



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore - 641 003

TNAU NEWS

July 2021

VC's Desk

Thiru. M.R.K. Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu visited TNAU, Coimbatore on 28.07.2021 and inspected the research activities, various technologies and improved varieties developed by the University. Hon'ble Minister visited the Ultra High Density Mango planted field besides witnessing the demonstration of Drone Technology, Arid fruit zone orchard and the renovated Botanical garden. Hon'ble Minister also inaugurated the Vermicompost unit and the Pelletization unit of Forage crops at the University.



Infrastructure facilities *viz.*, Seed Cold Storage Unit, two units of Mist Chambers and Insect Proof Net house developed under Revolving Fund (Seeds) and NADP schemes of the Department of Vegetable Science, Horticultural College and Research Institute (HC&RI), Periyakulam were inaugurated on 02.07.2021. Certificate course on 'Coconut Production Technology' under ODL mode was inaugurated at ARS, Vaigai Dam on 03.07.2021.

Online Certificate courses in collaboration with 361 Degree Minds Pvt. Ltd. Chennai was officially launched at a function organized at TNAU, Coimbatore on 09.07.2021.

Dr. C. Sylendrababu, IPS, DGP of Tamil Nadu visited Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai on 14.07.2021 and interacted with the Dean and faculties.

Virtual training programme on 'Cotton cultivation' to address the cotton growing farmers of our state was conducted on 15.07.2021 by the Department of Cotton, Centre for Plant breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore.



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Patron : Dr. N. Kumar
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Director, Planning & Monitoring
Editorial Committee : Dr. R. Kalpana
Associate Professor (Agronomy)
Dr. M. Kumar
Professor (Plant Breeding & Genetics)

In commemoration of the TNAU Golden Jubilee, Workshop on 'Investor Awareness Programme on Commodity Derivative Markets' was organized on 19.07.2021 though online by the Department of Agricultural Economics, Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), TNAU, Coimbatore.

Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore and Indian Society of Plant Breeders (ISPB) functioning at TNAU, Coimbatore jointly organized Mendel's Day Celebration on 20.07.2021 in commemoration of 200th birth anniversary of Gregor Johann Mendel.

A preliminary meeting to discuss about the modalities of conduct of online admission, online entrance examinations and final selection of students for the Masters and Doctoral programmes offered by the University was held on 26.07.2021.

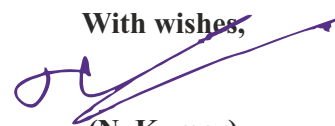
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The IQAC also conducted a Workshop on 'Applications of Machine learning and Deep learning algorithm in Agriculture' to orient the young faculty on artificial intelligence and to decipher the concept and algorithm of machine learning and deep learning during 28-30, July, 2021.

Department of Crop Physiology, TNAU Coimbatore organized a State level Farmers' Awareness Programme on 'Diagnosis and Management of Physiological and Nutritional disorders in Crops' on 29.07.2021 in commemoration of TNAU Golden Jubilee Year 2021.

I delivered a guest lecture on High Density Planting in Mango, the area in which I specialized, to the Farmers and KVK scientists on 9.7.2021 which was organized by the Directorate of Extension Education and also chaired the 25th Research Advisory Committee Meeting of ICAR – Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow on 22 July 2021 and the Exit Meeting of the Peer Review Team constituted by ICAR under my Chairmanship for the assessment of Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan and its constituent colleges and programmes was held on 30 July 2021.

With wishes,



(N. Kumar)

Events Organized at TNAU Main Campus

Visit of Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture to TNAU

Thiru. M.R.K. Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu visited TNAU, Coimbatore on 28.07.2021 and overseen the research activities, various technologies and improved varieties developed by the University. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU accompanied the Hon'ble Minister and explained various activities of TNAU. Thiru. C. Samayamoorthy, IAS, Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary, Thiru.A.Annadurai, IAS, Director of



Agriculture, Dr. R. Brindha Devi, IAS, Director of Horticulture & Plantation Crops, Thiru. M. Vallalar, IAS, Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri business and Thiru. R. Murugesan, Chief Engineer, Agri. Engg also participated. The dignitaries participated in the Farmers' Interactive Meeting and witnessed the following activities at TNAU:

Demonstration of Drone Spraying



Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research and Dr. R. Santhi, Director (NRM) along with the scientific team lead by Dr. S. Pazhanivelan, Professor and Head, Department of Remote Sensing and GIS demonstrated the capabilities of hybrid drone in spraying nutrients.

