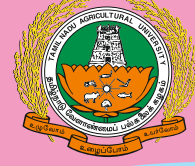


TNAU News

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore - 641 003



September
2019
Vol. 71
No. 09

Patron : Dr. N. Kumar
Vice-Chancellor

Editor : Dr. J. Venkata Pirabu
Director, Planning & Monitoring



From the VC's desk...

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University profusely thank the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Shri. Edapadi K. Palanisamy for principally allocating Rupees five crore to the Centre for Plant Protection Studies for conducting research to contain the devastating Fall Army Worm in maize.

In continuation of the announcement by Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister for establishing Amma Green Park at Guindy, Chennai and its genesis, tree planting programme was organized which was initiated by Thiru. K. Shanmugam, Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Thiru. Gagandeep Singh Bedi, Agricultural Production Commissioner along with Thiru. Shunchonngam Jatak Chiru, Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Government of Tamil Nadu.

Discussions were held with Dr. Rabi Mohter, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and other faculties of American University of Beirut during 5-7, September 2019 on improving the quality of agricultural education at High School level itself and a presentation on Experiential Learning programme adopted at TNAU was made.

The collective efforts of the University showcased by the Directorate of Agri Business Management was applauded which resulted in securing a project on Enhancing the Learning Outcome, Employability and Entrepreneurial Skills of Farm Graduates through excellence in education for a period of 24 months with a budget of Rs. 24.86 crore from ICAR, New Delhi under National Agricultural Higher Education



Project (NAHEP) - Institutional Development Plan (IDP) with an aim to improve the learning ability of students to make them leaders in managing the agribusiness.

A National Conference on Climate smart agriculture for livelihood security: Challenges and opportunities, was organized at Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute (ADAC&RI), Navalurkuttapatu, Tiruchirapalli, on 13-14th September, 2019 to focus on the strategies to combat climate change.

A massive tree planting programme was organized at the Department of Agronomy, Directorate of Crop Management with a view to promote Agroforestry on 25.09.2019. Around 300 tree saplings were planted along with fodder grass CO (BN) 5 as intercrop. The State Planning Commission funded project under the Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives (TANII) scheme on Pelletization of forage crops with a budget outlay of Rs. 210 lakh for enhancing livestock productivity was also kick started.

Department of Forest Biology and Tree Improvement at Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam organized one day training workshop on Natural Dyes on 24.9.2019 for the promotion, commercialization, post-harvest processing and industrial application of annatto as a source of natural dye.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between TNAU and Integrated Agriculture Cooperative Malaysia (InAgMa) Selongor, Malaysia on 25.09.2019 on consultancy mode to promote cooperative agriculture in Malaysia through technical guidance and consultation. University Grants Commission, New Delhi sponsored National seminar on Mushroom - Rise of research and retreats for humanity was held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 30.09.2019. Due emphasis was given to mushroom cultivation as an economically smart process to boost rural economy, elevate livelihood and address the protein malnutrition issue besides reduction in environmental pollution.

A Scientist - a day programme, a new programme of meeting young scientists working in TNAU was initiated on 20.09.2019. The scientific team from the Department of Remote Sensing and GIS and Madras Institute of Technology, Chennai demonstrated the drone spraying using hexa-copter, a novel initiative of artificial intelligence.

A two days State level workshop on Intellectual Property Rights for the benefit of young scientists and research scholars was organized by the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), TNAU in association with Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) during 27-28th September, 2019 at Coimbatore to underscore the scope of Intellectual Property protection in agricultural sector and its necessity to attain Institute of Eminence.

The University Library received the Best J-Gate @ CeRA (Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture) user Profile Registrations Award 2019 from ICAR and J-Gate Informatics at the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), GKVK, Bengaluru. The University occupies 3rd place among the State Agricultural Universities in CeRA utilization.

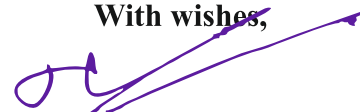
In a bid to motivate the farming community, a District level farmers training on high-tech orchid cultivation was organized at Rincho Orchid farm in Perunchilambu by Floriculture Research Station, Thoivalai.

The Placement cell of Agricultural College and Research Institute, Vazhavachanur organized a one day workshop on Employability and Empowerment Skill to train on resume preparation, interview skills and orientation on bank exams.

