



TNAU NEWS

Patron: **Dr. K. Ramasamy**, Vice Chancellor
Editor : **Dr. M. Chandrasekaran**, Director (i/c),
Planning & Monitoring

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

ஊருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION AT TNAU, COIMBATORE



The 67th Republic Day was celebrated in a grand and fitting manner at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 26.01.2016. Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor unfurled the National Flag and delivered the Republic Day Address. The Vice Chancellor stressed about the feeling of one nation and reminded the sacrifices made by the freedom fighters and Leaders. He also emphasized the contributions of TNAU in enhancing the livelihood of farming community. He appealed to the young students and scientists of TNAU to innovate new technologies and serve the farmers to ensure food security. This was followed by distribution of certificates to prize winners and cultural performance by students. Lt. K.M.Sellamuthu, NCC Officer presented an impressive Guard of Honour along with the NCC cadets and NSS volunteers. Dr.S. Mahimairaja, Dean (Agriculture) organized the function. University Officers, Heads of Departments, NSS Coordinator, NSS Programme Officers, staff members and students enthusiastically participated in the Republic Day celebrations.

Mango Workshop in Periyakulam

The Department of Nano Science and Technology and Horticultural College and Research Institute, Periyakulam jointly organized a Mango Workshop in Periyakulam campus on 28.12.2015. Dr. T.N.Balamohan, Dean(i/c), welcomed the gathering and highlighted the significance of best management practices that are prescribed by the TNAU for adoption. Dr. K.Gunasekaran, Professor and Head, Nano science and Technology honoured the guests with bouquet of flowers. Dr. N.K.Krishnkumar, Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR, New Delhi delivered the Inaugural Address and emphasized the significance of minimizing the post harvest losses of fruits. He appreciated the efforts of TNAU to develop “Nano-emulsion” to extend shelf life of fruits which needs to be popularized while ensuring its safety in all dimensions. Dr.K.S. Subramanian, Principal Investigator of the scheme also spoke on the occasion.

Lead Fruit Growers from Krishnagiri and Theni Districts, Thiru. Arun.R.Nagagrajan, Secretary, Fruit growers' Association of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. A.P. Karuppiyah, President, Tamil Nadu Banana growers' Federation, Thiru. M.C. Santhakumar, progressive farmer from Krishnagiri and Thiru. S. Santhanam of Mango Growers' Association in Therni offered feedback on the performance of the technology. Dr.G.J.Janavi, Professor(Horticulture) proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

Training on Sustainable Pest Management Strategies in Tribal and Marginal Farming Systems

Centre for Advanced Faculty Training (CAFT), Department of Agricultural Entomology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore has organized a training program on “Sustainable pest management strategies in tribal and marginal farming systems” from 27th January – 16th February, 2016. Eight scientists from different ICAR institutions and SAU's participated in the



programme, which was inaugurated on 27.01.2016 by Dr.C.R.Anandakumar, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.K.Ramaraju, Director (CPPS), delivered the Welcome Address and Dr.S.Mohan, Dean (Post Graduate Studies), felicitated. The participants were exposed to both theory and practical aspects of pest management strategies suitable for tribal and marginal farming systems by different experts from TNAU and other leading institutions. They also interacted with tribal and marginal farmers of Bargur hills, Erode district and Pockkapuram, Nilgris district to understand their indigenous pest management practices. Dr.T.Manoharan, Director (CAFT), and Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Entomology, proposed a formal Vote of Thanks. Dr.J.S.Kennedy, Professor was the course coordinator.

Launching of LPM Project on Livelihood of Scheduled Caste Farmers at Vridhachalam

The DST funded Demonstration project on IPM Practices in Major Agriculture and Horticulture Crops to Enhance Livelihood of Scheduled Caste Population in Cuddalore District of Tamil Nadu” awarded to HC and RI (W), Tiruchirapalli was launched at Regional Research Station, Vridhhchalam on 28.01.2016. Dr. M.S. Anessa Rani, Professor and Head, RRS, Vridhchalam welcomed the gathering. Dr. M.Jawaharlal, Dean, HC and RI (W), Tiruchirapalli inaugurated the programme and highlighted the essentials of IPM practices. Dr. V. Ambethgar, Principal Investigator gave a short introductory address of the project. Totally 60 farmers participated and benefited in the



programme. A formal Vote of Thanks was delivered by Dr. S. Kannan, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Vridhachalam.

