



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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Planning & Monitoring

உணருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

WORKSHOP ON 'ARYA'



The state level two day workshop on “Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA)” was jointly organized by MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Horticultural College and Research Institute for Women and Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute on 06th & 07th June, 2015 at Horticultural College & Research Institute for women, Trichy. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.M.Rajendran, IAS, Director of Agriculture and Thiru.L.Chithraisenan, IAS, Director of Horticulture delivered Chief Guest Address. Thiru. K. Palanisamy, the District Collector, delivered the Special Address. The Successful Agri-preneurs; Mr. Athappa Manickam, Chairman, MAK groups India & USA, Mr.A.P.Karuppiyah of Banana Field Fresh shared their experiences in Agriculture and Marketing strategies. Dr.M.Jawaharlal, Special Officer (i/c), HC&RI (W), Trichy, welcomed the gathering and Dr.N.Parasuraman, Principal Scientist, MSSRF, Chennai proposed a formal Vote of Thanks. Totally 468 rural youth and staff and students numbering 250 actively participated. After the inaugural session, the technical sessions were conducted to motivate the youth under the theme “Role of Youth in Rejuvenation of Agriculture and Horticulture” under the Chairmanship of Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor. Concurrent brain storming sessions were also arranged with different groups to draw action plan to retain the youth in Farming

with the help of Moderators; Dr.K.Cholan, ADAC&RI, Dr.E.D. Isreal Oliver King, Mr.R.Rajkumar, MSSRF and Dr.V.Ambethgar, Professor (Agricultural Entomology). On the Second day, field visits were arranged for demonstrating various technologies viz., high density planting in guava, production of bio-control agents, vermicompost, bee keeping, integrated farming system, nursery management and slatted goat rearing. An interaction session was organized on Agri-business management, public-private partnership for innovation in Agriculture under the Chairmanship of Mr.M.J.Prabu, Vice President (Agro Division), MAK group India and USA. In the valedictory session, Dr.P.Pandiyarajan, Dean (i/c), ADAC&RI, Trichy delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates to the rural youth, who participated in workshop.



Felicitating Farm Workers Children

A function was organized on 17.06.2015 at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai to felicitate the wards of Farm workers including PUSM for recognizing their achievement in the State Board Examination April 2015. Dr.K.Velayudham, Dean (i/c), presided over the function. Selvi. S.Manimuthalakshmi D/o Tmt.S.Sangamithirai, PUSM of Agronomy Department, was the topper with a score of 491/500. Seven students were felicitated for their achievements in the board examination. Apart from this, 25 poor children were distributed with notebooks free of cost. Dr.C.Swaminathan, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy welcomed the gathering while Dr.R.Babu, Professor and Head, Department of Farm Management proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

Helmet Awareness Rally by NSS Volunteers

To create awareness among the public, Helmet awareness rally was jointly organized by Tamil Nadu Department of Police and TNAU-NSS. Seventy five members including 40 students participated in the rally on 27.6.2015. Posters were distributed to the public. The helmet awareness rally was flagged off by Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean (i/c) and Thiru.Suresh Kumar, IPS, Asst Commissioner of



Police (Law and Order), Coimbatore West Subdivision. The programme was organized by the NSS Programme Coordinator, Programme Officers in TNAU and Inspectors of Police.

Snake Bite and Snake Safety Awareness Programme



The World Environment Day (05-06-2015), was observed in TNAU and NSS organized campus cleaning programme on 06-06-2015 with 600 NSS volunteers. Followed by this, snake bite and snake safety awareness programme was organized. A lecture on snake safety was given by Thiru. A. Selvaraju, an alumnus of Forest College, TNAU, presently working as a Project Coordinator, National Snake Bite Initiative, GREEN CROSS INDIA, an NGO working on wildlife conservation.

He mentioned about the existence of totally 3000 species of snakes in the world out of which 276 species are seen in India. Out of this, 62 are poisonous and 42 species are found in land and water and 20 in Oceans. According to the WHO report, in India, 80,000 snake bite cases are recorded every year, out of which 10,000 die due to improper first aid and medication. To protect people from snake bite and to protect snakes, "NATIONAL SNAKE BITE INITIATIVE" was started. The symptoms are death of tissue, teeth markings, vomiting, swelling and impairment of heart and lung functions. By keeping our environment clean and spraying Bellary onion extract, snakes can be avoided from entering. First aid is pressure immobilization, tightening the muscle with cloth and taking to the nearby government hospital. Self medications should be avoided. Sucking with mouth should not be done. Though herbal medications are prescribed, these are under research only.

