



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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உணருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SPICES AND AROMATIC CROPS (SYMSAC- VIII 2015)



A National symposium on Spices and Aromatic Crops (SYMSAC – VIII) was jointly organized by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and Indian Society for Spices, Kozhikode with the theme “Towards 2050- Strategies for Sustainable Spices Production” during 16th -18th December 2015 at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Dr.K. Nirmal Babu, President, ISS, Kozhikode delivered the Welcome Address. The symposium was inaugurated by Dr. N. K. Krishna Kumar, Deputy Director General (Horticultural Science), ICAR, New Delhi who stressed the need for higher productivity, clean spices through improved post harvest processing, packaging and storage systems for sustainable spices production. Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU delivered the Presidential Note and affirmed that both agricultural and horticultural sectors provide opportunities for alternate systems of medicine and suggested that studies may be entrusted towards indication of maturity index and right time of harvest that may have positive effect on the alternate systems of medicine. Prof.R. R. Hanchinal, Chairperson, PPV&FRA, New Delhi in his Key Note Address appreciated Tamil Nadu Agricultural University for its systematic work on protecting the varieties of this region.

Dr. M. Anandaraj, Director, ICAR-IISR, Kozhikode, Dr.V.A. Parthasarathy, Former Director, ICAR - IISR, Kozhikode, Dr.Jitendra Kumar, Director, ICAR-DMAPR, Anand, Gujarat, Dr.S. Mariappan, Dean (Hort.), HC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore and Dr. Homey Cherian, Director, DASD, Kozhikode felicitated. On the occasion, a Souvenir on Nilavembu powder - a TNAU product was released.

ISS awards and fellowships were also distributed to eminent scientists, students and farmers for their outstanding contribution in the field of spices research through technology development, filing of patents, publications and other recognitions. Around 250 delegates from all over the country participated in the symposium. The deliberations included lead papers, oral papers, poster papers and also farmers, industrialists and scientists interaction. Dr .J. Suresh, Organizing Secretary and Professor and Head, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC & RI, Coimbatore proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

Motivational Talks at TNAU Main Campus Coimbatore



The Directorate of Students Welfare organized a motivational talk by Ms. Vania Theofilopoulou, International Student Recruitment Manager, Royal Agricultural University, UK, who delivered a special talk on opportunities for Agricultural Graduates in UK on 12.02.2016. She highlighted the various courses offered by Royal Agricultural University, UK and also gave an insight into the advantages of learning abroad. Nearly 200 students participated in the event and got

Placement Drive at TNAU

The Directorate of Students Welfare organized a placement drive on 05.02.2016 for post graduate students Synochem, Trichy and four students have been shortlisted. Dow Agro, Mumbai and Associate Décor, Mumbai conducted campus drive on 15.02.2016 and three students attended the next round of interview at Mumbai on 01.03.2016.

Tribal Farmers Training on Biological Control of Crop Pests



Two tribal farmers' trainings were conducted respectively at Bargur hills, Anthiyur, Erode district on 3.2.2016 and at Pokkapuram, Gudalur, Nilgiris district on 6.2.2016 with ICAR – AICRP – Biological control of crop pests funds under Tribal sub plan. Sixty tribal farmers benefitted by the training program. The use of biofertilizers, entomophages, entomopathogens and antagonists to check pest and diseases and for better crop production were explained to the tribal farmers through lectures and demonstrations. The training of tribal farmers at Bargur hills focused on organic ragi cultivation where as the tribals of pokkapuram village addressed the nutritional security through kitchen garden with bio inputs for production and protection of vegetables. The Bargur tribal farmers were supplied with biofertilizers like Azospirillum (1Kg), Phosphobacteria (1kg), Pseudomonas fluorescens (1kg), Beauveria bassiana (1kg), Metarhizium anisopliae (1 kg), Neem oil (500 ml), Panchkavya (1 lt), One sticky trap, sticker solution, ragi seeds

(3 kgs) and vegetable seeds like bitter melon, bottle gourd, bhendi, Amaranthus, cluster bean and garden lablab were distributed to the Pokkapuram tribal farmers. The farmers were also demonstrated on the use of biocontrol agents like Trichogramma, Chrysoperla and Cryptolaemus montrouzieri. The tribal trainings were organized with the help of MYRADA KVK, Erode and UPASI KVK, Coonoor which serve Erode and Nilgiris district, respectively. Dr. T.Manoharan, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Entomology, Dr.S.Sridharan, Professor and Dr.P.A.Saravanan Assistant Professor organized the training programme.

