविविधतेस गंभीर धोका निर्माण करते. विसाव्या शतकाच्या १९५० या वर्षातील दशकात भारतात पहिल्यांदा हे तण आढळून आले. हे तण सध्या ३.५० कोटी हेक्टरहून अधिक क्षेत्रात पसरले असून रेल्वे मार्ग, रस्त्याच्या कडेला व पडीक जमिनीसह शेतीबाह्य क्षेत्रातही आढळते. एका रोपट्यातून ५००० ते ५०,००० बिया निर्माण करण्याच्या क्षमतेमुळे याचा प्रसार झपाट्याने होतो.

All India coordinated Research Projects-weed management, Akola

Parthenium Awareness Week (PAW), organized by the AICRP-Weed Management, Akola center, aims to educate the public about the invasive Parthenium weed. This year, the event extended its reach beyond the center itself, engaging with various colleges, KVKs and Agriculture Technical Schools under the university's jurisdiction to disseminate the information to a broader audience.

During the programme I/c Principal Investigator, AICRP-Weed Management, Dr.V.V. Goud, Assistant Professor, Dr. P.V. Shingrup, Assistant Professor and Mangesh Gawande along with M.Sc. & Ph.D. students from Department of Agronomy were present.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Pokharni Nanded-I

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pokharni Nanded-I under the Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur observed "Parthenium Awareness Week" during 16th -22nd August 2025 & Organized parthenium eradication awareness program. The main objective of this programme was to create awareness among the staff, farmers & School students about harmful effects of parthenium & motivate them to eradicate the noxious weed. *Parthenium Hysterophorus* Eradication Awareness Campaign" held at Saraswati Secondary School, Sayal, organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Pokharni, Nanded-1 under the guidance of Dr. Devikant Deshmukh, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK. Total 65 students of school, teachers, and other staff members from the school as well Krishi Vigyan Kendra Pokharni, Nanded-I. To raise awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium Hysterophorus (Gajar gawat) and its eradication methods.

In this awareness program Dr. A.M. Kshatriya (SMS Agri. Extn) , KVK Pokharni, addressed the gathering and introduced the need for awareness and the damage caused by parthenium Hysterophorus (Gajar gawat) then Prof. S.H. Jayabhaye (SMS, Agronomy KVK Pokharni) explained what is parthenium hysterophorus (Gajar gawat), how it arrived in India, its harmful effects, diseases caused by it, and preventive measures and precautions during eradication then Prof. A.S. Pawale (Home Science Expert) discussed the adverse effects of parthenium Hysterophorus (Gajar gawat) on the health of women and children, such as asthma, skin diseases, and allergies. Shri. Gachche M.S. Sir, the Headmaster of Saraswati Secondary School, Sayal also addressed students & staff about eradication of harmful weed in Agriculture field & what is role of rural area students in it. All KVK staff were participated in this programme.

ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai

The ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE) observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025, as part of the nationwide campaign to control the spread of Parthenium hysterophorus, a highly invasive and harmful weed. ICAR-CIFE is a Parthenium-free campus, maintained through consistent monitoring and timely removal to prevent infestation. As part of the awareness week activities, garden workers conducted a comprehensive inspection tour across the campus to identify and eliminate any occurrence of Parthenium plants. This proactive approach has helped maintain the ecological health and cleanliness of the campus.

Mr. Pranay Biswal, Incharge, Garden Section, explained about parthenium to the garden workers focused on the dangers of Parthenium, including its impact on human health (allergies, respiratory problems), livestock, crops, and biodiversity, the health risks to workers who may come in contact with the plant and proper methods and safety precautions to be followed during Parthenium removal, including the use of gloves and masks.

To support widespread awareness, a Parthenium Awareness Poster was prepared and circulated within the campus. In addition, folders and posters developed by the Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, were printed and distributed for wider dissemination of information on Parthenium management and control strategies.

The entire program was conducted under the leadership of Dr. N.P. Sahu, Director (Acting), ICAR-CIFE, who emphasized the importance of continuous vigilance and awareness to keep the campus Parthenium-free and to contribute to national efforts in combating invasive weeds.

2.17 MANIPUR

Manipur, located in the northeastern part of India, covers an area of approximately 22,327 square kilometres, bordered by Myanmar to the east and south, Mizoram to the southwest, Assam to the west and northwest, and Nagaland to the north. The state is known for its diverse ecosystems, featuring the unique Loktak Lake, rolling hills, and fertile valleys. As per the latest census, Manipur has a population of about 3.22 million, with approximately 1.61 million males and 1.61 million females, indicating a balanced gender ratio. The population is culturally diverse, predominantly composed of Meiteis, Pangal Muslims, Christians alongside various tribal communities including Nagas and Kukis.

Agriculture plays a vital role in the economy, with key crops including rice as the staple crop in valley areas, maize, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane, and various horticultural crops like citrus fruits, pineapple, and vegetables. The soil types in Manipur vary significantly, with alluvial soil in valley areas, red and lateritic soil in hill regions, supporting diverse agricultural practices. The state experiences a subtropical monsoon climate, characterized by moderate to high humidity and significant rainfall, averaging between 1,200 mm and 1,800 mm annually, primarily during the southwest monsoon from May to September. Manipur has a literacy rate of approximately 79.2%, with male literacy around 86.5% and female literacy about 72.3%, reflecting ongoing educational development in the state. Furthermore, Manipur hosts several important agricultural research and educational institutions that contribute to sustainable farming practices, enhancing agricultural productivity and innovation.

In Manipur, *Parthenium* infestation has become an emerging concern in parts of Imphal East, Imphal West, and Churachandpur districts, particularly along roadways and in disturbed habitats. The weed poses potential threats to agricultural productivity, biodiversity, and public health.

College of Agriculture, Iroisemba, Central Agricultural University

During the *Parthenium* Awareness Week 2025 at College of Agriculture, Iroisemba, Central Agricultural University, Imphal, a comprehensive program was organized under the leadership of Prof. Brajendra Singh, Dean (i/c), College of Agriculture, chairpersonship of Dr. K. Nandini Devi, Professor and Head of Agronomy. The coordinating team included Dr. Punabati Heisnam, Assistant Professor of Agronomy as Coordinator, along with Co-coordinators Dr. Abhinash Moirangthem, Assistant Professor of Horticulture, Dr. G. K. Dinesh, Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences, and Dr. Y. Linthoingambi Devi, Scientist (Plant Breeding).

The program focused on final year B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture students (RAWE Agronomy Team), providing detailed lectures on the noxious effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. In this session, all critical points regarding *Parthenium* management were thoroughly covered, including the identification characteristics of *Parthenium*, its impact on crop productivity, livestock health, and human health concerns

such as dermatitis and respiratory problems. Various management strategies were discussed, including mechanical control through uprooting before flowering, biological control methods, and chemical control options.

Practical demonstrations were provided during the campus cleanup drive on 22nd August 2025, where *Parthenium* weeds were systematically removed from around the college campus. The collected biomass is being utilized for hot composting, demonstrating sustainable waste management practices and converting the noxious weed into useful organic fertilizer. This approach not only addresses the immediate problem of weed infestation but also promotes circular economy principles in agriculture.

A comprehensive two-page awareness pamphlet was prepared and distributed among students and faculty, containing detailed information about *Parthenium* identification, its harmful effects, and integrated management strategies. The session concluded with the campus cleanup drive, ensuring that the College of Agriculture, Iroisemba is moving towards becoming *Parthenium*-free while simultaneously creating awareness among future agricultural professionals about this invasive species and its management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Churachandpur

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Churachandpur, ICAR-RC for NEH Region, Manipur Centre organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at Lower Kom Keirap, Churachandpur District, Manipur. The programme was conducted with the objective of creating awareness among the rural community about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress grass) on human health, livestock, biodiversity, and crop productivity.

As part of the campaign, a cleaning programme was carried out with active involvement of the villagers. A total of 23 villagers participated in the field-level eradication activity, where Parthenium weeds were manually uprooted and disposed of safely to reduce its spread in the locality. Awareness was also created on preventive measures and the importance of community participation in sustainable management of this invasive weed.

The event highlighted the joint responsibility of farmers, youth, and local institutions in ensuring a healthy environment. The week-long programme concluded with a call for continued vigilance and cooperation in controlling Parthenium infestation for safeguarding agriculture and public health in the district.

2.18 MEGHALAYA

Meghalaya, located in northeastern India, covers an area of approximately 22,429 square kilometers and is bordered by Assam to the north and east, and Bangladesh to the south and west. As per the latest census, the state has a population of around 3.0 million, with a relatively balanced gender ratio of about 989 females for every 1,000 males. Meghalaya is known for its rich tribal heritage, predominantly inhabited by Khasi, Garo, and Jaintia communities. Agriculture is a key component of the state's economy, with major crops including rice, maize, pulses, oilseeds, and cash crops such as turmeric, ginger, and arecanut. The region is characterized by hilly terrain with fertile valleys, lateritic soils, and high organic matter content, supporting both traditional shifting cultivation (jhum) and settled farming. Meghalaya experiences a humid subtropical climate and is one of the wettest regions in the world, receiving heavy rainfall mainly during the monsoon season from June to September, with annual precipitation ranging from 2,500 mm to over 10,000 mm in certain areas like Cherrapunji and Mawsynram.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Thoubal

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was successfully observed from 16 to 22 August 2025 by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Thoubal under ICAR–ATARI, Zone-VII, Umiam, Meghalaya, with the Department of Agriculture, Government of Manipur as the host institute. The programme was part of the nationwide initiative undertaken by ICAR institutes since 1980 to educate farmers and communities about the harmful effects and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. During the week, a series of awareness, demonstration, and outreach activities were organized to sensitize farmers and other stakeholders about the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health, livestock, agriculture, and the environment. Key activities included awareness programmes with local dignitaries and media coverage, demonstrations on the application of recommended herbicides such as glyphosate (41 SL) and paraquat

Brief of the various activities undertaken during the week is highlighted below:

Sl. no	Activities	Date and location	No of participants		
			Male	Female	Total
1.	Observance of *Parthenium* week with dignitaries (member of administrative council of Khangabok G.P) and media coverage	16.8.205 (KVK Thoubal)	26	10	36
2.	Demonstration on the application of herbicides for (Glyphosate 41 Sl and Paraquat dichloride 24Sl) for the eradication of *Parthenium*	17.08.2025 (KVK Thoubal)	20	7	27
3.	Demonstration on the utilization of *Parthenium* in vermicomposting	18.08.2025 (KVK Thoubal)	13	3	16
4.	Awareness on management of harmful impact of *Parthenium*	19.08.2025 (Fancier Higher Secondary School, Thoubal	28	11	39
5.	SMS PP attended Webinar organized by ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur	20.8.2024			
6.	Demonstration on the utilization of herbicides for management of Parthenium	21.8.2024 (Khangabok)	12	4	16
7.	Uprooting of Parthenium drive in office campus	22.8.2024 (KVK Thoubal)	9	8	17

dichloride (24 SL), and practical demonstrations on the utilization of Parthenium biomass in vermicomposting. Awareness sessions were also conducted in educational institutions to sensitize students about the weed and its management. KVK Thoubal staff and participants actively took part in webinars organized by ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, enhancing their technical understanding of Parthenium management. A mass Parthenium uprooting drive was conducted within the KVK campus and nearby areas to demonstrate safe manual removal and prevent further seed dispersal. The programme witnessed active participation from diverse stakeholders, including farmers, members of Self-Help Groups, students, local body representatives, media personnel, and KVK officials. Overall, the observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week effectively strengthened awareness, promoted integrated management practices, and encouraged community participation for sustainable control of this invasive weed.

Photo 1. Awareness given to students on management of harmful impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus*

Photo 2. Demonstration on the application of herbicides for eradication of *Parthenium hysterophorus*

Photo 3. Cleanliness drive in KVK Thoubal including uprooting of *Parthenium hysterophorus*

Photo 4: Clippings of newspaper coverage about the observance of *Parthenium* Week

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya

In response to the nationwide campaign spearheaded by the ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), East Khasi Hills organized a dedicated Parthenium Awareness Programme from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 as part of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers and the general public about the serious threat posed by *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress Grass or Carrot Weed), an aggressive invasive species affecting agriculture, biodiversity, livestock, and human health.

The programme commenced with an inaugural session highlighting the ecological and economic implications of Parthenium infestation. Experts from KVK explained that the weed significantly reduces crop yield and quality due to its allelopathic effects, suppresses native vegetation, and disturbs ecosystem balance. Its adverse health impacts—such as skin allergies, dermatitis, respiratory disorders, and eye irritation in humans and livestock—were elaborated upon. Participants were also informed about its negative impact on grazing lands and milk production, which threatens farm livelihoods.

Major Activities Conducted:

1. Educational Lectures and Demonstrations: Specialists delivered lectures on integrated management strategies of Parthenium, covering mechanical, cultural, chemical, and biological control methods. Particular emphasis was given to the role of the bio-control agent *Calligrapha bicolorata* for sustainable suppression of the weed.

2. Field Demonstrations: Hands-on sessions were conducted in and around the KVK campus to train participants in correct identification, safe handling, and uprooting techniques of Parthenium plants before flowering and seed setting.

3. Community Engagement and Sanitation Drive: Farmers, farm women, students, rural youth, and local leaders actively participated in Parthenium removal drives. The initiative promoted collective action and environmental sanitation.

4. Dissemination of Awareness Materials: Awareness literature was distributed, and posters were displayed to educate the community about timely identification and eradication of Parthenium from agricultural fields, roadsides, and homesteads.

During the valedictory session, participants shared their feedback and resolved to disseminate awareness within their respective villages. Emphasis was laid on sustained vigilance and community participation to achieve Parthenium-free environments, aligning with the broader goals of environmental protection and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Resource persons reiterated that continuous education, integrated management practices, and collective efforts are essential for effective long-term control. The successful observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK East Khasi Hills reflects the institute's commitment to public health, environmental stewardship, and sustainable agricultural development in accordance with ICAR's national weed management framework..

2.18 NAGALAND

Nagaland, located in northeastern India, spans approximately 16,579 square kilometers and is bordered by Arunachal Pradesh to the north, Assam to the west, and Manipur to the south, with an international boundary with Myanmar to the east. As per the latest census, the state has a population of around 2.2 million, comprising approximately 1.1 million males and 1.1 million females, resulting in a gender ratio of about 1,000 females for every 1,000 males. Nagaland is known for its rich cultural diversity, predominantly inhabited by various Naga tribes. Agriculture is a vital part of the economy, with major crops including rice, millet, maize, and a variety of fruits and vegetables. The region features predominantly hilly terrain with fertile alluvial soil in the valleys and red laterite soil on the hills, supporting diverse agricultural practices. Nagaland experiences a subtropical highland climate, characterized by significant rainfall, particularly during the monsoon season from May to September, with annual precipitation averaging around 1,800 mm to 2,500 mm.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Peren

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Peren observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with a series of awareness and training activities aimed at educating the community on the harmful impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and its sustainable management. The programme was inaugurated on 16th August 2025 with an awareness drive at the KVK Peren farm, Jalukie, where farm labourers, officials, and local residents actively participated in uprooting and clearing Parthenium weed. This practical activity not only helped in cleaning the farm premises but also created awareness about the health hazards and ecological damage caused by this invasive species. As part of the weeklong programme, on 19th August 2025, a training-cum-demonstration was organized at the KVK Peren office, focusing on the conversion of uprooted Parthenium biomass into useful organic inputs. Farmers were introduced to techniques of vermicomposting and compost preparation using Parthenium weed, thereby turning a harmful weed into a resource for sustainable farming practices. The training witnessed the participation of 20 farmers along with KVK staff members, who engaged actively in the discussions and hands-on demonstrations. The programme successfully sensitized participants about eco-friendly Parthenium management strategies while promoting integrated approaches to soil health improvement.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bargarh

Parthenium Awareness week 2025 was observed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bargarh at its own campus at Gambharipali, Bargarh with participation of School children, DASEI trainees and farmers from16-22th August, 2025. A group metting of SHG members was conducted on 16 th August at adopted village Ambamunda to reduce spread of congress grass in different crop field. A seminar on ill effects of *Parthenium* weed with its management was orgainsed on 17th August with participation of 50 high school children. During interaction with DASEI trainees different chemical methods as well cultural practices was highlighted on 21.08.2025. The entire campaign ended anticipation of reduction of detrimental impact of this noxious weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kohima, Nagaland

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kohima, Nagaland observed 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on 18th August 2025 at New Terogvunyu village. During the awareness programme identification and distinguishing of ***Parthenium hysterophorus***, its harmful effects on crops, human and animals, manual uprooting of parthenium before flowering and seed setting to manage the spread of weeds were imparted to the participants. Altogether 19 participants attended the awareness programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Mokokchung, Nagaland.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Mokokchung conducted Awareness cum Training programme on Parthenium at Kupza, Longmisa and Aliba villages during 16-22 August 2025.Technical experts from KVK, Mokokchung Imtisenla ACTO (Agronomy) and Imtilemla ACTO (Soil conservation) conducted the Awareness programme on Parthenium menace and its management and also to use the parthenium weeds for composting for manure. Leaflet and folders related to Parthenium were also distributed to the Participants. All together 47 Farm women, Farmers and rural youths actively participated in the programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Peren

KVK Peren organized awareness programme on ill effect of Parthenium weed by uprooting and clearing in KVK Peren farm at Jalukie with a participation farm labor, officials and resident near the farm on 16th August 2025. Total participants were 20. Training and demonstration on vermicomposting and compost through uprooted pathenium weed at KVK Peren office with a participation of 20 farmers and KVK staff on 19th August 2025.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Jalalgarh, Purnea

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Jalalgarh, Purnea, organized Parthenium Awareness week from 16th-22nd August at the Centre, different villages and in schools, focusing on creating awareness amongst rural communities, extension personnel and students about the detrimental effect of *Parthenium hysterophorous*, commonly known as Carrot grass or Congress grass. This noxious weed significantly reduces the crop yield and causes serious health issues including allergic reactions, contact dermatitis and respiratory problems in humans. Parthenium is highly adaptable to various soil and climatic conditions and spreads rapidly through its prolific

seed production and various dispersal methods. The initiative began with campus cleanup involving Scientists, non-teaching staffs, trainees and RAWE students from BPSAC College, Purnea and LNCT University, Bhopal. Activities throughout the week included uprooting and safe disposal of parthenium weed, awareness on compost preparation before its flowering. The conclusive remarks on Parthenium awareness were given by Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Purnea, Dr. K.M. Singh by addressing the farmers and students to adapt the Integrated management of weed through mechanical and manual methods, use of bio-control agent *Calligrapha bicolorata*, and compost preparation. Lastly, we took an oath to maintain the area/farm free from Parthenium.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kohima, Nagaland

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kohima, Nagaland observed 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on 18th August 2025 at New Terogvunyu village. During the awareness programme identification and distinguishing of ***Parthenium hysterophorus***, its harmful effects on crops, human and animals, manual uprooting of parthenium before flowering and seed setting to manage the spread of weeds were imparted to the participants. Altogether 19 participants attended the awareness programme.

2.19 ODISHA

Odisha, located on the eastern coast of India, spans approximately 155,707 square kilometers, making it the ninth-largest state in the country. As of the latest census, the state has a population of around 41 million, comprising approximately 20.8 million males and 20.2 million females, resulting in a gender ratio of about 971 females for every 1,000 males. The population is diverse, with various ethnic groups and languages, predominantly Odia. Agriculture is a crucial part of Odisha's economy, with rice being the staple crop, along with significant production of pulses, oilseeds, and commercial crops like sugarcane and cotton. The soil varies across regions, including fertile alluvial soil in the river basins, red soil, and laterite soil, which support diverse agricultural activities. Odisha experiences a tropical monsoon climate, with average annual rainfall ranging from 1,200 mm to 1,800 mm, primarily from June to September. The literacy rate stands at approximately 73.45%, with male literacy at around 81.59% and female literacy at about 65.35%. Ludhiyana

AICRP on Weed Management, OUAT, Bhubaneswar

An awareness campaign on "Alien weed (*Parthenium*) - A threat to biodiversity" was organized at **Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 16.08.2025**. Dr. M.A. Alim, OIC & PI of the project delivered a talk on the adverse effect of weeds in reducing the yield and quality of the produce in different field crops. Prof. (Dr.) Rabiratna Dash, Joint Director, Directorate of Extension, O.U.A.T., Bhubaneswar vividly described about the *Parthenium* weed and its harmful effects on human health and livestocks. He also highlighted about the management and effective utilization of this weed. Around 200 students of the school participated in the awareness programme. The awareness campaign of '*Parthenium* Awareness Week', created a massive awareness among the students, teachers and other staff who do not know about the dreaded weed.

Further, the team of AICRP on Weed Management, OUAT, Bhubaneswar visited the Wellness Centre, OUAT on 19.08.2025 and created awareness among the medical officer and staff about the deadly and hazardous effect on skin like dermatitis, rashes eczema and skin inflammation. They were also made aware about the effect of the pollen and volatile compounds resulting in asthma and bronchitis in sensitive individuals.

ICAR-Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack

ICAR-Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August, 2025, as per the directions of Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, New Delhi. The programme aimed to create awareness on the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Carrot weed/Congress grass) on human and animal health, environment, and agriculture. Cleaning drives were conducted in the institute campus on 21st August and 22nd August along with an awareness rally at Bhadimul village on 21st August, 2025. On 22nd August, 2025, Dr. Sushmita Munda, Senior Scientist (Agronomy) delivered a lecture on *"Alternative Uses of Parthenium"*. The session was presided over by Dr. Sanghamitra Samantaray, Director, ICAR-CRRI, Cuttack. She encouraged scientists to explore utilizing Parthenium for various research applications in rice. The program also featured remarks from Dr. Annie Poonam, Head of the Crop Production Division (CPD), who detailed the numerous harmful effects of Parthenium. Adding a unique perspective, Dr. Sutapa Sarkar, Scientist, CID, shared her personal experience during her undergraduate studies on the feeding activity of *Calligrapha bicolorata* on Parthenium. The activities were coordinated by Dr. B. Raghavendra Goud, Scientist, Crop Production and members of Swacch Bharat Committee.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management Bhubaneswar

ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August 2025. On 19th August 2025, theme-based banners were displayed at the ICAR-IIWM campus. On 20th August, 2025 an awareness campaign was organized at ICAR-IIWM Research Farm, Mendhasal wherein, Dr. Dibakar Ghosh and Dr. K.K. Bandyopadhyay apprised the staff and workers working at the farm regarding Parthenium infestation and its probable management practices. In order to raise awareness among the students and teachers, the team visited Saraswati Vidya Mandir, a nearby school in Neeladri Vihar, Bhubaneswar, on August 21, 2025. Dr. D. Ghosh addressed the students and gave a presentation about the detrimental effects of Parthenium on human and animal health as well as management options. Three hundred pupils took part and asked questions regarding the Parthenium threat and how to deal with it. At

the ICAR-IIWM main campus, an awareness campaign and cleanliness drive were held on August 22, 2025, in which IIWM employees participated in uprooting Parthenium, thus ensuring Parthenium free campus. Dr. Dibakar Ghosh, Dr. Ankita Jha, and Dr. Subodh Karna coordinated the Parthenium Awareness Week programme.

Parthenium awareness programme conducted at Saraswati Vidya Mandir school

ICAR- Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar

Parthenium Awareness Week (16th to 22nd August, 2025) was observed at ICAR-CIWA by organizing a number of activities to spread awareness among staff members and farm workers. The members of the institute actively participated in Parthenium eradication drive by removing the weeds present inside the institute campus.

On 20.08.2025 a sensitization programme was organized among the farm workers of the institute in which, the workers identified Parthenium weed and were sensitized about its bad effects on human, livestock and the biodiversity of the region. On 21st August 2025, demonstrations were organized on safe removal of the weed, its disposal and composting techniques. The farm workers removed the parthenium plants from the campus and decomposed them properly by incorporating in the soil at the vegetative stage.

The programme was coordinated by Dr Laxmi Priya Sahoo, Senior Scientist (Seed Technology) Sri Bhikari Charan Behera (Senior Technical Officer & OIC Farm) & Mrs Geeta Saha (Technical Officer) of ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sambalpur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sambalpur, successfully observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025. The week-long programme aimed at sensitizing farmers, farm women, and rural youth about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress grass) and promoting its integrated management for sustainable agriculture and environmental safety. Awareness sessions were conducted both at the KVK campus and in nearby villages, including Ladladi and Gadmunda. During these sessions, participants were informed about the negative impacts of Parthenium on human health, such as asthma, allergies, and fever, as well as its adverse effects on livestock and crop productivity. The programme highlighted the invasive nature of this weed and the importance of timely interventions to prevent its spread. Integrated management strategies were demonstrated, emphasizing mechanical uprooting, cultural practices, and safe chemical control methods. The role of biological control using natural enemies, including insects and fungi, was also discussed to promote eco-friendly management approaches. Participants actively engaged in discussions, asking questions about practical control measures and composting methods for utilizing uprooted Parthenium biomass. The programme effectively created awareness on both preventive and remedial measures, encouraging farmers and rural youth to adopt community-based actions to curb the spread of this noxious weed. The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Sambalpur successfully enhanced the knowledge and capacity of participants regarding sustainable and integrated management of Parthenium, fostering a sense of responsibility towards maintaining weed-free fields, healthier livestock, and safer rural environments.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sundargarh-I

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sundargarh-I, organized a series of activities from 16th to 22nd August 2025 as part of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week to sensitize farmers and local communities about the hazards of Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as Congress grass. This invasive weed poses severe threats to crop productivity, livestock health, human well-being, and environmental biodiversity, necessitating urgent community-level interventions for its management. On 20th August 2025, a rally involving 30 Self-Help Group (SHG) members was conducted in Sunamunda village, Sadar Block, to create awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium. Participants raised slogans and displayed informative posters while moving through key village areas. Following the rally, a group meeting educated SHG members on identifying Parthenium, its adverse impacts on agriculture and health, and practical management strategies, including manual removal, controlled grazing, and safe herbicide use. SHG members were encouraged to disseminate this knowledge further within their community to enhance outreach. In addition, a program was organized at the KVK campus for 20 members of Baba Medheswar Farmer Producer Organization (FPO), where scientific methods for Parthenium management, including agronomic practices such as crop rotation and herbicide application, were discussed. Participants actively engaged in hands-on demonstrations of Parthenium uprooting and learned how FPOs can lead community-based campaigns to curb the weed's spread. The awareness week successfully enhanced knowledge among SHG and FPO members, promoted active participation through demonstrations, and fostered a sense of community responsibility toward Parthenium control. Participants expressed commitment to implement management practices in their fields and spread awareness among neighbors. Overall, the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK Sundargarh-I was highly effective in educating and empowering local communities, as the combined efforts of awareness rallies, training sessions, and hands-on demonstrations strengthened local involvement in controlling Parthenium, thereby contributing to sustainable agriculture and a healthier environment in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Gajapati

As part of the nationwide observance of *Parthenium Awareness Week* held from 16 to 22 August 2025, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gajapati organized an awareness and eradication programme on 22 August 2025 at Attarsing village. *Parthenium hysterophorus*, commonly known as Congress grass, is one of the most invasive weeds posing severe threats to human and livestock health by causing skin allergies, asthma, and respiratory complications. It also deteriorates soil fertility, reduces crop productivity, and adversely affects biodiversity, making awareness and management interventions crucial for rural communities. The programme was conducted with the objective of educating farmers and rural youth on the harmful effects of Parthenium and encouraging eco-friendly weed management approaches. The event included interactive lectures and group discussions to explain the socio-economic and environmental impact of the weed. Demonstrations on manual uprooting and safe disposal were carried out, highlighting timely removal to prevent seed dispersal. A biological control demonstration was also conducted showcasing the use of *Calligrapha bicolorata*, a leaf-feeding beetle effective in suppressing Parthenium growth. Informative posters and leaflets were distributed to participants for wider awareness dissemination at community level. The programme witnessed the participation of 50 individuals, including farmers, youth and officials, ensuring broad reach and engagement.

