

Attention Subscribers!

Our esteemed subscribers of Asian Agri-History (AAH) may kindly note that AAH, which used to be a Quarterly journal from 1997-2019, would now be Biannual from 2020. Henceforth, the first issue would come out in June and the second issue in December of every year.

New Subscription Rates from 2020

Effective January 2020 [starting from Vol. 24 (1)], the following new subscription rates will apply:

Individuals:

Annual:	Re 500/-; US\$ 30/-
For three years:	Re 1,200/-; US\$ 100/-

Libraries/Institutions:

Annual:	Re 2,000/-; US\$ 90/-
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New Headquarters of AAHF in Pantnagar Agricultural University

As per the wish of our late Founder Chairman, Dr YL Nene AAHF Headquarters from Udaipur has been shifted to Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUA&T), Pantnagar effective 1 June 2019. This has been possible due to the approval of the Vice-Chancellor of GBPUA&T, who graciously agreed to host the AAHF Headquarters in its College of Agriculture, and subsequently by Board of management of the University.

As per the approval of the AAHF trustees, Dr Sunita T. Pandey, Professor of Agronomy, Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, has been appointed as the Executive Secretary of the new AAHF HQ in Pantnagar. The Vice-Chancellor of GBPUA&T will be the Patron, and the Dean, College of Agriculture as the Co-patron, respectively.

**The address of the new HQ will be:
Asian Agri-History Foundation, College of Agriculture
GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology
Pantnagar, District Udham Singh Nagar 263145
Uttarakhand (Mob: 8859020329; 7668641574)**

Agreement for Co-publishing AAH journal Discontinued

AAH journal was co-published during 2018 with Informatics Publishers Limited (IPL), Bangalore, Karnataka state, India as per an agreement with them. However, the agreement was discontinued on the request of IPL effective 31 December 2018 and now the AAH is being published again by AAHF effective 1 January 2019.

Dr RP Thakur is the New Editor-in-Chief of AAH journal

Effective 1 January 2019 (Vol 23 No.1), Dr RP Thakur, former Principal Plant Pathologist and Head, Plant Quarantine Laboratory (PQL), ICARISAT, a trustee of AAHF and Senior Editor, AAH, took over as the Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of Asian Agri-History journal. He replaced Dr CLL Gowda, former Deputy Director General of ICRISAT, Hyderabad and a trustee of AAHF, who worked as the EiC of AAH for over six years.

Dr SPS Beniwal as the New Chairman of AAHF



Since the Chairman of AAHF, Dr SL Choudhary had expressed his desire to be relieved from this responsibility of Chairmanship of AAHF after serving its Chairman for over three years, the AAHF trustees nominated Dr SPS Beniwal as the new Chairman of AAHF effective 1 May 2018 because of his close location to the University. Dr Beniwal, formerly First Head of Program Facilitation Unit of the CGIAR Program for Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC) and the Regional Coordinator of ICARDA for CAC region has been a founder trustee of AAHF since 1994 and a close associate of late Dr YL Nene.

AAHF News from Kerala

Kerala Chapter of Asian Agri-History Foundation Inaugurated at Kannur

AAHF is happy to inform that a new Chapter of the Asian Agri-History Foundation (AAHF) was inaugurated at Kannur, Kerala on 15 January 2019. The new Chapter called “Kerala Chapter of AAHF” (KC-AAHF) has its Headquarters in Kakkad, Kannur. For this, the Chapter arranged a Special Function to coincide with the First Death Anniversary of the Late Dr YL Nene, who left for his heavenly abode on 15 January 2018. It may be emphasized here that it was due to the untiring efforts of Mr CV Jidesh and his colleagues in Kannur that they achieved their dream and the promise of establishing the Kerala Chapter of AAHF that they had made to the late Dr Nene. The Chapter has a committed team of Vrikshayurveda workers with Mr PK Radhakrishnan as its President, and Mr CV Jidesh as its Secretary.