Visit to College Orchard

Hon'ble Minister visited the Orchard, HC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. L. Pugalendhi, Dean explained the various horticultural activities namely High Density and Ultra High Density Planting in Mango, Germplasm



maintenance in Banana, Cultivation of Dragon fruit, Grafting in Brinjal, Onion seed production, Crop Cafeteria of TNAU released varieties of Vegetable crops, Hydroponic systems in vegetables and exhibited the varieties and technologies of Horticulture. Followed by this,



Minister visited the crop Cafeteria for Arid Zone Fruit crops and the Renovated Botanical Garden, TNAU, Coimbatore.

Inauguration of Accelerated Vermicompost Production Unit

Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the accelerated vermicompost production unit at the Department of Agronomy established under Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiative Scheme (TANII) with a budget outlay of Rs. 1 crore.



Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Director, Crop Management detailed the processes involved in the Accelerated Vermicompost Production Technology. Dr. C.R. Chinnamuthu, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy and scientists of Central Farm Unit coordinated the visit.

Inauguration of Fodder Pellet Unit

Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the fodder pellet production unit which was established under the TANII project on 'Pelletization of



Forage Crops for enhancing livestock productivity' for the production of green fodder pellets at the Department of Forage Crops, CPBG, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. S. Geetha, Director,

CPBG elaborated the activities of fodder pellet production unit and also high yielding varieties in agricultural crops displayed in the exhibition. Dr.K.N.Ganesan, Professor & Head and scientists coordinated the programme.

Officials met the Hon'ble Minister at Krishnagiri

The Public hearing cum interaction meeting to obtain the views of farmers and their representatives on the preparation of separate agricultural budget headed by Thiru.M.R.K.Panneerselvam, Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare



was convened at the Collectorate, Krishnagiri on 29.07.2021. Dr. P. Parasuraman, Professor and Head, Regional Research Station (RRS), Paiyur and Dr. C. Sivakumar, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Pappaparatti met the Hon'ble Minister, Shri. C. Samayamoorthy, Agricultural



Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Directors of Agriculture and Horticulture and explained the activities of the

Research station / KVK. They also attended the opinion seeking meeting.

Tamil Nadu DGP visited AC&RI, Madurai

Dr.C.Sylendrababu, IPS, Director General of Police of Tamil Nadu visited Agricultural College and Research Institute,



Madurai on 14.07.2021 and interacted with Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI and Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI and other teaching faculties. He stressed the importance of science and technology and informed the faculties to teach students about Nanotechnology, Biotechnology and Food Technology which could play a crucial role in near future and to help the farmers to identify their problems through effective transfer of technologies.

Launching of Online Certificate Courses

The official launching of Online Certificate Courses in collaboration with 361 Degree Minds Pvt. Ltd. Chennai was held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 09.07.2021. The programme was presided by Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU. Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning briefed about the Online Certificate Courses. Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar and Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore felicitated. Vice-Chancellor in his inaugural address emphasized that the new innovative technologies developed by TNAU should be disseminated at the global level through online mode. Mr.Terrence Sakayaraj,



CEO (Consumer Business), Mr. Krish Ramachandran, Chief Strategy Officer and Mr.Sai Sumanth, CEO (Enterprise Business) from 361 Degree Minds Consulting Pvt. Ltd., Chennai highlighted the salient features of Online Platform. University Officers, Heads of the Departments and Faculties attended the programme both offline and online. Students who have enrolled for the courses also attended the programme online. Dr.B.Anita, Professor (ODL) welcomed the gathering. Dr.K.Rajamanickam, Adjunct Professor, ODL proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Virtual Training Programme on 'Cotton Cultivation'

Department of Cotton, Centre for Plant breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore conducted a virtual training programme on 'Cotton cultivation' on 15.07.2021 to apprise the cotton growing farmers with the latest technical knowledge with the support of public and private KVKs. The training was presided by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU and he delivered the presidential address. He emphasized about mechanizing cotton cultivation and appealed to the farming community to cultivate TNAU CO 17 variety which is well suited for high density planting. Dr. S. Geetha, Director, CPBG welcomed the gathering. Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Director of Extension Education and Dr. K. Prabakar, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies felicitated. The scientists of Department of



Cotton handled the technical sessions. More than 100 participants joined virtually and benefited through this training. Dr. S. Rajeswari, Professor and Head, Department of Cotton proposed a vote of thanks.

