



TNAU Scientist at IRRI for Training

Dr. R. Saraswathi, Associate Professor (P B & G), TRRI, Aduthurai undergone a short term training on Marker Assistant Selection in Rice Theory, Practice and Application, from 24.11.08 to 5.12.08 at International Rice Research Institute, Philippines.

speech followed by a fabulous cracker show making it a colourful night.

Vice-Chancellor's visit to CRS, Veppanthattai

Prof.C.Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore visited the Cotton Research Station, Veppanthattai, on 6.12.08 and reviewed the progress of developmental and research activities. An interaction meeting with about 50 progressive farmers of the region was also organized in which, Vice-Chancellor informed the farmers to make use of improved cultivars of

Students' Activities >>>

Group Discussion Session

The Planning Forum of the student's club, TNAU Coimbatore conducted a Group discussion session on 17.12.2008 to develop their personality to build up their career. Nearly 30 students from all the years participated and expressed their views on the given topics which ranged from moral science to the present global economic status.

Debate Competition

The debate competition was organized by the Debating society of the Students' Club on 28.11.'08. The participants from the respective teams expressed their views. At the end of the session, the judge Dr.J.Venkata Pirabu gave his opinion on the session, adding some critical comments, corrections and appreciations.

Tamil Literary Competitions

On 2nd December, 2008, the Tamil Literary Association of TNAU, Coimbatore students' club 08' to 09' conducted Elocution and Essay writing competitions. About 40 students participated in the above events. The title for elocution was "Vazhndhu Kaatuvom" and that for essay writing was "Vizhumin, Ezhumin, Uzhaimin!", the enlightening words of Swami Vivekananda.

Hiking Trip to Sathyamangalam Reserve Forest Range

The Hiking Society of the Students' club organized a trek to Sathyamangalam reserve Forest

Range (Thalavadi Range) on 6.12.08 in which 30 boys participated with booming enthusiasm. A brief introduction about the forest reserve was given by the forest ranger after which the adventure began. The team was accompanied by a forest ranger and two armed guards. They observed some animals native to that area like wild gaur, spotted deer, wild elephant, herds of cattle and pug marks of tiger.

The forester also explained about different wild species of trees present there like *Acacia* sp, *Terminalia* sp. They also enjoyed the pleasant sight of a stream filled with



fishes at the core of the hilly terrain. The team was accompanied and taken care by Dr.M.Djanaguiraman, Mr.G.Ragavan and the staff associates of the Hiking society.

Hiking Trip to Top Slip

The Hiking society of the Students' club organized a trek to Top Slip on 20.12.08 and 21.2.08 in which 18 girls and 14 boys participated with enthusiasm. A brief introduction about the forest reserve was given by

the DFO, Sanjay and the venture began as two groups in opposite directions of the forest reserve. The teams were accompanied by two armed guards each. They observed some animals native to that area like wild gaur, wild pig and wild elephant in a very close range. They even encountered leaches in the area.

The guards also explained about different wild species of trees present there. They also enjoyed the amusing sight of two dams connected by a tunnel formed by the slaves in the earlier period. They were even able to see the remains of animals present in the forest area.

The team was accompanied and taken care by Dr.M.Djanaguiraman, Mr.G.Ragavan and the staff associates of the Hiking society.

Harvest 2008 at AC&RI, Madurai

Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai conducted a south zone agricultural quiz competition HARVEST-2008 on 17.12.2008 at its campus premises. Final year students, participated in the event. The questions were mainly centered on various aspects of agriculture, testing the knowledge of the participants in the core of the subject. Out of the sixteen teams that participated from different colleges, the team of AC&RI, Madurai won the first place in the

final round and came out with flying colours bringing laurels to our campus.

Muthamil Vizha at AC&RI, Killikulam

The 'Muthamil vizha' of Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam was celebrated in a grand manner during 29th and 30th December 2008. The function was inaugurated on 29th of December 2008 by the famous Tamil poet Kavingnar Arivumathi and released Tamil magazine 'Tamilaruvi'. Dr.P.Vivekanandan, the Dean Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam presided over

the function and earlier the Staff Advisor Dr.J.Sundersingh Rajapandian, Professor (Agronomy) welcomed the gathering. In the afternoon Th.Sarah Ilangovan delivered a talk on 'Kalluri Vasagam' followed by 'Silappathikaram' Drama and the grand Orchestra by the Killi Students. On 30.12.2008 'Hello FM Th.Dairy Manikandan delivered a talk on 'Kavithai Oru Parvai'. In the afternoon, Debating King Dindugul Dr.I.Lioni was the chief guest and presided on the topic 'who is more



concerned with the welfare of the students, whether Relatives or Friends? 'Adventurous Birds' of Tuticorin gave musical and varietal programme. Club Secretary Th.N.Ayyanar proposed vote of thanks.

