

ICAR-IISS Organizes Women Farmers' Day Programme on Sustainable Soil Health Management

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science (ICAR-IISS), Bhopal, organised programme on 14 and 15 October 2026 as part of the nationwide observance of Women Farmers' Day. The Programme recognized women's contributions to agriculture and provided practical guidance on soil health management, organic waste recycling and balanced nutrient use. **A total of 41 women farmers, including 17 from Bhopal district and 24 from Sehore district, participated in the programme.**

In his address, **Dr. Monoranjan Mohanty, Director, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal**, highlighted women farmers' vital contributions to agriculture and encouraged them to adopt scientific soil health management practices for sustainable farming.

Under the theme **"My Story, My Farming,"** participating women farmers shared their farming experiences, achievements and challenges in adopting improved agricultural practices. Their interviews documented success stories and feedback to inform future research and extension activities.

The programme introduced participants to the **Family Net Vessel Composting method** developed by ICAR-IISS for converting kitchen and farm waste into organic manure. Demonstrations on vermicomposting highlighted opportunities to recycle organic resources, support soil fertility and explore income generation through vermicompost production. The programme also included rural farm women and scientist interaction meet.

Participants were also introduced to **eFARMS-(Fertilizer Advisory and Resource Management System)**, developed by ICAR-IISS to provide site-specific and crop-specific fertiliser recommendations. Practical demonstrations covered scientific soil sampling and the use of Soil Health Cards and Leaf Colour Charts for informed nutrient management.

The programme encouraged women farmers to adopt locally suitable soil-management practices, reduce single-use plastics and share their knowledge with other farmers. The interactions provided an opportunity to connect scientific recommendations with women farmers' practical experiences and strengthen their participation in sustainable agriculture.

