



# TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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உறுக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு  
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

## NABARD CAT PROGRAMME ON "KEY ISSUES OF RICE PRODUCTION IN DELTA REGION"



A three days 14-16, October, 2015 Capacity building and Adoption of Technology (CAT) training programme on "Key Issues of Rice Production in Delta" sponsored by NABARD was organized by Soil and Water Management Research Institute (SWMRI), Thanjavur. A group of 30 farmers from different blocks viz., Orathanadu, Ammapatti, Thiruvaiyar, Papanasam at Thanjavur district (delta region) participated in this training programme. The project investigator Dr. M. Nagarajan, Assistant Professor (SWC) of SWMRI, Thanjavur explained the need and objectives of programme. During this programme, a training manual on "Key Issues of Rice Production in Delta" was released by Dr. K. Subramanian, NABARD (DDM), Thanjavur.

Besides training programme, the issues related to rice production on selection of rice varieties based on the season, role and essentiality of machineries used in rice production, controlling the pest through the concept of integrated pest management, water management practices through water saving methods, impacts of organic and inorganic fertilizer usage to the soil, the benefits of seed treatments and methods of seed storage, Integrated Farming System (IFS) were covered and also the field exposure visit to Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai was arranged. The participant farmers shared their experiences.



**Rashtriya Sankalp Diwas Observed in TNAU**



National Service Scheme of TNAU observed Rashtriya Sankalp Diwas on 31.10.15 and organized a rally in TNAU to mark the event. Prevention of Terrorism and universal brotherhood is reiterated by the event. Around 300 students participated in the rally. Other important events like National unity day to mark the birth anniversary of iron man of India, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Vigilance awareness week from 26<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 were also observed. Pledges were taken to prevent corruption and as the citizens of India, people should be aware and abstain from evil acts. NSS programme coordinator Dr. K. Kumutha and NSS programme officers of TNAU organized the events.

**Virutcham Civil Service Club Inaugurated in Forest College and Research Institute Mettupalayam**



An exclusive club to motivate and guide Civil Service aspirants of FC & RI viz. Virutcham Civil Service Club was inaugurated on 04.11.15. Mr.M.Karthikeyan, Director, Manitha Neyam Pre - IAS Academy, Chennai inaugurated the Club and Dr.N.Ragupathi, Director, Students' Welfare, TNAU delivered the Special Address. During the function, the logo for the Club was released and books worth Rs.1.1 lakh useful for civil service examinations which were sponsored by the alumni of the college were officially made available for use by students. Dr.K.K.Suresh, Dean-in-charge (Forestry) Presided and Inaugurated.



**FREE EYE CAMP IN TNAU**



National Service Scheme of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Lotus Eye hospital, Coimbatore jointly organized a free eye checkup camp on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in the University premises. The camp was Inaugurated by Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean(Agriculture). 400 members including National Service Scheme volunteers and Staff members were given free eye check up and advice on the problems and eye disorders by team of doctors and optometrists from Lotus Eye Hospital. Dr.K.Kumutha, NSS Coordinator



and NSS Programme Officers, Student representative Mr.E. Suriya of TNAU and Mr. R. Shanmugasundaram, Marketing Manager of Lotus Eye Hospital made the camp arrangements.

### Soil Health Awareness Rally at TNAU



The Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Indian Society of Soil Science Coimbatore Chapter and National Service Scheme of TNAU jointly organized a soil health awareness rally on 16.11.2015 to commemorate the International Year of Soils 2015, where 400 NSS volunteers participated. The rally was organized with the objectives to protect the soil, protect the life, no soil-no food, plant trees, prevent soil erosion, integrate the use of manures and biofertilizers, etc., to sustain soil health. The rally was inaugurated by Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean (Agriculture) and Dr.V.P.Duraisami, Special Officer (DNRM).



### GuamiEkta Week Programme by NSS Volunteers at AC & RI Vazhavachanur

In view of the “GuamiEkta week” 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015, a programme was conducted on the theme Rural Infrastructure and Governance in Agricultural College and Research Institute, Vazhavachanur, Thiruvannamalai, under NSS. The



NSS volunteers of I B.Sc., (Agriculture) took up the Rural Infrastructure Maintenance work near the college premises. As a part of the programme, the 63 NSS volunteers with the assistance of NSS Programme Officer, Dr. R. Mythili carried out the Road Maintenance Work. This programme was inducted by Dr.G. Prasad, Dean, AC and RI, VVNR and attended by Dr. T. Raguchander, Professor (Plant Pathology) and Dr. R. Balaji, Assistant Professor (Agri Business Management).