Dr. S. Mahimairaja, Dean (i/c) and Dr. K. Kumutha NSS Co-ordinator also participated in the programme. NSS Programme officers and Mr.D.Arulkumar, JRF, WTC organized the programme. Earlier, V.Shunmathi, II –Bio-Tech. student welcomed the gathering and Miss. Merlin Sarah, II B.S.(ABM) student proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

International Yoga Day



International yoga day was observed in TNAU on 21st June, 2015. Dr.K.Venkateswari and her students team from JSS Institute of yoga and Naturopathy, Coimbatore, held a practice session to 350 NSS volunteers on physical exercises and yogasanas. The 33 minute protocol followed throughout the country and world was planned and

executed from 7 am to 7:33 am. In the Special Address followed by the yoga session; Dr.K.Venkateswari briefed the volunteers on the importance of yoga for mind concentration and physical well being of the students. She indicated that stress can be combated with yoga and the condition of India becoming capital of ailments like diabetes, cancer and heart problems can be reversed. Dr.M.Chandrasekaran, Director (i/c) Planning and Monitoring in his Special Address stressed the need for good physique and mind for execution of duties properly. He further mentioned that, every Indian should feel proud of the fact that a practice given by our forefathers has been recognised and the UN has announced the International yoga day. He appreciated the TNAU NSS Team for arranging the yoga day program in a successful manner and exhorted that everyone should continue to practice yoga daily for the betterment of life. Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean (i/c) Agriculture, Dr.S.Mariappan, Dean (Horticulture) (i/c), Dr.K.Kumutha, NSS Programme Co-ordinator, Dr.R.Krishnan, Professor (Education), NSS programme officers, Directors of physical education, University Medical officer, staff advisor, Deputy Wardens, Security officer and staff members participated. Earlier Ms.R.Monica, NSS volunteer welcomed the gathering and Ms.G. Kanchana devi proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

A special lecture on Role of Yoga for modern youth was organized at HC & RI, Periyakulam on 23.06.2015 as a part of World Yoga Day celebrations. Ahri.K.K.Das, Vice – President, ISKCON, Madurai delivered the Special Address. Shri.Shankhadhari Das from ISKCON, Madurai delivered a lecture on "Role of Yoga for modern youth" and emphasized on importance of yoga under stress situations. Dr.C.Sekhar, Professor and Head, Department of Social Sciences presided over the function. Dr.M.Prabhu, NSS Programme officer gave the introductory remarks. The students' representatives Ms. Sahaya sharmila welcomed the gathering and Mr.Prithiviraj proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Inauguration of Seed Vending Machine



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University introduced Automatic Seed Vending Machine in various parts of the state to facilitate and make available the popular varieties of vegetables and flowers released by TNAU to the public for their kitchen and terrace gardens. As a part of this, the seed vending machine at HC&RI, Periyakulam was inaugurated by the Joint Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Agriculture, Thiru. C. Rajendran, IAS on 25.06.2015 in the presence of Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.T.N. Balamohan, Dean (i/c), along with staff and students participated in this occasion

Guava Varietal Exhibition



A guava varietal exhibition was organized by the Department of Fruit Crops, Horticultural College and Research Institute, Periyakulam under ICAR – AICRP (Fruits) on 25.06.2015. The unique exhibition was inaugurated by Th. C. Rajendran, IAS, Joint Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu, Agriculture Department. While appreciating the collection, Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU,

emphasized the importance of guava in human dietary and detect the volatile profile through using GC-MS for all guava germplasm collection. In India, 20 varieties are commercially cultivated in guava, among the varieties, Lucknow 49, Lucknow 46, Allahabad Safeda, Banarasi, Shweta, Chittidar, Apple Colour, Seedless, Red Flesh, Arka Kiran were displayed. Besides, 25 other genotypes of guava were also exhibited for the benefit of students and scientists.

Dr. T.N. Balamohan, Dean (i/c), HC&RI, Periyakulam highlighted the research activities and biodiversity of guava. Dr. J. Rajangam, Professor and Head and scientists of Department of Fruit Crops explained the varietal features and exhibited the value added products of guava.

High Tech Farming in Vegetable Cultivation



A training programme was organized at KVK, Needmangalam on 30.06.2015 to double the production and triple the income of vegetable growing farmers, in which 39 farmers from Thiruvarur District were trained in High tech farming in vegetable cultivation. The training was given for the establishment and incorporation of various vegetable cultivation techniques to improve the yield. The training programme was organized by the Programme Coordinator Dr.R.Baskaran and executed by Dr.V.Sivakumar, Assistant Professor (Horticulture)

Management of Diseases in Backyard Poultry

A one day training programme on “Management of poultry diseases in backyard poultry” was organized on 22.06.2015 at KVK, Needamangalam. The training programme included lectures by Dr.S. Saravanan, Assistant professor, (V&AS), Dr.M.A. Lourthusaamy, Assistant director of Animal Husbandry, Thiruvapur and Dr.K. Mahendran (V & AS), Needamangalam on various diseases affecting the backyard poultry, their symptoms and treatment.