Workshop - Cum - Training Programme on Rabi Pulses Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM)



A two days workshop cum training programme was conducted during 28.01.2016 and 29.01.2016 to train the trainers (subject matter specialists) of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Extension Officials with an aim to implement the cluster FLD effectively in pulse growing areas. This event was jointly organized by ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural College and Research Institute (TNAU), Madurai and ICAR - ATARI, Bengaluru. The event was inaugurated by Dr. K. Velayudam, Dean, AC & RI, Madurai. Dr. H. Philip, Director of Extension Education presided over the function and released the training manual. A formal Welcome Address was given by Dr. R. Veeraputhiran, Programme Coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madurai Dr. B.T. Rayudu, Principal Scientist, ATARI, Bengaluru briefed about the technical sessions and requested the KVK scientists to interact with the department officials in their respective work area. Dr. D.V.S. Reddy, Principal Scientist, ATARI, Bengaluru

emphasized the importance of pulses in NFSM for attaining self sufficiency in pulse production. Th. C. Kanagaraj, Joint Director of Agriculture, Madurai, briefed about the cluster Front Line Demonstration activities carrying out by the Department of Agriculture to increase the pulse production in Madurai district. Dr. G. Pushpa, Dean, i/c, HSC & RI, Madurai insisted besotted Food Scientists to work on importance of pulses based balanced diet in human health.

Dr. Malik, Additional Commissioner (Crops), Ministry of Agriculture Govt. of India, New Delhi interacted with the participants and requested them to share their experiences on implementation of cluster FLD on rabi pulses. Mr. Thatichinamurthy, from Pulses Producer Company, Vamban narrated the origin and establishment of the producer company. Mr. Muthukumar, Sachin Foods, Madurai also explained his experience on the preparation of value added products from pulses and marketing potential of his products. Dr. P.P. Murugan, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Extension & Rural Sociology, AC & RI, Madurai proposed & formal Vote of Thanks.

Field Day Cum Training Programme on Soil Test and Yield Target Based Balanced Fertilisation for Crops

With a view to popularize the benefits of Soil test and yield target based balanced fertilisation for crops among the tribal farmers, a field day cum training programme was organized under Tribal Sub Plan of AICRP - STCR at Valichettipatti village, Vadamadurai block, Dindigul district on December 29, 2015. Dr.V.V.Krishnamurthi, Professor and Head (SS&AC) welcomed the gathering. Dr. R. Santhi, Professor (SS & AC) and Scheme - in - charge highlighted the importance of the programme under Soil Test Crop Response based Integrated Plant Nutrition System (STCR-IPNS) in enhancing crop yields and sustaining soil fertility. Tmt. Sowndrammal, Agricultural Officer, Vadamadurai block gave information about the schemes from which tribal farmers can harness the benefits. Dr. V.P Duraisami, Special Officer, Directorate of Natural Resource Management distributed the Soil Health Card to farmers and delivered the Presidential

T
N
A
U

N
E
W
S



Address. The participants of the programme visited the field demonstrations on rainfed maize at Valichettipatti and interacted with the beneficiaries and scientists. Subsequently, hands on training on the collection of soil and irrigation water samples was given by Dr.K.M.Sellamuthu, Assistant Professor (SS&AC). An exhibition was arranged highlighting different aspects pertaining to soil fertility and plant nutrition.

Field Day on Synchronized Maturing Redgram Varieties

The Field day was organized at the field of Thiru Venugopal, a progressive farmer field at Idikarai village, Sarkar Samakulam block, Coimbatore district on 28.01.2016 under the scheme "Front Line demonstration of Red gram varieties under AICRP on pigeonpea" in which 40 farmers from various blocks participated and benefitted. They also visited the red gram crop raised under the demonstration programme along with scientists and officials.

Dr. J.R.Kannan Babu, Professor and Head, Department of Pulses, TNAU welcomed the gathering and narrated some success stories about redgram cultivation by the farmers. Dr.D.Rajabaskhar, Assistant Professor (Entomology) explained the pests of redgram and their control



measures. Dr.E.Rajeswari, Assistant Professor (Pathology) elaborated the diseases of redgram and their curative measures. Thiru. V. Ravichandran explained the various agro techniques followed for raising a successful redgram crop. All the farmers witnessed the crop stand and got convinced to take up redgram as a pure crop. Tmt. Brindha, Block development Officer, Idikarai explained the government schemes for the benefit of the farmers and subsidies available for pulse production. Dr.A.Thanga Hemavathy, Assistant Professor (PBG) and scientists from Sugarcane Breeding Institute also participated.

