



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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ஊருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தமர் உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

Vice – Chancellor's visit to HRS, Kodaikanal



Our Vice - Chancellor Dr. K. Ramasamy visited Horticultural Research Station, Kodaikanal on 12.03.2013 and reviewed various ongoing activities and research programmes. Dr. N. Kumar, Dean (Hort.), HC & RI, TNAU, Coimbatore accompanied and highlighted the research programmes on temperate fruits viz. , apple, pear, plum, peach, nectarine, kiwi and persimmon. The rich collection of aromatic crops in Aromatic Park, medicinal plants conservation, nursery complex, rose garden, exotic vegetables in vegetable cafeteria, vertical system of cultivation in strawberry, conservation of ornamentals in glass house and ICAR network projects were explained by Dr. J. Rajangam, P&H, HRS, Kodaikanal.

Training under NADP



Training program on farmers participatory seed production in pulses and oilseeds funded by NADP was conducted at Kattalai Village of Villupuram

District on 13.03.13 by ORS, Tindivanam. Dr. R. Vaidyanathan, P&H, Presided over the training and explained the importance of oilseeds and pulses. M. Vaithiyalingan, AP (PB&G), welcomed the gathering Dr. G. V. Ramasubramanian, Professor (Entomology), Dr. K. Kavitha AP (Path.), Dr. R. Umasankareswari, AP (Micro.) Dr. Renugadevi, AP (Horti.) Th. A. Velayutham, Asst. Director of Seed Certification, Villupuram delivered lectures on oilseeds and pulses. The booklet on cultivation technology of oilseeds and pulses, CD containing crop production manual of agriculture and horticulture crops and video clippings of machineries used from sowing to harvest

were issued. Mr. Kalaiselvam, Mr. Venkadesan Technical assistant and Mr. Jayakumar, JRF participated.

NOVOD sponsored Trainers training at KVK, Madurai



Two days trainers training programme on 'Integrated Development on tree borne oilseeds for waste and degraded land sponsored by

NOVOD, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI for extension functionaries from 19. 02. 13 and 20. 02. 13 was organized at KVK, Madurai.

Dr N. S. Venkataraman, P&H welcomed the delegates. Mr. P. Muthu Selvan, Manager, Auro Mira Bioenergy Pvt. Ltd, Madurai delivered lecture on tree borne oil seeds for Bio energy production. The scientists from KVK and AC&RI, Madurai spoke about various aspects like production technology, marketing and biodiesel production.

The field trip was arranged to Auro Mira Bio Energy Unit, T. Kallupatti, Madurai. Block level Technical Manager (BTM) and Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) of ATMA, Madurai district (from 13 blocks) participated. Dr. C. Ravindran, AP (Hort.) and Principal Investigator of the scheme organized the programme and proposed a vote of thanks.

Nematode Awareness training to Farmers



Three days training on 'Diagnosis and management of phytonematodes' was conducted at the Department of

Nematology, Coimbatore from 14.03.13 to 16.03.13 under NADP scheme. Dr. M. Sivakumar, P&H, Department of Nematology welcomed the gathering. The training was inaugurated by Dr. N. Ajjan, Director (CARDS). The importance of phytonematodes and difficulties in the diagnosis of nematode disease was highlighted during the inaugural address. During the training programme, staff from the Department of Nematology, CCRI and SBI, Coimbatore handled classes on nematodes of crops and their management.

About 30 farmers participated in the programme and benefitted. Dr. S. Ramakrishnan, Professor (Nematology) proposed a vote of thanks.

Farmers seminar on Garlic cultivation in Nilgiris

Horticultural & Research Station, Ooty organized a GOI-NHM - DASD sponsored training programme on



Production and post harvest technologies for quality garlic at on 18.03.2013. About 250 farmers from three blocks of Nilgiri District participated. In the inaugural function, Dr. N. Selvaraj, P&H, HRS, Ooty welcomed the participants. Thiru. K. R. Arjunan, Board Member of TNAU inaugurated the training and released the booklet on Organic cultivation of Garlic. Thiru. G. Ramamoorthy delivered the presidential address. The scientist from HRS, Ooty gave lecture on varieties, production and protection technology in Garlic. Assistant Director of Horticulture, Ooty block highlighted the schemes of Horticulture Department. Dr. V. P. santhi AP (Hort.) proposed a vote of thanks.

