The Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture was established in 1985 to undertake basic and applied research, to act as repository of information, provide leadership and coordinate network research, to act as a Centre for Training, to collaborate with relevant National and International Organizations and to provide Consultancy for the development of drylands.

The Institute is also providing the technological backstop for developmental projects like watershed programmes, livelihood programmes to the Govt. agencies. The Institute has state of the art facilities for training such as air-conditioned Conference Room-cum-training halls, audio-visual aids, well equipped laboratories and hostel facilities of international standard besides 2 Research farms and a number of field demonstration projects.

Courses
1. Integrated Watershed Management
2. Weather based Pest and disease forecasting
3. Adaptation and mitigation strategies to climate change
4. Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

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The Institute has been a pioneer in research, development and training in the area of watershed management. The course is designed in such a way that the participants will be exposed to the whole spectrum of watershed management activities so as to be in a position to discharge their responsibilities more efficiently.

**Faculty**

CRIDA has experienced Scientists and Trainers in all the disciplines of Watershed Management viz., Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, Crops and cropping systems, Soil Science, Farm Machinery & Power, Livestock Production and Management and Social Sciences. Besides faculty are also drawn from other National and International Organizations and also NGOs to share their experiences with the participants.

**Course Contents**

- Brief History of Dryland Agriculture Development Initiatives (Global and National Level), Watershed Concept and Components.
- Weather variability and its impact on agriculture
- Drought mitigation strategies in watershed development
- Water Resources Conservation,
- Soil Management
- Environment friendly and low-cost technologies for the watershed:
- Integrated Nutrient Management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Risk Management through suitable Crops and Cropping Systems
- Alternate Land Use Systems for high-income generation - Agro forestry, Silvi-pasture, Bio-diesel, medicinal, dye-yielding and aromatic plants
- Integration of Livestock in Watershed development programmes
- Mechanization in water-sheds
- Community mobilization and capacity building of stakeholders in watershed development
- Use of Information technology in watershed development.
- Use Remote Sensing in Watershed Planning
- Economic Evaluation of Watersheds.
- Sustainable livelihoods through improved NRM

**Course Director** : Dr M V Padmanabhan
**Duration** : 2 weeks
**Course fee** : US $ 3000
**No. of trainees per course** : 20
**Accommodation** : Institute’s Guest House/Hotel in City
**Eligibility** : Subject Matter specialists/Scientists/Extension functionaries/ University Teachers from GOs and NGOs:
2. **Weather based Pest and Disease Forewarning/Forecasting**

The course is designed to impart knowledge and skills to the participants on various aspects of developing weather based pest and disease forewarning systems for different crops / cropping systems.

**Faculty**

Resource Faculty includes in-house research scientists working in this field and invited speakers with expertise and experience in related disciplines as external faculty.

**Course contents**

- Basic aspects of agro-meteorology
- Pest and diseases attributes
- Development of models and decision support systems
- Introduction to modern tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Director</th>
<th>Dr Y.G. Prasad, Principal Scientist (Entomology)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course fee</td>
<td>US $ 1000 (One thousand US dollars only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of trainees</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>per course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>Institute's Guest House/Hotel in City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Masters Degree in Entomology/Plant pathology/Plant protection/Agro meteorology. Work experience in pest and Disease forecasting and agro advisories; concerned officers nominated by Government on deputation.</td>
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3. **Adaptation and mitigation strategies to cope with Climate Change for sustainable agricultural production**

The course will improve the skills and knowledge of the participants on changing climate scenarios and various adaptation and mitigation strategies towards food security.

**Faculty**

Speakers with long experience and expertise in the field will constitute the faculty for delivering the lectures/practical/Field visits covering the topic related to the training programme.

**Course contents**

- Spodoptera litura damage & flowering behaviour of castor under elevated CO$_2$
- Open Top Chambers at CRIDA
- Agro-climatic analysis techniques for identification of vulnerable regions causes and evidences of climate change, climate change scenarios and projections for different regions, climate change impact on agriculture and rural livelihoods, crop contingency plans, impacts on crop/insect growth, adaptation strategies, will be covered in the course.

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**Course Director**: B Venkateswarulu

**Director CRIDA**

**Duration**: 10 weeks

**Course fee**: US $ 1000 (One thousand US dollars only)

**No. of trainees per course**: 15

**Accommodation**: Institute's Guest House/Hotel in City

**Eligibility**: Master’s degree in any discipline in Agriculture/Agrometeorology Atmospheric Sciences/Botany Sociology/Economics/Soil and Water Conservation Engineering. Working experience in relevant area.
4. Strategies for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods in Rainfed Areas

The course is designed to strengthen the understanding of the participants about sustainable rural livelihoods especially in vulnerable environments like the rainfed areas. Besides, it exposes the participants to live examples of how the vulnerable communities have been facilitated to improve livelihoods through sustainable management of natural resources.

Faculty
Scientists having long experience and select guest faculty from reputed institutions from across the country.

Course Content
- Sustainable rural livelihoods concepts and models; diversified farming systems for risk aversion; sustainable natural resource management on watershed basis; integration of livestock with crops; alternate land use in marginal environments; rainwater harvesting, post harvest value addition, use of ICTs for planning, communication and decision support; improving market linkages; influencing policy and building institutions for promoting rural livelihoods.

Course Director: Dr Sreenath Dixit, Principle Scientist (Agril. Extension)
Duration: 8 days
No. of trainees per course: 20
Accommodation: Institute’s Guest House/Hotel in City
Eligibility: Degree in Agriculture and allied subjects with working experience in rural development projects, officers nominated by the governments of developing countries on deputation.