The chapter was inaugurated at a function jointly organized by the KC-AAHF and the AAHF at the Hotel Malabar residency, Kannur together with a Farmers’ Convention and a photo exhibition on Vrikshayurveda. The function, chaired by Mr PK Radhakrishnan, President, KC- AAHF, was attended by three AAHF trustees (Drs SL Choudhary, Gajendra Singh and RP Thakur), Dr AV Balasubramanian, Director, Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems (CIKS), Chennai, Dr S Rajasekharan, State Biodiversity Board, Kerala, Mr Mathew, Chief Guest and a progressive farmer from Attapadi Palakkad and a State Agricultural Award winner, Dr P Rajasekharan, the Special Guest of Honour and Chairman, Kerala State Prices Board, and Mr CV Jidesh, Secretary of KC-AAHF, members of the KC-AAHF Executive Committee and invited guests and farmers.

At this special occasion, at outset, Dr YL Nene Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr AV Balasubramanian, Director, CIKS, Chennai on the topic “Vrikshayurveda: An overview and its relevance to Agriculture today”.

To recognize and honour Mr CV Jidesh, Secretary of KC-AAHF, for his excellent contributions for popularizing the use of Vrikshayurveda in Kannur and other areas of Kerala, and in other states, AAHF presented him a Trustees' Silver Medal 2019 together with a Citation and shawl as an appreciation for his commitment to the work on Vrikshayurveda. The AAHF also honoured Dr Mrs Reshma Jidesh, wife of Mr Jidesh for graciously providing the space for the Dr YL Nene Memorial Library in her ancestral home in Kakkad, Kannur by presenting her a shawl as a token of appreciation. At this occasion, Dr YL Nene Memorial Vrikshayurveda Awards, instituted by the KC-AAHF were given to the President, Thalassery Block Panchayath, Mr Peethambarababu, Deputy Dir. Agric., Mr PG Krishnakumar, Asst. Dir. Agric., Mr Anish Pathiriyad, and a number of others for their contributions in the Vrikshayurveda work in the Kerala state.

Dr YL Nene Memorial Library on Vrikshayurveda Established at Kakkad, Kannur

A library on Vrikshayurveda in the memory of the late Dr YL Nene named "Dr YL Nene Memorial Library" was established by the Kerala Chapter of the Asian Agri-History Foundation (KC-AAHF) at Kakkad, Kannur. The library, which would serve as a good source of information on Vrikshayurveda for those involved in agriculture, was inaugurated on 15th January to mark the First Death Anniversary of late Dr Nene. The library & the space surroundings were donated by Dr Mrs. Reshma Jidesh, wife of Mr Jidesh. The library was inaugurated by Dr SL Choudhary, Chief Advisor, Asian Agri-History journal, Trustee and the former Chairman of AAHF, in the presence of Dr J Kumar, Dean Agriculture, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, and Dr Gajendra Singh and Dr RP Thakur (both trustees of AAHF), Dr P Rajasekharan, Chairman, Kerala State Prices Board, Dr AV Balasubramanian, Director, Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems (CIKS), Chennai, Dr S Rajasekharan, State Biodiversity Board, Kerala, Mr Mathew, a progressive farmer from Attapadi (Chief Guest), Mr PK Radhakrishnan, President, KC-AAHF, Mr. CV Jidesh, Secretary, KC-AAHF, and Executive Committee members of KC-AAHF, viz., Dr VP Rajan, Dr VS Chinchu, Smt. Asharaj, Dr Jomy Jacob, Smt. Girija, Dr Reshma Jidesh, Dr Roshna Ramachandran and Sreehari Jidesh.

At this occasion, a lecture on late Dr YL Nene and his achievements was delivered by Dr SL Choudhary who remembered late Dr Nene as the founder of AAHF and paid tributes for his numerous contributions and achievements and his dedicated research on the ancient and medieval agricultural heritage of India.

A Project on Vrikshayurveda for Vedic Vegetable Cultivation Implemented

AAHF is happy to inform our readers that an innovative project on "Vrikshayurveda for Vedic vegetable cultivation" submitted by KC-AAHF for a grant of Re 10 lakhs (US\$ 14,5000) to the Govt. of Kerala was sanctioned in 2018. The project, formulated by Mr Peethambarababu, Deputy Dir. Agric. and an Executive Committee member KC-AAHF, has been implemented in Thalassery Block Panchayath this year in all the 107 wards through women Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the technical support of KC-AAHF.