The activity resulted in enhanced awareness on the adverse effects of Parthenium and motivated community involvement in its eradication. The initiative successfully promoted sustainable weed management practices and strengthened collective responsibility towards maintaining healthier agricultural landscapes in the district.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ganjam-I

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ganjam-I, marking an important initiative toward the effective management of *Parthenium hysterophorus* in the region. A total of 63 farmers and farmwomen from five villages across two Gram Panchayats actively participated in the programme. The campaign highlighted the severe threats posed by this invasive weed to agriculture, human and animal health, and the environment, while also equipping participants with practical and locally adaptable management strategies. A key outcome of the programme was the dissemination of knowledge on the origin, spread, and increasing prevalence of Parthenium in India, which helped participants understand the seriousness and urgency of the problem. Detailed discussions on its harmful effects, such as skin allergies, respiratory disorders, decline in crop yields, and adverse impacts on livestock, generated strong awareness and encouraged farmers to adopt timely control measures. The programme emphasized an integrated weed management approach, covering mechanical, chemical, cultural, and biological methods. Practical demonstrations and interactive discussions enhanced participants' confidence in adopting these techniques. Special emphasis was placed on biological control using the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*), which was appreciated as an eco-friendly and sustainable option. Overall, the programme stressed the importance of community participation and collective action for long-term Parthenium management. Participants were motivated to share the knowledge gained with others, thereby strengthening efforts toward sustainable agriculture, public health protection, and biodiversity conservation in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sonepur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonepur observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, students, and the general public about the menace of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, an invasive weed known for causing serious health problems in humans and animals, environmental degradation, loss of agricultural productivity, and reduction in biodiversity. Although Parthenium infestation is not currently a severe issue in Subarnapur district, the programme was proactively organized considering the aggressive nature of the weed and its high potential to spread rapidly to vulnerable areas if left unmanaged. As part of the awareness week, KVK Sonepur implemented a series of educational

and field-based activities aimed at sensitizing different sections of society. These included mass Parthenium uprooting drives, herbicide spraying demonstrations, student awareness rallies, and practical demonstrations on identification and management of the weed. Farmers and participants were informed about the ill effects of Parthenium such as skin allergies, respiratory disorders, toxicity to livestock, and its competitive suppression of crops and native vegetation. Emphasis was laid on timely and integrated management approaches, including mechanical removal, safe chemical application, and community participation. The programme successfully enhanced awareness and preparedness among farmers and the general public, reinforcing the importance of early intervention and collective action to prevent the establishment and spread of Parthenium in the district, thereby safeguarding agriculture, human health, and the environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Mayurbhanj-II, Jashipur

Different awareness programme on Parthenium has been organized by KVK, Mayurbhanj-II, Jashipur campus from 16-22 August,2025 in adopted villages of KVK to make farmers and the general public aware of the menace of Parthenium, which is responsible for causing health problems in human beings and animals, besides deteriorating environment, loss of productivity and biodiversity. In this context, an awareness programme has also been organized in KVK campus on dt.20.08.2025 involving 30 nos of farmer and farm women where the menace caused by parthenium has been discussed by the Senior Scientist & Head of KVK, Mayurbhanj-II, Dr. Deepak Kumar Mohanty. He also highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium like skin allergy (dermatitis), high fever and asthma in human beings Moreover the management strategy has been discussed by Dr Surajyoti Pradhan, Scientist Agronomy, KVK, Mayurbhanj-II. She stressed upon the need to manage this weed an integrated mode i.e through mechanical, cultural and biocontrol methods. Parthenium besides hampering crop production becoming nuisance in non-cropped areas like residential areas, parks, road sides, railway tracks, she emphasized. The other scientific and technical staff members have also participated in this programme for larger farmers interest.

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PARTHENIUM
AWARENESS WEEK

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nuapada

As part of the nationwide observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nuapada organized a series of awareness programs between 16th to 22nd of August, 2025 to sensitize different community groups about the ecological and health hazards posed by *Parthenium hysterophorus*. One of the key events was held at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Nuapada, where Class VIII students actively participated in an interactive session. The program commenced with a brief introduction to the biology, spread, and ecological impact of Parthenium weed, followed by a visual presentation on its control measures including cultural, mechanical, and biological methods. Students engaged with poster displays and participated in a live demonstration of uprooting Parthenium from nearby premises. Emphasis was placed on the role of youth and community participation in curbing the spread of invasive weeds. KVK scientists highlighted the importance of Parthenium management in safeguarding biodiversity, human health, and agricultural productivity. The students showed keen interest and pledged to spread awareness in their localities. The event concluded with distribution of informative leaflets and a group photo session.

In addition to the school-based initiative, KVK Nuapada also conducted a grassroots-level awareness program at village Suabahal, where farmers and farm women took part. The session focused on practical identification of Parthenium, its harmful effects on soil fertility, livestock, and human health, and demonstrated effective control strategies suitable for local conditions. Participants were encouraged to adopt community led eradication drives and integrate Parthenium management into their regular farming practices. The enthusiasm and engagement of the villagers reflected a growing awareness and readiness to tackle this invasive weed collectively.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Khordha, Bhubaneswar

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Khordha, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with Chasabasa Farmers Producers Company Limited, Raja, Balipatna, organized Parthenium Awareness Week programme on 20 August 2025 to educate farmers and rural communities about the adverse effects of Parthenium, an invasive weed and its effective management. As part of this initiative, awareness programmes were held at Nagapur and Raigurubasudeipur villages in Balianta Block on 22 August 2025. These events featured live demonstrations and interactive sessions on the identification of Parthenium, its vegetative growth patterns, and the negative impact it poses to the environment, agriculture, human health and livestock—especially cattle. Participants were informed about practical control measures, including manual removal, herbicide application and its conversion into compost for agricultural reuse. The programme emphasized the importance of community participation in managing and eradicating this weed to prevent its spread and mitigate its harmful effects. The initiative aimed to build local capacity and awareness, promoting sustainable weed management practices and encouraging eco-friendly solutions for long-term agricultural and environmental health.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nabarangpur, Odisha

KVK, Nabarangpur has successfully observed Parthenium Week during 16th August to 22nd August, 2025. During that period KVK has carried out 6 nos. of Parthenium uprooting programme, spraying of herbicides, composting of uprooted biomass at 6 villages and in its own office campus. Six number of awareness programme was organized at six different villages namely Sanakumari, Badakumari, Chikalpadar, Semala and Ekamba. On that awareness programme a good number of villagers were participated and demonstration was conducted how uprooted biomass are used for composting and vermicomposting using Pusa decomposer. One number of awareness cum training programme was organized at KVK campus with 60 nos. of farmers and farmwomen. On that awareness programme training was imparted on health problems in human beings and animals, deteriorating environment, loss of productivity and biodiversity caused by parthenium, control of parthenium by chemical, physical, mechanical and biological means. Demonstration was carried out on use of Pusa decomposer and NRRI decomposer for decomposing of parthenium biomass. 20 numbers of college students were participated in the awareness cum training programme. A rally was organized consisting of 50 nos. of school students of Umerkote Girls School.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Sundargarh-I

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was successfully organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sundargarh-I to address the growing threat posed by *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass), a highly invasive weed affecting agriculture, biodiversity, livestock, and human health. The programme aimed to create awareness and encourage community participation in sustainable Parthenium management, with a special focus on Self-Help Group (SHG) members and Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) members. As part of the outreach activities, an awareness rally and group meeting were conducted on 20 August 2025 in Sunamunda village, Sadar Block, involving 30 SHG members. The rally passed through major village locations, during which participants raised slogans and displayed posters highlighting the harmful effects of Parthenium. This was followed by an interactive meeting where SHG members were educated on weed identification, its adverse effects on crops and human health, and effective management practices such as manual uprooting, controlled grazing, and the safe use of herbicides. Members were motivated to disseminate this knowledge within their communities.

The second activity was organized at the KVK campus for 20 members of the Baba Medheswar Farmer Producer Organization (FPO). The programme focused on scientific and agronomic approaches to Parthenium management, including crop rotation, chemical control, and community-based strategies. A hands-on demonstration of Parthenium uprooting enhanced practical understanding and encouraged active participation.

Overall, the programme significantly improved awareness and empowered SHG and FPO members to adopt and promote Parthenium control measures. The initiative fostered collective responsibility and strengthened community engagement, contributing towards sustainable agriculture and effective management of this invasive weed in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Koraput, Odisha

The 20th parthenium awareness week has been observed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Koraput, Odisha during 16-22 August, 2025 at KVK, Campus as well as in the villages, College/ School & public places. The main objective of observation of this week to make farmers, general public, youths, school & college students of the menace of parthenium which is responsible for causing health problems in human being and animals, besides deteriorating environment, loss of productivity and biodiversity. During observation of the week there was awareness created on parthenium uprooting, releasing Mexican beetles spraying herbicides, composting of uprooted biomass & advised all the staffs to make our campus (KVK) as well our society should be parthenium free.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Rayagada

Parthenium is one of the most problematic alien invasive weeds in the tropical and sub-tropical world and popularly known as Gajarghas and also known as Congress grass. Its strong allelopathy potential and prolific seed production and phenotypic plasticity in growth enables this species to invade a wide range of habitats in area where natural ecosystem is disturbed. This is look like carrot leaves and attains height of 1.5 -2.0 mt. it is heavily branched especially when reached to the flowering stage. Stem and leaves covered with fine hairs whereas flowers are white in colour. It mainly spreads through seeds. A single plant can produce 5000 to 25000 seeds. The seeds are very light in weight and easily carried or transported by wind, water and various human activities. In general, parthenium is a poisonous, pernicious, problematic, aggressive weed poisings a serious threat to the biodiversity, human beings and livestocks. It causes allergic eczematous, dermatitis, hay fever and Asthma. Management of parthenium by using integrated method such as mechanical and manual uprooting before flower during monsoon when soil is wet, cultural method like farmers should adopt fast growing crops like sorghum, berseem and Dhaincha to suppress the growth of parthenium in their field, it can also be managed by competitive plants like Cassia Tora, Cassia sericea and Marigold, Chemical method like using 2,4-D (1-1.5 %) or Metribuzin (0.3-0.5 %) and using Glyphosate 1-1.5% in non-cropped area and Biological control using Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha biocolorata*)

The Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from 16th August to 22nd August 2024 by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rayagada in KVK campus. Dr Susmita Mohanty Senior Scientist and Head, Dr. Prasad Kamdi Scientist (ICRISAT), Dr. Naram Ramu, SMS (Agronomy), Mr. Rajib Tudu, SMS (Plant Protection), Dr. Anindita Roy, SMS (Horticulture) Mr. Parimal Tarai, Prog. Asst. (Seed Science), Mr. Biswanath Behera (Scientific Officer, ICRISAT), other staff members of KVK, Rayagada (Gunupur) and farmers and farm women were present and organized the programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Cuttack

As young minds are apt listeners and future citizens, KVK, Cuttack conducted 'Parthenium awareness week' at Government Girls High School, Tangi, and Bhakta Madhu Vidyapitha, Kazi Bazar, Cuttack, to create awareness on the dangers of the invasive weed and how to prevent its effects on humans, crops, & livestock. A leaflet on the 'Parthenium: the Invasive Weed' was released and circulated among the participants, and also on social platforms, to create awareness about the weed. Dr Ranjan Kumar Mohanta, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, ICAR-Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, discussed in detail about the weed. About 250 children participated in the program and were motivated to control this harmful weed. The KVK campus was also cleaned to make it parthenium-free. Awareness programs were also conducted at Farmers Field in Badamba and Banki, where Dr. Rajan Kamboj, SMS (Agril. Entomology), educated the farmers on the harmful effects of Parthenium and the effective management methods. In addition, Awareness programs were also conducted during the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyaan in the heavily infested belts of Cuttack district to promote sustainable crop production by controlling the weed.

PAW program at Bhakta Madhu Vidyapitha, Kazi Bazar, Cuttack

PAW program at Government Girls High School, Tangi

PAW program at Farmers field in Mangarajpur, Badamba

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Balasore

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Balasore organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd September, 2025 in farmers' fields as well as on the KVK campus under the nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers, students, and the general public about the negative impacts of Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as "Gajar Grass," on human and animal health, agriculture, and the environment. The weed has emerged as a serious problem in both crop and non-crop areas of the locality, necessitating timely and coordinated management efforts.

The main objectives of observing the Parthenium Awareness Week were to educate the public about the hazards of Parthenium infestation, promote safe and effective control methods, mobilize community participation along with institutional support, and reduce its spread through preventive and sustainable practices. Experts emphasized the adverse effects of Parthenium, including skin allergies, respiratory disorders, toxicity to livestock, and reduction in crop productivity due to its aggressive and allelopathic nature.

During the week, several activities were carried out to ensure effective outreach and practical learning. Awareness campaigns were conducted through group discussions and interactive sessions with farmers and rural youth. Campus and field cleaning drives were organized to physically remove the weed and demonstrate proper disposal techniques. Method demonstrations were conducted on cultural and mechanical control practices, including manual uprooting before flowering. In addition, chemical control methods through appropriate herbicide spraying were demonstrated under expert supervision to ensure safe and judicious application. Participants were advised to control the weed before flowering to prevent seed formation and further spread. Farmers were also encouraged to utilize Parthenium biomass for compost preparation after proper decomposition, thereby converting a harmful invasive weed into a useful organic fertilizer. Pamphlets in Odia and English were distributed among farmers, students, and members of the public in and around the KVK campus to enhance awareness and promote wider dissemination of information.

Approximately 215 farmers were sensitized during the campaign and gained knowledge about strategic and integrated approaches for Parthenium management in their locality. The week-long programme successfully strengthened community awareness and reinforced the importance of collective action in controlling this invasive weed for the protection of agriculture, environment, and public health.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Boudh

During Parthenium Awareness Week 2025, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Boudh conducted a series of awareness and practical activities aimed at sensitizing farmers, rural youth, women farmers, and students about the hazards of Parthenium hysterophorus and its effective management.

16th August 2025: Dr. Mayuri Singh Sardar, SMS (Agricultural Extension), conducted an awareness programme at Kulthakhali village, GP–Mundipadar, Boudh Block, with the participation of 25 rural youth. She organized a field visit to help participants identify Parthenium plants in natural conditions. She delivered a detailed lecture on the hazards of Parthenium, including its adverse effects on human health such as allergies, dermatitis, and asthma, as well as animal toxicity and crop competition. She also emphasized its harmful impact on biodiversity and the environment, calling for urgent and coordinated management efforts. Furthermore, she highlighted the successful use of the beetle *Calligrapha bicolorata* as a biological control agent, which has shown promising results in managing the weed.

18th August 2025: A mass weed eradication drive was organized at the KVK farm premises and nearby roadside areas. All KVK staff, along with the Senior Scientist & Head and women farmers, actively participated in the uprooting of Parthenium weeds. A demonstration on safe uprooting practices, including the use of masks and protective measures, was also conducted to prevent allergic reactions and health issues.

19th & 20th August 2025: An awareness meeting for farmers and a field visit for students of the Polytechnic College were organized. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Tapan Kumar Das, Senior Scientist & Head, who expressed deep concern over the invasive nature of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. He cautioned that the weed not only causes significant crop losses but also poses serious risks to human and animal health.

Mrs. Sasmita Pal, Scientist (Home Science), explained that Parthenium thrives throughout the year and spreads rapidly across vacant lands, roadsides, and residential areas, increasingly threatening food crops, vegetables, and horticultural crops.

Mrs. Kabita Mishra, Scientist (Agronomy), conducted a field visit for students to help them identify Parthenium plants. She provided detailed information on the harmful effects of the weed on agricultural productivity and the quality of animal milk. She also appealed to all participants to join hands for the complete eradication of Parthenium from the local area, district, state, and country.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks acknowledging the contributions of all scientists and staff of KVK who played a key role in organizing the programme, along with the active participation of the Senior Scientist & Head and the Principal, APC, Boudh. All activities were carried out under the active guidance of Shri Tapan Kumar Das, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Boudh.

A total of 10 farmers, 25 rural youth, 16 women farmers, and 17 students actively participated in the week-long programme. All official staff of KVK Boudh and APC Boudh also extended their full support.

Eradication of Parthanium at APC, Boudh campus

Teaching about harmful effects of Parthenium at Kulthakhali village

Mass Weed Eradication at KVK, Premises and adopted village

Attending the youtube live programme on Parthenium awareness

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kandhamal

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kandhamal celebrated the 20th Parthenium awareness week in the campus and the district successfully with the help of line department officials and progressive farmers of the district. The programme was conducted as a part of nationwide initiative by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to create awareness about the detrimental health effects of Parthenium (also known as carrot weed or congress grass), its negative impact on crops and the environment, and to promote its management strategies.

The inaugural programme was attended by KVK scientists, line department officials, progressive framers and farm women. In this programme experts highlighted the harmful effects of congress grass on human and animal health, crop productivity and the environment and how to eradicate the problem. The various types of activities were conducted during this period, which include:

- Awareness campaign through lectures, interactions and group discussions
- Cleaning of campus and field with active participation from farmers and staff
- Training on use of biological control agents such as Calligrapha bicolorata and highlighting the possibility of converting Parthenium into biochar and compost.
- Demonstration on cultural, mechanical and chemical method of weed control.

Around 140 no. of participants were involved in various activities contributing to the successful implementation of the programme. The week-long activities created significant awareness among the farmers and the local community about the importance of management of this weed.

2.20 PUDUCHERRY

Puducherry, located on the southeastern coast of India, spans approximately 492 square kilometers, making it one of the smallest Union Territories in the country. It consists of four geographically separated districts—Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe, and Yanam—bordered by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh. As per the latest census, the territory has a population of around 1.25 million, with a gender ratio of about 1,037 females for every 1,000 males. The population is culturally diverse, with Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and French influences. Agriculture plays a moderate role in the economy, with major crops including rice, pulses, coconut, and sugarcane. The soil is predominantly alluvial and coastal sandy, suitable for paddy cultivation and horticulture. Puducherry experiences a tropical maritime climate, with annual rainfall ranging from 1,200 mm to 1,500 mm, mainly received during the northeast monsoon (October to December). The literacy rate is relatively high at around 85%, reflecting strong educational development in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Madur Karaikal

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized at Kulakudi village, Karaikal, by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Karaikal, on 20.08.2025. Mr. Jayakrishnan, Programme organizer, Reliance Foundation, Puducherry, delivered the welcome address. Dr. S. Ravi, Ph.D., (ISWS - Counsellor for Puducherry State)

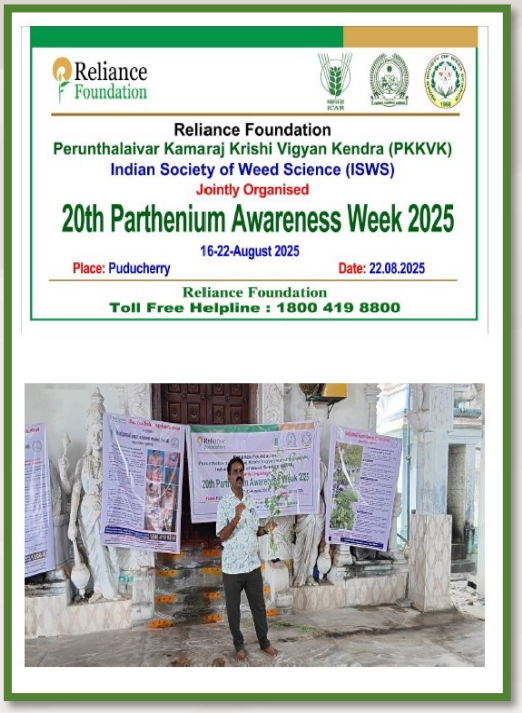
Programme Coordinator, KVK Karaikal, highlighted the importance of observing Parthenium Awareness Week. He explained the harmful effects of Parthenium, such as skin allergy (dermatitis), high fever, and asthma in human beings, and emphasized the need to manage this weed through integrated methods, namely mechanical, cultural, and biological control measures. He also pointed out that apart from reducing crop production, Parthenium has become a nuisance in non-cropped areas, including residential zones, parks, roadsides, and railway tracks. Subsequently, Dr. P. Saravanan, Ph.D., (ISWS - Joint Secretary) Professor, Department of Agronomy, PAJANCOA & RI, Karaikal, addressed the farmers on compost preparation using Parthenium weed.

The programme was organized by Dr. V. Aravinth, SMS (Agronomy), KVK Karaikal. At the conclusion of the programme, farmers of Kulakudi village participated in the uprooting of Parthenium plants in and around the village, thereby contributing to the goal of making Kulakudi a Parthenium-free village. A total of more than 30 farmers participated and benefited from this programme.

குளக்குடி கிராமத்தில்
பார்த்தீனியம் செடிகளை கட்டுப்படுத்த விவசாயிகளுக்கு விழிப்புணர்வு

Krishi vigyan kendra -madur-karaikal-puducherry

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized at Sompattu village, Puducherry, by the Perunthalaivar Kamaraj Krishi Vigyan Kendra (PKKVK), Puducherry and **Indian Society of Weed Science**, on 22.08.2025. Mr. Jayakrishnan, Programme organizer, Reliance Foundation, Puducherry, delivered the welcome address. **Dr. S. Ravi, (ISWS – Councillor for Puducherry state)** Junior Agronomist -cum- Programme Coordinator, KVK Karaikal, highlighted the importance of observing Parthenium Awareness Week. He explained the harmful effects of Parthenium, such as knowledge improved on Parthenium harmful Effects and control and Introduction of Parthenium weed, mode of spread, harmful effects of Parthenium on human and animal health and different steps required to eradicate Parthenium and also skin allergy (dermatitis), high fever, and asthma in human beings, and emphasized the need to manage this weed through integrated methods, namely mechanical, cultural, and biological control measures. He also pointed out that apart from reducing crop production, Parthenium has become a nuisance in non-cropped areas, including residential zones, parks, roadsides, and railway tracks. The programme was organized by Reliance Foundation, Puducherry and PKKVK, Puducherry. At the conclusion of the programme, farmers of Sompattu village participated in the uprooting of Parthenium plants in and around the village, thereby contributing to the goal of making Sompattu, a Parthenium-free village. A total of more than 33 farmers participated and benefited from this programme.



2.21 PUNJAB

Punjab, located in northwestern India, covers an area of approximately 50,362 square kilometers, making it one of the smaller states in India but highly significant agriculturally. As per the latest census, Punjab has a population of around 27 million, with approximately 14 million males and 13 million females, leading to a gender ratio of about 929 females for every 1,000 males. The state is predominantly agricultural, known for its extensive cultivation of wheat, rice, and sugarcane, and is often referred to as the "Granary of India." The fertile alluvial soil, enriched by the Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi rivers, supports high agricultural productivity. Punjab experiences a continental climate, with hot summers, cold winters, and an average annual rainfall of about 600 mm to 800 mm, mainly occurring during the monsoon season from June to September. The literacy rate in Punjab stands at approximately 76.7%, with male literacy around 80.4% and female literacy at about 72.7%.

ICAR-Indian institute of Maize Research, Ludhiana

ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research, Ludhiana observed *Parthenium Awareness Week* from 16 to 22 August 2025 with the objective of creating mass awareness about the ill-effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and promoting its scientific management. During the week, a series of extension and field-oriented activities were organized. These included large-scale Parthenium uprooting drives within the campus and nearby areas, demonstrations on chemical control through recommended herbicides, and biological control using Zygogramma bicolorata. The uprooted weed biomass was utilized for composting to demonstrate safe disposal and resource recycling. Awareness programmes were conducted to sensitize stakeholders about the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health, livestock, crop productivity, and biodiversity.

On this occasion, the Director of the institute emphasized that Parthenium is a serious ecological and public health concern, responsible for allergies, dermatitis, and respiratory problems in humans, as well as toxicity in animals. He highlighted that its unchecked spread leads to significant yield losses in crops and degradation of natural ecosystems. The Director stressed the importance of adopting an integrated weed management approach combining mechanical, chemical, and biological methods for effective and sustainable control. He further urged scientists, extension personnel, and farmers to work collectively to make the institute campus and surrounding areas completely Parthenium-free and to scale up awareness efforts at the grassroots level.

The programme witnessed active participation of scientists, staff, farmers, students, and other stakeholders, thereby strengthening community engagement and reinforcing the importance of coordinated action for managing this invasive weed.

