## **EVENTS FOR LOCAL FARMERS AND FOOD PRODUCERS**

## WORKSHOP ON PROMOTION OF MUSHROOM CULTIVATION AND SEED (SPAWN) PRODUCTION

Under the auspices of the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Poonch Rawalakot, a two-days training workshop on the promotion of mushroom cultivation and seed production was conducted. The workshop was attended by agricultural experts, students, progressive farmers from all over the country. The two-day training workshop extensively covered mushroom cultivation, production techniques, marketing, seed preparation, and availability. Practical details of training were provided by Prof. Dr. Tariq Mukhtar & Dr. Gulshan Arshad, from Mehr Ali Shah Agricultural University, Rawalpindi, Prof. Dr. Naveed Islam, from Islamia University Bahawalpur, Muhammad Kashif Harticulture Specialist, Agricultural Development Bank, Dr. Amjad Shahzad Gondal, General secretary Society for Plant Protection Pakistan and Dr. Aqleem Abbas, Karakaram International University of Gilgit-Pakistan.

Experts said that mushroom cultivation can become a thriving industry in the future, taking into account the favorable seasonal conditions in Azad Kashmir. Moreover, for small landholding farmers, it can create opportunities for better income with minimal expenses, which will improve their standard of living and economic self-sufficiency.





Participation of local food producers, students, faculty members in workshops on mushroom cultivation and spawn production

## 2. TECHNICAL SESSIONS FOR FARMERS AT VILLAGES OF AJK



Mr Basharat Mahmood from department of Plant Pathology during wheat field visit at dadhyal AJK, suggesting control measures of wheat rust disease