Workshop on Investor Awareness Programme on Commodity Derivative Markets

The Department of Agricultural Economics, Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), TNAU, Coimbatore organized the TNAU Golden Jubilee Workshop on 'Investor Awareness Programme on Commodity Derivative Markets' on 19.07.2021 though online mode. Dr. D. Suresh Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed. Dr. K.R. Ashok, Director, CARDS offered felicitations. Dr. J.S. Kennedy, Dean (SPGS) inaugurated the programme and delivered the inaugural address. Mr. Ratnesh Mishra, Deputy Manager, NCDEX, New Delhi delivered a lecture on 'Commodity Derivative Markets and its role in agriculture'. Post graduate



students of Social Sciences including Agricultural Economics, Agricultural and Rural Management and Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology of TNAU main campus and Constituent colleges participated. A total of 160 participants attended the programme. Dr. R. Parimalarangan, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics proposed a vote of thanks.

The Department of Agricultural Economics, TNAU, Coimbatore also organized a Webinar series as part of NAHEP-IDP activities utilizing the facilities available at the Artificial Intelligence & Big Data Analytics (AI & BDA) Lab. Dr. C. Ganeshkumar, a faculty of IIPM, Bangalore delivered a lecture on Data Visualization using Tableau on 29.07.2021 and Dr. Anand Mahalingam, Vice-President, MyHealthcare AI, Bangalore delivered a lecture on Introduction to Big Data Analytics on 30.07.2021. During the inaugural function held at CARDS, Dr. D. Suresh Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics welcomed the gathering. Dr. K.R. Ashok, Director, CARDS felicitated and Dr.S.D.Sivakumar, Director, ABD, TNAU inaugurated the webinar and delivered the inaugural address. Dr. K.M. Shivakumar, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics proposed a vote of thanks. Around 100 scientists from various colleges and research stations participated and benefitted.

Mendel's Day Celebration

Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore and Indian Society of Plant Breeders (ISPB) functioning at TNAU, Coimbatore jointly organized Mendel's Day on 20.07.2021 in commemoration of 200th birth anniversary of Gregor Johann Mendel, fondly known as the Father of Genetics. Dr. S. Geetha, Director, CPBG and President, ISPB welcomed the gathering. Dr. C.R. Anandakumar, Former

Director, CPBG and Registrar, TNAU, Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore and Dr. K. Ganesamurthy, Professor and Head, Department of Rice felicitated. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore delivered the presidential address and lauded the efforts taken by the Centre to organize such an event which will invigorate the minds of teaching faculty and student's community. The guest speaker Dr. M. Maheswaran, Former Director of Research, TNAU delivered a lecture on 'Before and After Mendel - Beyond Mendelism' in which he detailed the facts of Mendel's findings and how it was rediscovered later. Various competitions were conducted online to the UG students of Constituent colleges. More than eight



hundred participants including students, researchers, academicians and scientists from TNAU and other states participated. Dr. S. Rajeswari, Professor and Head, Department of Cotton and Secretary, ISPB proposed a vote of thanks.

PG Admission Committee Meeting

A preliminary meeting to discuss about the modalities of conduct of online admission, online entrance examinations and final selection of students for the Masters and Doctoral programmes offered by the University was held on 26.07.2021. The PG Admission Committee Members attended the meeting. Dr. J.S. Kennedy, Dean, School of Post Graduate Studies welcomed the members of the committee and briefed the



steps taken for admission processes and the conduct of online entrance examinations. Dr. P. Jeyakumar, Deputy Registrar (Education), Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore, Dr. B. Shridar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore, Dr. M. Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning and Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Director, Crop Management offered their suggestions.

Orientation Programme on Lean Six Sigma and its Applications in Academic Contours

An Orientation programme on Lean Six Sigma and its Applications in academic contours was conducted with an intention to improve the quality in Teaching, Research and Extension under the IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) of the Directorate of Planning and Monitoring, TNAU, Coimbatore on 27.07.2021. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore delivered the presidential remarks and stressed the need for Lean thinking and six sigma approaches in today's contemporary world and how it can be helpful in academic institutions to improve the quality and to process the innovation with complementary strengths. The Guest speaker was Mr. Krishnan Pariyal Mana, the Principal Counselor, CII-Institute of Quality, Bangalore who highlighted the lean concepts, its implications in agriculture, the six sigma and its utility for the academic growth delineated that the reduction in variability leads to preciseness and accuracy in all research endeavours. The University Officers and Heads



of Departments in the main campus attended the programme in person and Deans of other Constituent colleges and Heads of Research stations took part in the deliberations online. Dr.J.Venkata Pirabu, Director, Planning and Monitoring, organized the session. Dr.R.Kalpna, Associate Professor proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Workshop on Applications of Machine Learning and Deep Learning in Agriculture