Career guidance workshop by DSW



The Career Guidance Workshop 2013 was conducted at the Directorate of Students Welfare on 19th February, 2013. The final year students of all constituent colleges participated in the workshop. It was an eye opener on the various opportunities and how the students should meticulously work on themselves to choose the right career.

Dr. K. Alagusundaram, Director, IICPT, Thanjavur, spoke on the 'Opportunities in Overseas Employment'. Thiru Arun of Shankar IAS Academy, gave an inspirational talk on 'Civil services - A cake walk'. Dr. M. Jayakumar, Professor, Dept. of Extension, Career Guidance & Students Welfare, Bharathiyar University gave important tips on resume preparation. Mr. S. Sasikumar, IFS, Passport Officer, talked about his experiences of preparation for the civil services and later as Passport Officer. He also inspired the students to make reading a habit. Vanoli N. Thangavel, Program Assistant, Kovai Vanoli Nilayam made a breathtaking speech and instilled hope in the students on the topic Indraya Nambikkai – Nalaya sadhanai. The students had a great day of interaction with personalities who had excelled in their fields of service.

Insecticide free Bio village - Rice Field Day



Under GOI - DBT - Biovillage scheme, a field day with theme on Insecticide Free Bio village on rice was organized at Kattakulam village, Vadipatty block of Madurai district on 15.03.13. Dr. W. Baby Rani, Professor (Entomology) welcomed the farmers and highlighted the economic significance of inundative release of *Trichogramma japonicum* for the management of rice stem borer and *T. chilonis* against rice leaf folder and conservation of naturally occurring parasitoids and predators in rice ecosystem to minimize pest incidence on rice. Dr. N. Muthukrishnan, P&H, Department of Agricultural Entomology, AC& RI, Madurai explained the use of non-chemical integrated management strategies such as resistant varieties, seed treatment with antagonistic bacteria *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, light and pheromone traps and use of plant products like neem based insecticides against rice pests. About 100 farmers including women farmers participated in the function.

Job Fair at TNAU



The Directorate of Students Welfare organized the Job Fair 2013 on 20th and 21st March 2013. As many as 463 passing out students both PG and UG from all constituent colleges of TNAU participated in the fair. A total of 19 firms comprising of seed industry, agro chemicals, input firms, dairy industry, NGO and KVKs participated in the programme. About 20 students have been selected and 188 have been shortlisted by various companies.

World Forest Day : Mass Planting of Teak at DARS, Chettinad

The Science Forum of Dryland Agricultural Research Station, Chettinad organized a mass tree

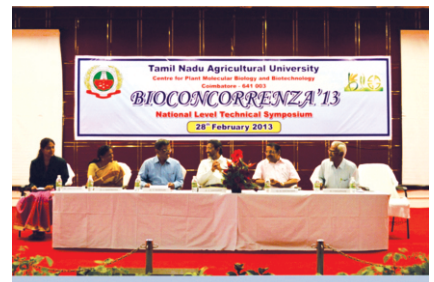
planting programme in lieu of World Forest Day on 21 March 2013. During this event all the technical and non-teaching staff of



DARS Chettinad, farm labourers and local farmers planted more than 100 teak saplings. Dr. C. Swaminathan, P&H narrated the importance and benefits of trees and also stressed the need for increasing the tree cover in dryland and waste land to combat climate change. Dr. M. Tamilselvan, farm manager made elaborate arrangements.