A project Ainthinai Vanam – mass planting of native tree species was successfully implemented at Agricultural College and Research Institute (AC & RI), Eachangkottai to promote the concept to restore and rejuvenate the Ecosystem.

More to come

With wishes,



(N. Kumar)

Discussion Meeting with the Hon'ble Chief Minister on Fall Army Worm

Convincing discussions held by the scientists of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on



19.09.2019 regarding the strategies adopted for containing the invasive pest Fall army worm resulted in a sanction of Rs.5 crore as a special grant to fine tune the research in containing the Fall army worm.

Tree Planting Programme at Amma Green Park, Chennai

In the light of the Budget Speech Announcement by Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister



made during 2018-19 for Establishment of Amma Green Park at Guindy, Chennai continuing with its establishment, Tree planting programme was organized at the site office on 29.09.2019. The

occasion was presided by Thiru. K. Shanmugam, I.A.S., Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu in the presence of Thiru.Gagandeep Singh Bedi, I.A.S., Agricultural Production Commissioner and Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu along with Thiru. Shunchonngam Jatak Chiru, I.A.S., Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Government of Tamil Nadu. Officials from TNAU and Directorate of Agricultural Marketing and Agri-Business participated in the programme.

National Conference on Climate Smart Agriculture for Livelihood Security

National Conference on Climate smart agriculture for livelihood security: Challenges and



opportunities was organized at Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute (ADAC&RI), Navalurkuttapatu, Tiruchirapalli on 13-14th September, 2019. The Conference was inaugurated by Dr. K. Alagu sundaram, Deputy Director General, ICAR, New Delhi and was presided over by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU delivered the key note address and Dr. S.Uma, Director, National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB) delivered the special address. Dr. K.V. Peter, Former Vice-Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University offered felicitations. A Compendium of abstracts of the

research papers presented in the Conference was released by the Vice-Chancellor of TNAU. During valedictory session, Dr. M.J. Kaledhonkar, Project – Coordinator, AICRP on Salt affected soils delivered the Special address while Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU and President, MASU delivered the valedictory address. Dr. S. Parthiban, Professor and Head, Fruit Science, HC&RI (Women), Tiruchirapalli proposed vote of thanks.

Annual Workshop of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Agroforestry

The Annual Workshop of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Agroforestry was organized at Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam along with Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi during 18-20th September, 2019. Nearly 60 scientists representing 20 states participated. During the inaugural session, Dr. K.T. Parthiban, Professor and Head, Department of Agroforestry



welcomed the gathering and the Dean Dr. K.K. Suresh delivered the introductory remarks and highlighted the achievements. The Coordinator's report was presented by Dr. Anil Kumar, Project Coordinator cum Director, CAFRI, Jhansi and Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore offered the special

address. The Presidential address was offered by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. He appreciated the Dean and the faculty for organizing the event and emphasized the importance of Agroforestry Research. Former Heads of the Departments and Officer In-charge of the AICRP projects of Forest College and Research Institute were honoured by the Vice-Chancellor. The first issue of the Agroforestry News was released in the function. A formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr.P. Rajendran, Officer In-Charge of AICRP on Agroforestry. An enmasse tree planting was done as a part of the function.

Brainstorming Session on Developing IPDM Packages for Coconut

Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, Horticultural College and Research Institute (HC&RI), Coimbatore organized a Brainstorming session on Developing Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM) packages for emerging pests and diseases of coconut on 19.09.2019 at TNAU,



Coimbatore. Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean (Horticulture), HC&RI, Coimbatore, welcomed the gathering. Dr. H.P Maheswarappa, Project Coordinator (Palms), Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod detailed the adoption of coconut IPDM packages. Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore delivered the presidential note.

Dr. P. Rethinam, Former Executive Director, Asia Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), Coimbatore delivered the keynotes address and chaired the technical session. Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research and Dr. T. Raguchander, Director (i/c), Centre for Plant Protection Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore addressed the gathering.