Dr. R. Baskaran, Program Coordinator, presided over the meeting and initiated the training programme. Dr.H.Philip, Director of Extension Education (i/c), TNAU, addressed the trainees and introduced small scale (200 egg capacity), low cost and excellent performing egg incubator. This was followed by a demonstration of the functioning of incubator.

Castor Field Day

A Field day on Castor crop production was conducted at Vellukkudi in Tiruvapur district on 09.06.2015. The field day was conducted to introduce a new crop as an alternate to Kuruvai cultivation in Thanjavur Delta. The Field Day on castor crop (YRCH – 1) was organized by Dr.R.Baskaran, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Needamangalam. The programme was presided over by Mr.M.Madivanan, IAS, Thiruvapur Collector and accompanied by Dr.S.Manickam, Professor and Head, Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapoor, Dr.A.Kamaraj, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Engineering) and Dr.R.Ramesh Raja, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) attended and spoke about the crop and its nature. Fifty participants from various blocks of Thiruvapur district attended the programme.

Mango Show at Periyakulam

A “Mango Show” was organized by the Department of Fruit Crops, Horticultural College and Research Institute, Periyakulam on 10.06.2015 on the eve of Silver Jubilee Year of the College 2015.



Dr. T. N. Balamohan, Dean (Horticulture) (i/c), inaugurated the show and emphasized the commercial exploitation of mango, canopy management and need for research interventions in mango crop improvement. Dr. J. Rajangam, Professor and Head, Department of Fruit Crops highlighted the germplasm enrichment and varietal wealth in mango. During the occasion, 40 commercially important, exported and under exploited mango varieties including PKM 1, PKM 2, Panchavarnam, Mulgoa, Alphonso, Imam Pasand, Banganapalli, Neeleshan, Bangalora, Badhiri, Gundur Pacharisi, Panchadrakalasa, Natham Balamani, KO 8, KO 22, Sindhu, Ratna, Neelum, Kalepad, Rumani, Arka Aruna, Arka Puneet, Erna Mulgoa, Mallika, Sendura, Apple Gundu, Gudadath, Sakkarakatti, Mylapore and Mohandas were displayed along with their characteristic features. All under graduate and post graduate students of the campus and scientists participated and benefited.

Special Seminar on Climate Change

A special seminar by Dr. Vara Prasad, Director, Centre for Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab (CSIIL), Kansas State University, USA, was organized at Anna Auditorium, TNAU, on 18.6.2015. He delivered the talk on two important aspects viz., “Climate Change: Impact of High Temperature Stress on Field Crops” and “Sustainable Intensification: Concepts and Opportunities for Small holder Farmers. Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU presided over and faculties of TNAU, UG and PG students attended the seminar.

Training On 'e-Velanmai' Extension Approach



The TN-IAMWARM project, 'Sustaining e-Velanmai (TNAU Model) in Tamil Nadu is jointly implemented by the Directorate of Extension Education, TNAU and the Agriculture Department, Tamil Nadu during 2015-16. Three batches of trainings were organized on 25th-26th June, 2015; 9th-10th and 16th-17th July, 2015 and these were inaugurated by Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU. Dr.B.J.Pandian, Director (i/c) (WTC), Dr.M.Chinnadurai, Director (CARDS), TNAU and Mr.G.Chandrasekaran, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore offered felicitations for the first, second and third batch trainings, respectively. The Vice Chancellor emphasized the need to use e-Velanmai approach in extension to reach the unreached farm families with appropriate technologies. The Vice Chancellor also released the book entitled 'Hand

Book on e-Velanmai for Extension Professionals" and the book was distributed to all the participants. Dr.H.Philip, Director of Extension Education (i/c), TNAU, welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction about the training and Dr.C.Karthikeyan, Professor (Agricultural Extension), AC & RI, Kudumiyamalai and Principal Investigator of the project proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

Best Stall Prize



Regional Research Station, Vriddhachalam secured second prize for Best Stall during the two day workshop on "Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture" held during 6th-7th June, 2015 organised by Horticulture College and Research Institute for Women, Trichy in collaboration with M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai.

Important Visitors

- Mr.Benoist veillerette, Agronomist/Economist, Mr.Toni Glaser, Agronomist and Agri-Business Specialist, and Miss.Blanco Amado, Agriculture Economist visited TNAU on 14-6-15 to review IAMWARM Project areas.
- Dr. Niranjani Iyer, Monsanto, USA, visited CPMB on 1.6.2015 to deliver guest lecture.
- Dr. Marek Mutwil, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Plant Physiology, Germany, visited CPMB on 19.6.2015 to deliver a special talk.
- Dr. Vara Prasad, Director, SII Lab, Kansas State University, USA visited TNAU, the Department of Nano Science and Technology on 18.06.2015 and delivered special lectures

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