Glimpses of the activities

Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana

Department of Agronomy, PAU, Ludhiana organized Parthenium Awareness week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 under the aegis of ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur. Dr Charanjit Singh Aulakh, Dean, College of Agriculture, Dr. Hari Ram (Head, Department of Agronomy), Dr. Harmeet Singh (Professor) Dr. Simerjeet Kaur (Principal Agronomist), Dr. Tarundeep Kaur (Principal Agronomist), Dr. Pervinder Kaur (Senior Chemist (Residue), Dr Jasvir Singh Gill (Senior Agronomist), Dr. Manpreet Singh (Agronomist), Dr. Amit Kaul (Extension Scientist) and Dr. Vajinder Kalra (Agronomist) from Department of Agronomy participated in these programmes. As part of the programme, a special drive was initiated to uproot the newly emerged flush of Parthenium plants in different parts of the PAU campus. Faculty members along with the field staff of the department actively participated in manually removing the weed from roadsides, experimental fields and residential areas. The lecture was given to NCC cadets and control measures were demonstrated. After detailed deliberations on Parthenium, the eradication campaign was also launched at sites infested with this weed. Lectures on parthenium and its management were also delivered to graduate and post graduate students highlighting the harmful effects of parthenium on human health and animals and control measures of parthenium. The concluding day of the awareness week was marked by an interactive lecture and demonstration session for PCP students. Dr. C.S. Aulakh, Dean, College of Agriculture, addressed the gathering and explained in detail the biology, harmful effects and effective management strategies for controlling Parthenium. Dr. Hari Ram emphasized the significance of community participation in combating invasive weeds. The students were sensitized about the impact of this weed on crop productivity, biodiversity, livestock and public health. After the lecture, an eradication campaign was launched at highly infested sites, where both students and staff participated enthusiastically in the removal of the weed. Village Mansuran

adopted by PAU in 2016 (distinction of being the first Parthenium free village of India) was regularly monitored throughout the year and programme was organized on 22nd and 23rd August, 2025 by S Harnek Singh Grewal along with people of village to check and uproot any new flushes of parthenium and sensitize the students of Government Senior secondary School, Tahli Sahib, Rattan.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Pathankot

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathankot successfully observed *Parthenium Awareness Week* in District Pathankot from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of sensitizing farmers about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and promoting sustainable control measures. As part of the week-long campaign, awareness programmes were conducted across various villages including Ranipur, Gho, Dadwal, Jandrai and Dadwan, attracting the participation of around 200 farmers. During the campaign, farmers were educated on the hazardous nature of Parthenium, a highly invasive weed responsible for causing several health issues such as dermatitis, skin irritation, asthma, bronchitis and allergic reactions in humans, as well as toxicity and feed rejection in livestock. Experts emphasized the need for timely eradication to curb its proliferation and reduce crop loss, land degradation and biodiversity threats.

Farmers were motivated to maintain Parthenium-free surroundings in agricultural fields, homestead areas and common lands. Demonstrations and technical guidance were provided on mechanical removal, community-led eradication and safe disposal methods to prevent seed dispersal. Participants were also briefed on long-term management strategies and the role of biological control using *Calligrapha bicolorata*. The initiative created strong awareness among farmers and encouraged active participation in managing the weed at local level. The programme effectively strengthened community understanding of Parthenium menace and promoted collective action for healthier farming systems and safer living environments.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Booh, Tarn Taran

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Booh, Tarn Taran, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 to educate the community about the environmental, agricultural, and health risks associated with *Parthenium hysterophorus*, a highly invasive and harmful weed. A series of awareness activities were conducted, including awareness camps, expert talks, distribution of IEC material, and practical demonstrations on identification and management of Parthenium. Awareness programmes were held at villages Booh, Booh Havelian, Marhana, Harike, and Govt. Senior Secondary Smart School, Marhana. Dr. Prabjeet Singh, Deputy Director (Training), stressed the importance of integrated weed management practices and highlighted the adverse impacts of Parthenium on crop yield, human health, and livestock. He urged farmers and youth to adopt timely and eco-friendly management approaches. The Director of Extension Education also emphasized the role of community participation and sustained efforts in preventing the spread of this noxious weed. The programme was well coordinated by Dr. Navjot Brar and received active participation from farmers, students, and local residents. The initiative significantly enhanced awareness and motivated the community to take preventive and control measures against Parthenium infestation in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Kapurthala

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kapurthala successfully organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 to educate farmers and rural communities about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass). The programme aimed to create awareness about its adverse impact on human health, livestock, agricultural productivity, and the environment. During the campaign, Dr. Mandeep Singh, Assistant Professor (Agronomy) conducted informative sessions on identification of Parthenium, its ill effects, and recommended management practices, with special emphasis on integrated control approaches. Practical demonstrations and hands-on activities, including manual uprooting of Parthenium, were organized in villages and farmers' fields to promote active participation. Dr. Harinder Singh, Director, KVK Kapurthala, also guided farmers on effective control measures and motivated them to adopt community-based management strategies. The initiative significantly enhanced farmers' awareness and practical skills,

encouraging timely and collective action for Parthenium eradication. Overall, the programme reflected KVK Kapurthala's strong commitment to sustainable agriculture and environmental protection.

PAU–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) - Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab

PAU–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab, actively observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 in accordance with the guidelines of the ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research (DWR), Jabalpur. The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and to promote effective and sustainable management practices. A range of extension and outreach activities were organized during the week. An awareness camp was conducted in village Giljewala, where farmers, farm women, and local residents were sensitized about the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human and animal health, crop productivity, and biodiversity. The health hazards associated with Parthenium, along with its economic and environmental implications, were discussed in detail. A Parthenium eradication and cleanliness drive was organized at the KVK campus and surrounding localities. Farmers and KVK staff actively participated in manual uprooting of the weed, emphasizing safe removal practices and the importance of preventing seed dispersal. This activity helped in visibly reducing Parthenium infestation in the campus area and demonstrated practical control measures.

In addition, technical lectures and demonstrations on Integrated Parthenium Management were delivered by KVK scientists during farmer interaction programmes and ongoing extension activities. These sessions focused on integrated approaches combining mechanical, cultural, and chemical control methods for effective management. To further strengthen outreach, two technical articles highlighting the menace of Parthenium and eco-friendly management practices were published in *Progressive Farming* and *Kheti Sandesh* magazines of Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. Overall, the week-long programme significantly enhanced awareness, encouraged community participation, and motivated farmers to adopt

Parthenium management practices in their villages, contributing to a cleaner environment and sustainable agriculture.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Barnala
Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana

20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16-22 August, 2025)

S. No.	Date	Name of Activity	No. of beneficiaries
1.	18.08.2025	Associate Director, KVK Barnala apprised about the importance of celebrating the Parthenium week. He also highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium like skin allergy (dermatitis), high fever and asthma in human beings and stressed the need to manage this weed an integrated mode i.e through mechanical, cultural and biocontrol methods. Parthenium besides hampering crop production becoming nuisance in non-cropped areas like residential areas, parks, road sides, railway tracks, he emphasized. KVK staff participated in Uprooting and collection of *Parthenium* at KVK farm for making compost & helped in making it Parthenium free campus	12
2.	20.08.2025	*Parthenium* awareness programme for farmers at village Chuhan Ke, Barnala and KVK farm. This program aims to educate farmer about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass), an invasive weed that poses significant threats to agriculture, biodiversity, human health and animal health.	28

3.	21.08.2025	*Parthenium* awareness programme for farmers at village Karamgarh. This program aims to educate farmer about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass), an invasive weed that poses significant threats to agriculture, biodiversity, human health and animal health.	18
4.	22.08.2025	*Parthenium* awareness programme for farmers at village Handiaya and also briefed by Associate Director, KVK Barnala about the harmful effect of Parthenium to human and other animals & its impact on soil productivity and biodiversity.	16

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Fatehgarh Sahib

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Fatehgarh Sahib celebrated Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, farm women, students, and field staff regarding the identification, harmful effects, and management of Parthenium hysterophorus L., commonly known as gajarghas or Congress grass. The programme was conducted by the KVK team comprising Mrs. Reet Verma, Assistant Professor (Plant Protection), Dr. Arvind Preet Kaur, Assistant Professor (Horticulture), Dr. Manisha Bhatia, Assistant Professor (Home Science), and Dr. G.P.S. Sethi, Assistant Professor (Animal Science).

During 16–18 August 2025, training programmes were organized for farmers and farm women in various villages of the district, including Mullepur, Panjoli, Nalini, Bhaton, Tibbi, Amloh, Reona Bholla Mathi, Randhawa, Kotla Bhaike, and Shamsher Nagar. Participants were oriented on the identification of Parthenium, which resembles a carrot plant and hence is locally known as gajarghas. They were informed about its modes of spread through wind, water, and human activities. Detailed guidance was provided on various management strategies, including mechanical and manual uprooting, chemical control measures, and preventive practices. Farmers were also trained on the utilization of Parthenium biomass for compost preparation, including the step-by-step method of compost making to convert the problematic weed into a useful organic manure.

An awareness programme for students of Senior Secondary School, Mullepur was conducted as part of the celebrations. Students were educated about identification, spread, and harmful effects of Parthenium on human health, livestock, and agriculture. They were informed about chemical control through the

application of recommended herbicides and manual control by uprooting before flowering. Emphasis was laid on the most effective period of control—January and February—before flowering to prevent further dispersal. Safety precautions, including the use of protective measures while uprooting the weed, were also highlighted. Students and staff were encouraged to prepare compost from Parthenium biomass.

A Parthenium Awareness Rally was organized on 20th August 2025 with active participation of farmers and farm women from different villages. During the rally, participants raised slogans promoting Parthenium eradication and were educated on compost preparation through layered burial of Parthenium biomass in compost pits. It was explained that compost prepared from Parthenium can be nutrient-rich when properly decomposed. Practical uprooting of Parthenium was also carried out during the rally. The programme concluded with an oath-taking ceremony, wherein participants pledged to work collectively towards the eradication of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and to promote sustainable management practices in their respective villages.

The week-long observance successfully enhanced awareness among farmers, students, and rural communities regarding the hazards and integrated management of Parthenium, thereby contributing towards environmental protection and sustainable agriculture in the district.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Mohali

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SAS Nagar (Mohali) has observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th of August, 2025 to 22nd of August, 2025 at different villages (Kurali, Majra, Khera, etc.) of the district under the guidance of Dr. B S Khadda, Deputy Director (Training). Under this week-long programme, expert lectures on ill effects of congress grass on human and animal health, agriculture, environment, and biodiversity were delivered to the masses through camps and trainings. The weed is impacting crop yields, depleting fodder resources and triggering health hazards such as skin allergies and respiratory disorders. Demonstrations on identification of Parthenium plants, preparation of Parthenium compost, Use of safety measures for eradication of parthenium plants, such as masks, hand gloves, identification of the Mexican beetle as biological control measures etc. were conducted for creating awareness among masses. Field visits by scientists were also conducted at different villages. Literature on Eradication of Parthenium was also developed and distributed among farmers and farm women.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sangrur

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sangrur of Punjab Agricultural University organized a successful Parthenium Awareness Week from August 16 to 22, 2025 to educate local farmers about the detrimental effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, commonly known as congress grass or Gajar Ghas. The programme aimed to raise awareness about the weed's impact on human health, livestock and agricultural productivity. Throughout the week, KVK staff conducted informative sessions that detailed the identification of the weed, harmful effects, and management strategies for Parthenium. Hands-on activities included the manual uprooting of Parthenium in various villages and farmers' fields, fostering community involvement in weed control efforts. Farmers actively participated in these activities, gaining practical experience and understanding the importance of eradication for maintaining healthy crops and a sustainable environment.

The initiative not only educated the community about the challenges posed by Parthenium but also encouraged proactive measures for its management. The successful execution of this awareness week demonstrated KVK's commitment to enhancing agricultural practices and promoting environmental health in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ludhiana

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ludhiana organized a series of awareness and extension activities during Parthenium Awareness Week in August 2025. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers, students, and the local community about the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass), its harmful effects on agriculture, human and animal health, and the need for integrated management practices.

Two awareness programmes were conducted at village level to strengthen grassroots outreach. On 7th August 2025, an awareness campaign was organized at Village Goslan, Ludhiana, where 10 participants were educated about identification, hazards, and management of Parthenium. Another programme was conducted on 14th August 2025 at Village Sehjo Majra, attended by 10 farmers. During this programme, a practical demonstration on safe uprooting and disposal of Parthenium plants was conducted to ensure hands-on learning and prevent further seed dispersal.

In addition, two lectures and training programmes were organized at the KVK campus. On 18th August 2025, Dr. Amanpreet Singh, Assistant Professor (Agronomy), delivered a lecture attended by 30 farmers, highlighting chemical, mechanical, and cultural methods of Parthenium management. Another awareness lecture was conducted on 20th August 2025 for 45 farmers, focusing on integrated management strategies, health hazards associated with Parthenium, and composting techniques for effective utilization of uprooted biomass.

A farmers' field visit was also organized in collaboration with KVK staff to demonstrate practical management technologies for Parthenium control in farmers' fields. These field-based demonstrations provided direct exposure to effective control measures and reinforced adoption at the village level.

To further enhance outreach, an extension article on Parthenium management was circulated through the official KVK WhatsApp group, reaching more than 100 farmers digitally and strengthening awareness beyond physical programmes.

The coordinated efforts of KVK Ludhiana during Parthenium Awareness Week significantly improved awareness among stakeholders and promoted integrated, eco-friendly management practices for sustainable control of this invasive weed.

Awareness campaign on parthenium were conducted by agronomy expert at KVK, Ludhiana

2.22 RAJASTHAN

Rajasthan, located in the northwestern part of India, is the largest state by area, covering approximately 342,239 square kilometers. As of the 2011 census, it had a population of around 68 million, with a male population of about 34 million and a female population of approximately 34 million, resulting in a sex ratio of around 926 females for every 1,000 males. The state is known for its diverse agricultural output, with major crops including wheat, barley, millet, and pulses, thriving mainly in its alluvial and sandy soil types. Rajasthan experiences a predominantly arid climate, characterized by hot summers and cool winters, with average annual rainfall ranging from 200 mm in the west to over 800 mm in the southeastern regions. The literacy rate in Rajasthan is around 66%, reflecting ongoing efforts to improve education in the region.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Rapeseed-Mustard Research, Sewar, Bharatpur

During the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025), ICAR–Indian Institute of Integrated Management of Resources undertook a series of impactful activities to create widespread awareness about the harmful effects and scientific management of Parthenium hysterophorus. The message of the awareness week was prominently displayed at key locations within the institute, including the main gate and reception area. Informative pamphlets were also printed and distributed among MGMG-adopted villages to sensitize rural communities.

A systematic Parthenium uprooting drive was organized, wherein infested areas were allocated to different units of the institute for pinpoint removal. The institute continues its year-round “Parthenium Watch” drive, focusing on regular monitoring, uprooting, and composting of the weed. Awareness programmes were conducted for farmers and farm labourers, including sessions in affected villages by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bansur. Dr. R.S. Jat, In-charge (Natural Resource Management), delivered a lecture and interactive discussion on effective management of Parthenium in crop fields. To engage youth, an awareness camp was organized at Government Senior Secondary School, Murwara, where students participated in a rally in Murwara village. A massive uprooting drive was also conducted along the Jaipur–Bharatpur highway under the leadership of Dr. V.V. Singh, Director, who emphasized vigilance and scientific weed management for long-term control.

ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner

ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner observed "20th Parthenium Awareness Week" from 16-22 August, 2025. During the week, various activities were organized observed to make farmers and general public awareness of the menace of the parthenium which is responsible for causing health problems in human beings and animals, besides deteriorating environment, loss of productivity and biodiversity. The staff of the whole institute participated in this programme and make the campus of the institute free from parthenium. Programme concluded with a pledge by all participants to maintain a parthenium free campus.

ICAR–Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (CSWRI), Avikanagar

ICAR–Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (CSWRI), Avikanagar organized *Parthenium Awareness Week* from 21 to 29 August 2025 with a focus on eradication, awareness, and community participation. A daily activity schedule was prepared and circulated among staff to ensure systematic removal of Parthenium from office premises and residential areas across the 1,550-hectare campus, with support from contractors. Schools located within the campus, including Kendriya Vidyalaya and the State Secondary School, actively participated, resulting in Parthenium-free school premises. To enhance public awareness, information on the activities was published in newspapers and uploaded on the institute's website. Community outreach programmes were also conducted in the Transfer of Technology village Kisangosti, where farmers were educated about the harmful effects and management of Parthenium. Eradication drives were extended to nearby villages such as Bairwa ki Dhani and Sadarpura. Photographs documenting all activities were compiled and submitted as evidence.

S. K. N. AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY- JOBNER

ICAR- Directorate of weed research, Jabalpur organizes “Parthenium Awareness Week” every year to motivate the public for the management and eradication of this noxious weed. This year 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized from 16-22 August, 2025. College of Agriculture, Kotputli had also participated in this awareness programme and contributed by providing the information regarding allergic behavior of Parthenium. Dr. Parvati Deewan said that Parthenium is locally known as Gajar ghas, safed topi, Chatak Chandni is a native to central America. It is one of the most problematic alien invasive weeds in the tropical and subtropical world and popularly known as Gajar ghas due to its appearance like a carrot plant. Dr. Surendra Singh, Dean briefed that Congress grass (Parthenium hysterophorus L.), of the family Asteraceae is an erect and much branched annual or ephemeral herb, known for its notorious role as environmental, medical, and agricultural hazards and massive spread on both sides of the road, railway tracks, fallow land and kharif field crops. It responsible for severe human and animal health issues, such as dermatitis, asthma and bronchitis, and agricultural losses besides a great problem for biodiversity. Dr. D. K. Bairwa, Dr. N.K. Meena and Dr. Parveen Pilaniya have shared different methods of its management like Manual uprooting of parthenium before flowering and seed setting is the most effective method. Uprooting the weed after seed setting will increase the area of infestation, Chemical control in non-cropped areas, spray herbicides like Paraqut (0.2 % for total vegetation control and Metribuzine (0.3-0.5%) or 2,4-D (1-1.5 % if grasses are to be saved before flowering of Parthenium and release bioagent Calligrapha bicolorata in Parthenium infested areas during July-August. During this programme faculty members and students have contributed by uprooting this weed around the college campus and Farm.

गाजर घास से श्वास व त्वचा सम्बन्धी रोग फैलते हैं : डॉ. सुरेन्द्र सिंह

♦ गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया

कोटपूतली (सीमा सन्देश से)। निकटवर्ती ग्राम पाथरेड़ी स्थित श्री कर्ण नरेन्द्र कृषि विश्वविद्यालय जोबनेर अन्तर्गत कृषि महाविद्यालय में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया गया।

इस दौरान कॉलेज परिसर के चारों ओर, बालिका व बालक छात्रावास के आस पास राष्ट्रीय सेवा योजना के स्वयंसेवकों द्वारा गाजर घास को उखाड़ कर नष्ट किया गया। इसको पार्थेनियम हीस्टेरोफोरस के वानस्पति नाम से भी जाना जाता है। यह एक विदेशी खरपतवार है जो 1960 में ऑस्ट्रेलिया से भारत में गेहूँ के साथ आया था। कालेज के डीन डॉ. सुरेन्द्र सिंह ने बताया कि गाजर घास इस वर्ष बहुतायत से सड़क के दोनो तरफ फैल रही हैं। तथा इससे श्वास व त्वचा सम्बन्धी रोग फैलते हैं। यह पशुओं के लिये भी हानिकारक हैं। इसको फूल बनने से पहले उखाड़ कर कम्पोस्ट बनाना ही सबसे सस्ता व लाभकारी उपाय हैं। डॉ. सिंह ने कॉलेज को गाजर घास मुक्त बनाने की बात कही।

डॉ.डी. के. बैरवा ने गाजर घास के समन्वित नियंत्रण के बारे में जानकारी प्रदान की। डॉ. पार्वती दीवान ने कार्यक्रम का संचालन करते हुऐ विधार्थियों का मनोबल बढ़ाया तथा गाजर घास के जैविक नियंत्रण के बारे में जानकारी प्रदान की। उन्होने कहाँ कि सभी की सामूहिक भागीदारी से ही गाजर घास को उन्मूलन सम्भव हैं। डॉ. प्रवीन पिलानिया, प्रभारी राष्ट्रीय सेवा योजना ने कार्यक्रम के अन्त में सभी का धन्यवाद किया। इस अवसर पर कालेज का स्टॉफ डॉ. नीरज कुमार, डॉ. ओमेश कुमार, डॉ. सुशीला ऐरा, डॉ. सुरेन्द्र कुमार, डॉ. प्रवीन हटवाल, दीपक कुमार, कुन्दन मीना, अंकित नैनिया, सचिन, अजय सहित छात्र छात्राऐं उपस्थित रहे।

कोटपूतली-बहरोड़ भास्कर 23-08-2025

कृषि महाविद्यालय पाथरेड़ी में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह

गाजर घास जागरुकता सप्ताह संपन्न

न्यूज सर्विस/नवज्योति, कोटपूतली। कृषि महाविद्यालय में 16 से 22 अगस्त तक गाजर घास जागरुकता सप्ताह मनाया गया। इस दौरान एनएसएस के स्वयंसेवकों ने कॉलेज परिसर, छात्रावास और आसपास के क्षेत्रों में गाजर घास उखाड़ कर नष्ट की। इस खरपतवार को वैज्ञानिक नाम पार्थेनियम हीस्टेरोफोरस से जाना जाता है, जो 1960 में ऑस्ट्रेलिया से गेहूं के साथ भारत आया था और अब बड़ी मात्रा में फैल चुका है। कॉलेज के डीन डा.सुरेन्द्र सिंह ने बताया कि गाजर घास श्वसन और त्वचा संबंधी रोगों के साथ पशुओं के लिए भी हानिकारक है। इसका सबसे सस्ता और लाभकारी उपाय है कि फूल बनने से पहले इसे उखाड़कर कम्पोस्ट में बदल दिया जाए। उन्होंने कॉलेज को गाजर घास मुक्त बनाने का संकल्प व्यक्त किया। डा.डीके बैरवा ने गाजर घास के समन्वित नियंत्रण पर प्रकाश डाला। अंत में एनएसएस प्रभारी डा.प्रवीन पिलानिया ने धन्यवाद ज्ञापित किया। कार्यक्रम का संचालन डा.पार्वती दीवान ने किया।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Keshwana, Jalore-I, Directorate of Extension Education oAgriculture University, Jodhpur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Keshwana, Jalore-I organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week to combat the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass/Carrot weed). KVK carried out various activities at KVK campus as well as nearby villages, including awareness rallies, awareness through poster display, Parthenium awareness through group discussion, educational campaign, to inform the public and farmers about the weed negative impact on human health, livestock, agriculture and biodiversity as well as its management. During this event KVK reached a large number of people and promoting Integrated Weed Management Practices. These activities were involved for making the campus parthenium free and Public awareness was provided to identify Parthenium, Knowledge of its impacts, its management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Bhilwara

During the parthenium awareness week, the Head and Senior Scientist of the Kendra, Dr. C. M. Yadav, explained that Parthenium weed is extremely harmful to human health and the environment. He highlighted that Parthenium causes various serious diseases such as asthma, allergy, eczema, skin rashes, and even affects livestock and humans consuming food contaminated with this weed. Dr. Yadav also informed participants about different control measures for eliminating Parthenium such as biological control, chemical control, and compost preparation. Technical Assistant Vinita Yadav explained that Parthenium depletes soil nutrients, thereby reducing crop productivity. As part of the Parthenium Awareness Week, Parthenium eradication

drives were carried out in and around the Kendra and nearby villages. Students of Government Agriculture College, Bhilwara, and RNT Agriculture College, Diggi, who are undergoing rural agricultural work experience (RAWE) training, were also sensitized about the ill effects of Parthenium. Scientists from ICAR–National Research Centre for Integrated Farming Systems, Jhansi, namely Dr. Sushmita Saini, Dr. Smriti Ratu, Dr. Dinesh Prakash Chakraborty, Dr. Prapti M. G., and Dr. Ajay Singh Mokhsikya emphasized the importance of removing Parthenium weed for protecting soil fertility and increasing crop production. In total, 109 participants took part in the awareness week activities.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shahpura-Bhilwara II

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shahpura-Bhilwara II observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at the KVK campus and nearby villages as part of the nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The objective of the programme was to sensitize farmers, students and rural communities about the adverse effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass) and to encourage community-level action for its management and eradication. Scientists, KVK staff, farmers and RAWE students actively participated in the activities throughout the week. At the inauguration, experts delivered talks on the invasive nature of Parthenium and its harmful impacts on human and livestock health, including skin allergies, asthma and toxin-related issues. The weed's role in reducing crop yields and suppressing biodiversity was also highlighted. A series of activities were carried out during the week, which included administration of an awareness pledge, lectures and group discussions, practical demonstrations, and campus and field cleaning drives. Special focus was laid on the use of *Calligrapha bicolorata*, a biological control agent effective in reducing Parthenium infestation. A total of 165 farmers took part in the programme, demonstrating strong community involvement. Awareness materials such as pamphlets and leaflets were distributed to extend the message to nearby villages.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Bamanwara (Jalore–II), Rajasthan

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Bamanwara (Jalore-II) organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2024 in different villages of Jalore district with the objective of creating awareness about the harmful effects and management of Parthenium hysterophorus (Gajar Ghas). The programme targeted farmers, farm women, rural youth, students, and community members to sensitize them about the serious health, environmental, and agricultural hazards posed by this invasive weed. The major objectives were to

highlight the ill effects of Parthenium on human and animal health, crop productivity, and biodiversity; to demonstrate mechanical, biological, and chemical control measures; to encourage community participation in eradication drives; and to promote the use of the bio-control agent Calligrapha bicolorata along with composting of Parthenium biomass. During the week, awareness campaigns including lectures, group discussions, and farmer–scientist interactions were organized in villages such as Bamanwara, Sarnau, Bhinmal, and Raniwara. Field demonstrations on manual uprooting, safe disposal, and biological control methods were conducted at farmers' fields and the KVK farm. Schools and colleges actively participated through awareness rallies and competitions like essay writing, poster-making, and slogan writing. Pamphlets and leaflets in the local language were distributed to promote effective management practices. More than 450 participants took part in the programme. The initiative successfully enhanced knowledge about identification, harmful effects, and safe eradication of Parthenium, and motivated farmers to adopt biological control and composting practices. The programme strengthened community commitment toward weed-free surroundings and sustainable agricultural productivity in Jalore district.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karauli

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Karauli successfully organized "Parthenium Awareness Week" from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, rural communities, and students about the harmful effects of Parthenium (Congress grass) and its effective management practices. During the week-long campaign, a series of extension activities were conducted, including awareness rallies, farmer trainings, group discussions, field demonstrations, and school outreach programs. The scientists and experts of KVK educated participants about the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health, livestock, and agricultural crops. They highlighted that this invasive weed causes skin allergies, respiratory problems, and significantly reduces crop productivity.