Launch of ICAR - NAHEP Sponsored Institutional Development Plan

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University secured the project on Enhancing the Learning Outcome, Employability and Entrepreneurial Skills of Farm Graduates through excellence in education for a period of 24 months with a budget of Rs. 24.86



crore from ICAR, New Delhi under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) - Institutional Development Plan (IDP) with an aim to focus on the students to improve the learning ability to make them leaders in managing the agribusiness. Dr. R.C. Agrawal, National Director,



NAHEP and Deputy Director General (Education), ICAR, New Delhi inaugurated the IDP Launch Programme on 21.09.2019. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore in his presidential note recalled the project on Agricultural Human Resources Development Project's successful implementation during 2000 and the ICAR for sanctioning the grant. Dr. P. Ramasundaram, National Coordinator (IDP), ICAR, New Delhi, an alumnus of TNAU delineated the key issues of the project. Dr. S.D. Sivakumar, Director, Agri Business Development and Principal Investigator of the project welcomed the gathering while Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Dean (Agriculture) proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Training Workshop on Natural Dyes

One day training workshop on Natural Dyes was organized on 24.09.2019 by the Department of Forest Biology and Tree Improvement at Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam as a part of the SPC - TANII funded project on Promotion, commercialization, post-harvest processing and industrial application of annatto (*Bixa orellana L.*) as a source of natural dye. Dr. K.K. Suresh, Dean (Forestry) welcomed the gathering. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU released a booklet on Annatto and delivered the presidential address. He insisted to come out with solid outcome on



natural dyes and focus future line of work on natural dyes, particularly on its market feasibility. Shri. S.J. Chiru, IAS, Principal Secretary and Commissioner, Agricultural Marketing and Agri business, Government of Tamil Nadu in his Chief Guest address appreciated the efforts of the scientists of Forest College and stressed the importance of natural dyes. Dr. Prakash Vasudevan, Director, SITRA was the guest of honour and delivered the special address. Dr. J. Venkata Pirabu, Director (Planning & Monitoring), Dr. S.D. Sivakumar, Director (ABD) and Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU felicitated the workshop. The participants were taken for a field visit to the Dye Park, dye extraction unit, exhibition and demonstration on yarn dyeing. About 64 delegates representing research institutes, dye industries, dyers, weavers and marketing industries participated in the workshop.

State Level Technical Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights

The Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), TNAU in association with Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) organized two days State level workshop on Intellectual Property Rights during 27-28th September, 2019 at TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor



inaugurated the workshop and sensitized the faculty members and research scholars on the importance of protecting the Intellectual Property (IP) of the inventions made by them. Dr. R. Srinivasan, Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology in his special address highlighted the scope of Intellectual Property protection in agricultural sector. Shri. Prasanth Kumar, Senior Controller of Geographical Indications, GI Registry, Chennai, Shri. Manoj Madhavan, Assistant Controller of Patents and Design, Registered Patent Agents from TNSCST, Chennai delivered lectures relating to the procedures in protecting various forms of Intellectual Property Rights. Dr. D. Suresh Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics welcomed the gathering and Dr. M. Anjugam, Professor, Intellectual Property Management Cell, TNAU proposed vote of thanks.

Motiramani Memorial Lecture on Metal Organic Frameworks

The 26th Dr. D.P. Motiramani Memorial Lecture was organized by Coimbatore Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science on 27.09.2019. Dr. P. Malarvizhi, Professor and Head, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry welcomed the gathering. She recalled the contributions of Dr. D.P. Motiramani, former Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University,



Jorhat, an eminent Soil Scientist. Dr. R. Santhi, Director, Directorate of Natural Resource Management introduced the speaker, Dr. P. Suresh Kumar, Professor and Head, Radioisotope Laboratory, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, presided over the function. In his presidential note, he underscored that healthy soil is the foundation on which sustainable agriculture is built. Dr. P. Suresh Kumar, in his lecture spoke on Metal organic frameworks and its futuristic option for clean environment and pollution control as a cause of concern. Dr. D. Vasanthi, Professor (SS&AC) and Vice President, Indian Society of Soil Science, Coimbatore Chapter proposed the vote of thanks.

National Seminar on Mushroom - Rise of Research and Retreats for Humanity

The inaugural function of the University Grants Commission (UGC) sponsored National seminar on mushroom - Rise of research and retreats for humanity was held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 30.09.2019. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU delivered the presidential address and emphasized the mushroom cultivation as an economically smart process for integrated agriculture residue management to boost rural economy, upliftment of livelihood and to address protein malnutrition besides reduction in environmental pollution. Dr. A.S. Krishna



moorthy, Registrar, TNAU and UGC Co-ordinator stated that globally, mushroom is a million dollar business which improves public private partnership and contributes for doubling farmers' income. Dr. Samir Ranjan Sikdar, Professor, Bose Institute, Kolkatta, Dr. T. Raguchander, Dean, Centre for Students' Welfare (CSW), TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr. K. Prabakar, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies (CPPS), TNAU, Coimbatore offered their felicitations. Dr. M. Muthamilan, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Pathology, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering.