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University like Maize (CoHM-5) and other successful dry land technologies suitable for the region.

He also informed the farmers that the cotton breeding programmes will be started soon and cotton hybrids / varieties suitable for the region will be developed.

BOOK EXHIBITION

At AC&RI Coimbatore

The Directorate of students welfare organized a Book Exhibition from 16th to 18th December 2008. The Three day book fair was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor. Exhaustive collection of books on many subjects besides agriculture were exhibited. About 20 publishers from Coimbatore, Chennai, Bangalore and New Delhi, put up stalls and more than 75,000 books from agriculture and allied subjects were displayed.



Nearly 2500 books were selected by the faculty and students. The selected

books will be purchased for TNAU library from the annual grants received from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, for this purpose.

At AC&RI, Killikulam

A book exhibition was organized in Agricultural College and Research



Institute, Killikulam, Vallanad on 22nd and 23rd December 2008. M/s. Standard Book Company, Bangalore, M/s. National Book Agency, Madurai, M/s. Tamil Nadu Book House, Tirunelveli and M/s. Higginbothams Pvt, Ltd., Palayamkottai participated in the book fair.

Training on Hybrid Rice Seed Production

Hybrid Rice Seed Production Trainings were organized at the Paddy Breeding Station, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 16.10.'08 and 10.12.'08



under National Agricultural Development Programme, Government of India. A total of 100 farmers including farm women participated in the above programme.

Farmers from Namakkal, Karur, Vellore, Coimbatore and Salem districts were invited. Training programme was presided over by the Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore. In his presidential address the Director narrated the Hybrid rice Seed production in the State. He also emphasized the need for raising hybrids to meet the requirements of global competitiveness and export market. The Director distributed the certificates to all the farmers.

The Special Officer, Seed Centre delivered a special address about the seed production and emphasized the seed village concept related to Hybrid Rice seed Production. Dr.K.Mohana Sundaram, Professor and Head,

Department of Rice proposed vote of thanks.

Group Monitoring Workshop at HSC&RI

As part of the Science and Society Division Programmes, the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi has been supporting research projects on Science and Technology application for the development of economically weaker sections. To review the progress made in the projects a group monitoring workshop (GMW) was organized by the Department of Human Development, Home Science College and Research Institute,

Madurai from 8th to 10th December 2008. Totally 46 scientists all over India participated in the workshop. The DST officials Mrs.Sobhana Bhaskaran, Principal Scientific Officer; Mr.Rajendersingh, scientist; the expert Dr.P.S.Ramakrishnan, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Dr.M.Lalithambika, Research Co-ordinator, IRTC, Mundur, Palakkad and Dr.M.N.Balakrishnan Nair, FRLHT, Bangalore participated in the workshop. Inaugurating the function Dr.S.Parvathi, Professor and



Head, Department of Human Development, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai welcomed the gathering and Mrs.Sobhana Bhaskaran explained the purpose of the workshop. Dr.K.Ramamoorthy, Dean,

Second International Symposium on Papaya >>>



Second International Symposium on Papaya was organized at **Madurai from 9-12 December, 2008** by **Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore** in collaboration with **International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), Leuven, Belgium**. A total of 162 delegates consisting of scientists, seed industries, private entrepreneurs, bank officials including 18 foreign delegates from seven other countries viz., South Africa, Fiji, Brazil, Philippines, Vietnam, USA and Mexico participated in this symposium. This four day event was divided into eight sessions with one day mid-symposium tour to Horticulture College & Research Institute,

Periyakulam and nearby fruit orchards on 11th December,08.

The symposium was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. K.L. Chadha, former Deputy Director General (Hort.) & National Professor, ICAR, New Delhi while Prof. Dr. C. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agrl. University, Coimbatore presided over this function .Dr. D. Veeraragavathatham, Dean, , HC & RI, Coimbatore welcomed the gatherings. Dr. K. Ramamoorthy, Dean, AC & RI, Madurai, Dr. S. Natarajan, Dean, HC & RI, Periyakulam and Dr. Sisir Mitra, Dean, BCKV, Kalyani, West Bengal & ISHS Representative offered their facilitation. During this function, the

abstracts containing various articles, a souvenir and a booklet entitled "Production Technology of papaya" were released by the Vice Chancellor. In his presidential address, Vice Chancellor highlighted the need for maintaining the genetic purity of released cultivars of papaya in view of their high cross pollinating nature. In his inaugural address, Prof. Chadha emphasized that there is an excellent potential for accelerating exports of papaya but the support from Govt. is required to build infrastructure for post-harvest handling, hot water treatment, pre-cooling, cold storage etc. He also underscored the need to have an integrated approach at global level to collect and conserve genetic variability of papaya, its related species and all known varieties does not seem to have been made. This calls for setting up of an International initiative to collect and conserve all variability for future use. Further, he stressed that future research in papaya should focus on quality related issues and post harvest storage life and value addition.