Awareness Campaign on Legal Issues to The Students of Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam



A Legal Awareness Campaign was held at Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam on 10.02.2016 for the benefit of the students. The Taluk Legal Services Committee, Mettupalayam in association with Planning Forum of Students Club, arranged the programme. Dr.K.K.Suresh, Dean, FC and RI, Mettupalayam welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of legal awareness among the students community. Thiru.K.Suresh Kumar, B.A., B.L, District Munisif-cum-Judicial Magistrate and Chairman Taluk Legal Services Committee, Mettupalayam delivered the Presidential Address and explained about the Fundamental rules. The following Senior Advocates and Bar Association members namely, Th.M.Rahmatullah, Th.R.Santhamoorthy, Th. K. UmarFarook, Th. S. Veerabadran and Th. R.A. Kanaga Sundram delivered lectures and discussed the Civil and Criminal Laws in present day occasion, formation of constitution of India, drafting committee

and framework of laws, the most powerful RTI Act (2005), the right of freedom of speech and social status of women, the procedures corresponding to the working of RTI Act, Human Rights Act, Motor Vehicle Act (1998), Transfer of property Act and Civil Act. Mrs. M. Vijayabhama, Assistant Professor (Statistics), coordinated. Dr.A.Balasubramanian, Professor and Head, Department of Silviculture, and Staff Advisor proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

One Day Training on Mass - production of Biocontrol Agents



The first one day paid training on Mass-Production of Bio control Agents to farmers was conducted on 11.02.2016 under Venture Capital Scheme at the department of Agricultural Entomology, TNAU, Coimbatore. Thirteen farmers (12 Male +1 Female) representing Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Salem and Thirunelveli districts attended the training programme. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr.K.Ramaraju, Director (CPPS). Dr.P.Murugesan, Director, Agri Business Development and Dr.T.Manoharan, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Entomology also spoke on the occasion. The farmers were exposed to the natural enemies of crop pests. They were shown the live and preserved specimens of natural enemies of crop pests and were taken to the Biocontrol laboratory to show mass production techniques of egg parasitoids, larval parasitoids, coccinellids and green lacewing predators. The farmers were subsequently given hands on training in mass culturing of coccinellids with red pumpkin, preparation of cumbu grain medium for Corcyra culture and carding of Corcyra eggs for parasitization by Trichogramma. The farmers had interaction with

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the scientists besides the feedback received from the farmers. The farmers registered for the training were provided with a kit containing soft copy of production procedures of Biocontrol agents, technical manual, Biocontrol Agents worth Rs.50/- and a pouch with certificate for attending the training. The programme was organised by Dr.S.Sridharan, Professor, Dr.P.A.Saravanan, Assistant Professor and Dr.R.Philip Sridhar, Professor in the Department of Agricultural Entomology.

Field Day on Cotton High Density Planting

A field day on Development of compact genotype in cotton, suitable for high density planting system and mechanical harvest under Tamil Nadu Cotton Cultivation Mission was conducted on 18.02.2016 at Cotton Research Station (CRS), Veppanthattai, Perambalur District in which 73 farmers from four blocks of Perambalur district participated and benefited. Dr.R.Kavimani, Professor and Head, CRS Welcomed the gathering. Th. P. Chandran, Joint Director of Agriculture, Perambalur presided over the programme. Dr. P.Amala Balu, Professor and Head, Department of Cotton, TNAU, Coimbatore briefed about current cotton varieties/ hybrids and technologies recommended for cultivation in Tamil Nadu. Dr. M.Gunasekaran, Professor and Head, Cotton Research Station, Srivilliputtur narrated the current scenario of cotton cultivation, importance of cotton high density planting, advantages of multipurpose tractor drawn implement in carrying out intercultural operations, special features of cotton advance culture TCH 1819 and its suitability for high density planting systems. Th. S.Ayyasamy, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Th.J.Kathiravan, Programme Coordinator, Hans Roever Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Perambalur also spoke on the occasion. A demonstration on intercultural operation using multipurpose tractor drawn implement and use of battery operated cotton picker were also done for the benefit of farmers. Dr.S.Sivakumar, Professor (PB & G), proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

“Jal Kranti Abhiyan” at TNAU



The Water technology Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore and Central Ground Water Board, Chennai jointly organized a workshop cum training programme “Jal Kranti Abhiyan” on 29th February 2016 at TNAU, Coimbatore to consolidate water conservation and management in the country through a holistic and integrated approach involving all stakeholders, making it a mass movement. The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation initiated Jal Kranti Abhiyan during 2015-16 for creating awareness on aspects of water security and water conservation. In the workshop, 100 participants including officials of state, central governments and farmers from various districts participated and benefited.

Er. A.Subburaj, Head of Office, CGWB, SECR, Chennai delivered the Welcome Address. Dr.B.J.Pandian, Director (WTC) and Shri.J.Chandra Shekhar Iyar, Chief Engineer, C&SR, CWC, Coimbatore offered felicitation. Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice - Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University delivered the Chief Guest Address and Stressed about the importance of water security and water conservation in the country. He emphasized the practice of conserving water traditionally by our

ancestors. Mr.K.Azhahia Nambi, Scientist-D, CGWB, SECR, Chennai delivered a formal Vote of Thanks.

