

## Food Briefs National



- ❖ According to a recent report by Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute, improved organizational structures and incentives for researchers and extension agents could help revive Pakistan's agricultural science and technology system.
- ❖ US Embassy Economic Counselor Joel Robert Garverick will lead a delegation of Pakistani officials, businessmen, farmers and agriculture experts to Atlanta, Georgia, to promote US-Pakistan bilateral commercial ties and increase trade and investment in agriculture.
- ❖ A mobile company operating in Pakistan has taken the initiative to digitize agriculture and provide necessary information to farmers to increase production.
- ❖ Sindh government has formed an agricultural development board for improving the productivity, quality, and standard of crops and other agricultural products in the province to increase their export.
- ❖ LUMS with for Governance and Public Management (CGPM), organized a seminar to provide structured feedback and suggestions on the draft Punjab Agriculture Policy prepared by the Punjab Agriculture Commission.
- ❖ A system has been developed by agro-biotechnologists and entomologists at the Pakistani chapter of the UK-based Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) to effectively control the mealybug infestation.
- ❖ Nestlé Pakistan will be giving financial backing to mango growers who employ drip irrigation systems. For this it has signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) while also partnering with a leading research institute to help improve farming practices.
- ❖ The present PML (N) government has taken many good measures regarding strengthen the economy of country including successfully completion of IMF program, relief package for textile sector and Kisan package for agriculture.
- ❖ The per-hectare yield of wheat has risen from 2,519kg in 2005-06, to 2,753kg in 2015-16, showing an average growth of 234kg per hectare in last 10 years. ◆

## Food Briefs International



- ❖ Table grape region has set a new export record in South Africa's with more than 20m cartons being harvested despite fears about rain.
- ❖ According to figures from the country's Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency (Amta), with the country shipping some 5.1m cartons Namibian table grape exports hit N\$800m in 2016.
- ❖ Japanese company Fujitsu has established a new company in Finland to operate a new plant factory equipped with artificial LED lighting and fully automated production to grow vegetables year-round.
- ❖ French interprofessional organization Interfel has revealed its intention to strengthen collaboration with the 13 regions of France during 2017.
- ❖ New way of naming its food sorting machines has been launched by Tomra Sorting Food to bring clarity and simplicity to the way its next generation of sorters can be identified and specified by customers.
- ❖ Japanese agribusiness D&T Farm's has successfully grown bananas in a cold climate by using a 'freeze - thaw awakening' method.
- ❖ Brazil Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply has given AgroFresh approval for the use of its SmartFresh SmartTabs post-harvest technology on watermelons.
- ❖ Poland retailers introduces baby bananas in order to produce innovative products for new markets.
- ❖ Food Technology Noord-Oost Nederland (FTNON) recently announced the global release of the world's first robotic decorating machine for iceberg lettuce, the CoreTakt. ◆