The programme also focused on practical approaches for controlling Parthenium. Farmers were trained in mechanical removal methods, safe and judicious use of herbicides, and biological control measures such as the use of *Zygogramma bicolorata* beetle. Emphasis was laid on community participation and regular monitoring to effectively manage the spread of this week. KVK Karauli organised one training programme with 40 farmers in adopted village Hariya ka mandir block sapotra under tribal sub plan also two awareness programme were conducted in Govt senior secondary school dhindhora and jatnagla to sensitize students, encouraging them to act as ambassadors of change by spreading awareness within their families and communities. 2 Poster competitions, one pledge-taking ceremonies, and two interactive sessions were also organized to enhance participation and understanding. On the concluding day, KVK scientists appealed to all stakeholders to adopt collective efforts for the eradication and management of Parthenium and to contribute towards a cleaner and healthier environment. The initiative proved to be a significant step towards sustainable agriculture and environmental protection in the Karauli district.

Details of activities organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karauli

S. No	Dated	Name of activities	Place
1	16.08.2025	Awerness program and lecture on parthenium eradication in Moondari village.	Villge–Syampur Moondri
2	18.08.2025	Educational activities in farmers training through lecture in farmers training at KVK.	KVK
3	19.08.2025	Educational activities in farmers training through lecture in IIIM, Jammu collaborative training.	KVK
4	20.08.2025	Educational activities in farmers training through lecture and open view session of farmers for suggestions.	KVK

5	21.08.2025	Awereness and participartory program at village- Hariya ka mandir	Village-Hariya ka Mandir
6	22.08.2025	Eradication and uprooting drives at KVK farm with staff and youths.	KVK

In this week our centre conducted 6 activities along with 256 farmers 60 school students also 5 lecture delivered by scientist on various platfarm for motivation to control of parthenium.

Parthenium Awareness Week activities photographs

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Gramothan Vidyapeeth, Sangaria

An awareness program was organized under the 20th Parthenium Eradication Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 under the aegis of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gramothan Vidyapeeth, Sangaria. During this, the senior scientist and head of the center, Dr. Anoop Kumar told that Parthenium, which is known as carrot grass, is harmful for human health along with reducing the productivity of crops. It causes problems like allergies, asthma and skin diseases. Along with this, while giving information about carrot grass, he informed about its life cycle and its spread. The Center's Plant Protection Scientist Umesh Kumar told the measures to prevent carrot grass such as how it can be reduced by weeding, using weedicides and planting marigold, chikoda and acacia in the affected area. Training assistant Raghuveer Singh Nain provided information about the method of preparing compost from carrot grass and senior research fellow Ashwani Kumar advised against putting its seeds and plants inside the canal and on the road, because it spreads to other areas when its seeds and plants are put on the canal and roads. This programme attend 1250 farmers, students and extension functionaries.

सच कहूं मंच वही epaper.sachkahoon.com 23 Aug 2025 - Page 6

पार्थेनियम स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक

रविवार SATURDAY 23 अगस्त 2025

शहर की गतिविधियां

पार्थेनियम उन्मूलन सप्ताह का आयोजन किया

गाजर घास जागरुकता संगोष्ठी

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Nagaur-I

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nagaur-I, under the Directorate of Extension Education, Agriculture University, Jodhpur, successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025. The week-long programme aimed to sensitize staff members, field workers, and farmers about the hazards of Parthenium hysterophorus and its effective management. Awareness materials, including posters and folders, were displayed in front of the KVK office to educate visitors and staff about the invasive and harmful nature of Parthenium. On 18th August 2025, an off-campus training programme was conducted at Khabadiyana village (Tehsil Deh), where KVK scientists delivered lectures highlighting the noxious effects of Parthenium on human and animal health and emphasizing that its rapid spread occurs primarily through seeds. Participants were apprised of the various problems caused by Parthenium, including allergies, skin diseases, respiratory issues, and threats to livestock. Practical control measures were discussed, such as manual uprooting before flowering, composting of the removed biomass, and growing plants like marigold around homes and fields to inhibit its growth. Additionally, chemical management strategies were explained, recommending the use of herbicides like glyphosate and metribuzin in uncultivated areas before flowering. The programme successfully engaged local farmers and field staff, raising awareness about timely and integrated management practices, and highlighted the importance of community participation in controlling the spread of this invasive weed, ensuring healthier agricultural environments and safer communities.

दैनिक भास्कर नागौर भास्कर 19-08-2025

गाजर घास पर जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन

एक पौधे में लगभग 25 से 50 हजार तक बीज पैदा करने की क्षमता होती है

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Dholpur

Parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorus), commonly known as gajarghas, has emerged as a serious threat to agriculture, the environment, and both human and animal health across India. Once confined mainly to roadsides and vacant lands, this invasive weed has now aggressively spread into food crops, vegetables, and horticultural fields, leading to yield losses, suppression of native flora, and serious health hazards such as dermatitis, allergies, asthma, and toxicity in livestock. In order to address this growing menace, the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed across the country from 16th to 22nd August 2025 under the leadership of ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, with the active involvement of agricultural universities, ICAR institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, state departments, educational institutions, and NGOs. As part of

this nationwide initiative, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dholpur organized a series of awareness and eradication activities throughout the district. During the week, KVK Dholpur conducted awareness rallies, eradication drives, lectures, and interactive programmes involving farmers and students. An awareness rally on 16th August witnessed the participation of 96 people, followed by eradication drives on 17th and 18th August involving 55 and 49 participants, respectively. Lectures on the ill effects and management of Parthenium were organized on 19th and 20th August, benefitting 88 participants in total. Farmer interactions on 21st August (88 participants) and student interactions on 22nd August (42 participants) further strengthened community engagement. Overall, 418 participants were directly involved during the week.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Sri Ganganagar

During the Parthenium Awareness Week 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Sri Ganganagar, a detailed lecture was conducted by Subject Matter Specialist (Soil Science). In this session, all critical points regarding Parthenium management were thoroughly covered, including the dangers of Parthenium hysterophorus, its impact on health and agriculture, and the various methods for its control, such as uprooting before flowering, the use of biological control agents and the application of herbicides. The session concluded with a campus cleanup drive, ensuring that KVK Sri Ganganagar is Parthenium-free

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Bharatpur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kumher, Bharatpur organized a *Parthenium Awareness Programme* from 16 to 22 August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, students, and the rural community about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (locally known as Gajar Ghaas) and promoting its effective eradication. The programme was conducted both on-campus and off-campus at KVK Kumher and in the adopted villages namely Gangarsoli, Randirpura, Sabora, Indroli, Nagladeepti, Jagjeevanpura, Itamada, Pana, Bailara, and Dharmpura. During the programme, an inaugural session followed by an awareness rally was organized in nearby villages highlighting the theme *"Parthenium – A Hazard for Farming and Health."* Posters and banners were displayed to educate the community about the

adverse effects of Parthenium on crop productivity, human health, livestock, and the environment. Field demonstrations were conducted to show the method of manual uprooting of Parthenium before flowering and its safe disposal through composting and vermicomposting.

KVK scientists delivered lectures and conducted group discussions explaining the biology, mode of spread, and harmful impacts of Parthenium. Participants were sensitized about integrated management practices including mechanical, cultural, and chemical control measures. Special interactive awareness programmes were also organized for school children to instill awareness at an early age about the hazards of this invasive weed and the importance of maintaining a healthy environment.

The programme witnessed active participation of 1,280 participants, including 823 participants from SC/ST categories and 457 from other categories**.** Local newspapers covered the week-long activities, which helped in extending the reach of the awareness campaign to a wider audience. Farmers and stakeholders were advised to uproot Parthenium before flowering and utilize the biomass for compost or vermicompost preparation. They were also encouraged to broadcast seeds of competitive plant species such as *Cassia tora* and *Tagetes erecta* to suppress Parthenium growth. In non-cropped areas, the use of herbicides like glyphosate (1.0–1.5%) for total vegetation control and metribuzin (0.3–0.5%) or 2,4-D (1.0–1.5%) where grasses are to be preserved was recommended before the flowering stage of Parthenium. Overall, the Parthenium Awareness Programme was successful in educating farmers, students, and rural communities about the serious threats posed by Parthenium to agriculture, human health, and livestock, and emphasized the need for timely and integrated management for its effective control.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Gonera, Jaipur –II

20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized in the jurisdiction of KVK, Gonera, Kotputli, Jaipur from 16-22 August, 2025. The scientist of KVK has conducted awareness campaign of parthenium harmful effect on human and animal health as well as crop yields and it managements. After that mass Parthenium eradication program were conducted at KVK premises, roadside and farmers field with the help of READY students and farmers. No. of Participants: 140 farmers, 123 students& 8 Staff.

कृषि वैज्ञानिकों ने किसानों व छात्रों को किया जागरूक : समीप के गोनेड़ा ग्राम स्थित कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र की ओर से सात दिवसीय गाजरघास जागरुकता एवं उन्मूलन सप्ताह आयोजित किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य किसानों और छात्रों को गाजरघास से होने वाले नुकसान, पर्यावरण पर इसके दुष्प्रभाव, मनुष्य और पशुओं में होने वाली बीमारियों तथा इसके एकीकृत प्रबंधन के बारे में जागरुक करना था। कार्यक्रम के तहत बखराना गांव में भी विशेष जागरुकता अभियान आयोजित किया गया। जिसमें वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक एवं अध्यक्ष डा.सुपर्ण सिंह शेखावत ने बताया कि गाजरघास, जिसे कांग्रेस घास, सफेद टोपी और गजरी के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, आज यह लगभग 35 मिलियन हेक्टेयर फसली व गैरफसली क्षेत्रों को प्रभावित कर रही है। डा.रामप्रताप ने बताया कि यह एक वर्षीय खरपतवार है, जो बीजों से फैलता है। डा.रेणु कुमारी गुप्ता ने सुझाव दिया कि गाजरघास

के प्रभावी प्रबंधन के लिए चकोड़ा और गेंदा जैसी प्रतिस्पर्धी पौधों की प्रजातियों का बीज छिड़काव करना चाहिए। इस दौरान केंद्र की कल्पना पटेल, राकेश कुमार बैरवा और शिवेश पाण्डेय भी उपस्थित रहे।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Tabiji, Ajmer

Parthenium is a noxious and terrestrial weed because of its harmful effects both to humans and to biodiversity. It is an aggressive colonizer of wasteland, road sides, railway sides, water courses, cultivated fields, and overgrazed pastures. Parthenium plant contains chemicals, like parthenin, hysterin, hymenin, and ambrosin, and due to the presence of these chemicals, the weed exerts strong allelopathic effects on different crops. Parthenium weed is toxic to animals causing dermatitis with pronounced skin lesions on various animals including horses and cattles. If eaten, it is responsible for mouth ulcers with excessive salivation. The pollen grains, airborne dried plant parts, and roots of parthenium cause various allergies like contact dermatitis, hay fever, asthma, and bronchitis in human beings. About its menace and environmental consequences, Directorate of Weed Research Jabalpur every year launches Parthenium awareness week to educate farmers on its ill effects on biodiversity, human and animal health. Krishi Vigyan Kendra celebrated Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August and organized different lecture and training programme on the nature of the weed, its effects on crop production, human and cattle health. Total 165 farmers were actively participated in Parthenium awareness week.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Chittorgarh

Dr. R.L. Solanki, senior scientist and head also highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium like skin allergy (dermatitis), high fever and asthma in human beings and stressed the need to manage this weed an integrated mode i.e through mechanical, cultural and biocontrol methods. Parthenium besides hampering crop production becoming nuisance in non-cropped areas like residential areas, parks, road sides, railway tracks, he emphasized. Scientists, staff and RAWE students participated in uprooting of Parthenium plants in and around the KVK main campus and helped in making it Parthenium free campus.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Chittorgarh conducted Parthenium awareness programme on 21st August 2025 at KVK, Farm. A wide range of activities were conducted to spread awareness among staff members at KVK and RAWE students. Staff of KVK along with RAWE students actively participated and removed Parthenium from the fruit crop plantations. Barisadri blocks nearby villages conducted "Parthenium awareness week" & sensitization on its integrated management for the school students and tribal farmers of Minicoy from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. Dr. R.L. Solanki, senior scientist and head also briefed about the harmful effect of Parthenium to human and other animals & its impact on soil productivity and biodiversity. The scientific team interacted with the farmers and highlighted on integrated management of Parthenium and its eradication by uprooting, biological control and composting. More than 89 participants participated in the event.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Hanumangarh-II (Nohar)

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized at KVK campus under the supervision of the Senior Scientist & Head from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. Dr. Ashok Choudhary, SMS (Agronomy): Explained disadvantages of Parthenium, methods of integrated weed management, and compost preparation from Parthenium biomass. Dr. Vikramjit Singh, SMS (Animal Science): Highlighted harmful effects of Parthenium on livestock health. Dr. Suresh Chand Kantwa: Shared information on biological control of Parthenium using eco-friendly methods.

A total of 39 participants attended the programme, comprising 23 Scheduled Caste (SC) male, 14 male from other categories, and 2 female participants. The programme created awareness among farmers and students about the hazards of Parthenium weed and promoted sustainable management strategies through integrated weed management, composting, and biological control.

गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन

न्यूज सर्विस/नवज्योति, नोहर। कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र नोहर द्वारा 16 से 22 अगस्त तक गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह आयोजित किया गया। वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक और अध्यक्ष डॉ. सुरेश चंद कॉटिया ने बताया कि इस दौरान केवीके परिसर को गाजर घास मुक्त किया गया। शस्य विज्ञान विशेषज्ञ डॉ. अशोक चौधरी ने बताया कि गाजर घास एक वर्षीय हानिकारक खरपतवार है, जो सभी प्रकार की मृदाओं में उगता है और इसके संपर्क से एलर्जी, दमा, डर्मेटाइटिस जैसे रोग हो सकते हैं। इस समस्या के समाधान हेतु सामुदायिक भागीदारी आवश्यक है, जिसमें किसान, नगरपालिका, कॉलोनीवासी और स्कूली बच्चे शामिल हों। इसे फूल आने से पहले उखाड़ना, शाकनाशियों का प्रयोग और मित्र कीट जाइगोग्रामा बाईकोलोरेटा द्वारा नियंत्रित किया जा सकता है। डॉ. विक्रमजीत सिंह ने बताया कि इसके सेवन से पशुओं में लार, दस्त और मुँह में छाले हो जाते हैं। कार्यक्रम में डॉ. गुलाब चौधरी, पशुधन अनुसंधान केन्द्र नोहर के अधिकारी व कर्मचारी उपस्थित रहे।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Tonk

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized from 16–22 August 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tonk, Banasthali Vidyapith. During this awareness week, the scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra visited nearby villages and created awareness among farmers about the harmful effects of Parthenium weed, such as its impact on agricultural production, human health, animal health, and the environment. A training programme was also organized in village Jhilai in collaboration with farmers.

In this programme, around 35 farm women from nearby areas participated. They expressed their commitment to eradicate Parthenium from their fields by uprooting it before flowering and seed formation, preparing compost from it, and keeping their fields clean. During this period, students at Banasthali Vidyapith campus were also informed about the harmful effects of Parthenium. A four-day campaign was conducted by KVK at the campus farm and within the Banasthali Vidyapith premises to make the campus Parthenium-free. The programme was successfully conducted with the cooperation of the scientists and technical staff of Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

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20वें गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन

CITY BOOK
सिटी बुक 16 राजस्थान पत्रिका
टोंक, शनिवार, 23 अगस्त, 2025

जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया

गाजर घास से कृषि उत्पादन व स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ रहा बुरा प्रभाव

CLAS

2.23 TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu, located in the southern part of India, covers an area of approximately 130,058 square kilometers. As of the 2011 census, its population stands at about 72 million, with a male population of around 36 million and a female population of approximately 36 million, resulting in a sex ratio of about 996 females for every 1,000 males. The state's agriculture is diverse, with major crops including rice, sugarcane, cotton, and various pulses, supported by its fertile red and black soil types. Tamil Nadu experiences a tropical climate, characterized by hot summers and moderate winters, with an average annual rainfall of about 800 mm, primarily during the monsoon season.

ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from 16–22 August 2025 at ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, to sensitize scientists, students, farmers, and staff about the adverse impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus* on agriculture, biodiversity, and human health. The programme commenced with an inaugural session and expert lectures highlighting the biology, rapid spread, and allergenic properties of the weed, along with integrated management strategies including mechanical removal, safe herbicide use, competitive cropping, and biological control through *Calligrapha bicolorata*. An awareness rally was organized within and around the campus with placards and pamphlet distribution to disseminate key messages on early identification and timely eradication. Field demonstrations were conducted to train participants in safe uprooting and proper disposal techniques to prevent seed dissemination, followed by a coordinated campus weed removal drive under scientific supervision. Student engagement activities such as poster, slogan, and essay competitions were organized to enhance awareness among youth, while interactive sessions with farmers focused on practical management approaches suitable for sugarcane-based cropping systems. The week-long campaign effectively strengthened community participation and reinforced the importance of integrated and preventive measures for sustainable management of Parthenium infestation.

Parthenium eradication drive near experimental fields

AICRP-WM, Department of Agronomy, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore

The 'Parthenium awareness week 2025' was observed between 16th and 22nd August 2025 by AICRP Weed Management Unit, Department of Agronomy, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore to create awareness among the college and school students, farm labourers, sanitary workers and farmers about the ill effects of parthenium and its management. In this connection a series of programmes were conducted as detailed below.

Date	Activity Name	No. of participants and detail of the activities
16.8.25	Sensitized about the ill effects of parthenium and its management to the UG students.	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 47 no. of undergraduate students were participated. In this program, Dr. N. Senthil, Director (Crop management) in-charge, inaugurated and presided over the campaign. Dr. R. Krishnan, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy, delivered special address on the importance of Parthenium management. The students were sensitized about Parthenium weed and its ill effects, and control measures such as cultural, chemical and biological means. For the biological control of Parthenium, *Calligrapha* beetles were released.
17.8.25	Conducted awareness campaign among the sanitary workers of TNAU main campus	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 35 no. of sanitary workers were participated, and awareness was created on Parthenium and its management.
18.8.25	Awareness programme for the farm workers of TNAU.	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 50 no. of central and eastern block farm workers have participated. Dr. R. Krishnan, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy, delivered special address on the importance of Parthenium management in the farm premises. In the programme, scientists, farm managers and field level officers were also participated.
19.8.25	Created awareness among the farm workers of Department of Floriculture and Botanical Garden of TNAU.	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 40 no. of farm workers have participated. Dr. M. Ganga, Professor and Head, Department of Floriculture and Landscaping, Dr. R. Krishnan, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy, delivered special address on the importance of Parthenium management in the farm premises. In the programme, scientists, farm managers and field level officers were also participated.
20.8.25	Sensitized about the ill effects of parthenium to the farm workers of ARS, Bhavanisagar.	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 40 no. of farm workers have participated. Dr. N. Sakthivel, Professor and Head, ARS, Bhavanisagar delivered special address on the importance of Parthenium management in the farm premises. In the programme, scientists from ARS, Bhavanisagar, farm managers and field level officers were also participated. Chemical weed management and the biological control of Parthenium through the release of *Calligrapha* beetles was demonstrated.
21.08.25	Organized essay competition in the title "About Parthenium" for Government Higher Secondary School students, Kalapatti and created awareness among the school students.	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 140 school students were participated and got sensitized about the Parthenium and its ill- effects. Prizes were distributed to the winners and those who have actively participated in the essay competition. The Head Master, Assistant Head Master, Teachers of Govt. Higher Secondary School have participated in the event.
22.8.25	Created awareness among the farmers at Pullagoundanpudur village, Thondamuthur	In the Parthenium awareness campaign, 30 no of farmers of Pullagoundan pudur village, participated in the campaign. In the event, the farmers and farm labourers were sensitized about the ill effects of parthenium and its management in horticultural crops.

Sensitizing the students of TNAU

Sensitizing the farm labourers at Botanical Garden,TNAU

Demonstration and release of *Calligrapha* beetles at ARS, Bhavanisagar.

Sensitizing primary school students of Govt. higher secondary school, Kalapatti

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ariyalur

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ariyalur District organized Parthenium awareness week from 16.08.25 to 22.08.25 at KVK and its adopted villages. During this period KVK conducted various extension activities viz., awareness programme, method demonstration on eradication of parthenium weeds, distribution of extension literatures etc. In this awareness programme, lectures were delivered in the topic on ill effect of parthenium weed to animal and human, control measures of cultural operations, crop rotation, compost making through biological and chemicals methods. In this awareness programme about 150 farmers and farm women were participated.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu

ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kancheepuram celebrated 19th Parthenium Awareness week to create awareness on effects of Parthenium and is management on 21.08.2025 at KVK campus. Dr. P. Murugan, Professor and Head, KVK, Kattupakkam delivered address on effect of Parthenium in human health and in agricultural field, eradication methods through cultural, mechanical and herbicidal application and Parthenium composting techniques. Participants gained knowledge on identifying, eradicating and managing the invasive weed through integrated strategies, including physical removal, biological control and chemical methods. They also learnt about Parthenium's harmful health effects, such as allergies and respiratory issues in humans and animals and its negative impact on agriculture by reducing crop yields and livestock fodder. A total of 34 beneficiaries participated and benefited.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Coimbatore

ICAR KVK Coimbatore in collaboration with Karunya University an awareness programme on parthenium eradication was conducted on 20.08.2025 during the Parthenium awareness week at Thekampatti village of Karamadai block of Coimbatore district. In this programme our KVK Scientist Mr. S. Suresh kumar and Mr. M. Sagadevan participated the programme and explained about morphology and mode of spread of

parthenium, ill effects and its causes and different control measures of parthenium eradication. As a part of this event, students from Karnuya University actively participated the programme and demonstrated and explained to the farmers about parthenium eradication, uproot the weeds before flowering to make compost and release of *Zygrogramma bicolorata* biological control agent to control parthenium. A total of 17 farmers were participated and benefited in the awareness programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Vridhachalam, Cuddalore

Parthenium Awareness week was organised at KVK, Vridhachalam between 16-22 August 2025. The most noxious invasive weed parthenium eradication techniques were delivered to the public of Vriddhachalam in 6 locations on road sides. The harmful effects of Parthenium on human and livestock were also discussed with the public of Vriddhachalam from Periyarnagar to Palakarai. A Parthenium awareness campaign was organised at Co. Mavidanthal and Sathamangalam Village on 20.08.2025 which was severely infested with parthenium. Non cropped area which was severely infested with parthenium was chosen and was demonstrated with glyphosate application at 15ml/litre using hand sprayer. A totally 40 number of participants were participated in the meeting. About the spread, invasiveness and control measures including the release of Calligrapha bicolorata. villagers got interested on Calligrapha.

On 22.08.2025, Parthenium awareness meeting was organised at Pudhukoorapettai and Ponneri village, Vriddhachalam block, Vridhachalam. About the parthenium and control measures were delivered. 35 number of participants were participated in the meeting.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Dharmapuri

A Parthenium awareness campaign was conducted on 21.08.2025 at KVK Dharmapuri. Dr. C. Sivakumar, Professor (Agronomy) explained the ill-effects of Parthenium, highlighting its harmful impact on human health such as skin allergies, asthma, and respiratory problems, along with its adverse effects on livestock through reduced fodder availability and toxicity, and its negative influence on the environment by suppressing useful vegetation and biodiversity. Further, different management practices were narrated, including chemical methods such as the application of herbicides like Glyphosate and 2,4-D during early growth stages, cultural methods like uprooting before flowering, promoting competitive crops, and ensuring field sanitation, as well as biological control through the introduction of the Calligrapha bicolorata beetle and eco-friendly composting techniques. Number of particpants present were 30.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nagapattinam

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nagapattinam organized an awareness programme on Eradication of Parthenium at Iluppur village, Kilvelur block on 20.08.2025. Dr. V. Kannan, SMS (Agronomy) delivered lectures on eradication of parthenium and explained about the harmful illeffects on human and animal health, Integrated approach involving physical, chemical, and biological methods. preventing seed production through manual removal of young plants and using herbicides in non-crop areas. In this programme 40 nos. of farmers participated.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Salem

On the occasion of the 19th Parthenium Awareness Week, observed nationwide from 16th to 22nd August 2025, the ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Salem organized a series of awareness programmes to highlight the ill effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and the importance of its eradication. As part of this initiative, an awareness programme was conducted on 19.08.2025 at the KVK campus. Dr. R. Jegathambal, Programme Coordinator, KVK Salem, addressed the staff members of KVK and delivered a detailed talk on the significance of Parthenium eradication. In her address, she emphasized the serious harmful impacts of Parthenium on human and animal health, including skin allergies, respiratory issues, and other health hazards caused by its pollen and spores. She also highlighted the invasive nature of the weed, its negative influence on agricultural productivity, biodiversity, and soil fertility, as well as the urgent need to control its spread. Dr. Jegathambal further explained various methods of managing and eradicating Parthenium from the ecosystem, such as physical removal, cultural practices, biological control using the *Calligrapha bicolorata* beetle, and the importance of collective community action. Following the technical session, all staff members of KVK actively participated in a campus cleaning drive, during which Parthenium plants present within the campus were manually uprooted and destroyed. This practical activity served as a live demonstration of Parthenium management and reinforced the importance of individual responsibility in controlling this weed.

As part of the outreach activities, KVK also extended its awareness campaign to the community. On 20.08.2025, an awareness programme was organized at the Middle School in Sandhiyur village, Panamarathupatti block. The programme aimed at sensitizing young school students about the menace of Parthenium. The students were educated on the ill effects of Parthenium pollen and spores on human health, its harmful impact on livestock and agriculture, and the ecological imbalance it creates. They were also made aware of practical methods of controlling Parthenium, such as periodic cleaning of surroundings, safe removal practices, and spreading the message to their families and communities. The programme in the school was led by KVK scientists Dr. N. Chandrasekaran, SMS (Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry), Dr. P. Kalaiselvi, SMS (Environmental Science), and Dr. M. Kiruba, SMS (Forestry). Each of them interacted with the students and explained, in simple terms, the importance of keeping their environment clean and free from Parthenium. They also encouraged the students to act as ambassadors of awareness by sharing the knowledge with their peers and local community members.

