



# beej<sup>ki</sup> baat

voice of the seed

EDITION JUNE 2024



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Executive Director

Greetings,

Welcome to the June'24 edition of BeejKiBaat. We spotlight pivotal advancements in India's agricultural landscape. The recent regulatory change has enabled trials of gene-edited rice using CRISPR/Cas9, transforming crop traits without adding new genetic material. ICAR's launch of herbicide-tolerant basmati rice varieties is set to enhance water conservation and reduce greenhouse gases. Collaborative efforts between PAU and IRRI focus on developing dwarf rice for better yield and water efficiency. Advances in chickpea genetics are expanding the crop's diversity, while PAU's new wheat variety promises to boost the food processing industry. Join us as we delve into these exciting developments and more.

## INDIA



# India is trialing gene-edited rice after regulatory change

Scientists are planting a CRISPR/Cas9-modified rice variety in test fields across India after a recent relaxation of regulations on gene-edited crops. This allows field trials of crops developed through gene-editing processes SDN1 and SDN2, which alter plant traits by making edits in the gene without adding any new genetic material.

[Read full article...](#)



[New ICAR basmati rice varieties](#)



[PAU to join hands with IRRI to develop dwarf rice varieties](#)



[Wild Species Provide Insights into Improving Chickpeas](#)



[PAU's new wheat variety, PBW Biscuit-1 to encourage food processing industry](#)



[Indian experts Review Gene Editing Applications in Rice](#)



[Warmer temperatures are likely to reduce yields of major crops](#)

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# GLOBAL



## 13 organizations sign historic agreement to fight illegal seed practices

The International Seed Federation joined forces with 12 organizations representing and defending the interests of plant breeders worldwide to collaborate in the fight against illegal seed practices (ISP) through a historic memorandum of understanding signed today at the ISF World Seed Congress 2024.

[Read full article...](#)



[Organically-grown  
genetically modified crops?](#)



[Scientists unveil plan to bridge the ideological gap](#)



[IRRI and Taiwan ICDF tackle the climate and food crises by fostering rice straw circular economies in SEA](#)

[U.N. FAO launches plan to implement biodiversity across agricultural sectors](#)



[Seedless and thorn free berries anyone!!](#)

[Climate change threat is more than a storm in Vietnam's coffee cup](#)



[46% of organic produce tests positive for pesticide residue in Canada](#)

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## RESEARCH



# British scientists are altering the DNA of potatoes so they cook as fast as pasta

British scientists are working on a 'super spud' that cooks as fast as pasta and rice. Using gene editing, the scientists plan to make tweaks to the part of the spud's DNA that controls how quickly the vegetable's cells soften. Gene-edited potatoes will then be bred commercially before ending up on the supermarket shelves.

[Read full article...](#)



[Plant Genetics as a Tool for Manipulating Crop Microbiomes: Opportunities and Challenges](#)



[Kenya set to approve three GM crops for commercialization](#)



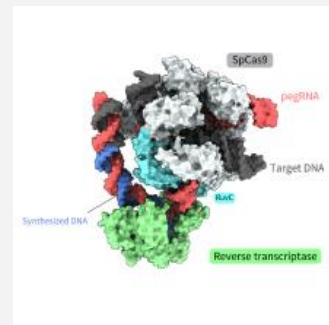
[Ghanaian Court Dismisses Suit Challenging GM Products](#)



[Transitioning the world's largest rice genebank into an AI-powered next-gen genebank](#)



[Scientists are on a quest for drought-resistant wheat, agriculture's 'Holy Grail'](#)



[Editing without "cutting": molecular mechanisms of new gene-editing tool revealed](#)

# FSII In News



**Farmer sector anticipates expansion of M.P model nationwide**



**FSII - Federation of Seed Industry of India actively participated in the 17th Pan Asia Farmers Exchange Program held in Manila**



**A 10-point Agenda for Agriculture**



**FSII Participated in the 17th Pan Asia Farmers Exchange Program organized by CropLife Asia**

# From The Secretariat



[Agenda for First 100 Days of New Government - Dr. Venkatram Vasantavada](#)



[FSII signed MOU with The Foundation for Advanced Training in Plant Breeding \(ATPBR\)](#)



[Agenda for First 100 Days of New Government – Ram Kaundinya](#)



[FSII at the National Round Table Conference on Seeds by Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture](#)

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