### Field Day on Ragi Varieties



Nutrient rich ragi is the dominant millet crop in Krishnagiri district. To enhance the spread of TNAU Varieties in Krishnagiri district, a front line demonstration were raised at Kolladasapuram as rainfed and as irrigated crop at Agraharam village of Hosur block, Krishnagiri district. TNAU ragi Varieties (Paiyur 2, CO14 and CO15) along with popular varieties of the location (L5, ML365,GPU28) were raised in one acre with the support of Department of Agriculture.

At the maturity stage, the field day was organized at Koladasapuram, Hosur block of Krishnagiri district on 26.11.2015 to evaluate the



varietal performance with 100 farmers. The field day gathering was welcomed by Dr. M. N Budhar, Professor & Head, RRS, Paiyur and was Chaired by Dr. M. Maheswaran, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore. The special addresses on ragi varieties and its cultivation practice were delivered by Dr.K.Ganesamurthy, Director (CPBG), Dr.C.Jayanthi, Director (Crop Management), Mr. S. Sabanatesan (JDA, Krishnagiri District), Dr.R.Ravikesavan Professor and Head (Millets), Dr.A.Nirmala kumari, Professor (Plant Breeding and Genetics). The farmers were stressed on selection of high yielding improved varieties for grain and straw yield with good cooking quality. Mr.A.Sivalingam, President, Minor Millets Producers Association also addressed the meeting saying that minor millets will soon become cash crop of farmers. On behalf of the farmers, Thiru. Hemantha Kumar and Thiru. Anand expressed their views on the suitability of TNAU



commodity interest groups and its importance in sugarcane cultivation were delivered by the scientists followed by interaction and discussions. The trainees were taken on exposure visits to 'SSI farmers' fields and gained practical knowledge on SSI. A team of scientists comprising Dr.H.Philip, Director of Extension Education, Dr.R. Balasubramanian, Professor and Head, Dr.D.Selvi, Professor (SS&AC), Department of Market Extension, Professor and Head, Agricultural Research Station, Bhavanisagar and Programme Coordinators of 13 TNAU KVKs have coordinated and executed the programme successfully.

**Trainings on “sustainable Sugarcane Initiative” - SSI**



A series of training programmes were organized between ----- and ----- by the Department of Market Extension, Directorate of Extension Education in association with Agricultural Research Station, Bhavanisagar and 13 TNAU KVKs on “Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative - SSI” under the NADP – RKVY with a budget of Rs.40 Lakhs. About 5000 farmers of Tamil Nadu identified by the respective District JDAs were trained under the scheme. Lectures on various aspects of SSI, namely; nursery and cultivation of sugarcane under SSI, drip fertigation, diseases management, IPM strategies, nutrient management under SSI and

**Tribal Sub Plan Off Campus Training in Udumalpet Taluk**

Maize Research Station, Vagarai conducted Tribal Sub Plan Off - campus training III at Kodanthur hamlet, Udumalpet Taluk on 02.12.2015 under the ICAR – Tribal Sub Plan scheme 2015-16 to benefit 50 tribal farmers. Mr. G.Subbaiah, Forest Ranger, Chinnar Forest range was the Chief Guest and delivered a Special Address to the tribal farmers. Technical session covering various aspects of maize production was arranged to the tribal farmers by the MRS, Scientists. As part of the training, 8 kgs of TNAU Maize hybrid CO 6 seeds for maize cultivation in one acre were distributed to the tribal farmer Mr.K.Murugan for demonstration.

**District Level One Day Soil Health Seminar for School Children in TNAU**

Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, TNAU and NSS jointly organized a District Level one day Seminar on Soil Health for School Children to commemorate the International Year of Soils - 2015 at TNAU campus, Coimbatore on





December 3, 2015 where, 110 children studying 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> standard from government higher secondary schools in Coimbatore participated. The ecological roles of soils were explained and demonstrations on soil colour, infiltration rate, calcareousness, were given, besides Microbes and soil health, Tamil elocution and pencil drawing competitions were conducted on the theme “Healthy soils for a healthy life”. Dr. V.P. Duraisami, Special Officer, Directorate of Natural Resource Management, emphasized on soil system related to human body system, impact of soil nutrient deficiencies on human population. Dr. K. Kumutha, Professor and NSS programme coordinator proposed a formal vote of thanks.