To orient the young faculty on the unprecedented spike in artificial intelligence and to decipher the concept and algorithm of machine learning and deep learning, a Workshop on 'Applications of Machine learning and Deep learning algorithm in Agriculture' was conducted under the IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) of the Directorate of Planning and Monitoring, TNAU, Coimbatore during 28-30, July, 2021. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor in his presidential note highlighted the significance of machine learning in database analysis and research in the changing digital world. Guest



speakers from Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University), Dindigul viz., Dr.P.Shanmugavadivu, Professor and Head, Department of Computer Science and Applications and Dr.G.Kanimozhi, UGC Project Fellow delivered the technical sessions and provided Hands on experience on various topics including Python Programming in Agriculture,



AI models using agricultural database and Neural Networks. Nearly 165 scientists belonging to 2014 batch participated both Online and Offline. Dr. J. Venkata Pirabu, Director, Planning and Monitoring organized the programme. Dr. R. Kalpana, Associate Professor proposed a formal vote of thanks.

State Level Awareness Programme on Nutritional Disorders in Crops

Department of Crop Physiology, TNAU Coimbatore organized a State level Farmers Awareness Programme on 'Diagnosis and Management of Physiological and Nutritional disorders in Crops' on 29.07.2021 in commemoration of TNAU Golden Jubilee Year - 2021. Dr. M.K. Kalarani, Professor and Head, Department of Crop Physiology welcomed the gathering. The programme was inaugurated by Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. In his presidential address, the Vice-Chancellor stressed the need of balanced nutrition in achieving the maximum crop growth and yield. Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Director, Crop Management, TNAU, Coimbatore and Dr. S.D. Sivakumar, Director, Agri-business



Management, TNAU, Coimbatore felicitated. The technical sessions were handled by the scientists of Department of Crop Physiology. Two books were released in Tamil by the Vice-Chancellor. Farmers and scientists interaction session was also conducted. University Officers, Heads of the Departments, Scientists, students and staff members in the main campus attended the programme. Dr. D. Vijayalakshmi, Associate Professor (Crop Physiology) proposed a vote of thanks. Around 500 farmers and KVK scientists across the State participated in the programme through online mode.

Book Release

A book on 'Question Bank for Agricultural Engineers' was released by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore in the presence of Dr. B. Shridar, Dean, AEC & RI, Coimbatore and Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore. The book was written by Dr.P.Rajkumar, Professor and Head, Department of Food Process Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore along with Er.N.Kurinchimurugan, A.E, Department of Agrl. Engg., Cuddalore and Dr. E. Sujitha, Teaching Assistant, IOA, Kumulur. The book has the contents on Agricultural Engineering which would be useful for the Agricultural Engineering students for the preparation of competitive examinations.

Events organized outside TNAU Main Campus

Infrastructure Facilities Inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor at HC&RI, Periyakulam

Dr. N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the infrastructure facilities viz., Seed Cold Storage Unit, two units of Mist Chambers and Insect Proof Net house developed under Revolving Fund (Seeds) and NADP schemes of the Department of Vegetable Science, Horticultural College and Research Institute (HC&RI), Periyakulam on 02.07.2021. Dr. T.Arumugam, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam, Dr. G.J.Janavi Professor and Head, Dept of



Vegetable Science, PI of NADP scheme and staff participated. Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the Audio Visual Lab and Language Laboratory. Dr.T.Arumugam, Dean explained various features of the lab with modern equipments. Dr.J.Kannan, Professor and Head, Department of Social Sciences and other scientists also participated. The laboratory was established under ICAR Development Grant and NAHEP-IDP funding. Vice-Chancellor also declared open



the Automated Environment Controlled Hi-Tech Poly house and Fruit Processing unit for public under the EDII Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum. Besides, Vice-Chancellor reviewed the ongoing research programmes, external funded projects, ICAR-AICRP (F) research trials and TOT activities.

