

Application of *Azorhizobium* bio-fertilizer for enhancing yield in rice

The REC in its 244th meeting held on May 5, 2015 approved a recommendation (*ad hoc* basis) regarding application of *Azorhizobium* bio-fertilizer @ 1×10^8 CFU per gram of charcoal based carrier and 2,4-D@3 ppm, by dipping the roots of one month old rice seedlings for one hour, before transplanting. It lowered the dose of N fertilizer by 25 per cent.

Straw Management System

The REC in its 242nd meeting held on March 11, 2015 approved a recommendation regarding Straw Management System (SMS). The SMS is to be attached at the rear of combine harvester for even distribution of loose straw dropping from the straw walker. The coefficient of variation was lowest (5.6-9.2 %) for 180-200 rpm of spinner disc. The saving in terms of labour was 100 per cent and that in cost as compared to manual spreading was 62.6 per cent.