Bioconcorrenza 2013

Bioconcorrenza 2013, A National level technical symposium was organized by B. Tech. (Biotech.) and



B. Tech. (Bioinformatics) students on 28.02.13 at TNAU, Coimbatore. Around 400 student participants presenting more than 15 colleges from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka participated in the event. With Ms. Sanjitha Banu, delivering welcome address, the event was inaugurated and presided over by the honourable Vice - Chancellor Dr. K. Ramasamy. Dr. N. Vijayan Nair, Director, SBI delivered the Key note address. After the oral and poster presentations by the participants, Dr. K. Elango, Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty delivered a special lecture on Opportunities and prospects for Biotech and Bioinformatics students in the area of Pharmacology and drug development. The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. P. Sivasubramanian, Director, CPMB&B, Ms. S. Sudhasini proposed a vote of thanks.

Training to tribal farmers on diversified farming activities for improving the livelihood

An ICAR fully financed Network project on combating desertification and developing rural



livelihood on sustainable basis in hot arid regions of coastal and peninsular India is being implemented in the Department of

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Agronomy, TNAU, Coimbatore. Four training programmes during 22nd & 23rd January, 12th & 13th, 26th & 27th February and 14th & 15th March 2013 were organized. A total number of 232 tribal farmers were given training on Integrated Farming System. The training program was inaugurated by Dr. K. Velayutham, Director (Crop Management), In his Inaugural address, emphasized the need for diversification of farm activities for enhanced productivity and income augmentation. Dr. N. Asokaraja, P&H, Agronomy stressed the importance of scientific water management for crop production. Dr. P. Muthukrishnan, Professor of Agronomy and PI of the scheme while welcoming the participants briefed about the training programme and Dr. C. Jayanthi, Professor of Agronomy proposed a vote of thanks. The tribal farmers from Pudukkadu and Kuliyaada villages of Thalavadi block (Anthiyur), Anaipodu, Dinnaikadu, Onthanie and Immathampalyam villages of Erode district, Seengapathi, Sarkarporathi, Pottapathi, Kalkotthipathi villages of Sadivayal block (Siruvani) and Ookappatti, Arakkadavu, Neelampathi, Mottiyur, Koodappatti, Senguttai, Koppanari, and Moppanur villages of Karamadai block attended the training programmes. Resource persons from main campus imparted training on various topics viz., Integrated farming systems for garden land, dryland and wetland, forage crop production, animal husbandry, soil health and integrated nutrient management, compost making technology, bee keeping, IFS based horticultural activities, dryland horticulture, dryland crop production technologies, pulses and millet production and agro forestry. Field visits were also organized and tribal farmers were exposed to compost yard, bio gas plant, IFS model units at wetland and garden land, millet and forage fields and animal husbandry farm. The farmers who have attended the training programme were also given with free inputs like vegetable seeds, forage slips, vermicompost, maize and finger millet seeds. Each training programme was conducted for two days.

Tribal Sub Plan Farmers' Training

Two training programmes for tribal farmers of one day duration each on Seed Production and Storage financed



by the Directorate of Seed Research (ICAR), MAU, UP, were conducted by the Seed Centre in association with the M. S. S. R Foundation on 12th and 13th February 2013 at Asakaadu and Aalavadipatti villages of Kolli hills in Namakkal district Thiru. Abubacker Siddick, Co - Principal Investigator, MSSRF, welcomed the gathering. Dr. K. Ramamoorthy, Special Officer (Seeds), Seed Centre delivered the presidential address. He emphasized the need for using quality seeds of promising varieties for higher yield. Dr. K. Prabakar, Professor, Dr. R. Jerlin, Professor and Dr. L. Allwin, AP of Seed Centre, Dr. Subramanian, AP, Department of Millets, Dr. Anand, AP, HRS, Yercaud, and Mr. Jeyakumar, Scientist, MSSRF, participated.

Demonstrations were held on seed priming alongwith pre sowing and pre storage seed treatments using chemical and biological methods. The impact of different storage containers on extending the seed viability and vigour during storage of seeds was emphasized during the demonstration. Banana sucker treatments were demonstrated for nematode and wilt problems. Inputs including seeds of paddy, thenai, samai and ragi were distributed to the farmers along with inorganic fertilizers viz., DAP and MOP. Thiru. Jeyakumar, Scientist (MSSRF) proposed a vote of thanks.