Inauguration of High Density Cashew Planting at ARS, Vaigai Dam

Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU inaugurated the High Density Cashew planting at Agricultural Research Station, Vaigai Dam during his visit on 03.07.2021. While planting cashew grafts, Vice-Chancellor demonstrated a method of planting Cashew graft for High Density Cashew planting in which it was suggested to provide slits on the sides and bottom of the polybag to ensure better growth of the grafts instead of removing the poly bags which might disturb earth balls. In this occasion, Dr.P.Subbaiyan, Former Registrar, Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning, Dr. S. Parthipan, Professor and Head, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC & RI, Periyakulam, Dr. K. Sundaralingam, Professor and Head, ARS, Vaigai Dam and Dr. K. Rajamanickam, Adjunct Professor & ODL Course Co-ordinator participated. To recognize the services of the labourers of ARS, Vaigai Dam, mass planting programme of cashew and coconut seedlings was taken up by 60 farm workers.



Inauguration of Certificate Course on Coconut Production Technology

Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor TNAU inaugurated the Certificate course on 'Coconut Production Technology' under ODL mode at ARS, Vaigai Dam on 03.07.2021. In his inaugural address, he stated that coconut is emerging as one of the predominant crops in Theni district and its cultivation is gaining momentum. Vice-Chancellor also stressed the importance of adopting the latest coconut production technologies for increasing yield and quality. Dr. M. Ananthan, Director Open Distance Learning, TNAU in his felicitation address emphasized the significance of modern coconut cultivation technologies. Dr. K. Rajamanickam, Adjunct Professor (Coconut), Course coordinator, Open Distance Learning, TNAU, Coimbatore, highlighted the contents of the certificate course. Dr. S. Parthipan, Professor and



Head, Dept. of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC&RI, Periyakulam, Mr. T. Alagu Nagendran, Joint Director of Agriculture, Theni and Th. M. Pandi, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Theni felicitated. Dr.K.Sundaralingam, Professor and Head, ARS, Vaigai Dam welcomed and the course co-ordinator Dr. M. Jayaramachandran, Asst. Professor (PB&G), ARS, Vaigai Dam proposed a vote of thanks. Around 25 farmers from Theni and Dindigul districts registered for the course.

Webinar on Recent Trends in Citrus Fruits Production

Webinar on 'Recent Trends in Citrus fruits production' was organized at Citrus Research Station, Sankarankovil on 07.07.2021 for the benefit of the farmers, students and researchers. Dr. L. Pugalendhi, Dean, HC & RI, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the webinar and highlighted the varietal wealth and the production related issues. Dr. N. Richard Kennady, Professor and Head, Citrus Research Station, Sankarankovil spoke on research activities in citrus fruits and Dr. M. Sankaran, Principal Scientist (Horticulture) IIHR, Bengaluru delivered a lecture on 'Improved varieties and production technologies in citrus fruits'. Around 150 members from across the state participated and benefited through the deliberations and interaction.

COVID-19 Vaccination Camp at RRS, Vridhachalam

A special camp for COVID-19 vaccination was organized at Regional Research Station



Vridhachalam on 19.07.2021 in coordination with the Primary Health Centre, Gandhi Nagar, Vridhachalam. A total of 193 members were vaccinated with the second dose of Covishield. Earlier, the special camp for the first dose of vaccination was organized during April, 2021. Dr. K. Subrahmaniyan, Professor and Head, Regional Research Station, Vridhachalam along with Dr. I. Vijayavathi, Medical officer, Primary

Health Centre, Gandhi Nagar, Vridhachalam rendered cooperation to organize the camp successfully.

Capacity Building Training at AC & RI, Killikulam

A Capacity Building Training Programme on 'Using Language Lab to Enhance Communication Skills' for faculty members of AC&RI, Killikulam was conducted on 27.07.2021 at the Language Lab (IDP), AC&RI, Killikulam. Dr. K. Eraivan Arutkani Aiyathan, Dean,



AC&RI, Killikulam inaugurated and addressed the importance of training. Dr. P. Jeyalakshmi, Assistant Professor (English) briefed about the importance of using the lab to gain language proficiency and also gave a hands on training to equip the faculty members to use the applications in the laboratory for their personal and professional language enhancement. Twenty One faculty members from various departments attended.

Extension Activities organized

Webinar on 'Ecosystem Management for Sustainable Fisheries'

KVK, Thirupathisaram celebrated 'National Fish Farmer's Day' on 10.07.2021 and conducted a webinar on 'Ecosystem management for sustainable fisheries'. Dr. R. Latha, Programme coordinator welcomed. Dr. D. Manikandavelu, Professor and Head, Fisheries College and Research Institute,

Ponneri, Chennai delivered a special lecture on sustainable fish culture. Lectures on freshwater fish culture and value addition in fish were delivered by the KVK scientists. A total of 48 fish farmers participated in the webinar.