Through these coordinated efforts, ICAR-KVK Salem successfully conveyed the importance of Parthenium eradication both within the institute and in the local community, thereby contributing to the national campaign of creating a healthier, Parthenium-free environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Villupuram-II

Parthenium Awareness Week was conducted from August 16-22, 2025. The 20th awareness programme on impacts of invasive congress weed, *Parthenium hysterophorus* focusing mainly on its harmful effects on human and animal health was conducted at Killanur Thiyagadurgam in Kallakurichi district. The main objective was to sensitize the farmers about the dangers of Parthenium in reducing crop yields and loss of local biodiversity including ill effects in human skin and respiratory issues. The farmers were recommended to do manual weeding and mowing, cultivate competitive crops like marigold, sorghum, and daincha to suppress parthenium growth. Field infested with the weed was advised for complete removal of weeds and spraying of salt solution during day time. Composting procedures was also dealt with. Manual uprooting drives were conducted in many locations, including on campus, at research farms, and in nearby villages. The overall goal was to promote integrated management (IWM) practices for the sustainable suppression of this harmful weed. No. of participants were 65.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Perambalur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Perambalur celebrated the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, students, and the general public about the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus and its adverse effects on agriculture, biodiversity, and human and animal health. Parthenium is an alien invasive weed that entered India in the early 1950s along with wheat imported from the USA. Its pollen grains, airborne dried plant parts, and roots are known to cause severe allergies such as contact dermatitis, hay fever, asthma, and bronchitis in human beings, besides affecting crop productivity and livestock health.

Considering the seriousness and magnitude of the threat posed by this weed, the ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research (DWR), Jabalpur has been organizing mass awareness programmes since 2004 by involving State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and other organizations across the country. In line with these national efforts, KVK Perambalur actively observed the twentieth Parthenium Awareness Week during 16–22 August 2025 to sensitize the farming community and the public about the ill effects of Parthenium and its effective management strategies. The programme commenced on 16th August 2025, when Dr. M. Punithavathi, SMS (Agronomy) delivered a lecture on the harmful effects of Parthenium on human health, agricultural productivity, and the quality of animal milk. She emphasized the need for collective action and urged participants to join hands in the complete eradication of this weed from the state and the country. A total of 45 students from Government Arts College participated in this programme.

On 18th August 2025, Mr. P. Dominic Manoj, SMS (Plant Protection) explained the biological management of Parthenium in farmlands, with special emphasis on eco-friendly approaches. This programme was attended by 95 school and college students from Aalathur block, who actively interacted during the session. On 19th August 2025, Dr. M. Punithavathi, SMS (Agronomy) conducted a practical session at the KVK farm on the use of uprooted Parthenium for compost preparation, highlighting safe handling and utilization methods. The programme involved 49 students, who gained hands-on experience in composting techniques. On 20th August 2025, Mr. P. Dominic Manoj, SMS (Plant Protection) addressed 48 farmers and farm women at KVK, explaining the health hazards and loss of biodiversity caused by Parthenium weed and creating awareness on its severe and unbearable effects on the environment and rural livelihoods. On 21st August 2025, Dr. M. Punithavathi, SMS (Agronomy) demonstrated chemical methods for Parthenium eradication at the KVK campus. Thirty-five farmers participated in the programme and were educated about the judicious and safe use of chemicals, along with the harmful effects of Parthenium.

The week-long programme concluded on 22nd August 2025, when Mr. N. Satishkumar, Laboratory Technician explained the reduction in crop yield due to Parthenium infestation and created awareness about its obnoxious effects on human health among 39 students at KVK. Overall, the celebration of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week – 2025 by KVK Perambalur was effective in enhancing awareness, strengthening knowledge on management options, and motivating farmers, students, and the general public to actively participate in the eradication of this invasive weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Thoothukudi

ICAR–SCAD Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Thoothukudi organized a Parthenium Eradication Campaign from 16th to 22nd August 2025 as part of the nationwide initiative to control and eradicate the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus. The campaign was implemented in Ottudanpatti and Poovani villages of Ottapidaram block and Ellayanayakanpatti village of Karunkulam block in Thoothukudi district with the active involvement of farmers and the rural community.

The programme aimed at creating awareness about the harmful impacts of Parthenium on human health, livestock, agriculture, and the environment. KVK scientists educated participants on health problems such as allergies, skin disorders, and respiratory issues caused by Parthenium, along with its role in reducing crop yields, degrading pasture lands, and causing loss of biodiversity. Emphasis was laid on the importance of community participation and collective action for effective and sustainable management of this noxious weed. During the campaign, awareness meetings and lectures were conducted by KVK scientists explaining the hazards of Parthenium and its integrated management practices. Field demonstrations were organized on mechanical uprooting of the weed, composting of Parthenium biomass, and safe disposal methods to prevent reinfestation. Participants were also trained on biological control measures, particularly the use of the beetle Calligrapha bicolorata, as an eco-friendly option for Parthenium management. Community participation drives were carried out with the involvement of farmers, rural youth, women self-help groups, school students, and panchayat representatives, who actively participated in field-level eradication activities.

More than 180 farmers, rural youth, and women took part in the campaign and contributed to the removal of Parthenium from village surroundings, farm boundaries, and common lands. Educational leaflets in Tamil were distributed to facilitate wider dissemination of information and sustained awareness at the village level. The Parthenium Eradication Campaign successfully generated strong community awareness and fostered a sense of collective responsibility towards maintaining Parthenium-free villages. ICAR–SCAD KVK, Thoothukudi will continue to extend technical guidance and promote integrated weed management practices to support long-term control of Parthenium in the district.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Tiruvallur

The Parthenium Awareness Programme was organized on 16.8.2025 at ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tiruvallur under Parthenium Awareness Week (16.08.2025 to 22.08.2025). In this program, Dr. S. Banumathy, Professor and Programme coordinator, KVK, Tiruvallur briefed about its introduction, characteristics and harmful effects of Parthenium to the farmers on 19.08.2025. The KVK, Team has created awareness the school students and teachers highlighted the management of Parthenium by uprooting, biological control and composting on 21.08.2025. Students participated in the activity of uprooting live Parthenium plants to ensure a "Parthenium - free campus. Dr. K. Sivagamy, Assistant Professor, Agronomy while addressing the farmers and rural women at Tirur village on 22.8.2025 explained that Parthenium is one of the most problematic invasive weed in India causing enormous damage to agricultural productivity, human and animal health and biodiversity. Urgent need to adopt an integrated parthenium management approch and should be controlled before flowering and seed setting. Mass media like newspapers and leaflets prepared for dissimenination of knowledge for the control of Parthenium.

2.24 TELANGANA

Telangana, located in southern India, covers an area of approximately 1,12,077 square kilometers. According to the 2011 census, it has a population of around 35 million, with about 17.5 million males and 17.5 million females, resulting in a sex ratio of approximately 988 females for every 1,000 males. The state's agriculture is diverse, with major crops including rice, cotton, maize, and groundnut, supported by its fertile red and black soil types. Telangana experiences a tropical climate, characterized by hot summers and mild winters, with average annual rainfall around 900 mm, primarily during the monsoon season. The literacy rate in Telangana is approximately 66.5%, reflecting ongoing efforts to enhance educational access and quality in the region.

ICAR–Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR), Hyderabad

During the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025), ICAR–Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR), Hyderabad, conducted extensive activities to create awareness about the harmful impacts

of Parthenium hysterophorus on human health, livestock, crops, and the environment. The week-long observance included manual uprooting of Parthenium from research farms, awareness sessions on the benefits of releasing Mexican beetles for biological control, spraying of herbicides, and composting of the uprooted biomass. Parthenium awareness charts were displayed across the Institute to sensitize staff about the ecological and economic threats posed by this invasive weed. Activities were carried out at three research farms, Narkhoda, Rajendranagar, and IIOR–ICRISAT—as well as in Regadi Doswada village (Rangareddy district, Telangana) under the FPO project from 19–22 August 2025. Participants were educated on multiple adverse effects of Parthenium: significant crop yield losses due to competition for nutrients and light, economic burden of manual removal and herbicide application, and health hazards to humans and animals such as dermatitis, asthma, allergies, mouth ulcers, and excessive salivation. The weed's allelopathic chemicals were highlighted for inhibiting germination and growth of subsequent crops, while its role as an alternate host for pests and pathogens was emphasized for indirectly increasing pest management needs. Parthenium also reduces biodiversity by displacing native flora, invades public spaces affecting aesthetics, and imposes financial costs related to healthcare for humans and livestock. Through these activities, IIOR effectively engaged staff, farmers, and local communities, emphasizing timely management and integrated control measures to mitigate the ecological, agricultural, and health impacts of this invasive weed, fostering awareness for sustainable farming and environmental conservation.

AICRP on Weed Management, Hyderabad Centre, PJTSAU

The ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research coordinated 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed by AICRP on Weed Management, Hyderabad Centre, PJTSAU from 16 to 23 August 2025 through a series of awareness programmes and community actions. Activities began on 18 August at the Agricultural Research Institute (ARI), Rajendranagar, where Dr. B. Padmaja and team sensitized staff and workers on the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus, followed by a mass uprooting drive within the campus. On 19 August, an awareness programme was organized at the College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, attended by NSS officers, staff and students, where the biology, impact and management methods were demonstrated through presentations and field uprooting, involving around 75 participants. On 20 August, an awareness programme was conducted at Narkuda Farm, ICAR-IIOR, focusing on yield losses due to Parthenium, health hazards, and management with emphasis on protecting the biocontrol agent *Calligrapha bicolorata*, followed by uprooting across cropped areas. Awareness content was also disseminated in Telugu through "Vyavasayam" magazine on 21 August to reach farmers across Telangana. On 22 August, programmes were held at the adopted village Ramnuthala and at ZPH School, Sivarampally, where around 600 students were sensitized, followed by weed removal activities. On 23 August, awareness and uprooting drives were conducted at KVK Gaddipally and Agricultural Polytechnic College, Suryapet. Overall, the week witnessed strong participation from farmers, students, staff and the public, strengthening awareness toward Parthenium management and promoting safe control measures.

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కలుపు నివారణలో రైతాంగం జాగ్రత్తలు పాటించాలి

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Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Santoshnagar, Hyderabad

As part of the nationwide campaign on Parthenium awareness, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Hyderabad coordinated the activities undertaken across the 72 KVKs of Zone 10 in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. The programme was successfully conducted in all the KVKs of Zone 10 during 16–22 August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness on the ill effects of Parthenium weed and promoting its effective management practices. The coordination involved planning, monitoring, and guiding KVKs to organize a series of extension activities such as awareness campaigns, training programmes, field demonstrations, group discussions, and weed eradication drives. All KVKs actively participated and ensured the involvement of farmers, students, input dealers, and rural communities.

The coordinated effort resulted in effective dissemination of knowledge on Parthenium management, increased awareness among stakeholders, and active participation in eradication activities. The programme highlighted the importance of community-based approaches and integrated weed management strategies for sustainable control of Parthenium.

KVK Rangareddy, Telangana: Creating awareness among school children

KVK Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh: Parthenium removal

Parthenium awareness programme at KVK Nagapattanam, Tamil Nadu

KVK Staff and Polytechnic students eradicating Parthenium at KVK Nalgonda (Gaddipalli) Telangana

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Adilabad

KVK, Adilabad conducted awareness programme on parthenium eradication on 22.08.2025 at KVK, Adilabad. As part of Parthenium awareness week programme, KVK, Scientists and Non- Teaching staff and YPs were removed Parthenium weed plants at KVK building surrounding and instructional farm. Explained about the ill effects of Parthenium on humans and animals, also explained about their yield damage effect on crop plants. Different control measures of parthenium adopted in this programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Jammikunta

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jammikunta, organized the 19th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at Jammikunta and surrounding villages including Sriramulapally, Mothkulagudem, Ellanthakunta and Machenapally. During the week-long programme, various activities were carried out to create awareness among farmers, students and the general public on the harmful effects of Parthenium on

human health, livestock, crops and the environment. The campaign emphasized the need for community participation in the eradication and management of this invasive weed.

Key activities organized during the programme included:

- Parthenium uprooting drives in fields, schools and public places.
- Composting demonstrations using uprooted Parthenium biomass.
- Mass awareness campaigns highlighting its adverse effects such as skin allergies, respiratory problems and negative impacts on crop productivity.
- Students' rallies and poster campaigns to spread awareness among rural youth.
- Training and demonstrations on different eradication and management methods, including mechanical, cultural and biological approaches.

The programme successfully sensitized farming communities and school children about the importance of joint fforts in controlling Parthenium and encouraged adoption of ecofriendly eradication practices.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Wyra

The parthenium plants (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) commonly called Congress grass or carrot grass is an alien weed with origins in Mexico, America, Trinidad and Argentina. It entered India along with wheat imports from USA in the early 1950s in Pune, Maharashtra. From then, it spread alarmingly both in urban and rural areas throughout the country and which now is a menace. They are commonly observed in agricultural crops like rice, jowar, maize, bajra, peanuts, green gram and red gram thereby reducing their output and increase the cost of cultivation as well as non-crop areas like railway tracks, roadside, waste lands, gardens and so on.

These plants are annual herbaceous plants growing to a height of 0.5 to 1.5 m spreading through seeds as it is a prolific seed producer and is spread by air, water and human activities to a certain extent. This weed causes health problems like skin allergies, hay fever, dermatitis, eczema, breathing problems in human beings and animals besides reducing agricultural productivity and loss of biodiversity as they supress the growth of desired plants.

On consumption, it can cause mouth ulcers with extreme salivation and diarrhoea in human whereas in animals it can cause reduced milk and meat quality. It highly invasive weed of pasture affecting the grazing lands thereby reducing their efficiency. These weeds are a serious threat to primary production and biodiversity reducing farm and forest productivity, displace native species and contribute significantly to land and water degradation. The general methods for weed management include preventing weeds from developing seed, perpetuating the weed problem, cultivation that hinder parthenium plants, use of cover crops, mowing, flaming, hand-removal, mulches and soil solarization.

In view of the seriousness and magnitude of the threat posed by this weed, every year during 3rd week of August (16.08.2025 to 22.08.2025), awareness programmes and cleaning activities on large scale taken by ICAR institutes from 2004. As part of 20th Parthenium Awareness Week, KVK Wyra organised the cleaning of KVK demo units and campus along with cleaning and awareness programmes in Somavaram, Pallipadu and Bonakal villages of Khammam district.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Bhadradri Kothagudem

The 19th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from 16th to 22nd August 2025 by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Bhadradri Kothagudem as per the guidelines of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The program aimed to create awareness among farmers, students, rural youth, and the public about the ill effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass) on human and animal health, crop production, and biodiversity, while also promoting effective management strategies. Farmer awareness meetings organized at adopted villages. Awareness program for B.Sc 2nd year Students from college of Agriculture, Aswaraopeta s on hazards of Parthenium on 20.08.2025.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Kampasagar, Nalgonda

Parthenium awareness week was conducted during 2025 at KVK, Kampasagar, Nalgonda, Telangana. In this programme Dr K Chandra Shaker, Programme Coordinator (i/c), KVK, Kampasagar explained about the problems and integrated management practices to be followed in *Parthenium* eradication. All the Teaching

and non-teaching staff, Young professionals, contact and outsourcing employees of the KVK were removed parthenium in the instructional farm of KVK, Kampasagar.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Ranga Reddy

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ranga Reddy, under the ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad, observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025. The initiative aimed to highlight the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus (commonly known as carrot weed, congress grass, or gajarghas) and to promote its effective management for sustainable agriculture and public health. A series of awareness activities were conducted to keep the KVK campus, demonstration farms, and nearby farmers' fields free from Parthenium.

Campaigns extended across surrounding villages, the Hayathnagar research farm campus, and local schools. During the week, experts highlighted Parthenium as a highly aggressive invasive weed causing significant losses in crop yield, livestock productivity, and posing health hazards such as dermatitis and respiratory issues. Participants were sensitized to integrated management practices combining mechanical methods (hand-pulling, mowing), cultural techniques (crop rotation, competitive cropping), biological control (use of *Calligrapha bicolorata*), and safe herbicide applications. Live demonstrations on biological control and composting of Parthenium biomass were also conducted.

The programme also underscored the nuisance caused by Parthenium in non-cropped areas, including residential localities, roadsides, parks, and railway tracks. As part of the event, a Swachhta cleaning drive was organized to physically remove Parthenium weeds from the KVK campus, with active participation from staff, students, and farmers. The week-long campaign reinforced the need for integrated weed management (IWM) approaches to sustainably suppress Parthenium spread and safeguard agriculture, livestock, and human health. Participation included around 60 B.Sc. RAWE students, 102 school students from Vivekananda High School, 121 farmers, and 66 farm women from Ranga Reddy and Vikarabad districts.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Malyal

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malyal organized series of events to observe "19th Parthenium awareness week" from 16th – 22nd August, 2025. As a part of this, organized Parthenium awareness programme at HRS, Malyal on 18.08.2025 and awareness session to RAWEP students of HRS, Malyal on 20th August, Parthenium eradication awareness programme at Badhru thanda of Nerada Mandal on 21.08.2025, and conducted awareness programme on parthenium eradication awareness programme at upparapalli village on 22nd August. In these programmes, awareness on ill effects of congress grass both on agriculture, horticulture crops and on human and animal health were highlighted bringing awareness on the wide spread weed.

Sri B. Kranthi Kumar, SMS (Crop Production) & I/c Programme Coordinator, KVK, Malyal and Smt. L. Suhasini, SMS (Horticulture) have organized these events at different villages. Other KVK staff and staff of HRS, RAWEP students and farmers of different villages also participated in few events. Number of farmers participated in these programmes was 35 (18-08-2025), 25 (20-08.2025), 10 (21-08-2025), 30 (22-08-2025).

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Palem, Nagarkurnool

20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Palem from 16 to 22 August, 2025. On 18th August, in the Instructional Farm of KVK, Palem, we have organized the Awareness program, in order to create awareness among the farm laborers and staff, a talk about the harmful effects of Parthenium and control methods. Invading nature and spread in the country, its enormous capability of spreading, health issues and remedies, different available and possible control methods of manual, mechanical, chemical and biological control methods. Dr. P. Sreedevi, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Palem and the Field staff had participated in mechanical and manual removal of Parthenium hysterophorus in the farm.

On 20th August, Parthenium Awareness Campaign program was organized to Agricultural Polytechnic Students. Dr. P. Sreedevi, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Palem highlighted the major moto of conducting the programme every year on August 16-22nd as Parthenium Awareness Week". A was displayed and emphasized to students about the problem of Parthenium, its invading nature and spread in the country, its enormous capability of spreading, health issues and remedies, different control methods of manual, mechanical, chemical and biological control methods, integrated Parthenium Management. Some of the innovative students prepare & given slogans on parthenium awareness programme. in this programme Dr. P. Sreedevi, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Palem, Dr. O. Shaila, SMS (Plant Protection), Dr. B. Rajashekar, SMS(Extension), Staff and 49 students were participated.

DDS Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Zaheerabad

An extension activity on Parthenium Awareness Programme was organized at DDS Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Zaheerabad campus on 21st August, 2025 with the active participation of farmers, KVK scientists, and student interns. The programme aimed to sensitize participants on the harmful effects of the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus on human health, livestock, crops, and the environment. During the session, Subject Matter Specialists explained the importance of timely removal and safe handling methods to prevent its spread. Farmers shared their field experiences, while interns engaged in practical learning under the guidance of scientists. As a part of the activity, Parthenium bushes on the campus were cleared in a collective effort and subsequently utilized for preparing compost through scientific methods. This demonstrated an eco-friendly approach to convert the nuisance weed into a useful organic input, reinforcing the principles of sustainable agriculture. The event not only created awareness but also showcased a practical solution for managing Parthenium while promoting soil health.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Tuniki

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed by EGVF-Krishi Vigyan Kendra from 16–23 August 2025. During the programme, scientists of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra educated participants about the severe crop losses caused by Parthenium hysterophorus and its harmful effects on animal and human health. The weed is toxic to livestock, causing dermatitis with pronounced skin lesions in cows and other cattle, and when ingested, it can lead to mouth ulcers and excessive salivation in milch animals. In humans, its pollen grains, airborne dried plant parts, and roots may trigger allergies such as contact dermatitis, hay fever, asthma, and bronchitis. The scientists also emphasized biological control as an environmentally sound and effective management approach, highlighting the role of the bio-control agent *Calligrapha bicolorata*. Early detection, timely removal, and safe destruction of the weed were recommended as effective control measures. Farmers from different villages, students from ITMU and Malla Reddy Agriculture College, along with KVK scientists and staff, actively participated in the programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Gaddipally

The KVK Gaddipally organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025. This programme is conducted with the objective of creating awareness among farmers, farm women, students, and the rural community about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and to educate them on its management strategies.

Activities Conducted

- Awareness Campaigns: Daily awareness programmes were conducted both within KVK campus and in adopted villages. A few selected locations were identified where demonstrations and field cleaning activities were carried out.
- Field Demonstrations & Cleaning Drives: Teams comprising KVK scientists, staff, and farmers visited nearby fields, common areas, and village surroundings to identify Parthenium infestations. Hands-on demonstrations were given on safe removal methods, followed by cleaning drives to eradicate Parthenium in public places.

2.25 TRIPURA

Tripura, located in northeastern India, covers an area of approximately 10,486 square kilometers and is bordered by Bangladesh on three sides, with Assam and Mizoram to the east. According to the 2011 census, the state has a population of around 3.7 million, comprising approximately 1.9 million males and 1.8 million females, resulting in a sex ratio of about 960 females for every 1,000 males. The population is diverse, with a mix of tribal and non-tribal communities, predominantly speaking Bengali and Kokborok. Agriculture is a significant part of the state's economy, with rice as the staple crop, along with maize, pulses, oilseeds, and cash crops such as rubber, tea, and pineapple. The soil is mainly lateritic and alluvial, suitable for both field crops and horticulture. Tripura experiences a humid subtropical climate, with average annual rainfall ranging from 2,000 mm to 2,500 mm, mainly during the monsoon season from June to September. The literacy rate stands at approximately 87.22%, indicating relatively strong educational development in the state.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- West Tripura

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025) was observed at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Tripura to sensitize farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Congress grass). Although the intensity of infestation in West Tripura is comparatively low, the programme aimed to prevent its further spread through timely awareness and eco-friendly control measures. An awareness programme was conducted for 40 Vocational (Agriculture) students of Class XII from Baidyardighi H.S. School, Bishalgarh. Students were informed about the biology, spread, and adverse impacts of Parthenium on crop productivity, soil fertility, livestock, and human health, including

skin allergies and respiratory disorders. A separate session was organized for 30 farmers of Hezamara Block, focusing on identification and integrated management practices. Farmers were trained on biological control using *Calligrapha bicolorata*, composting of uprooted biomass, and safe manual removal methods. Another awareness programme for residents of Belbari and Champaknagar emphasized health hazards such as dermatitis, asthma, and livestock-related issues caused by the weed. The programmes concluded with interactive discussions and a pledge for collective action. The activities were coordinated by Dr. Nagaraju M.C., under the guidance of Dr. Ganesh Das, Senior Scientist & Head, with active support from KVK staff members.

2.26 Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh, located in northern India, is the most populous state, covering an area of approximately 243,286 square kilometers. According to the 2011 census, it has a population of around 199 million, with about 104 million males and 95 million females, resulting in a sex ratio of approximately 912 females for every 1,000 males. The state is a major agricultural hub, producing crops such as wheat, rice, sugarcane, and pulses, supported by its fertile alluvial soil. Uttar Pradesh experiences a diverse climate, with hot summers and cold winters, and receives average annual rainfall of around 1,000 mm, mainly during the monsoon season. The literacy rate in Uttar Pradesh is approximately 67.68%, reflecting ongoing efforts to improve educational access and quality in the region.

ICAR- Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom, Mathura

ICAR- CIRG, Makhdoom observed "Parthenium Awareness Week" during 16th - 22nd August, 2025 and organized number of activities. The main objective of this programme was to create awareness among the staff, nearby villagers, farmers and project beneficiaries about the harmful effects of parthenium and to motivate them to eradicate this noxious weed. On the first and second day (16th & 17th August) of parthenium awareness week, all the staff of Agriculture farm section uprooted the parthenium grass from agriculture farm. On 18th and 19th August of this week, parthenium grass was uprooted from different Experimental Sheds of the Institute. All the supporting staff of sheds were told about the allergic effects of parthenium grass in human & animals and its allelopathic effects in crop plants. The technique of chemical control of parthenium grass was also demonstrated to the staff. On 20th August during parthenium awareness week demonstration of mechanical methods of weed control were organized at agriculture farm for the staff and farmers of nearby villages. On 21st August about 180 farmers from adopted villages of DAPSC project (Nagla Chandrabhan, Nagla Teeka, Nagla Kallu of Farah Block and Nagla Ibrahimpur of Baldeo Block, Mathura) were invited to observe the parthenium awareness week. On this occasion Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, CIRG addressed the gathering and told about the allergic effects of parthenium grass and urged all the farmers and employees to control and eradicate this harmful weed and do not allow this grass to grow in the agriculture field and near residential area. Head of Division Dr. Mukesh Bhakat, PI, DAPSC Project Dr. Gopal Dass, I/C, Agriculture Extension & Socio-Economic Section Dr. A.K. Dixit, Sr. Administrative Officer Shri Shyam Sundar and I/C, Agriculture Farm Dr. Arvind Kumar also addressed the

participants and told that prolonged exposure of this plant causes severe skin inflammation, asthma, allergy and hay fever in human and loss of skin pigmentation, dermatitis and diarrhea in livestock. On 22nd August a demonstration was organized for the agriculture farm workers on chemical and mechanical control methods of parthenium.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi

At ICAR-Indian Institute of vegetable Research, Varanasi, "Parthenium awareness week" was observed from 16-22 August 2022 to make farmers and General public aware about the menace of Parthenium which is responsible for causing health problem in human beings, animal and deteriorating the environment. During this period different activities were organised by the institute to sensitize farmer for eradication of parthenium. The activity of Parthenium uprooting and farmer awareness programmee was organised on 20.08.2025 and 22.08.2025 to make the campus Parthenium free. The uprooted parthenium was utilized for making compost. The Director in charge of the Institute Dr. Nagendra Rai and Head of the Divisions and all Scientists, staff members of the institute, students undergoing RAWE Programmee at the Institute and Trainee farmers actively participated in this Programmee. The number of students and farmer participants were 40 and staff of IIVR were 52. It is to be mentioned that ICAR-IIVR Main Research Farm has been made Parthenium free. Apart from this, awareness campaign about various control measures (Cultural, mechanical, chemical, biological etc.) for parthenium were also undertaken in the adopted villages of the institute. This programmee got wide coverage in the print and electronic media of the Varanasi District. Photograph of the events, newspaper clippings are attached as well the link of the digital coverage also provided for your record and needful.