Field Day on IPDM in Paddy

Under the DST (SEED) funded project "Upliftment of the rice growers by adoption of IPDM technologies in Madurai East Block" a field day was organized by the Department of Agricultural Entomology, AC&RI, Madurai at Panaikkulam on 08.03.2013 to motivate the rice farmers in adopting the IPDM module. Dr. R. Nalini, Principal Investigator and Professor of Entomology and Dr. I. Yesuraja, Co - PI and Professor of Plant Pathology organised the function and highlighted the technologies.

FFS on safe handling of pesticides



Under the scheme on “Farmers Field School on Safe handling of pesticides and proper use of pesticide applicators in Madurai District” sponsored by Dow AgroSciences India Pvt Ltd, Mumbai, seven trainings and demonstrations were conducted by the Department of Agricultural Entomology, AC and RI, Madurai at weekly interval in five different villages namely A. Vagaikulam, Periyakattalai, Melathirumanikkam, K. Andipatti and T. Ramanathapuram of Sedapatti block. Field day was organized at T. Ramanathapuram village of Sedapatti block on 21.03.13. Dr. P. Chandramani, Professor (Entomology) and PI welcomed the farmers, Dr. N. Muthukrishnan, P&H, Department of Agricultural Entomology stressed the importance of using correct dose of pesticides and proper use of sprayers so as to effectively minimize the target pest. Protective clothings which included a long coat, cap, respiratory protectors, gloves and boots were distributed to the farmers of above villages of Sedapatti block. Dr. K. Balakrishnan, P&H, Department of Seed Technology requested the farmers to adopt seed pelleting or treatment with insecticides. The integrated pest management methods were detailed by Thiru. R. Mohanraj, ADA, Sedapatti block. Spraying and dusting operations were demonstrated on sunflower by wearing protective clothings. About 150 farmers participated. Ms. P. Nilavazhagi, JRF and Th. K. Senthil, AAO made all arrangements.

New Agro processing centre



A new Agro processing centre as a part of ICAR - AICRP - Post Harvest Technology scheme was inaugurated on 02. 04. 13 by Dr. S. Santhanabosu, Dean (AEC& RI) and

Dr. Jacob Annamalai, Head, CIAE Regional Centre, Coimbatore at Therampalayam village, Karamadai taluk. The Agro Processing Complex will be maintained by SHG the **Grace Foods**. The machineries like, flour mill, spice grinding mill and Pulveriser were provided in the new APC. Dr. V. Thirupathi, P&H, Dr. K. Thangavel, Professor, Dr. R. Kasthuri, Professor (Biochemistry) and Dr.M. Balakrishnan, AP were present during the inauguration.

Awareness cum interactive training Session at DARS, Chettinad

An awareness campaign and interactive training session on Small millets was organized on 14.03.2013 at DARS, Chettinad.



About 100 progressive farmers representing all the blocks of Sivaganga district and 50 officials from department of Agriculture were benefited by this training programme. Th. P. Arunachalam, Crop Breeder explained the cultivars of small millets.

This training was also tagged with the lecture on Value addition and processing in small millets as these small millets are known for their nutritional importance and health benefits. Dr. S. Parvati, P&H, Dept. of Extension HSC&RI, Madurai participated and showcased about 36 food products prepared using small millets. As part of training programme an exhibition was arranged to create better impact among the farmers. Seeds, biofertilizers, traditional and value added food products from small millets were displayed at training venue and after that farmers were taken to the small millets field at DARS, Chettinad and given hands on information and training. Pamphlets containing information on production technology of small millets were distributed to the farmers.

