

Eligibility

This winter school is meant for active scientists/teachers in ICAR institutes, State/Central Agricultural Universities, Deemed to be universities in the cadre of Assistant Professors or equivalent and above with specialization in Agronomy/Soil Science/Agroforestry/Plant Protection/Any field relevant to organic farming. A maximum of 25 participants will be selected for the training by the screening committee as per the ICAR guidelines. The decision of the selection committee will be final and no correspondence in this regard will be entertained for non-selected candidates.

Application Process

The candidates interested in attending the 21-days winter school should apply through proper channel in the given proforma. The duly filled-in application is to be sent by email to Dr K.A. Gopinath, Course Director (gopinath.icar@gmail.com) on or before 15 December 2025. The final selection will be made only if the application duly recommended by the competent authority is received.

Registration Fee

The participants are required to pay a sum of Rs 50/- as registration fee (non-refundable) by using the following:

ICAR UNIT AC CRIDA

UPI ID: icar1234@sbi

SCAN & PAY



Important Dates

Last date of application: 15 December 2025

Intimation to the selected candidates: 20 December 2025

Commencement of training program: 21 January 2026

CONTACTS

Course Director

Dr K.A. Gopinath

Principal Scientist (Agronomy)

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture

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Course Coordinators

Dr G. Venkatesh

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Senior Scientist (Agronomy)

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Dr B. Bhargavi

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Dr Vinod Kumar Singh

Director

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture

Santoshnagar, Hyderabad - 500 059

Email: directorcrida@gmail.com

Information Brochure

ICAR Sponsored Winter School on Recent Developments in Rainfed Organic Farming Systems

21 January - 10 February 2026



Course Director

Dr K.A. Gopinath

Course Coordinators

Dr G. Venkatesh

Dr V. Visha Kumari

Dr B. Bhargavi



Sponsored by

Agricultural Education Division

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

New Delhi



Organized by

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture

Santoshnagar, Hyderabad - 500059

About the Training

Rainfed regions, which sustain a large share of India’s farmers, face challenges of erratic rainfall, declining soil fertility and increasing climate risks. Organic farming offers a sustainable pathway to enhance productivity and resilience while conserving natural resources. This Winter School aims to build participants’ understanding of recent developments in rainfed organic farming systems, including soil health management, bio-inputs, integrated farming and climate-smart organic practices. Through expert lectures, field demonstrations and case studies, the training will strengthen analytical and decision-making skills of participants for promoting sustainable, resilient and profitable organic systems in rainfed areas.

Course content

The training consists of a mix of theory classes, hands on sessions and field/lab visits. The core topics of the training program are:

- ❖ Principles and practices of organic farming
- ❖ Recent developments in soil fertility management
- ❖ Advances in plant protection
- ❖ Advances in organic farming in different agroecologies of India
- ❖ Approaches for organic farming in predominant cropping systems
- ❖ Developments in organic livestock production and processing
- ❖ Climate change vis-à-vis organic farming
- ❖ Economics and other dimensions of organic farming
- ❖ Statistical techniques for organic farming studies
- ❖ Integrated organic farming systems

Host institute

The ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad is one of the premier institutes of ICAR dedicated to research and development in rainfed and climate-resilient agriculture. CRIDA plays a pivotal role in addressing the challenges of dryland farming through innovative technologies and integrated approaches.

Through the All India Coordinated Research Project for Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA), CRIDA leads both on-station and on-farm research across 28 centers spread over 17 states and one UT, focusing on efficient management of rainwater, nutrients, energy and cropping systems for diverse rainfed regions. Similarly, the All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM), operating in 21 states and one UT works on characterizing crop-growing environments and developing dynamic decision-support tools such as crop-weather calendars, agroclimatic atlases and pest-forecasting apps. CRIDA also anchors the flagship program National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA), pioneering innovations for climate resilience agriculture. Together, these programs make CRIDA a hub of excellence for sustainable, climate-smart and resource-efficient dryland agriculture in India.

Location and climate

The nearest railway station to ICAR-CRIDA is Kacheguda, which is about 7 km away. The distance to Nampally railway station is 8 km and Secunderabad Junction railway station is around 13 km away. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport is 22 km from the institute.

The weather during the training period will be pleasant in Hyderabad with temperatures between 15 to 35°C.

Travel, boarding and lodging facilities

Participants will be paid for the journey, to and fro, from their respective institution to ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad by train or bus or any other means of transport. Actual TA for the shortest route, restricted to AC-II tier train fare, will be paid on production of the tickets. Participants are requested not to bring their spouse or any other family members as there is no scope for their accommodation. Participants are requested to make their own arrangement of transport to reach ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad. Free lodging and boarding will be provided to the selected candidates during the training programme in the International Guest House of the institute. You are also expected to share the accommodation. The local candidates are not eligible for lodging. However, the local hospitality will be provided to them.

Application Proforma

1. Full Name :
(in Block Letters)
2. Designation :
3. Date of Birth :
4. Sex : Male/Female
5. Basic pay and grade pay :
6. Present employer & address
.....
7. Correspondence Address
.....

Phone Nos. Off/Res./Mobile :

E-mail :
8. Academic qualification with discipline and year : M.Sc. /
Ph.D.
9. Major area of specialization :
10. Professional Experience (Years) :
11. a) Papers published in journals (Nos.)

b) Title of the project(s) associated with
12. State how this training is going to be useful to you
.....
13. Mention if you have participated in Summer / Winter
School/Training Course under ICAR/other organization
14. Signature of the applicant
15. Signature and address of the forwarding authority