आईआईवीआर में पार्थेनियम जागरूकता कार्यक्रम

जक्खिनी/वाराणसी। भारतीय सब्जी अनुसंधान संस्थान में बुधवार को पार्थेनियम (गाजर घास) उन्मूलन एवं जागरूकता पखवारे का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य किसानी, वैज्ञानिकों, कर्मचारियों एवं विद्यार्थियों को इस हानिकारक खरपतवार से होने वाले दुष्प्रभावों तथा इसके नियंत्रण उपायों के प्रति जागरूक करना था। कार्यवाहक निदेशक डॉ. नागेन्द्र राय ने बताया कि पार्थेनियम एक आक्रामक खरपतवार है, जो न केवल फसलों की उत्पादकता को प्रभावित करता है, बल्कि मानव, पशु एवं पर्यावरण के लिए भी गंभीर खतरा है। इसके परागकण से श्वसन एवं त्वचा संबंधी रोग उत्पन्न होते हैं। डॉ. राय ने अपने संबोधन में कहा कि पार्थेनियम का प्रभावी प्रबंधन सामुदायिक सहभागिता से ही संभव है। उन्होंने जैविक नियंत्रण, यांत्रिक उखाड़ाई तथा सुरक्षित निपटान के उपायों पर बल दिया। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के शोध प्रक्षेत्र में प्रधान वैज्ञानिक डॉ. सिद्धार्थ कुमार सिंह के देखरेख में सामूहिक श्रमदान कर पार्थेनियम उन्मूलन अभियान चलाया गया तथा प्रतिभागियों को इसके वैकल्पिक उपयोग एवं नियंत्रण तकनीकों की जानकारी भी दी गई। कार्यक्रम में वैज्ञानिकों, तकनीकी कर्मचारियों, शोधार्थियों एवं शोध अध्येयातओं ने सक्रिय भागीदारी निभाई।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Moradabad

From 19 to 22 August 2025, the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Bulandshahr at PM Shri Government Inter College, Phulwari Devi Senior Secondary School, village Sanayipur, the premises of the Kendra, and village Jalalpur. In the programme, Dr. Manish Kumar explained how the Parthenium weed plant is identified, and that it is known by different local names in different regions such as Congress weed, White Top weed, Carrot weed, and Parthenium. This weed generally grows in vacant lands, along roadsides, and in crop fields. Dr. Lalit Kumar provided knowledge about methods to eradicate Parthenium. He told the students that this harmful weed should be uprooted before flowering, and while uprooting, hands should be protected with gloves because its plants are poisonous. For management,

herbicides like 2,4-D (1–1.5%), Glyphosate (1–1.5%), Atrazine, or Metri-buzin (0.3–0.5%) can be used to destroy it. Dr. Vishwajeet explained that Parthenium can be controlled through biological methods by using Calligrapha bicolorata beetle. This weed was first reported in India in Pune in 1956. A single plant produces about 25,000–50,000 seeds, and due to their lightweight nature, the seeds spread easily through air and water. Efforts are being made by the National Research Centre for Weed Science, Jabalpur, to increase the effectiveness of this beetle. The Principal of Government Inter College, Mr. Raghuvir Singh, held detailed discussions with students about the harmful effects of Parthenium. He explained that contact with this weed causes skin diseases and severe ailments like asthma. The pollen grains of Parthenium plants release toxic substances which adversely affect soil fertility. Nearly 50 students participated in this awareness programme. Similarly, the Principal of Phulwari Devi Senior Secondary School, Mr. Mohan Lal Saini, and other staff also held detailed discussions with students about the harmful effects of Parthenium, explaining that its contact leads to skin diseases and asthma-like serious illnesses, and its pollen releases toxic substances that reduce soil fertility. About 70 students participated in this awareness programme. In village Jalalpur, the village head, Mr. Usef Singh, urged the farmers to keep their villages clean and simultaneously eliminate Parthenium to maintain good health. Nearly 30–35 farmers took part in this awareness event. The Parthenium Awareness Week activities were conducted under the guidance of Dr. Ghan Shyam Ruheli, Head of the Kendra.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week (16-22nd August 2025) was organized at ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur and its regional station, Dharwad during August 21-22, 2025. The programmes was organized under the supervision and guidance of Dr. G.P. Dixit (Director, ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur). On this occasion, Dr. Narendra Kumar, Head (Division of Crop Production) and Dr. S.L. Patil, PS and Officer-in-Charge, ICAR-IIPR-RRS, Dharwad stressed upon the importance of eradicating the Parthenium hysterophorus from our sorrounding research farm, villages, and in the city areas. They elaborated the different meance caused by the Parthenuim weed to the environment, agriculture, biodiversity, and human health. Further awareness was created on managing the Parthenium by agronomic, chemical, and biological methods. It was mentioned that with effort over the years, the campuses have become almost partheunium free. Scientific, technical and contractual staffs of Division of Crop Production, and Incharges of Farms, and Farm Manager of ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur and ICAR-IIPR-RRS, Dharwad were present on the ocassion and uprooted the Parthenium weed in the experimental fields/farms. The programme was aimed to raise awareness regarding the negative impact of Parthenium and mobilize collective action towards its control and eradication. The prgramme was co-ordinated by Dr. C.P. Nath, Senior Scientist (Agronomy).

ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms, Mau

With the objective of raising awareness about the internationally spread weed Parthenium and accelerating efforts for its eradication, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research–National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms (ICAR-NBAIM), Mau, observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. During this week, the Bureau organized awareness programmes and conducted an extensive cleanliness drive within the campus, in which staff members and researchers actively participated.

As part of the initiative, a special cleanliness campaign was carried out on the institute campus, where Parthenium plants were uprooted and destroyed at the root level through collective efforts. The objective of this activity was not only to make the campus free from Parthenium but also to inspire other institutions and the general public to take similar action. The Parthenium Awareness Week organized by ICAR-NBAIM sensitized the surrounding community about the harmful impacts of this invasive weed and motivated them towards its eradication. Such efforts are extremely important for both agriculture and environmental protection.

Banda University of Agriculture and Technology, Banda

Parthenium awareness week (PAW) 2025 organized during 16-22 August, 2025. During awareness week removal of parthenium form the university premises were done with the help of under graduate students, staff and faculty members of the college of agriculture. All togather 100 number of students, staffs and faculty were participated. Awareness cum removal program in and around student's instructional farm of the university also organized in collaboration with NSS volunteers. In which a large number of NSS volunteers were participated.

ICAR-National Institute of Seed Science & Technology, Kushmaur, Mau

ICAR-National Institute of Seed Science & Technology, Kushmaur, Mau, Uttar Pradesh organized the 20th *Parthenium* Awareness Week, 16-22 August 2025 to made aware the ill effects of *Parthenium* and its management to residents of the campus, villagers and students under the leadership of the Institute Director Dr. Sanjay Kumar. The institute scientists made aware the staff, residents of institute and villagers of nearby villages about the harmful effects of *Parthenium* and told that *Parthenium* not only affects the yield of crops but is also harmful for human and animal health. Its pollen can cause allergies, breathing problems and skin diseases. The Director Dr. Sanjay Kumar initiated the uprooting of the *Parthenium* from the nearby area of institute pond and appealed to the residents and villagers to play an active role in preventing the spread of *Parthenium* and it would only possible through mass awareness and collective approach of the all citizens. Senior scientist Dr. Ajay Kumar, who coordinated the programmes, along with the scientists and employees of the institute, ensured that the campus and the surrounding area are free from *Parthenium*. The scientists of the institute, emphasizing collective efforts are necessary to manage the weed and said that the most effective way is to uproot the parthenium before flowering stage and put in pits to prepare organic manure. All scientist and staff of the institute participated in the awareness program.

गाजरघास उन्मूलन जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ

भारत एकता टाइम्स/ मऊ

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद (आईसीएआर) के कुशमौर स्थित राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान परिसर में निदेशक डॉ संजय कुमार के नेतृत्व में गाजरघास उन्मूलन जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ किया गया। खेतों, खेतों और सड़कों के किनारे उगने वाले खरपतवारों में गाजरघास एक चहुत ही हानिकारक पौधा है। गाजरघास का वानस्पतिक नाम पार्थेनियम हिस्टेरोफोरस है, इसे कांग्रेस ग्रास, कंपिंग तोरी, छोटक चांदनी, गंधी बूटी आदि नामों से भी जाना जाता है। यह खरपतवार न केवल फसल की उपज व गुणवत्ता को घटाता है बल्कि मनुष्यों व जानवरों में कई तरह की बीमारियां भी फैलाता है। इस घास के लगातार संपर्क में आने से मनुष्यों में डर्मेटाइटिस, एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार, दमा आदि बीमारियां हो जाती हैं। पशुओं के लिए भी यह जहरीला होता है। इसको खाने से पशुओं में कई रोग हो जाते हैं तथा उनके दूध के उत्पादन में कमी के साथ कड़वाहट भी आ जाती है। गाजर घास में एक विषाक्त रसायन होता है जो दूसरे पौधों के अंकुरण व वृद्धि पर विपरीत प्रभाव डालता है। इसी दुष्प्रभावों को देखते हुए गाजरघास को निर्मूलित करने के उद्देश्य से राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान द्वारा 19 से 21 अगस्त के दौरान गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह आयोजित किया जा रहा है जिसके अंतर्गत नागरिकों व किसानों को इस खरपतवार से होने वाली समस्याओं व इसके नियंत्रण के उपायों के बारे में जागरूक किया जाएगा। संस्थान के वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा गाजरघास नियंत्रण के कुछ सरल उपाय बताए गये हैं जैसे फूल आने से पहले इस खरपतवार को उखाड़ कर नष्ट कर दें या कम्पोस्ट बनाने में इसका उपयोग करें। अनुर्वरित भूमि पर गाजरघास के साथ अन्य पौधों को नष्ट करने के लिए ग्लाइफोसेट का 10 से 15 मिली एक लीटर पानी में घोल कर प्रयोग करना चाहिए जबकि संकरी पत्ती वाली फसलों में 2, 4-डी के 10 से 15 मिली को एक लीटर पानी में घोल कर प्रयोग करना चाहिए। एक बीट (बिक्सकन बीटल) जो केवल गाजरघास को खाता है उसे इस घास से ग्रसित स्थानों पर छोड़ना चाहिए। कार्यक्रम के समन्वयक वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डॉ अजय कुमार के निर्देशन में संस्थान के कार्मिकों ने परिसर में उगे गाजरघास को जड़ से उखाड़ा तथा गाजरघास उन्मूलन का सफल सन्देश दिया। संस्थान की आम जन से अपील है कि इस अभियान में भाग ले और गाजरघास के उन्मूलन में अपना सहयोग प्रदान करें।

निःशुल्क बीज मिनीकिट प्राप्त करने का अवसर 31 अगस्त तक

मऊ। उप कृषि निदेशक सर्वेद सिंह पैलान ने बताया कि प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा कृषि विभाग के अन्तर्गत संचालित राज्य सहायतित निःशुल्क मिलहन बीज मिनीकिट वितरण, प्रदर्शन एवं प्रसार कार्यक्रमाह के अन्तर्गत तोरिया (लाही) फसल का दो का दो किलोग्राम मात्रा का बीज मिनीकिट निःशुल्क प्राप्त करने हेतु कृषि विभाग के पोर्टल पर पंजीकृत कृषकों के द्वारा ऑनलाइन आवेदन करने की तिथि को 15 अगस्त से बढ़ा कर 31 अगस्त तक कर दिया गया है।

गाजरघास उन्मूलन जागरूकता सप्ताह का हुआ समापन

मऊ। भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद (आईसीएआर) के कुशमौर स्थित राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान परिसर में निदेशक डॉ संजय कुमार के नेतृत्व में गाजरघास उन्मूलन सप्ताह का शुक्रवार को समापन किया गया। इस अवसर पर वैज्ञानिकों ने संस्थान परिसर में तथा आस पास के गांवों में जाकर नागरिकों को गाजरघास दुष्प्रभावों के बारे में जागरूक किया और बताया कि गाजरघास न केवल फसलों की पैदावार को प्रभावित करती है, बल्कि मानव और पशुओं के स्वास्थ्य के लिए भी हानिकारक है। इसके पराग कण से एलर्जी, सांस लेने में परेशानी तथा त्वचा संबंधी रोग हो सकते हैं। 16 से 22 अगस्त तक चले इस कार्यक्रम के दौरान विद्यार्थियों, किसानों और आम नागरिकों को गाजरघास की पहचान करने और उसे नष्ट करने के सरल उपायों की जानकारी दी गई। कार्यक्रम के समन्वयक वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डॉ अजय कुमार ने संस्थान के वैज्ञानिकों व कर्मचारियों के साथ मिलकर यह सुनिश्चित किया कि परिसर तथा आस पास का क्षेत्र गाजरघास मुक्त हो। संस्थान के वैज्ञानिकों ने सामूहिक प्रयास पर जोर देते हुए कहा कि गाजरघास को उखाड़कर गड्ढों में डालकर मिट्टी से ढकना या जैविक खाद के रूप में उपयोग करना सबसे कारगर तरीका है। निदेशक डॉ संजय कुमार ने नागरिकों से अपील की कि वे अपने आसपास गाजरघास की बढ़वार रोकने में सक्रिय भूमिका निभाएं और दूसरों को भी इसके खतरों के बारे में जागरूक करें।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Deoria

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Deoria, U.P. organized a series of awareness and field-based activities during the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025. The campaign aimed to sensitize farmers, students, and the general public about the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus*, its adverse effects on human and livestock health, and effective management strategies. More than 200 participants actively took part in the week-long programme. The activities commenced on 16th August 2025 with a Parthenium uprooting and cleaning drive at the KVK farm, involving 14 participants. On 17th August, a similar drive was conducted in the surrounding areas of KVK including the main road, canal, and sports ground, with participation of 22 individuals. Awareness programmes coupled with uprooting drives were organized in Village Malhana (18th August, 37 participants) and Village Laxmanchak (19th August, 46 participants), where farmers were educated about the harmful impacts of Parthenium on agriculture, biodiversity, and health. On 20th August, a herbicide-based demonstration for Parthenium management was conducted in Village Jiraso, attended by 39 farmers. An awareness seminar for college students was held on 21st August (31 participants), focusing on health hazards and management practices. The week concluded on 22nd August with a Kisangosthi on control measures, attended by 25 participants. The programme successfully promoted community participation and strengthened awareness toward effective Parthenium management.

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र मल्हन में गाजर घास जागरूकता कार्यक्रम मनाया गया

गाजर घास खेत की मिट्टी के साथ पर्यावरण के लिए भी घातक-डॉ कमलेश मीणा

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Hastinapur

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from 16 to 22 August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus on agriculture, human health, and the environment. During the week, various awareness and outreach activities were organized to educate farmers and the general public about identification, ill effects, and management practices of Parthenium weed. Scientists and extension personnel conducted field visits, awareness campaigns, and interactions with farmers, highlighting preventive and control measures such as mechanical removal, use of competitive crops, and safe management practices. Informative discussions were held to sensitize participants about the risks posed by Parthenium to crops, livestock, and human health. The programme witnessed active participation of farmers and local stakeholders. The week-long initiative successfully enhanced awareness and encouraged collective efforts towards effective management and eradication of Parthenium, contributing to a cleaner and healthier environment.

गाजर घास को लेकर किसानों को जागरूक करते वैज्ञानिक। स्रोत : स्वयं

गाजर घास के बारे में दी जानकारी

लावड़। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र हस्तिनापुर के वैज्ञानिकों ने शुक्रवार को गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह के तहत अंदावली, लावड़ में अभियान चलाकर किसानों को जागरूक किया। केंद्र के पादप सुरक्षा वैज्ञानिक डॉ. नवीन चंद्र ने गाजर घास खरपतवार के हानिकारक प्रभाव के बारे जानकारी दी। बताया कि यह एक विषैला, हानिकारक और आक्रामक खरपतवार है। उन्होंने गाजर घास को नियमित रूप से खत्म करने के लिए किसानों को प्रेरित किया। इस दौरान जगत सिंह, शिवकुमार, मथन सिंह, रामकुमार, अंशुल कुमार आदि मौजूद रहे। संवाद

NISST-Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Bhadohi

KVK Bhadohi organized four event regarding Parthenium week in the villages of Bhadohi district. On August 19, 2025, the NISST-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhadohi organized a Parthenium awareness program at Uthitpur village. Dr RP Chaudhary, SMS Agril Extension Parthenium's invasive weed can cause skin allergies, respiratory issues, and reduce crop productivity. He describe effective management includes manual uprooting, herbicides, and biological control methods like introducing the Mexican beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*). Encouraging community participation are crucial steps in mitigating Parthenium's effects. Mr Tarachand Bairwa SMS Soil Science spoken about spray glyphosate (1.0-1.5%) or metribuzin (0.3-0.5%) solutions in non-cultivated areas before flowering and biological control as Mexican beetles (*Zygrogramma bicolorata*) on Parthenium-infested areas during the rainy season. In this program 39 people including progressive farmers Hoob Nath Yadav, Panna Chauhan, Vishal Chauhan, Phoolchand Yadav, Soni Yadav, Neelu Chauhan were participated. On August 20, 2025, NISST-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhadohi organized a Parthenium awareness program at Shri Videshi Inter College Tarapur under Bhadohi Block. Dr. RP Chaudhary, Agricultural Extension Specialist, emphasized the collective efforts to eradicate Parthenium,

highlighting its invasive nature and potential to harm biodiversity, agriculture, and human health. Soil expert Tarachand Bairwa discussed control measures, including manual uprooting, herbicides, and biological control methods.

The program encouraged 125 students and the community to take action against Parthenium. By working together, they can mitigate the weed's impact on the environment, human health, and agriculture. Over 125 students, college manager Sitaram Yadav, and assistant teacher Anil Kumar participated in the awareness program. On 21st August 2025, National Institute of Seed Science and Technology - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhadohi celebrated Congress Grass Awareness Program in Kurauna village under Aurai Block. On this occasion, the Home Science Specialist of the Center, Dr. Rekha Singh has emphasized the need for a collective effort at the Gram Sabha level to completely destroy Parthenium, so that the safety of humans, animals and the environment can be ensured. It can easily be seen mainly in places, unused lands, industrial areas, gardens, parks, schools, residential areas, roadsides and railway line sides etc. Throwing light on the harm caused by weeds, the Agricultural Extension Specialist of the Center, Dr. RP Chaudhary said that Parthenium can cause diseases like skin diseases (dermatitis), eczema, allergy, fever, asthma etc. in humans. In case of excessive effect, it can even lead to death of humans. This weed is also very poisonous for animals. While discussing its control, he said that in the rainy season, weed should be uprooted from its roots before flowering and compost and NADEP compost should be made. Dr. Kiran Kumar, the plant protection expert told about its control by chemical method that in non-cultivated areas, gets destroyed by spraying herbicide chemicals like glyphosate 1.0-1.5 percent or metribuzine 0.3-0.5 percent solution before flowering. At the same time, he inspired to uproot this weed before flowering and make compost. In biological control, an insect called Mexican beetle Zygrogramma bicolorata should be released on Parthenium in the rainy season. Suryanath Bind, a progressive farmer of the village, inspired the people present to control weed. In this program, more than 32 farmers and farmer women Gulabchand, Devi Prasad Maurya, Bansalal Bind, Sunita Devi, Sitara Devi, Vandana Devi participated.

On the 22nd August 2025 at Shri Ganesh Prasad Loudhar Dube Inter College, Khetalpur, Block Bhadohi highlighting the detrimental effects of this weed on the environment, agriculture, and animal health. The event featured expert lectures and discussions, emphasizing the need for collective measure to control Parthenium spread. Dr. Vishvendu Dwivedi, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Bhadohi, delivered a lecture on the necessity of controlling Parthenium, citing its invasive nature and potential to harm biodiversity, agriculture, and human health. Dr. R P Chaudhary, SMS Agril Extension, spoke about the importance of awareness programs in eradicating Parthenium, stressing the need for community involvement and participation. Mr. Yogesh Yadav, SMS Animal Science, highlighted the impact of Parthenium on animal health, particularly in milch animals, where consumption of the weed can affect milk quality and in more consumption animal can die. Mr Kiran Kumar spoken about the biological methodology of parthenium weed. The program aimed to educate students, farmers, and the local community about the risks associated with Parthenium. Were more than 120 students, farmers & teacher participated.

फसलों के उत्पादन में कमी लाती है गाजर घास

ज्ञानपुर। राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान - कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, बेजवां द्वारा गणेश प्रसाद लौधर दूबे इंटर कॉलेज खेतलपुर में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह अंतिम दिन शुक्रवार को एक संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया। इस अवसर पर केंद्र के अध्यक्ष व वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डॉ विश्वेन्दु द्विवेदी ने बताया कि गाजर घास यानी पार्थेनियम को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए ग्राम सभा स्तर द्वारा एक सामूहिक प्रयास करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया । कृषि प्रसार विशेषज्ञ डॉ आर पी चौधरी बताया कि गाजर घास मनुष्यों, पशुओं और कृषि के लिए बहुत हानिकारक है।

फसलों के उत्पादन में कमी लाती है गाजर घास

ज्ञानपुर। राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान-कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, बेजवां द्वारा श्री गणेश प्रसाद लौधर दूबे इंटर कॉलेज खेतलपुर में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह अंतिम दिन शुक्रवार को एक संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया। इस अवसर पर केंद्र के अध्यक्ष व वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डॉ विश्वेन्दु द्विवेदी ने कहा कि गाजर घास यानी पार्थेनियम को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए ग्राम सभा स्तर द्वारा एक सामूहिक प्रयास करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। कृषि प्रसार विशेषज्ञ डॉ आर पी चौधरी बताया कि गाजर घास मनुष्यों, पशुओं और कृषि के लिए बहुत हानिकारक है। यह मनुष्यों में एलर्जी, दमा, एक्जिमा और चर्म रोग का कारण बनती है। पशुओं में यह विषाक्त होती है और उनके दूध को कड़वा बना देती है। कृषि में, यह पोषक तत्वों, पानी और प्रकाश के लिए प्रतिस्पर्धा करके फसलों की पैदावार कम करती है।

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, भदोही द्वारा गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह (16–22 अगस्त) के अंतर्गत अंतिम दिन एक संगोष्ठी का आयोजन

सुशील कुमार पाण्डेय/ प्रेस की ताकत।

भदोही । राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान - कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, भदोही द्वारा श्री गणेश प्रसाद लौधर दूबे इंटर कॉलेज खेतलपुर में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह (16-22 अगस्त) के अंतर्गत अंतिम दिन एक संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर केंद्र के अध्यक्ष व वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डॉ विश्वेन्दु द्विवेदी ने गाजर घास यानी पार्थेनियम को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए ग्राम सभा स्तर द्वारा एक सामूहिक प्रयास करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया है ,जिससे मानव, पशु एवं पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित कर सके और फसल उत्पादन में 40 प्रतिशत हो रही हानी को बचा सके। यह मुख्यतः खाली स्थानों, अनुपयोगी भूमियों, औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों, बगीचों, पार्कों, स्कूलों, आवासीय क्षेत्रों, सड़कों तथा रेलवे लाइन के किनारों आदि पर आसानी से देखा जा सकता है । गाजर घास के हानियों के बारे में जानकारी देते हुए केंद्र के कृषि प्रसार विशेषज्ञ डॉ आर पी चौधरी बताया कि गाजर घास से मनुष्य में त्वचा संबंधी रोग (डर्मेटाइटिस), एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार, दमा आदि जैसी बीमारियां हो सकती है। अत्यधिक प्रभाव होने पर मनुष्य की मृत्यु तक हो जाती है। पशुओं के लिए भी यह खरपतवार अत्यधिक जहरीला होता है। इसके नियंत्रण पर चर्चा करते हुए जानकारी दी की। वर्षा ऋतु में गाजर घास को फूल आने से पहले जड़ से उखाड़कर कंपोस्ट एवं नाडेप कम्पोस्ट बनाना चाहिए। केंद्र के पशु विज्ञान विशेषज्ञ योगेश कुमार यादव ने बताया कि सामूहिक प्रयास से ही इसका समाधान संभव है साथ ही साथ पशुओं को देखभाल करें कि गाजर घास को पशु कदापि न खाने पायें। केंद्र के फसल सुरक्षा विशेषज्ञ डा विकास कुमार ने बताया कि अकृषित क्षेत्रों में शाकनाशी रसायन जैसे ग्लाइफोसेट 1.0-1.5 प्रतिशत या मेट्रिब्यूजीन 0.3-0.5 प्रतिशत घोल का छिड़काव फूल आने के पहले करने से गाजर घास नहीं हो पाती है। साथ ही साथ जैविक नियंत्रण में मैक्सिकन बीटल जाइगोग्रामा बाइकोलोराटा नामक कीट को वर्षा ऋतु में गाजर घास पर छोड़ना चाहिए। एवं चकौड़ के बीज को गाजर घास उगे हुए स्थान पर छिड़क कर नष्ट किया जा सकता है। कालेज के प्रधानाचार्य जय प्रकाश पटेल ने अपने उद्बोधन में गाजर घास के नियंत्रण के लिए उपस्थित छात्र एवं छात्राओं को प्रेरित किया। इस कार्यक्रम में सहायक अध्यापक रमर बहादुर सिंह ,कृष्ण चन्द पांडे, रीना पटेल, माया शंकर उपाध्याय , सौरभ दूबे ,संजय कुमार, अतुल सिंह सहित 120 से ज्यादा छात्र एवं छात्राओं ने गाजर खास जागरूकता कार्यक्रम में प्रतिभाग किया।