On the last day, the plenary session was chaired by Dr. B.M.C. Reddy, the Director, Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow. Finally, Professor Dr. N. Kumar, the Organizing Secretary of the symposium thanked the gathering.

Winter School on Food Safety and Quality >>>

Participants of ICAR Sponsored Winter School on Food Safety and Quality

Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering
Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore-641003

10-30 December, 2008



An ICAR sponsored winter school on Food Safety and Quality was organized by the Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, during 10-30, December 2008. Twenty one participants from various educational institutions and research

organizations attended this programme. Topics in the areas of Food spoilage, Food borne diseases and control, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP), Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Standard Sanitation and Operating Procedure (SSOP), Food regulations, Total quality management, Food plant layout,

Non-destructive testing of foods, Food quality analysis, etc. were covered during 27 theory sessions. Hands on training was given in the food processing pilot plant. Forty one resource personnel with rich exposure in these area handled the theory and hands on training sessions. Of these resource personnel, 11 were from outside organizations. Field visits to various nearby food industries were also organized to provide practical knowledge to the participants. Dr.R.Viswanathan, Professor and Head, Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering was the course Director and Dr.N.Varadharaju, Professor and Head, Post Harvest technology Centre and Dr.V.Thirupathi, Associate Professor, Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, were the course Co-Directors.

Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai, appreciated the efforts taken by the DST for improving the economic status of women who play an important role in national development. Dr.P.S.Ramakrishnan explained the importance of R&D work and stressed the need for multi disciplinary approach. An exhibition cum sale counter has been opened for the processed millet products developed by the Self Help Groups trained under the DST funded projects. Dr.G.Gurumeenakshi, Assistant Professor, proposed vote of thanks.

Farmers Training on Hybrid Rice Seed Production

One day training on "Hybrid Rice Seed Production Technology to farmers, members of SHG's, NGO's and TANWA covering four districts viz., Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri were organized and conducted at Agricultural Research Station, Bhavanisagar on 11.12.2008. During the training programme, the participants were provided with all informations regarding hybrid rice

seed production in CORH 3 with visual presentations and charts. Besides, they were also given with field demonstrations on nursery preparation, staggered sowing methods of male and female parental lines, planting techniques, GA3 spray for panicle exertion and supplementary pollination techniques. All the participants were provided with a booklet on hybrid rice seed production in CORH 3 published under National Agricultural Development Programme. Most of the farmers appreciated the hybrid rice seed production techniques and offered their willingness to join in the seed production programme.

Seminar on Paddy and Tapioca Cultivation Technologies

One day seminar on paddy and tapioca cultivation technologies was organized jointly by Indian Potash Ltd., and Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur on 29.12.2008 at Yethapur. More than 90 farmers from Attur, Puthiragoundanpalayam and

Yethapur participated in this training programme.

Dr.V.Palanisamy, Professor and Head, Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur in his presidential address, highlighted the importance and need for applying fertilizers, their requirement for tapioca and paddy to get higher yield and for increasing the starch content.

Dr.S.Venkatesan, Professor (Entomology) in his technical address explained the pest and diseases management in paddy and tapioca crops. He also stressed the importance of System of Rice Intensification in paddy for better yield. Dr.A.Janaki Rani, Assistant Professor (Agrl. Extension) explained the activities of Tapioca and Castor Research Station and explained the tapioca cultivation technologies, fertilizer requirement and its role. During the programme, an interactive session between the farmers and scientists was also held. Th.A.Subbaiah, Regional Sales Manager, IPL explained the use of Potash and its role in plants growth.