Farmers Training on Diagnosis and management of phytonematodes

Three days farmers training programme on Diagnosis and management of phytonematodes was organized by the Department of Nematology at Coimbatore on 20.03.13 Dr. E. I. Jonathan, Director,

CPPS inaugurated and briefed about the importance of nematodes and their management Dr. K. A. Ponnusamy, DEE, highlighted the significance



of nematodes as hidden enemy and emphasized the importance of nematode management in order to improve the crop productivity.

Thirty farmers from Coimbatore and Tiruppur districts participated and benefited. Dr. M. Sivakumar, P&H, Department of Nematology welcomed the gathering and S. Ramakrishnan, Professor (Nematology) proposed a vote of thanks.

Farm School on Plant nematode management



A farm school programme on Plant Nematode Management jointly organized by CPPS, DEE and AIR, Coimbatore at

Farmers Residency under NADP Scheme entitled Imparting training and organizing farm school on the diagnosis and management of nematode diseases was launched by the Vice Chancellor on 28.03.13. The importance, spread survival and management of nematodes were emphasized in his presidential address. About 120 farmers from different district of Tamil Nadu participated and registered for Farm School Programme. Dr. M. Sivakumar P&H (Nematology) welcomed the gathering. Felicitations were given by Thiru. Mohamed Iqbal, DDA, Coimbatore and Tmt. K. Chithralekha, AIR (Farm division), Programme Co - ordinator, Coimbatore. The Director (CPPS) highlighted the latest technology suggested for the management of nematodes. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr H. Philip, P&H, Training Division, DoEE. The lessons are scheduled to broadcast every Wednesday between 7. 30 and 8. 00 pm from 3rd April 2013 onwards.

Pepper training at HRS, Yercaud

One day training programme on Recent trends in Black pepper production techniques conducted at



HRS, Yercaud on 27.03.13, sponsored by Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Board, Calicut. The programme was presided by Dr. K. Nageswari, P&H, HRS, Yercaud. Dr. P. Senthil Kumar, AP (Agrl. Nematology) welcomed the participants. This was followed by a special lecture on Prospects of Black Pepper Production in India by P&H. She briefed about the scope and importance of pepper in India and global spice trade. 'Production technology in Pepper was delivered by Dr. A. Sankari, AP (Hort). Dr. P. Thilagam AP (Agrl Entomology), delivered a lecture on devastating insect pests of black Pepper. Finally, Dr. P. Senthil Kumar delivered a lecture on important diseases of black pepper and explained the symptoms of diseases and control measures. Mr. Elango, AO from Canara Bank, Yercaud explained the various agricultural schemes and subsidiary schemes functioning at Canara Bank for the tribal farmers. Dr. M. Anand AP (Hort) proposed a vote of thanks. Around 150 farmers from Kolli hills, Vellore, Semmanatham, Nagalur, Pattipadi, Muluvi and Kottachedu villages in the Yercaud participated.

Training on Post harvest technology and buyer seller meet for Mango and Guava

A training on Post harvest technology and buyer seller meet for Mango and Guava was organized on 05.03.13 under



NAIP scheme on A Value Chain on Mango and Guava for Domestic and Export Markets at HC & RIW, Trichy. The training was attended by 210 mango and guava farmers representing Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Karur, Erode, Sivagangai, Vellore,

Villupuram, Coimbatore, Theni, Trichy and Dindigul districts of Tamil Nadu and Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh and CCPI of the scheme from different centers. Dr. V. Swaminathan, Professor (Horticulture) welcomed the gathering. Dr. T. N. Balamohan, CPI of the project (NAIP –Value chain on Mango and Guava) enlightened the objectives of the scheme and the need for buyer seller meet. Dr. A. Tajuddin, Dean, AEC&RI, Kumulur, delivered the inaugural address. Dr. V. Alagusundaram, Director, IICPT, Tanjore delivered the presidential address.

In the technical session, Dr. J. Dilip Babu, Professor (Hort.) and CCPI of NAIP scheme, Dr. YSRHU, Andhra Pradesh delivered a lecture on Post harvest handling in mango followed by, Er. P. S. Parag Pandit, AP (PHT) and CCPI of NAIP scheme, NAU, Gujarat delivered a lecture on “Post harvest techniques in Mango and Guava”. Dr. V. Hema, Scientist, IICPT, Tanjore delivered a lecture on Value addition in Mango and Guava.