गाजर घास पर महिला किसानों को किया जागरूक

संवाद न्यूज एजेंसी

उचितपुर गांव में गाजर घास जागरूकता रैली निकालते लोग। फोटो विश्वास

मानव, पशु और पर्यावरण के लिए भी है नुकसानदायक

चाकुसराय। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र की ओर से उचितपुर गांव में मंगलवार को गाजर घास को लेकर जागरूकता गोष्ठी आयोजित की गई। इसमें महिला किसानों को जागरूक किया गया। कृषि प्रसार विशेषज्ञ डॉ. आरपी चौधरी ने कहा कि गाजर घास यानी पार्थेनियम को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए गांव स्तर पर सामूहिक प्रयास की आवश्यकता है।

उन्होंने कहा कि गाजर घास को खत्म कर इस मानव, पशु एवं पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित कर सकते हैं। यह घास फसलों के उत्पादन को प्रभावित करती है।

यह खाली स्थानों, अनुपयोगी भूमि, औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों, बगीचों, पार्कों, स्कूलों, आवासीय क्षेत्रों, सड़कों और रेलवे लाइन के किनारों आदि पर आसानी से देखा जा सकता है। गाजर घास से मनुष्य में त्वचा संबंधी रोग (डर्मेटाइटिस), एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार, दमा आदि जैसी बीमारियां हो हो सकती है। पशुओं के लिए भी यह खरपतवार अत्यधिक जहरीला होता है। मृदा विशेषज्ञ ताराचंद बैरवा ने बताया कि यह वर्षा ऋतु में गाजर घास को फूल आने से पहले जड़ से उखाड़कर कंपोस्ट एवं नाडेप कंपोस्ट बनाना चाहिए। इस मौके पर सोनी यादव, नीलू चौहान, विशाल, फूलचंद्र, पन्नालाल आदि रहे।

गाजर घास को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए हो सामूहिक प्रयास

ज्ञानपुर। मंगलवार को राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान व कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र द्वारा जनपद के उचितपुर गांव में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया गया। इस अवसर पर केंद्र के कृषि प्रसार विशेषज्ञ डॉ आर पी चौधरी ने कहा कि गाजर घास यानी पार्थेनियम को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए ग्राम सभा स्तर द्वारा एक सामूहिक प्रयास करने की आवश्यकता है। जिससे मानव, पशु एवं पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित हो सके। उन्होंने बताया कि गाजर घास का फसलों पर व्यापक दुष्प्रभाव पड़ता है जिससे फसल उत्पादन में लगभग 40 प्रतिशत की हानि होती है।

गाजर घास को समूल नष्ट करने का हो सामूहिक प्रयास

ज्ञानपुर। मंगलवार को राष्ट्रीय बीज विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान व कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र द्वारा जनपद के उचितपुर गांव में गाजर घास जागरूकता सप्ताह मनाया गया। इस अवसर पर केंद्र के कृषि प्रसार विशेषज्ञ डॉ आर पी चौधरी ने कहा कि गाजर घास यानी पार्थेनियम को समूल नष्ट करने के लिए ग्राम सभा स्तर द्वारा एक सामूहिक प्रयास करने की आवश्यकता है। जिससे मानव, पशु एवं पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित हो सके। उन्होंने बताया कि गाजर घास का फसलों पर व्यापक दुष्प्रभाव पड़ता है जिससे फसल उत्पादन में लगभग 40 प्रतिशत की हानि होती है। बताया कि यह मुख्यतः खाली स्थानों, अनुपयोगी भूमियों, औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों, बगीचों, पार्कों, स्कूलों, आवासीय क्षेत्रों, सड़कों तथा रेलवे लाइन के किनारों आदि पर आसानी से देखा जा सकता है। बताया कि गाजर घास से मनुष्य में त्वचा संबंधी रोग (डर्मेटाइटिस), एक्जिमा, एलर्जी, बुखार, दमा आदि जैसी बीमारियां हो हो सकती है। कार्यक्रम में प्रगतिशील कृषक हूबनाथ यादव,पन्ना चौहान, विशाल चौहान फूलचंद यादव , सोनी यादव, नीलू चौहान इत्यादि मौजूद थे।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Chitoda, Muzaffarnagar-II

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra Chitoda, Muzaffarnagar-II, celebrated the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week, which took place from August 16 to August 22, 2025 in different villages, schools and its campus, covering 2 schools, 100 farmers and farm women and KVK staff. The purpose of this event was to enhance awareness regarding the harmful impacts of Parthenium hysterophorus, which is commonly referred to as carrot weed, congress grass, gajarghas, or white top, and to deliberate on effective management strategies, aiming to maintain the villages, KVK campus, farm, and farmers' fields free from Parthenium.

In this connection a mass Parthenium weed removal programme was organized. All faculty, technical & supporting staff, Contractual workers and trainees participated in the uprooting of Parthenium weeds at the KVK premises. During the ON-campus training, KVK Scientists explained that, observation of Parthenium Awareness Week is to make farmers and general public aware about the menace of Parthenium, which is responsible for causing health problems in human beings and animals, besides deteriorating environment, loss of productivity and biodiversity.

During the week activities like awareness programme at village and school level, uprooting and collection of Parthenium weed at villages, weeding out Parthenium at KVK campus, awareness drive through lectures and group discussions in on-campus training at KVK and explanation of different methods to control the weed were carried out to celebrate the parthenium awareness week. Parthenium Awareness Week concluded with reinforced public commitment to controlling the invasive weed Parthenium hysterophorus, emphasizing eco-friendly management through manual removal, biological control (like the Mexican beetle), composting, and chemical treatments, and raising awareness of its severe impacts on health, agriculture, and the environment. The event ended by taking pledge to establishing a Parthenium-free environment. The week-long activities effectively raised considerable awareness among farmers and the local community regarding the significance of collaborative efforts in weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shahjahanpur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ghatampur organized a Parthenium (Congress Grass) Awareness Programme as part of the Parthenium Awareness Week observed from 16–22 August 2025. The programme was conducted to create awareness among farmers and local stakeholders regarding the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus on agriculture, human health, livestock, and the environment.

During the programme, scientists and staff members of KVK highlighted the adverse impact of Parthenium on crop productivity, biodiversity, and soil health. They also explained the health hazards associated with the weed, including skin allergies, respiratory problems, and dermatitis in humans and animals. Participants were informed about effective management strategies such as mechanical removal, timely uprooting before flowering, biological control options, and integrated weed management practices.

A field-level cleanliness drive was organized in which KVK staff actively participated in uprooting and destroying Parthenium plants from the surrounding areas. The practical demonstration aimed to encourage farmers to adopt timely control measures in their own fields and villages. The programme successfully sensitized the participants about the need for collective action to control and eradicate this invasive weed. Such awareness initiatives play a crucial role in protecting agricultural productivity, environmental sustainability, and public health.

किसानों को जागरूक करते कृषि वैज्ञानिक।

गाजर घास उन्मूलन की दी गई जानकारी

पशुओं के लिए गाजर घास विषाक्त : वैज्ञानिक

शाहजहांपुर। कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र द्वारा गाजर घास के उन्मूलन के लिए जागरूकता कार्यक्रम एवं प्रशिक्षण का आयोजन केंद्र एवं आसपास के विभिन्न गांवों में किया गया। प्रभारी अधिकारी डॉ. एन सी त्रिपाठी ने बताया कि भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद के खरपतवार विज्ञान अनुसंधान निदेशालय जबलपुर के द्वारा 16से 22 अगस्त तक पूरे देश में यह कार्यक्रम चलाया जा रहा है। गाजर घास का वैज्ञानिक नाम पार्थेनियम हिस्टोपोरस है इसका मूल स्थान मेक्सिको मध्य व उत्तरी अमेरिका माना जाता है । शोध से ज्ञात हुआ कि एक वर्ग मीटर भूमि में गाजर घास लगभग 154000 बीज उत्पन्न करता है। आज कल यह रेलवे लाइन के किनारे ,खाली पड़े प्लाटों मेड़ों इत्यादि जगहों पर बड़ी तेजी से फैल रहा है जो पशुओं एवं मनुष्यों के लिए बहुत ही नुकसानदायक है।गाजर घास के संपर्क में आने से मनुष्य में डर्मेटाइटिस, एक्जिमा, एलर्जी ,बुखार दमा जैसी बीमारियां होती हैं। पशुओं के लिए गाजर घास अत्यधिक विषाक्त होता है । केंद्र के वैज्ञानिक डा. नरेंद्र प्रसाद डॉक्टर महेश कुमार डॉ. हाडी हसन डॉक्टर विमल कुमारी विद्या गुप्ता ने लोगों को इसके द्वारा हो रही बीमारियों एवं इसे कैसे बचा सकता है इत्यादि विषयों पर विस्तार से जानकारी दी।

2.27 UTTARAKHAND

Uttarakhand, located in northern India, covers an area of approximately 53,484 square kilometers. As per the 2011 census, the state's population is around 1 million, with about 5.3 million males and 4.8 million females, resulting in a sex ratio of approximately 963 females for every 1,000 males. The state's agriculture is diverse, with major crops including rice, wheat, maize, and various fruits like apples and pears, benefiting from its varied topography and fertile alluvial and terrace soils. Uttarakhand experiences a temperate climate, characterized by cool winters and mild summers, with average annual rainfall ranging from 800 mm to 1,500 mm, depending on the region, primarily occurring during the monsoon season. The literacy rate in Uttarakhand is approximately 78.82%, reflecting ongoing improvements in educational initiatives and accessibility throughout the state.

ICAR–Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation (IISWC), Dehradun

ICAR–Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August 2025, culminating in Parthenium Awareness Day on 22 August at Government Primary School, Kaulagarh in Sahaspur Block, Dehradun. The programme witnessed active participation of around 150 participants, including institute staff, school staff, and students. The event featured practical demonstrations on identification of Parthenium, safety precautions during eradication such as use of masks and gloves, biological control through release of the Mexican beetle (Calligrapha bicolorata), and preparation of compost from Parthenium biomass. The programme commenced with an introductory address by Mrs. Varsha Gupta, Senior Technician, highlighting the importance of awareness initiatives. Dr. Raman Jeet Singh, Senior Scientist (Agronomy) and Nodal Officer, elaborated on the harmful impacts of Parthenium on crops, human and animal health, and ecosystems, while explaining integrated physical, biological, and chemical management strategies. He also emphasized compost preparation from pre-flowering biomass and discussed ecological approaches, including identification of natural enemies and safe utilization of the weed as green manure and mulch in conservation research. An interactive session allowed students to raise questions and share observations about the weed's spread. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Bidya Chanu, followed by safe removal of Parthenium plants and an awareness rally in nearby areas, conducted under the guidance of institute leadership.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Pithoragarh

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Gaina, Pithoragarh organized Parthenium Awareness Week from August 16–22, 2025, to educate the public about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus (commonly known as congress grass or carrot weed) on human and animal health, agriculture, and biodiversity, while also promoting effective management strategies. During the week, a series of awareness programmes and campaigns were conducted in Gaina and Sundernagar villages, where lectures and demonstrations helped farmers, students, and local communities identify the weed and understand its impacts. Practical activities included Parthenium removal drives, in which participants actively uprooted the weed from fields and roadsides, along with demonstrations on biological control measures using the Mexican beetle (Calligrapha

bicolorata) and composting techniques to convert Parthenium biomass into nutrient-rich organic manure. Guidance was also provided on the safe and effective application of herbicides, particularly in non-cropped areas. KVK specialists, staff members, RAWE students, school children, and farmers enthusiastically participated in the programme, and informative literature was distributed to reinforce learning and create lasting awareness in the community.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Jeolikote, Nainital

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jeolikote, Nainital observed *Parthenium Awareness Week* from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of spreading awareness among farmers, students, and rural women about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* and its eco-friendly management. The programme commenced on 16 August 2025 with a cleanliness drive at the KVK Farm, Jeolikote, where staff actively participated in uprooting Parthenium weeds from the campus. On 17 August 2025, a demonstration on Parthenium eradication techniques was organized for 14 women farmers, focusing on safe mechanical removal and handling practices. On 18 August 2025, an awareness programme involving 15 women farmers emphasized Parthenium's negative impacts on crop health, livestock, and human well-being. The awareness campaign extended to educational institutions on 19 August 2025 at Himalayan Academy School, Jeolikote, where 87 students participated in demonstrations and sensitization activities. On 20 August 2025, a similar programme was conducted at Experimental Public School, Faizabad (Haldwani), witnessing the participation of 74 students and receiving media coverage in the *Aaj* newspaper. Further field demonstrations were held on 21 August 2025 at Village Dangad, Bhimtal Block, focusing on Parthenium eradication for women farmers. The observance concluded on 22 August 2025 with a valedictory session at KVK Jeolikote with 45 participants, including farm women and students. The event was highlighted in the newspapers *Ma ki Khabrein* and *Amrit Vichar*. Overall, the week-long programme effectively enhanced knowledge and encouraged community participation in managing Parthenium for healthier farming systems and safer surroundings.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Bageshwar

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (ICAR-VPKAS) Bageshwar, celebrated Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August, 2025 at different locations, including KVK campus, adopted village under NICRA project. The event aimed to increase awareness about harmful effects of Parthenium. All the staff of KVK and RAWE

students is actively involved in different programs. Dr. N. K. Singh, CTO (Veterinary Science) was the nodal officer of this important program. Dr. Raj Kumar, Senior Scientist & Head of KVK-Bageshwar emphasized the significance of Parthenium Awareness Week to educate the public about the dangers of this invasive weed. Dr. N K Singh, elaborated on the hazardous impact of Parthenium on human and animal health. Mr. Harish Chand Joshi, share the various management practice like as composting and biological control through leaf-feeding beetle (*Calligrapha bicolorata*). Dr. Amit Kumar, give emphasis on self care during the uprooting and management of this weed. During this awareness week total 273 individuals were participated, including, KVK staff, farmers and students. Though, these activities conducted by KVK defiantly increase awareness in the public for effective management of this harmful weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Kashipur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kashipur recently organized a week-long awareness program focused on the eradication and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. The "Parthenium Awareness Week" was held from 16 to 22 August 2025 at various locations. The initiative aimed to educate and mobilize the community about the harmful impacts of Parthenium, which poses a significant threat to agriculture, biodiversity, and human health. As part of the program, awareness campaigns and practical workshops were conducted at several sites, including Himmatpur Kashipur, Panchananpur Dineshpur, Prashant Public School in Himmatpur, and the KVK campus itself.

During the week, volunteers and KVK staff actively participated in removing Parthenium from roadsides and fields in the center and nearby villages. Additionally, chemical herbicides were sprayed to dry and control the weed, demonstrating effective management techniques to local farmers and residents. A key highlight of the week was the publication of special literature on Parthenium by KVK, providing detailed information on its identification, hazards, and control measures. KVK also extended its awareness efforts to neighboring households, educating them about the importance of managing this invasive plant. The successful conclusion of the Awareness Week marks an important step in ongoing efforts to tackle Parthenium and protect the local agricultural ecosystem. The KVK team expressed gratitude for the community's participation and reaffirmed its commitment to promoting sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Uttarkashi

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Uttarkashi observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August, 2025 in response to the appeal of ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur. A series of awareness and cleanliness activities were organized with the active participation of KVK staff, B.Sc. Agriculture RAWE students, women farmers, and school students to highlight the harmful effects of Parthenium and its management.

On 16th August, a cleanliness drive was conducted at the KVK campus with the participation of staff and RAWE students. On 18–19th August, an awareness lecture was delivered for women farmers of Self-Help Groups under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) at the KVK campus, followed by their participation in a Parthenium cleanliness campaign. On 20th August, a rally was organized by RAWE students under the guidance of KVK scientists to spread awareness among the local community. On 21st August, a cleanliness drive was carried out with KVK staff, along with an extempore competition for the students of Rajeev Gandhi Navodaya Vidyalaya, Chinyalisaur. On the concluding day, 22nd August, a poster presentation was organized for RAWE students at the KVK campus, and the posters were also exhibited outside the premises for public awareness.

The week-long programme successfully sensitized farmers, women, students, and local residents of Uttarkashi about the menace of Parthenium. The active participation of all stakeholders ensured wide outreach and strengthened collective action towards building a Parthenium-free environment.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Champawat

Parthenium awareness week was organized at KVK Champawat, during the week 16th to 22nd August various program were organized. Parthenium grass was uprooted and destroyed at Lohaghat Barakot road, awareness program was organized at village Devidhura and Galla Gaon.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Gwaldam (Chamoli)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gwaldam (Chamoli) organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16–22 August 2025. During this period, experts from the Kendra conducted various training programmes for farmers on different aspects related to Parthenium weed. During field visits to farmers' fields, they provided information about the rapid spread of Parthenium grass, its harmful effects on human beings and livestock, and measures for its eradication. A total of 56 farmers were educated about management practices and the preparation of compost at the household level using Parthenium. In addition, farmers visiting the Kendra during this period were also sensitized about the adverse impacts of this invasive weed and the need for its timely control.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Dhanauri

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Dhanauri, Haridwar organized Parthenium Eradication Week (Parthenium Awareness Week) from 16th to 22nd August 2025 in accordance with the nationwide campaign led by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers, students, and the general public about the harmful effects of the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* on crops, livestock, and human health, and to promote integrated management practices for its effective control

During the week, various activities were conducted in different villages and nearby government institutions of District Haridwar. An awareness lecture, awareness programme, and practical eradication drive of Parthenium grass were organized at Dhanauri Degree College, Dhanauri, with the participation of 37 individuals. Similar eradication and awareness activities were conducted at the KVK Administrative Building and surrounding areas, involving 17 participants. In Dhanauri village, 21 participants actively took part in the campaign. The programmes received coverage in local newspapers, enhancing outreach and public sensitization.

The week-long campaign successfully disseminated knowledge on identification, adverse impacts, and integrated management strategies for Parthenium, while encouraging community participation in its removal. The initiative contributed significantly toward environmental protection, agricultural sustainability, and public health awareness in the district

पोस्टरों को आगे बढ़ाते हुए अखड़ी की किताब का विमोचन भी किया। फक मौजूद रहे।

में गांव फरूपुर व उसके आसपास

कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र धनौरी में नेपियर घास पर प्रशिक्षण आयोजित

शाह टाइम्स संवाददाता

इरिद्वार। भारत विश्व का सबसे बड़ा पशुधन पालन करने वाला देश है, लेकिन यहां हरे चारे की लगभग 44% कमी (ICAR-NIANP, 2021) पाई जाती है। इस समस्या के समाधान हेतु, भारत सरकार के विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग (डीएसटी) द्वारा वित्त पोषित परियोजना "बहारदाबाद ब्लॉक (हरिद्वार) के 15 गांवों में आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्गों (डेडवर्ग) की आजीविका को दक्षता बढ़ाने हेतु विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तक्षेपों के माध्यम से स्थानीय नवाचार तंत्र को सशक्त करना" के अंतर्गत, पीपलस साइंस इंस्टीट्यूट द्वारा कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र (कृ.वि.के.), धनौरी, हरिद्वार में एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर वैज्ञानिक डा. नीलकान्त ने किसानों को पशुचारा उपलब्ध कराने की आधुनिक तकनीक के रूप में नेपियर बाजरा घास की उन्नत खेती पद्धति पर विस्तार से प्रशिक्षण दिया। उन्होंने बताया कि नेपियर घास में उच्च हरा चारा उत्पादन क्षमता (लगभग 250-300 टन/हेक्टेयर /वर्ष), प्रोटीन एवं पोषक तत्वों की अधिकता होती है, जिससे पशुओं की दुग्ध उत्पादन क्षमता बढ़ती है, स्वास्थ्य बेहतर होता है तथा प्रजनन क्षमता में सुधार होता है। किसानों की जिज्ञासाओं का समाधान करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि नियमित रूप से नेपियर घास खिलाने से महंगे बाहरी चारे पर निर्भरता कम होती है और पशुपालकों की आर्थिक स्थिति में सकारात्मक सुधार आता है। इसी क्रम में डा. पुष्पेंद्रन ने रबी फसलों की उन्नत कृषि पद्धतियों एवं उनमें पोषक तत्वों की आपूर्ति के महत्व पर चर्चा की। कार्यक्रम में बहारदाबाद ब्लॉक के किसान, कृषि विज्ञान के छात्र, तथा पी.एस.आई. के कार्यक्रम सलाहकार एवं राष्ट्रीय जल विज्ञान संस्थान के सेवानिवृत्त वैज्ञानिक डा. जी.सी. गोयल विशेष रूप से उपस्थित रहे। इसके अलावा परियोजना टीम के सदस्य कुलदीप उनियाल, डा. इकबाल अहमद, मोहम्मद तारिक हुसैन, दीपशिखा एवं उपलब्ध भी मौजूद रहे।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Jakhdhar, Rudraprayag

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jakhdhar, Rudraprayag organized Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at the KVK campus and nearby villages including Bansu, Narayankoti, and Dever. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers, rural youth, and staff members about the identification, harmful effects, and integrated management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*.

Experts of KVK explained the adverse impacts of Parthenium infestation on crop productivity, soil health, livestock, and human health, including dermatitis, skin allergies, respiratory disorders, and toxicity to grazing animals. Although the spread of Parthenium weed is presently limited in the higher hill regions of Rudraprayag, participants were advised to remain vigilant and adopt preventive measures to avoid its future proliferation.

Farmers were trained in integrated weed management practices, including cultural methods such as manual uprooting before flowering, timely weeding, crop rotation, and sanitation measures. Biological control strategies, particularly the use of Calligrapha bicolorata (a leaf-feeding beetle effective against Parthenium), were also discussed. A total of 65 participants benefited from the week-long programme and gained practical knowledge regarding the ecological and health hazards associated with Parthenium, along with sustainable management strategies. The campaign strengthened community awareness and encouraged collective efforts for effective control of this invasive weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Almora (Matela)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Almora (Matela) celebrated Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers and rural communities about the identification, harmful effects, and management of Parthenium hysterophorus (Congress grass). The campaign was organized at the KVK farm and in different villages of the operational area.

A series of awareness programmes were conducted during the week, covering farmers, Panchayati Raj representatives, and local stakeholders. During these programmes, participants were informed about the rapid spread of Parthenium weed and its adverse impacts on crop productivity, soil fertility, livestock health, and human health, including skin allergies, respiratory disorders, and dermatitis. The importance of early detection and timely management was emphasized, particularly in hill regions where the infestation is currently manageable but may spread rapidly under favorable conditions. Farmers were trained in integrated management practices, including manual uprooting before flowering and seed setting, proper disposal methods, cultural practices such as crop rotation and field sanitation, and awareness about biological control options. The collaborative programme conducted with other departments further strengthened inter-departmental coordination and outreach efforts. A total of 95 participants benefited from the week-long awareness campaign. The programme successfully enhanced community awareness and encouraged collective participation in preventing and managing the spread of Parthenium weed, thereby contributing to sustainable agriculture and environmental protection in the region.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Dhakrani, Dehradun

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was successfully observed from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Dhakrani, Dehradun. The event aimed to spread awareness about the harmful impacts of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (commonly known as Congress grass) on agriculture, human and animal health, and the environment. A total of 27 students pursuing B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture from Uttaranchal University, Dehradun actively participated in the program. The event was led by three scientists and one extension officer from KVK Dehradun, who guided and facilitated various awareness activities. An interactive session was conducted to educate the participants on the biology, origin, and rapid spread of

Parthenium. The week-long awareness campaign provided a valuable learning experience for the students and highlighted the urgent need for community participation in managing the spread of Parthenium. The participants expressed their commitment to disseminate the knowledge gained and contribute to further awareness initiatives.

2.28 WEST BENGAL

West Bengal, located in eastern India, spans an area of approximately 88,752 square kilometers. As of the 2011 census, it has a population of around 91 million, with about 46 million males and 45 million females, resulting in a sex ratio of approximately 940 females for every 1,000 males. The state's agriculture is diverse, with major crops including rice, jute, tea, and various fruits and vegetables, thriving in its fertile alluvial soil. West Bengal experiences a subtropical climate, characterized by hot, humid summers and mild winters, with an average annual rainfall of about 1,500 mm, primarily during the monsoon season. The literacy rate in West Bengal is approximately 77.08%, reflecting significant advancements in education and literacy initiatives across the state.

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore

The ICAR–Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (CRIJAF), Barrackpore, Kolkata observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 with the objective of sensitizing staff members about the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus. The programme aimed to highlight the serious health hazards caused by Parthenium to human beings and animals, as well as its adverse effects on the environment, agricultural productivity, and biodiversity. The initiative also focused on ensuring a Parthenium-free CRIJAF campus through collective action.

In this regard, an Awareness Meeting was organized at the Institute on 21st August, 2025. More than 100 participants attended the programme, including scientists, technical staff, administrative personnel, KVK staff, project staff (RA/SRF/Young Professionals), and students of the ICAR-IARI Kolkata Hub. During the meeting, the harmful impacts of Parthenium infestation—such as skin allergies, respiratory disorders, environmental degradation, and suppression of useful flora—were discussed in detail. Emphasis was placed on early identification, preventive measures, and integrated management strategies for effective control.

An eradication drive was also undertaken within the institute campus, wherein Parthenium plants were uprooted and removed to move toward a Parthenium-free campus. The programme successfully enhanced awareness among staff members and reinforced the importance of coordinated efforts for sustainable management of this invasive weed. The observance of Parthenium Awareness Week at CRIJAF demonstrated the institute's commitment toward environmental safety, public health protection, and sustainable agricultural practices.

AICRP on Weed Management, BCKV Centre

A week-long programme of various activities has been undertaken by the centre in response to the instruction made from the ICAR – Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, M. P. – 482004 in order to observe Parthenium Awareness Week Programme during 16-22 August 2025 as follows**.**

- Campaign through postering has been done on 17.08.25 and 18.08.25 in and around the office premises of the Research Farms, BCKV, Kalyani and the main university campus at Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal. Postering has also been done in the premises of venue where the awareness programmes have been conducted.