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AWARDS WON BY TRRI SCIENTISTS

Name of the Scientist	Award	Funding Agency
Dr.R.Rajendran, Professor	Best Research article award for 2005	Indian Society of Agronomy IARI, New Delhi
Dr.R.Rajendran, Professor (Agronomy)	Best Researcher award 2007	TNAU, Coimbatore
Dr.G.Ravi, Associate Professor (Ento)	Best Oral Presentation	South Asian Society for Advancement of Pheromone Technology

NEW SCHEMES

Name of the Scheme	PI	Amount (lakh Rs.)	Funding Agency
Optimization and stabilization of crop-livestock silvipastoral farming system for livelihood security of rural women in dryland areas of western zone of Tamil Nadu	Dr.C.Jayanthi Professor (Agronomy)	11.49	ICAR-NAIP
Baseline toxicity study for a new insecticide molecule GF 2032 against rice brown plant hopper Nilaparvata lugens	Dr.G.Ravi Associate Professor (Entomology)	6.05	Dow Agro Sciences Ltd Mumbai
Efficacy of HGW86 10% OD against pests of chilli	Dr.P.M.M.David Professor and Head	5.00	DuPont India (P) Ltd.,
Evaluation of bioefficacy and phytotoxicity of Imidacloprid 40% + Fipronil 40% - 80 WG against soil pests (White grub and termites) in Groundnut and Evaluation of bioefficacy and phytotoxicity of Fipronil 180g + Imidacloprid 360g-540 FS against maize pests (Termites and shootfly)	Dr.S.Jeberaj Director TRRI	2.36	Bayer Crop Science Coimbatore

IMPORTANT VISITORS

- Mr.B.Gyja, WWF-ICRISAT between 30.11.08 and 3.12.08.
- Dr.H.O.Srivastava, President World Development Foundation, New Delhi on 7.12.08.
- Dr.Venkatesh Mehta, University of Saskatchewan, Canada on 10.12.08.
- Dr.Subodh Sharma, Advisor, Ministry of Environment of Forestry between 11.12.08 and 13.12.08.
- Dr.Balasubramania Ramani, Professor of Hanover University, Germany on 17.12.08.
- Dr.Gavin Ramsay, Scotland, UK on 17.12.08.
- Dr.Aravind Kumar, Rice Breeder, IRRI Philippines on 25.12.08.

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To
Thiru

From
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TNAU NEWS



TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : **Dr. C. RAMASAMY** - Vice Chancellor

Editor : **Dr. R. BALASARASWATHI** - Director (i/c), Planning and Monitoring

Inauguration of New Buildings at Maize Research Station >>>

The first Maize Research Station was established by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University at Vagarai village, Palani Taluk, Dindigul district on 16.3.2007. To strengthen the infrastructure facilities of the station, administrative cum laboratory building, godown, thrashing floor, vehicle shed and surface level water tank have been constructed at a cost of 86.65 lakhs with the Governments of Tamil Nadu and India funds.

Hon'ble Minister for Transport and Agriculture Th.K.N.Nehru inaugurated the new buildings at Maize Research Station, Vagarai on 28th December 2008, in the presence of Dr.C.Ramasamy, The Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University; Dr.B.Chandrasekaran, Director of Research; Mr.A.Chakrapani, Chief Whip, Government of Tamil Nadu; Mr.S.Karvendan, M.P; Mr.Athul Anand, Commissioner for Agricultural Marketing; University Officers;



Scientists of TNAU; Line department officials and 5000 farmers. In his inaugural address, the Hon'ble minister for Transport and Agriculture stressed the need to develop varieties and agro technologies suitable for dynamic climatic changes and appealed to the farmers to adopt farm

mechanization and modern agriculture technologies for increasing the productivity and profitability. During the occasion, an exhibition depicting agrotechnologies suitable for Dindigul and nearby districts was declared open by the Member of Parliament Mr.S.K.Karvendan.

TNAU Award Ceremony

Various awards like Best Researcher, Best Teacher, Best Extension Worker etc. for the year 2007 were presented in the



TNAU Award Ceremony held on 26.12.2008 at Seminar Hall, Department of Entomology, TNAU, Coimbatore.

The function was presided over by Prof. C. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Th.O.V.R.Somasundaram, Member, Board of Management, Tamil Nadu agricultural University, Coimbatore was the Chief Guest of the function and gave away 13 individual awards and one Best Research Station award.

New Year Celebrations in TNAU

The New Year 2009 celebrations took place at TNAU, Coimbatore on 31.12.08. The Dean (Ag.) presided over the function. Mr.Kavidasan was the chief guest and he delivered a thought provoking speech which inspired the students' mind. The cultural programs were initiated by the performance of the Professors' wards which was then followed by the programs like dance, skit, song and musical show of the faculty members and the students of the campus. The programs continued till 11.45 in the night and by 12 midnight the New Year was welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor i/c, Dr.P.Santhakrishnan's