FIELD VISITS AND REVIEWS

Site Selection for the Establishment of New KVK in the Nilgiris District

The ICAR Site Selection Committee comprising Dr. S.N. Puri, Former Vice-Chancellor, Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal (Chairman), Dr. D. Raji Reddy, Director of Extension Education, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (JNTSAU), Hyderabad, Dr. A.H. Prakash, Project Coordinator & Head, Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR) Regional Station, Coimbatore, Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Hyderabad and Mrs. R. Chita Devi, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore visited Nilgiris district



during 14-15th, September 2019 for the establishment of new Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK). Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Director of Extension Education, Dr. D. Keisar Lourdusamy, Associate Professor & Head, Horticultural Research Station, Ooty and Scientists of TNAU accompanied the Committee.

Vice Chancellor's visit to Cotton Research Station, Veppanthattai

Vice-Chancellor visited the Cotton Research Station, Veppanthattai on 12.09.2019 and reviewed the ongoing research, extension and farm activities. The Professor and Head Dr. S. Sivakumar presented the research achievements, station activities and efforts taken to strengthen the infrastructure. Vice-chancellor emphasized to create Pilot demonstration



models for agro forestry for goat unit, medicinal plants for dry land system, fodder crops, small millets and alternate crops like perennial castor to the rainfed farming system to reap higher economic benefits by farmers of Perambalur District. He also suggested to utilize wild species in breeding programs and to study the drought tolerance of advanced compact type cotton cultures evolved for High Density Planting System and other promising cultures including Extra Long Staple types. He emphasized to

conduct necessary field trials for the timely release of compact cotton variety suitable for mechanized cultivation.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Jal Shakti Abhiyan Krishi Mela Organized by KVKs

Jal Shakti Abhiyan Krishi Mela was organized on 03.09.2019 at KVK, Salem, Madurai and Sirugamani by inviting farmers, students,



extension officials and other stakeholders. The officials deliberated the importance of water harvesting and storage techniques. The dignitaries inaugurated the exhibition stalls and released the publications.

Awareness Programme on International Seed Certification

One day Awareness Programme on International Seed Certification was organized at



Seed Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore under the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) Seed Scheme on 11.09.2019 to 25 Seed Certification Officers of Tamil Nadu, eight Private Seed Producers and 24 Scientists of TNAU with the total budget of Rs.0.70 lakhs. Dr.K.Keshavulu, Director and Designated Authority, OECD Seed scheme, TSSOCA, Hyderabad gave the special address. Director of Research, Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, Director, Seed Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore and Director of Seed Certification and Organic Certification felicitated the programme.

Tree Planting Drive at TNAU-KVKs

An awareness programme and a large scale tree planting drive along with farmers interaction was organized at all the 14 TNAU-KVKs on 17.09.2019. A total of 3455 farmers participated and benefitted and 917 trees were planted at KVKs and 15493 tree saplings were



distributed to the farmers. The tree species included teak, simarouba, mahogany, guava, acid lime, malai vembu, kumil / white teak, Indian rosewood, red sanders, neem and neer maruthu. Pamphlets on Agroforestry and Tree cultivation were also distributed to the farmers.

A Scientist - A Day Programme

A Scientist - a day programme, a new programme of meeting young scientists working in TNAU who have been selected at random to suggest possible ways of shaping their career besides advising them to propose projects in the areas of interest was started. Under this



programme, Dr. Rajaakumar, Assistant Professor (Agronomy), Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam met the Vice-Chancellor on 20.09.2019 and received the advices.

Establishment of Agroforestry Model

Department of Agronomy, Directorate of Crop Management organized a massive tree planting programme at Field No. 70 of Eastern Block Farm under the establishment of Agroforestry Phase-I on 25.09.2019. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided the tree planting event. Dr. K.K. Krishna murthi, Chairman &



Managing Trustee, Krishnamurthi International Agricultural Development Foundation (KIADEF) inaugurated the tree planting and Dr. P Subbian, Former Registrar, TNAU felicitated the occasion. Around 300 tree saplings were planted along with fodder grass as intercrop. Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Director (Crop Management) welcomed the gathering and Dr. C.R. Chinnamuthu, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy proposed the vote of thanks. University officers, Professor and Heads of Departments, Staff and Students participated.