Training Programme on Drought Resistant Varieties and IPM in Rice

An Off-campus Training on 'Drought resistant varieties and IPM in Rice' was conducted under the Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization Project (TNIAMP), Uppar Sub basin, Phase II being operated at the



Department of Plant Pathology, Agricultural College & Research Institute, Madurai at Tamarakki (South) village in Sivagangai district on 12.07.2021. Farmers, scientists and staff members participated.

Mass Tree Planting Campaign and Webinar Organized

ICAR Foundation Day was celebrated at KVK, Kanyakumari on 16.07.2021. In this event, awareness on importance of tree planting was created among farmers and students through mass tree planting campaign programme. A total of 15 students and 27 farmers participated and planted tree saplings of forest and fruit trees. A webinar on 'Tree production technologies' was also organized on ICAR foundation day. Dr.M.Jawaharlal, Director of Extension Education, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the programme. In his inaugural address, he gave an overview of the importance of tree planting and



its conservation. A special lecture was given by Dr. M.P. Divya, Professor and Head, Department of Forest Products and Wildlife, Forestry College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam on 'Cultivation of tree species and their uses'. Around 45 participants from all over Tamil Nadu attended.

Training Programme on Banana Fibre Processing

The Department of Differently Aabled Studies (DDAS), Community Science College and Research Institute (CSC&RI), Madurai jointly with KVK, AC&RI, Madurai conducted an online training programme on Banana Fibre Processing and its Value Addition on 23.07.2021 for the benefit of farmers and Differently Aabled people. Dr. S. Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI, Madurai presided the program and highlighted the benefits of banana fibre processing and its different value added products. Dr. A. Janaki Rani, Associate Professor and Head (DDAS) welcomed the gathering, Dr. Chelvi Ramessh, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, AC&RI, Madurai briefed the Importance of utilizing agro waste products in Tamil Nadu and Dr. P.S. Geetha, Associate Professor and Principal Investigator delivered technical lecture. More than hundred farmers and differently abled people participated and benefited through this online training programme.

As a part of the 75th Independence Day celebration (Bharat kaa Amrut Mahotsav 2021),

different events namely online essay writing competition, Digital video shows on Gandhi biography and his struggles for independence, yoga and meditation, online training programme on gender friendly tools for farm women, training on Nutrition and health for well being, Awareness training on immune boosting traditional foods, photography competition on the heritage and culture of Tamil Nadu, Green India- Tree Planting Programme as environment friendly activity, Clean India Programme for cleanliness and hygiene in college premises, online poster making competition for School students on Clean India, Green India and Nature were conducted under AICRP on Home Science by Community Science College & Research Institute, Madurai. The events were inaugurated by Dr. S. Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI, Madurai and all the AICRP scientists participated and felicitated. The events were conducted for the entire month and more than 400 people benefitted.

Demonstration on HDPS and Mechanization in Cotton

Smt. P. Venkata Priya, IAS, Collector of Perambalur district visited the demonstration plot on High Density Planting System (HDPS) in cotton at Cotton Research Station, Veppanthattai on 28.07.2021. She opined that cotton farming should be given a boost in Perambalur district with respect to area and productivity. Dr.S.Somasundaram, Associate Professor and Head of the station explained various technologies developed by TNAU including the



compact variety CO 17 and TVH 002 suitable for HDPS and mechanization in cotton. The Collector also released a technical bulletin entitled 'HDPS for mechanization in cotton farming'. Farmers, scientists and Department officials participated in this demonstration.

Training Programme on Quality Seed Production Techniques in Pulses

Training programme on 'Morphological characters of latest released pulses varieties and Quality seed production techniques in Pulses' was conducted at National Pulses Research Centre, Vamban on 28.07.2021. The training programme was organized by the Department of Seed Certification, Coimbatore. Totally 27 seed certification officers from Trichy, Pudukottai and Thanjavur districts attended the training programme. Dr. M. Gunasekaran, Professor and Head, NPRC, Vamban presided over the inaugural function and Mrs. R. Anandhaselvi, ADA (Seed Certification & Organic Certification), Pudukkottai delivered the special address. Technical sessions were conducted by scientists of NPRC and KVK, Vamban.

Students' Activities

Inauguration of Practical Crop Production Course

a. Main Campus, Coimbatore

Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the Maize Sowing for the Practical Crop Production course of III B.Sc (Hons.) Agriculture Students (2018 Batch) at the Department of Agronomy, Directorate of Crop



