

## ICAR signs pact with IRRI in rice research

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The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has signed a work-plan agreement (2005-2008) with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila for collaboration in rice research. Both the organizations will cooperate in research areas of genetic resource conservation, evaluation, gene discovery, enhancing productivity and livelihood for fragile environments. Through this agreement, both the organizations will strengthen linkages between R&D, improvement and development of rain-fed rice, hybrid rice technology, biotechnology and rice-based cropping systems.