- Chemical management of *Parthenium hysterophorus* weeds by spraying with chemical herbicides Glyphosate 1.0-1.5% on total vegetation in the campus premises of the BCKV at Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal has been undertaken on 16.08.25 and 19.08.25.
- Uprooting of Parthenium plants and dumping it in the compost pit has been performed on 20.08.25 and 21.08.25 by the students, participants of the awareness meetings and hired man power at different places in the campus of BCKV, Mohanpur, and DSF D Block Farm, Kalyani, Nadia, West Bengal.
- Demonstration based chemical Parthenium control measure is also performed with the UG and Post graduate level students in the teaching and research farms of the university during the week.
- Related literatures in Hindi, English and Bengali language are distributed for public awareness and taking measures.
- Awareness campaigning has with toto van tabloid has been performed on 21st August 2025 in the Kalyani Municipality areas on facing the parthenium menace and its management.

Parthenium awareness mass programmes

1) The 1st PAW 2025 Programme was organized in the farmers' village jointly with the Iswaripur Farmers' Producing Centre under Kalyani Development Block and the AICRP on Chickpea, BCKV Centre on 15.08.2025. In total, 75 persons, mostly local farmers, FPC officials and other stakeholders including teachers and agricultural inputs dealers from different places under the block participated in the programme. Among our programmes, distribution of vernacular extension folders and leaflets on parthenium, parthenium uprooting by the participants and awareness lectures were taken. Methods on how to manage the harmful aspects of Parthenium weeds and control of the weeds in the fallow and cropped lands was discussed by Dr Bikas Mandal, PI, All India Coordinated Research Project Weed Management BCKV Centre. Dr. M. Hedayatullah, PI, AICRP Chickpea, BCKV Centre, officials of the FPC and local teachers also gave lectures on the subjects in the meeting in order to make the local people well aware of the problems related to the parthenium weeds. The overall programme was fruitful and able to convince the gathering regarding the importance of managing this harmful weed in our national interest.

2) The 2nd awareness programme in this connection has been conducted at the village Paschim Shimulia under Ranaghat II Block on 21.08.2025 by the AICRP on Weed Management, BCKV Kalyani Centre and the local input dealers' association. Above 65 participants took active part in this programme and among them were the traders of agricultural inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, implements etc of the district of North 24 Parganas and Nadia, farmers of the locality, local people and other service providers and officials of both NGO and the AICRP on Weed Management. Besides the speeches, demonstration on this weed with its bad sides and scopes in agriculture, uprooting the parthenium plants before flowering took place in this awareness programme. Dr B. Mandal (Principal Investigator, AICRP on Weed Management) were present among the experts in the programme. The participants showed their very positive response in this regard for adoption the technology for their own in coming days in united mode in order to keep the entire village free from this harmful weed.

3) The 3rd Awareness programme has been conducted in District Seed Farm cum university research farm, D Block at Kalyani, Nadia on 22.08.2025. More than 35 participants mainly farmers from local area, farm workers, local students and parents were present in the programme. More emphasis has also been given on making the mass how to handle the parthenium plants in research farm as well as localities during the various operations. Demonstration works were also performed using farm workers and other participants. The participants expressed their well convinced very positive response in the programme and requested the officials of the university (AICRP on Weed Management) for conducting such programme in large pre-planned shape throughout the year.

4) One video on how to save environment and agriculture from parthenium beside self-protection in respect of the health-related issues of this weed has been uploaded in the social media on 20. 08.2025 by Dr Bikas Mandal.

5) Regarding media coverage and mass awareness, **local vernacular newspaper** (***KALANTAR***) reporters have come up and covered the programmes. The same will be published in the daily Bengali news paper in their issue on 26.08.2025.

6) The centre is also working to keep the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya university campus Parthenium Free and one research farm (AICRP on Weed Management Research field) well managed regarding Parthenium infestation.

Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI), Arapanch, Sonarpur

Parthenium is very well known to us as congress grass or carrot grass or *Gajor Ghas* in Bengali. Although it is economically important, it is an aggressive and harmful weed which has come from outside the India during 1950s and currently affects about 36 million hectares of farming, uncultivated, wasteland, roadsides and railway tracts. *Parthenium* weeds not only attack crop fields, but also reduce crop productivity causing many health problems for humans and animals, in addition to degrading the environment and biodiversity.

Keeping these points in mind Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI), Arapanch, Sonarpur, Kolkata- 700150 organized 20th *Parthenium* Awareness week from 16th August to 22nd August, 2025. Many awareness programme, rallies and management practices of *Parthenium* was carried out during this period at KVK campus as well as other villages. The programme was inaugurated through an Awareness Programme on Online mode among the students of Certified Course of Farm Management on 16.08.2025 and continued on 17.08.2025.

The inauguration of *Parthenium* awareness week was celebrated at Sasya Shyamala Krishi Viyan Kendra on 18th of August, 2025 by physically at KVK Campus. Total participants of the inaugural programme was 54. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Anupam Mukherjee, Farm Manager, Sasya Shyamala KVK. Dr. Sarbaswarup Ghosh, Dr. Krishnendu Ray, Dr. Sudeshna Panja, Dr. Abhiit Ghosal, Dr. Prasenjit Kundu and Dr. Monidipta Saha were delivered their valuable suggestion in *Parthenium* Management. In the Technical Session Dr. Krishenendu Ray, SMS (Agronomy) and Dr. Anupam Mukherjee (Farm Manager) delivered their presentataion in Parthenium among the farmers and students of RAWE Programme at SSKVK Campus.A road side rally was organized in this occasion for awareness and then uprooted the roadside *Parthenium* plants.

On 19.08.2025 an awareness programme was organized among the students of Guru Nanak Institute of Pharmaceutical Science and Technology (GNIPST) at Sasya Shayamala KVK Training Hall, Sonarpur. Total no. of students was 40 and other officiual staffs present in this programme was 14. During this Programme the Senior Scientist and Head, Dr. Swagat Ghosh elaborate the History, behavior and Management aspect of *Parthenium* among the students. Other Scientists from Sasya Shyamala KVK were present in this programme. Regarding the management of this noxious weed a community approach should be taken in village level. That's why Sasya Shyamala KVK organized an awareness programme and road rally among the club members and other villagers at Kustia Village of Sonarpur block on 19.08.2025. A total number of 34 participants was there and participated both in the programme and the rally. Senior Scientist & Head, Sasya Shyamala KVK, Dr. Swagat Ghosh delivered his valuable suggestion on Parthenium Management and organized a Quiz Competition on Parthenium among the farmers. The programme was ended with a road rally and eradication programme of *Parthenim*.

On 20th August, 2025 a YouTube Live Programme by ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research in collaboration with the Reliance Foundation was organized and Dr. Anupam Mukherjee and other Scientists of Sasya Shyamala KVK were actively participated in this session and interact with the renowned Scientists of DWSR, Jabbalpur. On 20th August the programme was carried out in front of the 55 students of class IX to XII of Night School of Lokasiksha Parishad, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur at 07.00 pm.

Continuing the Awareness Week another programme was organized among the 40 students of Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) course of Sasya Shyamala KVK on 21.08.2025. *Parthenium* awareness week's closing ceremony was conducted during the exposure visit of 50 Women Farmers from different districts of West Bengal under The Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur, 22 students of M.Sc. (Ag) Agronomy students of Division of Agronomy, IRDM Faculty Centre

and the another batch of Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) students (40 students) of Sasya Shyamala KVK together with awareness programme and road rally.

ICAR- ATARI, Kolkata

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed from 16 to 22 August 2025 under the guidance of ATARI, Kolkata, by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jagatsinghpur to create awareness among farmers and the rural community about the harmful effects and management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. As part of the programme, an awareness event was organized at Village Bagoi on 20 August 2025, involving 30 farmers and farm women. The programme comprised educational sessions, field demonstrations and awareness activities aimed at sensitizing participants on the serious threats posed by Parthenium to crop productivity, livestock health and human wellbeing. KVK scientists explained the adverse impacts of the weed, including yield loss, soil nutrient depletion, allergic reactions, asthma, dermatitis and toxicity in cattle. Farmers were advised on eco-friendly and integrated management practices such as timely uprooting and safe destruction of young plants, use of the biological control agent *Calligrapha bicolorata*, cultivation of competitive crops

and bio-fumigant plants, and judicious use of herbicides. Practical demonstrations on safe uprooting and community-level control measures were conducted, encouraging collective action for effective eradication.

In continuation, Parthenium Awareness Week was also observed at the KVK Jagatsinghpur campus on 22 August 2025 with the participation of farmers, farm women, students and staff. Scientists highlighted the rapid spread of Parthenium and reiterated integrated management strategies with emphasis on biological and mechanical control methods. The importance of community participation and sustained awareness for successful management was strongly emphasized. Participants actively interacted with experts and pledged to keep their fields and surroundings free from Parthenium, reinforcing community commitment towards controlling this noxious weed.

Hooghly Krishi Vigyan Kendra - BCKV, West Bengal

Hooghly Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BCKV, West Bengal organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at its premises and in the adjacent village. The programme witnessed the active participation of around 80 farmers and farm women, along with 120 DAESI students. The primary objective of the event was to create awareness among participants about the harmful effects of *Parthenium*

hysterophorus, a notorious invasive weed responsible for causing several health problems such as allergy, dermatitis, fever, asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory disorders in both humans and domestic animals. The programme included in-house training sessions focusing on:

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - UBKV, Chopra, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal

Uttar Dinajpur Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Chopra, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal, organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week during 16–22 August 2025. The programme was conducted across several villages of the district, including Chopra, Narayanpur, Dhuliagachh, Islampur, and Kaliaganj. In addition, awareness activities were organized at the KVK office, Assistant Director of Agriculture office, hospitals, schools, and village-level Farmers' Clubs to reach diverse sections of the community. A large number of farmers, villagers, self-help group members, and students actively participated in the programmes. Interactive discussions and awareness sessions focused on *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Family: Asteraceae), locally known as gajar ghas or Congress grass. Participants were informed that Parthenium is an alien invasive weed that entered India in the early 1950s through imported wheat from the USA and has since spread rapidly.

DURING THE PARTHENIUM AWERNESS PROGRAMME GROUP PHOTO

AWERNESS GROUP PHOTO

Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Malda

The Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at ICAR–Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malda, from 16th to 22nd August 2025 with the objective of sensitizing farmers, farm women, rural youth, and other stakeholders on the harmful effects and management strategies of Parthenium hysterophorus, an invasive alien weed of national concern. As part of the week-long observance, an awareness event was organized on 20th August 2025, which witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 40 beneficiaries, including 30 male and 10 female farmers, farm women, and rural youth. The programme was organized under the leadership of Dr. D.K. Raghav, Senior Scientist & Head, along with the active involvement of Dr. Anbazhagan P. (SMS–Plant Pathology), Mr. Shivam (SMS–Fruit Science), Dr. Yasaswini Pavuluri (SMS–Home Science), and Mr. V.V. Diptikar (STO). The resource persons highlighted the adverse impacts of Parthenium on human health (allergies, respiratory problems, skin irritation), livestock (toxicity

and reduced fodder availability), agriculture (allelopathy, reduced crop productivity), and the environment (biodiversity loss and ecosystem imbalance). They also emphasized the importance of integrated weed management (IWM), covering cultural, mechanical, chemical, and biological methods, supported with PowerPoint presentations and interactive discussions. Farmers shared their experiences regarding the rapid spread of Parthenium in crop and non-crop areas, and the scientists provided practical solutions for timely monitoring and effective management. A practical field demonstration was conducted at the KVK premises, where participants were trained to identify Parthenium and took part in uprooting and safe disposal activities, gaining hands-on experience in management practices. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and a collective pledge to continue spreading awareness in their villages. The event not only enhanced participants' knowledge but also reinforced the need for community-driven approaches to ensure sustainable management of Parthenium for a cleaner environment and improved agricultural productivity.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Purba Medinipur

Purba Medinipur Krishi Vigyan Kendra successfully observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August 2025 at its campus, aiming to sensitize farmers, farm women, students, and rural youth about the harmful effects of *Parthenium hysterophorus* (locally known as "Congress grass") and promote sustainable management practices. The week-long programme witnessed enthusiastic participation of over 120 stakeholders from various parts of the district. The event was graced by KVK officials along with representatives from different line departments, who provided technical guidance and shared best practices for the safe and effective management of Parthenium. The programme included interactive awareness sessions that highlighted the invasive nature of Parthenium and its adverse effects on crop productivity, soil health, livestock, and human health, including skin allergies, asthma, and dermatitis. Practical demonstrations were organized on mechanical uprooting and safe disposal of the weed, composting of uprooted biomass, and the use of biological control measures, particularly the bio-control beetle *Calligrapha bicolorata*, for suppressing Parthenium growth. Informative materials such as posters and leaflets were distributed, and discussions facilitated better understanding of the issue among participants. Students and rural youth actively took part in awareness rallies within the campus, raising slogans against the spread of Parthenium and promoting its eradication. The programme encouraged participants to adopt collective action in controlling the weed in their fields, homesteads, and community areas. By the end of the week, participants pledged to maintain Parthenium-free zones and apply eco-friendly management practices. Overall, the observance of Parthenium Awareness Week at Purba Medinipur KVK effectively enhanced knowledge and motivation among farmers and community members, fostering awareness for safe, sustainable, and environmentally friendly control of this invasive weed, and contributing to healthier agricultural ecosystems and cleaner surroundings.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Burdwan

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Burdwan observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 to 22 August 2025 with the objective of creating awareness about the menace of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. The programme witnessed active participation from the Senior Scientist & Head, Subject Matter Specialists, Farm Manager, Programme Assistants, farm labourers, visiting farmers, and farm women. Various awareness and cleanliness activities were organized throughout the week to highlight the harmful effects of this invasive weed on agriculture, environment, human health, and livestock. Parthenium is an aggressive annual herb that invades disturbed and bare areas, leading to loss of crop productivity and biodiversity. It is also known to cause severe health problems such as dermatitis, allergies, and respiratory disorders in humans, and toxicity issues in animals. Keeping these concerns in view, KVK Burdwan conducted several practical activities including manual uprooting of Parthenium plants, herbicide spraying, composting of uprooted biomass, field demonstrations, and exhibitions. These activities helped participants understand both the ill effects of the weed and the appropriate methods for its safe and effective management. The programmes were conducted under the guidance of Dr. Sk. Md. Azizur Rahman, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Burdwan, who explained different mechanical, chemical, and cultural control measures for eradicating Parthenium. In total, 35 participants benefited from the programme, strengthening awareness and encouraging collective action against this noxious weed.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Cooch Behar

Under the Parthenium Awareness Programme–2025, a series of structured activities were successfully conducted to sensitize farmers and the general public about the serious menace of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. A total of six training, awareness, demonstration, and precautionary programmes were organized, benefiting 325 participants, where emphasis was laid on the harmful effects of Parthenium on agriculture, environment, human health, and animal health, along with its effective management practices. KVK, Cooch Behar (UBKV) actively participated in a YouTube Live Seminar on Parthenium Awareness Programme–2025 on 20.08.2025, organized by ICAR–Directorate of Weed Research in collaboration with the Reliance Foundation, which helped in reaching a wider audience through digital platforms. To strengthen field-level awareness, 400 pamphlets and leaflets were distributed among farmers and the general public, highlighting the adverse impacts of Parthenium such as health hazards, environmental degradation, loss of productivity,

and biodiversity decline. Additionally, four sensitization programmes were conducted to reinforce key messages on identification, precautionary measures, and integrated management of the weed. The programme received significant media attention with coverage in two newspapers and broadcasts through four local television channels, enhancing public outreach. Furthermore, extensive social media coverage was ensured through platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, WhatsApp, and local TV channels, thereby amplifying awareness and encouraging community participation in the eradication of this noxious weed.

Ramkrishna Ashram Krishi Vigyan Kendra- Nimpith

Ramkrishna Ashram Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nimpith celebrated the '20th Parthenium Awareness Week' from 16-22 August, 2025 at RAKVK campus through different events like training, demonstration, rally and campaign. Total programme was comprised of three nos. of training programme, one awareness programme, one demonstration and a rally on the last day of the celebration. Total 105 nos. of participants participated directly in the awareness week, the details of which are given below.

Name of State/UT	Name of KVK	Date of events	Name of events	No. of farmers participated	No. of extension functionaries	Total no. of participants
West Bengal	RAKVK, Nimpith	19.08.2025	On campus training programme at RAKVK, Nimpith	0	37	37
			Demonstration on identification and procedure to make the land parthenium free			
		20.08.2025	Awareness programme on parthenium to the farmers and farm women at RAKVK, Nimpith	30	0	30
		22.08.2025	Rally on parthenium awareness week from Nimpith to Tulsighata, Joynagar –II block, South 24 Pgs. Demonstration on identification and procedure to make the land parthenium free by the Input Dealers different blocks of South 24 Pgs district.	0	38	38
			Total	**30**	**75**	**105**

This week-long programme ended with a special rally, Input dealers of different block of South 24 parganas participated in this rally.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Jhargram

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jhargram, successfully organized the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week on its campus. The programme was conducted as part of a nationwide campaign initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to raise awareness about the hazardous weed Parthenium hysterophorus, commonly known as "Congress grass, "and to encourage community participation in its eradication. The inaugural session was attended by scientists, staff members, IFFDC officials and farmers of Jhargram district. At the beginning, experts highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium on human and animal health, crop productivity, and the environment. It was emphasized that the weed causes skin allergies, asthma, and reduces biodiversity by suppressing useful vegetation. During the week, various activities were carried out, including:

• Awareness campaigns through lectures and group discussions.

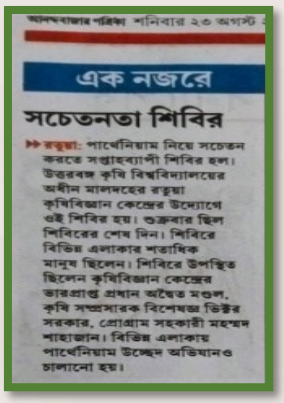
• Campus and field cleaning drives with active participation from farmers, students, and staff.

A total of 50 farmers actively participated in the activities and contributed to the progress of the programme by engaging in training sessions, cleaning drives, and awareness initiatives.

The programme also encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable management practices for controlling Parthenium. Pamphlets and informational materials were distributed to spread the message further in surrounding villages. The event concluded with a pledge-taking ceremony in which all participants committed themselves to creating a Parthenium-free environment. The week-long activities successfully generated significant awareness among farmers and the local community about the importance of collective action in weed management.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Malda UBKV

As per the directions from ICAR-Directorate of weed science research, Jabalpur we organized "20th Parthenium Awareness Week- 2025" during 16-22 August 2025 by creating awareness about the menace of Parthenium weed plant and to appraise the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus (Carrot weed/congress grass/gajar ghas) and its management in Agricultural fields, Environment, Human and Animal health among the working staff of the KVK, Agricultural labourers and Farmers and appealed all the gathering to join hands in complete eradication of this noxious weed from our district, state as well as from the country. We have organized "Parthenium Awareness Programme" for Agricultural input dealers; they were informed about reduction of crop yield due to parthenium weed plant and created awareness on obnoxious effects of parthenium. We continued to organized "Parthenium Awareness Programme" for farmers of Malda district during this week & they were informed about health hazards, loss of biodiversity, as well as field crops loss due to parthenium weed plant and created awareness on unbearable effects of parthenium. Dr. Adwaita Mondal, SMS (Fishery Science), Dr Victor Sarkar, SMS (Agril. Extension), Md. Shajahan, Programme Asstt. (Lab. Tech.) and other staffs of KVK were participated in this programme.


এক নজরে

সচেতনতা শিবির

রতুয়া: পার্থেনিয়াম নিয়ে সচেতন করতে সপ্তাহব্যাপী শিবির হল। উত্তরবঙ্গ কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধীন মালদহের রতুয়া কৃষিবিজ্ঞান কেন্দ্রের উদ্যোগে ওই শিবির হয়। শুক্রবার ছিল শিবিরের শেষ দিন। শিবিরে বিভিন্ন এলাকার শতাধিক মানুষ ছিলেন। শিবিরে উপস্থিত ছিলেন কৃষিবিজ্ঞান কেন্দ্রের ভারপ্রাপ্ত প্রধান অদ্বৈত মণ্ডল, কৃষি সম্প্রসারক বিশেষজ্ঞ ভিক্টর সরকার, প্রোগ্রাম সহকারী মহম্মদ শাহাজান। বিভিন্ন এলাকায় পার্থেনিয়াম উচ্ছেদ অভিযানও চালানো হয়।

সচেতনতা

রতুয়া, ২২ অগাস্ট : মালদা কৃষিবিজ্ঞান কেন্দ্রে পালিত হল পার্থেনিয়াম সচেতনতা সপ্তাহ। ১৮ থেকে ২২ অগাস্ট পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন গ্রামে প্রায় দুই শতাধিক মানুষকে নিয়ে কর্মসূচিটি হয়। এর মধ্যে ২০ অগাস্ট এনিয়ে একটি অনুষ্ঠানও হয়।

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalyan, Purulia

The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kalyan, Purulia from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. The programme aimed to create mass awareness regarding the identification, harmful effects, and scientific management of Parthenium hysterophorus, one of the most hazardous invasive weeds affecting agriculture and the environment. A total of 122 participants, including farmers and input dealers from different blocks of Purulia district, actively participated in the week-long campaign.

During the awareness week, a rally was organized at the KVK premises, Kalyan, Jahajpur, Purulia, with the theme "Parthenium Mukt Bharat." Participants carried placards and raised slogans to spread awareness among the local villagers. Informative leaflets were distributed to sensitize the community about the harmful impacts of the weed and the need for collective action. A practical training session was conducted for farmers and input dealers on integrated Parthenium management strategies. Participants were trained in cultural, mechanical, chemical, and biological control methods. Demonstrations were organized on safe handling and judicious use of herbicides. The role of biological control agents, particularly Calligrapha bicolorata (leaf-feeding beetle), was explained for sustainable management. Interactive sessions were conducted to educate participants on identification of Parthenium at different growth stages, its adverse impacts, and integrated weed management approaches. Emphasis was laid on community participation and coordinated efforts to prevent its spread and achieve long-term control.

The observance of the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week at KVK, Kalyan, Purulia successfully enhanced awareness among stakeholders and strengthened the resolve toward making the region—and ultimately the nation—Parthenium-free. The programme reinforced the importance of timely intervention, scientific management, and community-based eradication efforts for sustainable agriculture and environmental protection

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-North 24 Parganas (Addl.)

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), North 24 Parganas (Additional) observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th to 22nd August, 2025 with the objective of creating awareness among farmers and the general public regarding the menace of Parthenium hysterophorus. The awareness programme was organized at Kotra village under Barasat-I Block of North 24 Parganas district.

A total of 20 farmers actively participated in the programme. During the event, interactive lectures were delivered highlighting the significance of Parthenium as a noxious invasive weed and its detrimental effects on crop productivity, biodiversity, livestock, and human health, including skin allergies and respiratory problems. Detailed discussions were held on integrated management approaches, covering cultural, mechanical, chemical, and biological control measures for effective and sustainable management of the weed. The programme also included a farmer–scientist interaction session, where participants shared field-level issues and sought expert guidance on practical management strategies. A film show on the

identification and management of Parthenium was organized to enhance visual learning and understanding among the participants.

The entire awareness programme was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Tanmay Samajdar, Principal Scientist & Head, KVK North 24 Parganas (Addl.). The initiative successfully sensitized farmers about the ecological and economic impacts of Parthenium and encouraged collective action toward its effective management and control.

WBCADC-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonamukhi, Bankura, WB

As part of the nationwide initiative to curb the spread and harmful impact of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, WBCADC-KVK Sonamukhi observed **Parthenium Awareness Week** from **16th August to 22nd August 2025** across selected rural blocks of Bankura district.

The week-long programme aimed to create awareness among rural communities, particularly women beneficiaries, about the invasive nature of Parthenium, its adverse effects on agriculture, human and animal health, and the environment, as well as the scientific methods of its control and management.

Key Activities and Outreach:

• **Mass Awareness Rally:** A community-based rally was organized with the active participation of women Self Help Group (SHG) members and local farmers. The rally served as a grassroots effort to sensitize the local population through slogans, placards, and interpersonal interaction on the hazards of Parthenium.

• **Awareness Programmes:** A total of **7 awareness programmes** were conducted in the **Sonamukhi, Chatna, and Patrasayer blocks**, focusing on knowledge dissemination through interactive lectures, demonstrations, and distribution of IEC (Information, Education & Communication) materials.

• **Participation:**

The programmes witnessed active involvement from **278 participants**, with a significant number of women beneficiaries. Their enthusiastic participation not only enhanced community engagement but also contributed to spreading the message more effectively within rural households.

Impact:

The celebration of Parthenium Awareness Week successfully engaged multiple stakeholders empowered women through knowledge-sharing, and encouraged environmentally responsible practices at the grassroots level. The initiative also promoted scientific temper and collective responsibility among rural communities towards managing invasive weed species. WBCADC-KVK remains committed to such inclusive extension activities that integrate scientific knowledge with rural outreach for sustainable agricultural and environmental development.

2.31. TATA STEEL'S JODA WEST MINE

Tata Steel's Joda West Mine, located in Joda, Odisha, is a key iron ore mining operation supporting Tata Steel's production system. Along with industrial development, the mine contributes significantly to local socio-economic growth through various Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. The mine actively supports education, healthcare, livelihood enhancement, skill development, sanitation, drinking water supply, and rural infrastructure for nearby communities. Through CSR activities, Tata Steel promotes inclusive development and improved living standards in mining-affected areas. Environmentally, Joda West Mine emphasizes sustainable mining and ecological conservation. Initiatives such as afforestation, biodiversity conservation, mine reclamation, dust suppression, water management, and pollution control are undertaken to minimize environmental impacts and restore ecological balance.

A notable environmental outreach activity was undertaken during the **Parthenium Awareness Week (16–22 August 2025)**, wherein the biological control agent *Calligrapha bicolorata* was released in the residential area of Tata, Joda, for the management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*. The programme was conducted under the guidance of **Ravindra Kumar, Head, CSR, Tata Steel Ltd** and **Jivitesh Kumar Anokhe, Area Manager Safety, OMQ, Tata Steel Ltd** reflecting Tata Steel's commitment towards environmentally sustainable invasive weed management through eco-friendly biological control approaches.

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह
Parthenium Awareness Week

गाजर घास जागरूकता

गाजरघास जागरूकता कार्यक्रम
Parthenium Awareness Programme
इको क्लब

BSL PUBLIC SCHOOL KNEL

इको क्लब

गाजरघास जागरूकता सप्ताह
Parthenium Awareness Week
Date : 16-22 अगस्त 2025

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