Inauguration of TANII Project on Pelletization of Fodder Crops

On 25.09.2019, Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of TNAU inaugurated a project on Pelletization of forage crops funded by the State Planning Commission under the Tamil Nadu



Innovation Initiatives (TANII), Government of Tamil Nadu with a budget outlay of Rs. 210 lakhs for enhancing livestock productivity. Dr. S.R. Sreerangasamy, Former Director, School of Genetics and Centre for Plant Molecular Biology (CPMB), University Officers, Retired Professors, Heads of various Departments, teaching faculty and the students were present. Dr. S. Geetha, Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics welcomed the gathering. The Vice-Chancellor congratulated the team members for

initiating the project and emphasized for timely completion and upscaling for the farmers benefits. The earmarked field was planted with sets of the Cumbu Napier Hybrid CO (BN) 5 by all the participants. Irrigation will be done by automated drip fertigation system and the green fodder harvested from this field will be utilized for pellet production.

MoU Signed between TNAU and InAgMa, Malaysia

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between TNAU and Integrated Agriculture Cooperative Malaysia (InAgMa)



Selongor, Malaysia on 25.09.2019 on consultancy mode. Mr. Paul Selvam Devadoss, Chairman and Dato Seri. Ann Marianthony, Treasurer of InAgMa signed the documents along with Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor. InAgMa has a huge plan for cooperative agriculture in approximately 3000 hectares in Negeri Sembilan State, Malaysia through technical guidance and in consultation with the different Directorates of TNAU.

Demonstration of Drone Spraying in TNAU

The demonstration of Drone spraying in paddy fields of University farm was inaugurated by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU on 30.09.2019. The Vice-Chancellor opined that the research efforts of TNAU on Drone technology for



spraying would help farmers of Tamil Nadu in timely and effective input management under labor shortages. The scientific team from TNAU Remote sensing and Madras Institute of Technology, Chennai led by Dr. S. Pazhanivelan,



Professor and Head, Department of Remote Sensing and GIS demonstrated the drone spraying using hexa-copter with a payload of 10 litres. Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research and Dr.R. Santhi, Director, Directorate of Natural resource Management addressed the gathering. The scientists and students of TNAU participated.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Diploma in Agri-inputs Candidates Received their Certificates

The Certificates distribution ceremony for the Diploma in Agri-Inputs candidates was organized by the Directorate of Open and



Distance Learning on 21.09.2019 at Anna Auditorium, TNAU, Coimbatore. The function was presided over by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU Coimbatore. Mr. M. Surendra mohan, General Manager, Havukkāl and Warwick Group, Kothagiri was the Chief guest. The Registrar and other University Officers participated and offered their felicitations. Former Directors of DODL were honoured during the Award Ceremony. About 372 Diploma in Agri-inputs students of 2016 and 2017 batch received certificates. State Rank Holders and Centre wise Rank holders were honoured with shields and medals. The Vice-Chancellor was awarded with the Agriculture Trade and Technology Award -2019 by the Tamil Nadu Agro Input Traders Association, Kumbakonam. Dr. M. Ananthan, Director (ODL) welcomed the gathering and Dr. K.Selvarasu, Professor (Tamil), ODL proposed a formal vote of thanks.

TNAU Library Received the Award



The University Library of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore received the Best J-Gate @ CeRA (Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture) user Profile Registrations Award” 2019 from ICAR and J-Gate Informatics in a function organized at the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), GKVK, Bengaluru, on 14.09.2019. The award was received by Dr. C. Prema, Librarian, University Library, TNAU from the Vice-Chancellor, UAS, GKVK, Bengaluru. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University also stands third among the State Agricultural Universities in CeRA usage.

TRAININGS

Training on Value Addition of Fruits

A one day training on Value addition of fruits was organized by the Department of Post harvest Technology, Horticultural College and



Research Institute (HC&RI), Periyakulam on 11.09.2019. Dr.T.Arumugam, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam inaugurated and highlighted the importance of the programme. Dr. J. Rajangam, Professor and Head, Department of Post harvest Technology expressed the potential utilization of amla and acid lime for commercial product making and marketing. During the training, value added products were prepared and demonstrated to the entrepreneurs.