Farmers Awareness Cum Training on Ground Water Contamination and Mitigation Measures



Farmers awareness cum training programme on Ground water Contamination and Mitigation Measures was organized by Water Technology Centre, TNAU on 03.03.16 at Govindthapuram village, Tirupur district under the scheme - ICAR Agri-Consortia Research Platform on Water - "Groundwater contamination due to geogenic factors and industrial effluents and its impact on food chain". Totally 40 participants from the village attended and benefited. Dr. A. Raviraj, Professor (SWC), WTC, delivered a lecture on measures to control the groundwater contamination, Dr. P. Jothimani, Assistant Professor (ENS), WTC, explained about groundwater contamination and its impact on food chain and Dr. D. Jayanthi, Assistant Professor (SS & AC), WTC, spoke about groundwater quality and its impact on agriculture.

NSS Special Camp at AC And RI Eachangkottai, Thanjavur



Agricultural College and Research Institute, Eachangkottai - conducted a NSS Special Camp in Karamanithoppu village of Poyyundarkottai Panchayat of Thanjavur District, from 04.03.2016 to 10.03.2016. Dr. K. Samiayyan, Dean, AC&RI, Eachangkottai inaugurated the camp and delivered the Inaugural Address emphasizing the importance of services to humanity, and also briefed about the various technologies to be adopted in this village for getting sustainable income and organic farming. The Headmistress of Primary School, Mrs. D. Tamildevi, Thiru. S. Subramanian, Forest Officer (Retd.) and Panchayat ward member Thiru. P. Govindharaj also felicitated. During the camp, various activities like Village statistics collection, Bank services, Awareness programme on Blood and Organ donation, Women education, Self employment, Dengue fever and its control, Ill effects of alcohol addiction and smoking and Clean India were organized to benefit the people of Karamanithoppu village. Demonstrations were also conducted on pulse wonder application, maintaining herbal and kitchen garden, finding food adulteration, etc. Other important activities like tree planting (200 nos.), dental checkup for elementary school children, veterinary camp for vaccinating 150 cattle against FMD, removing polythene bags in the village were conducted. Various cultural programmes on the above topics were conducted by the students and games competitions were organized for the Elementary school children of the village. In the valedictory function, on 10.03.2016, the Chief Guest Dr. K. N. Selvakumar, Dean, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Orathanadu, distributed prizes to

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the school children who won the sports and games competitions. The NSS representative Mr.C.Sankar proposed a formal Vote of Thanks. Dr. P. Sivakumar and Dr. K. Senthamizh, Assistant Professors, organized and co-ordinated the NSS special camp with Sevi. P. Sumitha, the NSS girls' representative.

Tamil Nadu Young Scientist Award (Agricultural Sciences) for The Year 2014

Dr. M. Suganthy, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) working in the Department of Medicinal and Aromatic Crops, HC & RI, won the "Tamil Nadu Young Scientist Award for the year 2014" in the discipline of Agricultural Sciences for her contribution. The award is

instituted by Science City, Department of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu. She received the award from the Honourable Minister for Higher Education Thiru. P. Palaniappan on 29.02.2016 during the Chennai Science Festival 2016.

TNAU Student Receives Nammazhvar Award

Mr. D.Balasanakar, Ph.D., Scholar, Department of Vegetable Crops, HC &RI, TNAU has bestowed with "Nammazhvar Organic Farming Student Award – 2015 by Tamilan Television on 14.02.2016 for his M.Sc. research work on "Organic Nutrient Management in Bhendi . The award holds a citation and a memento.

New Schemes obtained

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Principal / Co - Principal Investigator	Budget (Lakh Rs.)	Duration	Funding agency
1.	Livelihood enhancement through bee keeping in Horticultural system: A multi-stakeholder analysis	Dr. K. Suresh, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology), AC &RI, Madurai	25.17	2016 - 2017	ICAR - Extramural Research Project
2.	Interspecific hybridization and grafting in jasmine for off-season flowering and flower quality	Dr.M.Ganga Assistant Professor (Horticulture) Department of Floriculture and Landscaping, HC & RI, TNAU, Coimbatore	19.43	2016 - 2017	ICAR - Extramural Research Project
3.	Standardization of extraction methods and quantification of bio-colourants from potential ornamental flowers	Dr.S.P.Thamaraiselvi Assistant Professor (Horticulture) Department of Floriculture and Landscaping, HC &RI, TNAU, Coimbatore	24.75	2016 - 2017	ICAR - Extramural Research Project

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