In the afternoon session, different companies involved in mango and guava procurement *ie.*, M/S Kannan Departmental Stores, Coimbatore, Mayaa Exports, Oddanchatram Dindugal, Harsha Fresh, Krishnagiri, Jain Irrigation System Ltd. ,Erode, Eden Farm Fresh, Erode, Spencer Retail Ltd. ,Chennai, Reliance Retail Limited, Trivandrum, Sumo Agro, Chennai, Apple Fruits Traders, Trichy participated. All the buyers of mango and guava have enlisted the standards for mango and guava for procurement from the farmers. Few farmers having off - season mangoes had tie up with the above buyers for immediate sale. Few others had discussed with other stakeholders for sale of mangoes and guava available during regular seasons. Dr. A. Nithya Devi, AP (Hort.) proposed a vote of thanks.

Workshop at AEC & RI, Kumulur



A product promotion workshop was organized at the A E C & R I , Kumulur on 28th, March 2013. The workshop was

sponsored by ICAR, New Delhi under NADP entitled A

novel food chain using by - products of milling industry for enhancing nutritional security. Around 50 women SHG members attended the workshop. Dr. P. Yasodha, AP, Organizing Secretary of the workshop welcomed the gathering. Dr. A. Tajuddin, Dean, AEC & RI, Kumulur delivered the presidential address and emphasized the importance of by-product utilization and value addition of pulse and rice by - products. Dr. SP. Ramanathan, P&H (Market Extension), Coimbatore inaugurated and felicitated the workshop. Dr. R. Lalitha, Professor (SWECC), delivered the special address. Dr. S. A. Ramjani, AP, Co organizing Secretary of the workshop proposed a vote of thanks. The participants were taken to IICPT, Thanjavur. Dr. K. Alagusundaram, Director, IICPT, Thanjavur gave special address and distributed the certificates.

Training on Cocoa Production Technology

A training programme on Cocoa production Technology was conducted from 26. 02. 13 to 28. 02. 13 at CRS, Aliyarnagar



sponsored by the Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development, Cochin. The training was attended by fifty progressive cocoa farmers from different villages of Pollachi tract. Dr. N. Shoba, P&H welcomed the gathering. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. P. Paramaguru, P&H, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore. On the first and second day, the participants were exposed to different aspects of coca cultivation through lectures by different scientists of CRS, Aliyarnagar and HC&RI, Coimbatore. On the third day, the participants were exposed on method demonstratiions on pest a n d disease management and pruning at Sethumadai. The valedictory function was presided over by Th. O. V. R. Somasundaram, Former Board Member, TNAU, Coimbatore. The participants were issued certificates at the end.



Twenty one day training programme on “Farming Systems for the Future: Approaches and Applications” was conducted in the Department of Agronomy, Directorate of Crop Management, Coimbatore under the auspices of Centre of Advanced Faculty Training in Agronomy (ICAR) from 6th to 26th February, 2013. Ten scientists from Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu from the faculties of Agronomy, Horticulture, Soil Science and Animal Husbandry attended the training programme. Dr. N. Asokaraja, P&H, Dept. of Agronomy and Director, CAFTA welcomed the participants. Dr. K. Siddeswaran, Professor AICRP - IFS, Dept. of Agronomy briefed about the course.

The training programme was inaugurated on 06. 02. 13 by Professor Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar,

TNAU, Coimbatore. In the inaugural address, Registrar informed that India is self-sufficient in food production. Food demand is increasing due to increasing population, By 2025, we need 340 to 350 MT and another 100 MT of food grains in next ten years. He emphasized that farming system approach can ensure better land use and afford sustained productivity. Economic performance in alternative farming system can be improved by producing more profitable crop, livestock and other components. Dr. K. Velayudham, Director (i/c), Crop Management studies, in his special address indicated that the system crop intensification, climate based agriculture, organic agriculture can be addressed through farming system approach. Dr. M. Mohamed Amanullah, Professor (Agronomy) proposed a vote of thanks.