Training on Organic Farming and Pongal Vizha Celebrations at Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Tirucharapalli

A two day on campus training on organic farming was organized by the Department of Social Sciences, ADAC&RI, Tiruchirapalli. Twenty five farmers, majority of them farm women from Vadavur Vadapathi Village, Mannargudi Taluk participated in the training on 8.1.2016 and 9.1.2016. Mrs. Elaveni Ramanan, Village Panchayat President participated in the training programme. The organic farming issues, soil health management, vermicomposting, benefits and usage of bio - pesticides and botanicals, beekeeping, benefits of bio-fungicides and bio fertilizers, value addition and marketing were discussed during the training programme. Dr.P.Pandiyarajan, Dean i/c, ADAC&RI, Tirucharapalli, felicitated,

Pongal Vizha was celebrated at ADAC & RI, Tirucharapalli on 13.01.2016, when the cattle from farm units were decorated and taken on procession. Later, Pooja was performed with pongal and fruits



were offered to the cattle. Various competitions were held for farm labourers exhibiting the traditional arts and folks. The students of ADAC & RI and HC & RI (W) also participated. The Dean i/c, ADAC & RI, and the Dean i/c, HC & RI (W) distributed the prizes to the farm labourers.

Seminar on Opportunities in Agro Processing for Entrepreneurial Development at DARS, Chettinad

A one day seminar on “Opportunities in agro processing for entrepreneurial development” was conducted at Rural Training Centre (RTC), Amaravathipur, under DST Scheme functioning at Post Harvest Technology Centre, Coimbatore on 28.01.2016. Dr. T. Myrtle Grace, Professor and Head, Dry land Agricultural Research Station, Chettinad inaugurated the programme Thiru. M. Murugesan, Director, RTC delivered the Special Address. Dr. S. Parvathi, Professor, (PHTC), Coimbatore, delivered a lecture on processing and preservation of value added products for income generation. Demonstration on processing of value added products from moringa leaves, millets and tubers was also conducted by Dr. E. Tamilselvi, Assistant Professor, DARS and Dr.S. Parvathi, Professor (PHTC). Fifty women trainees attended the



programme. Dr. V. Thirupathi, Professor (FAPE), DARS, proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

Motivational Talks at TNAU Main Campus



The Directorate of Students Welfare organized a motivational talk on Opportunities in banking sector by Dr. L.S.Raman, Former Genral Manager, UCO Bank and Preparation for Civil Services by Ms. K.Nithya, Faculty is TIME, Chennai on 01.02.2016. Dr. Raman threw light on the various opportunities in the banking sector and also emphasized that at present a lot of vacancies are available in the banking sector and the student should prepare for Specialist officer (Agriculture) and probationary officer’s post. Ms. Nithya had interaction with students and explained the various techniques

of preparing for civil services and also clarified doubts about UPSC recruitment process. Nearly 200 students participated in the event and got benefitted.

Placement Drive at TNAU



Nagarjuna Fertilizer and Heritage Foods Hyderabad conducted telephonic and video Conferencing Interview on 01.01.2016 and 20.01.2016 respectively for post graduate students. Rasi Seeds, Salem conducted campus interview on 22.01.2016 and Harish of II MBA was selected and four others shortlisted. HDFC conducted online test on 22 and 24.01.2016. Zifo technologies conducted test, group discussion and personal interview on 29.01.2016 and two students have been selected in this process.



Training Programme on "Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)"

Water Technology Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore

The water technology centre, TNAU, organized a training programme on Watershed Management: Issues and Concerns of Drought Prone Areas to the User Group Members of Namakkal district under the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for Two days on 18 & 19th February 2016 at Water Technology Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore. In the training programme, 50 Nos. of farmers participated and benefited. Dr.B.J.Pandian, Director (WTC) highlighted the importance of the watershed management and delivered the lecture on "Watershed Development and Management- concepts and approach". Dr.A.Raviraj, Professor (SWCE) delivered the lecture on "Ground water development and management in Tamil Nadu". Dr.E.Soma sundaram, Professor (Agronomy) detailed the techniques about Integrated Farming System (IFS) and Organic Farming. Dr.P.Jothimani, Assistant Professor (ENS) delivered the lecture on "Ground water quality and management". The participants visited Agriculture Machinery Research Centre (AMRC), TNAU, Coimbatore and Mushroom Research and Training Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore to know about the agriculture machineries and the mushroom production technology. The participants were taken to Madampatti watershed for field exposure about watershed.

T
N
A
U

N
E
W
S

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

Visit us at www.tnau.ac.in

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

FEBRUARY 2016