### Soil Health Day Conducted at KVK Vridhachalam



The soil health day was conducted at KVK, Cuddalore on 5.12.2015, where. 158 farmers participated and benefited. Dr. S. Kannan, Programme Coordinator of the KVK welcomed the gathering and Dr. M. S. Aneesa Rani, Professor and Head, Regional Research Station delivered the Presidential Address and stated that maintaining the good soil health is laying a strong base for effective crop production and also distributed 100 soil health cards to the farmers. The Assistant Director of Agriculture Mr. R. Vijayaragavan gave the details of schemes provided by government for improving soil health.

Technical lectures included, need of soil testing and soil health management delivered by Mrs.G.Porkodi, SMS (Soil Science), organic farming by Dr.C.Harisudan, Asst. Prof. (Agronomy), micronutrients application for crops by



Dr. K. Natarajan, SMS (SST), soil health and crop management in flood condition by Dr. K.Venkata lakshmi, SMS (Agronomy), bio fertilizers in soil health management by Dr.T.Saravanan, SMS (Plant Pathology), nutrient deficiency and its management by Dr.A.Rameshkumar, SMS (Horticulture), soil borne insects management by Dr. P. Indiragandhi, Assistant Professor (Entomology) and use of Agri tech portal in soil health management by Dr.M.Nirmala Devi, SMS (Agricultural Extension). Mrs. G. Porkodi, SMS (Soil Science) gave vote of thanks.

### Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme on 'Landscaping and Floriculture'

The Department of Floriculture and Landscaping, HC and RI, Coimbatore organized an entrepreneurship development training programme on 'Landscaping and Floriculture' for a duration of 21 days from 08.12.2015 to 31.12.2015 where thirty trainees in and around Coimbatore district have participated and benefited. The training programme was sponsored by Entrepreneurship Development

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Institute (EDI), Chennai, Government of Tamil Nadu with a objective of motivating the entrepreneurs in Landscaping and Floriculture. Dr. S. Mariappan, Dean (Horticulture) welcomed the gathering. Th. A. Ramakrishnan, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Coimbatore delivered Inaugural Address and highlighted the importance of landscaping, floriculture, kitchen gardening, roof top gardening and vertical gardening various government schemes related to gardening in peri urban areas. Dr. M. Kannan, Professor and Head, Department of Floriculture and Landscaping gave the introductory remarks on scope and importance of Landscaping and Floriculture in Indian situations and also emphasized on the export opportunities for loose, cut and dry flowers from India to South East Asian countries, gulf countries and European region. Dr. M. Ganga, Asst. Professor (Hort.) proposed formal Vote of Thanks. The trainees will be exposed to the various avenues in the Floriculture Industry including production of cut flowers, loose flowers, planting materials, seeds and bulbs, landscaping, micropropagation of flower and ornamental plants, potted plants and value addition. Exposure visits are also planned for the trainees to nurseries and landscape units in Mettupalayam and Coimbatore. Resource persons from financial institutions and MSME will be invited to discuss on preparation of bankable projects for getting financial assistance.

Dr. K.R. Rajadurai, Dr. P. Aruna, Dr. S.P. Thamaraiselvi, Dr. M. Prabhu, and Dr.K. Hemaprabha, Assistant Professors of the Department of Floriculture and Landscaping will coordinated this training programme.

**Librarians Interaction Meet and Live Demonstrations at Directorate of Publications and Public Relations**



□ A one day Librarians Interaction Meeting was held on 30-10-2015 at the University Library, TNAU, Coimbatore. All the Deputy Librarians, Assistant Librarians and Library Assistants of the Constituent colleges of TNAU participated in the meeting. Dr.P.MuthiahManoharan, Chairman, Library Committee and Special Officer (Publications & Public Relations), TNAU delivered the Presidential Address.

The University Library, TNAU, Coimbatore has recently organized a demonstration on 19.11.2015 regarding New features in J-Gate & CeRA (Consortium for electronic Resources in Agriculture). Thiru. Ravishankar, Senior Training consultant from Informatics, Bangaluru, has given a live demo to the participants. Totally, 72 research Scholars, PG students including the faculty members attended the programme.

Published by  
Directorate of Planning and Monitoring,  
TNAU, Coimbatore - 641 003.

Printed at :  
TNAU Offset Printing Press,  
Special Officer (Publications & Public Relations)  
TNAU, Coimbatore - 641 003.

From  
Directorate of Planning and Monitoring,  
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,  
Coimbatore - 641 003