Resource persons from TNAU and outside experts imparted training in various aspects of IFS to the participants. The participants were taken to Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, Ooty, Sheep Breeding Research Station, Sandynallah, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal for getting practical skills in the outdoor trips. Dr. N. Kumar, Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore delivered the valedictory address on 26.02.13 and distributed the certificates.

Programmes by TRRI, Aduthurai

Training on quality Bio Pesticides production and its application.

Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology Sponsored training on Quality bio pesticides production and its application was conducted at TRRI, Aduthurai during 13 - 15, March, 2013. Fifty farmers from Thanjavur district participated in the training.

Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai inaugurated the training. Dr. A. Karthikeyan, Professor (Plant Pathology) organized the training programme. Resource persons from various TNAU Research

Stations, PAJANCOA, Karaikal and TRRI, Aduthurai imparted the training to the participants. Classes were conducted on Commercial production of quality bio-control agents viz. , *Pseudomonas*, *Trichoderma*, *Bacillus*, *Beauveria* and *Trichogramma* and their application in rice, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables and sugarcane for the management of various insect pests and diseases.



Training on pesticide safety practices to the farmers of Cauvery Delta Zone

Three days training programme sponsored by TNSCST was organised at TRRI, Aduthurai from 20 - 22 March, 2013 on safe handling of pesticides. Fifty selected farmers of both gender from Thiruvadaimarudur block were sensitized about the pesticide safety aspects. Fifteen resource persons from various fields of agriculture, medicine, veterinary including retired officials of the University, Department of Agriculture, & scientists from PAJANCOA, Karaikal interacted with the farmers on safe handling of insecticides, fungicides, herbicides and other plant growth promoters. Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai presided over this outreach programme and Dr. S. Mohamed Jalaluddin & Dr. E. Subramanian arranged this training.

NADP (RKVY – III) sponsored quality seed production training programme



Training on Quality seed production techniques in pulses was organized by TRRI, Aduthurai at Thiru-

bhuvanam village on 12.03.13 under NADP (RKVY - PHASE III) - Farmers Participatory Seed Production demo on pulses and oilseeds scheme. Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai inaugurated the trainings and emphasized the need for production and supply of quality seeds particularly in pulses and oilseeds. Dr. T. Ramesh explained the various agronomic practices for quality seed production in pulses. Dr. J. Rajkumar delivered lecture on foliar spray for enhancing seed quality in pulses. Dr. K. Raja explained the various seed treatments, post harvest handling in pulses seeds and demonstrated the designer seed treatment. Dr. P Shanthi delivered lecture on genetic purity maintenance. Twenty farmers participated and benefitted. Similar training was organized at Kangeyanpettai, Sathanur, Keezhamaruthuvakkudi, Manalur and Aduthurai –Thiyagarajapuram villages.

NABARD sponsored Seed village training programmes

One day trainings (II Phase) on Quality seed production in groundnut through seed village concept were organized by TRRI, Aduthurai at Chellappanpettai and Naduvikkottai villages of Budhalur and Pattukkottai blocks on 14.03.13 and 15.03.13. This training programme was organized under “Training on quality seed production in rice, pulses and groundnut through seed village concept to the farmers of Thanjavur district” sponsored by NABARD. Dr. V. G. Mathirajan, SWMRI, Thanjavur, Dr. S. Mohandass and Dr. K. Ganesan CRS, Veppankulam, Dr. K. Raja, Dr. D. Sassikumar and Dr. E. Subramanian, TRRI, Aduthurai delivered lectures in their respective field. The farmers interacted with scientists and got clarified with technologies on pest management, agronomic practices, genetic purity maintenance and optimum time of harvest for seed crop. Nearly 30 farmers enrolled under this scheme per training.