Training on Orchid Cultivation

District level farmers training on orchid cultivation was organized at Rincho Orchid farm in Perunchilambu by Floriculture Research Station, Thovalai on 17.09.2019. A total of 45 farmers from Kanyakumari district attended the training. Dr. J. Prem Joshua, Professor and Head,



Floriculture Research Station Thovalai welcomed the gathering. The training was inaugurated by Mr. Ashok Macrin, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Kanyakumari District. Mr. Rama krishnan, Managing Director of Rincho Orchid also stressed the need for cut flower and hi-tech cultivation practices. The Deputy Director (Horticulture), Kanyakumari insisted upon the farmers to undertake the orchid cultivation and adopt hitech cultivation practices.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Student Club Inauguration and Teachers' day Celebration

Students Club 2019 was inaugurated on 03.09.2019 at Forest College and Research Institute (FC&RI), Mettupalayam. Thiru. I. Anwardeen, IFS, Additional PCCF (Principal Chief Conservator of Forests) of the State Forest Department and the first Indian Forest Service Officer of FC&RI was the Chief Guest. Teachers' Day was celebrated on 05.09.2019. Dr.K.K.Suresh, Dean (FC&RI) presided



over the celebration and delivered the special address. All the Heads of the Departments and the Staff members shared their memorable experiences with the students on the occasion.

Employability and Empowerment Skill Training

The Placement cell of Agricultural College and Research Institute, Vazhavachanur organized a one day workshop on Employability and Empowerment Skill in co-ordination with the



T.I.M.E Institute, Vellore on 04.09.2019. Dr. M. Pandiyan, Dean in his inaugural address spoke on the importance of students' courage, determination and perseverance to empower them to achieve their placement in reputed institutes. Dr. S. Manickam, Professor and Head (Agronomy) cum Placement Officer welcomed the gathering. Dr. R.K.Vimal Nandhan, Director, T.I.M.E delivered the lecture on resume preparation, interview skills and orientation on bank exams.

Ainthinai Vanam – Native Forest Tree Planting at AC & RI, Eachangkottai

A project Ainthinai Vanam – Mass planting of native tree species was successfully executed at Agricultural College and Research Institute (AC & RI), Eachangkottai on 05.09.2019. The



project was executed in collaboration with RCC, Poyyundarkottai and Rotary club of Thanjavur. The inauguration function was presided by Dr. R. Rajendran, Dean, AC & RI, Eachangkottai. Dr. M.K. Shiva, Professor (Forestry), FC & RI, Mettupalayam explained the concept of Ainthinai Vanam as crowd planting of native tree species suitable to the soil. Planting of native tree species was taken up by NSS students of AC & RI Eachangkottai and NSS students of Girls Higher Secondary School, Eachangkottai.

TNAU Students' Visit to Cornell University

IARD 4020 (International Agriculture and Rural Development) is an International Scholarship offered by Cornell Sadhguru Foundation for Development (CSFD) to students from selected universities. For IARD 2019-20, four students from Department of Agricultural



Extension and Rural Sociology, TNAU, Coimbatore along with Dr. P. Balaji, Assistant Professor from Department of Agricultural Rural Management were selected from TNAU. The team visited Cornell University for two weeks from 15 - 28th September 2019. The course consisted of exposure visits, classroom lectures and interactions with key players in agriculture sector.

NSS Day Celebration at TNAU

The 51st NSS Day was celebrated on 24.09.2019 at Agricultural College and Research

Institute, Coimbatore. The programme was presided by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU and felicitated by Dr. B. Shridar, Dean (Agricultural Engineering). Smt. K.Chithralega, Director In-charge of All India Radio, Coimbatore and the Alumna of TNAU was the Chief guest. In his presidential address, the Vice-Chancellor, TNAU



insisted the volunteers to keep the surroundings and our nation Green and Clean. The programme began with the lighting of lamp followed by NSS song by the volunteers. Certificates and prizes were distributed to the NSS volunteers as a token of appreciation. More than 600 volunteers participated in the programme. Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Dean (Agriculture), Dr. T. Raguchander, Dean (Centre for Students Welfare), University Officers, Heads of Departments and faculties attended the programme.

From
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