Field day on recycling aquatic weeds and agro wastes for compost making

A field day was organized at Kunnalur village of Thiruthuraiipoondy block in Thiruvarur district on 28th March, 2013 demonstrating a new composting technology developed at TRRI, Aduthurai. The technique integrates problematic aquatic weeds (majority water hyacinth) and locally available agro wastes like unutilized paddy straw emanating from machine harvest, chaffy paddy grains and coir pith. About 2.5 tonnes of matured compost was obtained within 90 days after the formation of beds utilizing 6 tonnes of raw material.

Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI inaugurated the field demonstration and explained the scope, necessity and benefits associated with this technique to effectively recycle these solid wastes common in the Delta region. Dr. V. Ravi, P&H addressed the queries raised by the farmers while Dr. K. Saravanan, AP (SS&AC) demonstrated the sequence of operations to be followed for raising compost beds and for value addition of finished composts with bio and nutrient inputs. The technology was demonstrated with the financial support from ATMA, Thiruvarur District.

New Schemes

Name of Scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakhs)	Funding Agency
Economic empowerment of SC&ST women on processing of <i>Moringa Olerifera</i> leaves and its products as an income generating activity	Dr. S. Parvathi, P&H, Department of Home Science Extension, HSC&RI, Madurai	16. 45	DSIR
Formulating value added products from minor tubers for food and industries.	Dr. S. Parvathi, P&H, Department of Home Science Extension, HSC&RI, Madurai	14. 18	MFPI
Study on the dietary antioxidant consumption among the adults and the effect of cooking and Processing on the activity of antioxidants.	Dr. T. Padmini, P&H, Department of apparel Designs and Fashion Technology, HSC&RI, Madurai	10. 18	UGC
Value added Products from yeast fermented heat stabilized defatted rice bran	Dr. P. S. Geetha, AP Department of Family Resource Management, HSC&RI, Madurai	12. 00	UGC
E - GOI - DST - Molecular mapping of quantitative trait loci for salt tolerance at panicle initiation stage to stretch the potential yield limits of rice in Coastal Zones" (E28 UZ))	Dr. P. Shanthy, Assistant Professor, TNAU	17. 80	DST
Development of repeatable protocols for induced androgenesis for gametoclonal variations to combat high priority problems in Tomato (<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i> Mill.)	Dr. R. Gnanam, Prof. (Biotechnology) CPMB, TNAU, Cbe - 3	9. 99	UGC
Haploids induction for rapid homozygosity to accelerate breeding programs in Cocoa.	Dr. R. Gnanam, Prof. (Biotechnology) CPMB, TNAU, Cbe - 3	48. 92	Kraft foods, U. S. A
Nutrio - physiological changes during growth and post harvest behaviour of leguminous vegetables due to bioinoculants	Dr. P. Jeyakumar, Prof. (Crop Physiology), TNAU, Cbe - 3	8. 68	Novozymes, South Asia
Development of microbial based bioformulations for the management of major fungal diseases in Urd bean	Dr. P. Latha AP (Plant Pathology) ARS, Pattukkottai - 02.	22. 00	Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Dept. of Science and Technology (DST), New Delhi.
Biodiversity of Odonata (Insecta) and the impact of agrochemicals on them in the rice ecosystem of Cauvery Delta Zone in Tamil Nadu	Dr. R. Arulprakash AP (Agrl. Entomology) ARS, Pattukkottai - 02.	18. 60	
Molecular mapping of quantitative trait loci for salt tolerance at panicle initiation stage to stretch the potential yield limits of rice in coastal zones.	Dr. P. Shanthy AP (Plant Breeding and Genetics) ARS, Pattukkottai - 02.	17. 80	

Important Visitors

- Shri. Ram Mohan Mishra, Principal Secretary, Meghalaya visited the TC Lab for future collaboration, especially on plant tissue culture and gene discovery on 12.03.13
- Bank officials (20 Nos) at the level of DGM, ZM and former chairman Th. M. Gopalakrishnan of Indian Bank visited the department and tissue culture lab on 16.03.13

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