

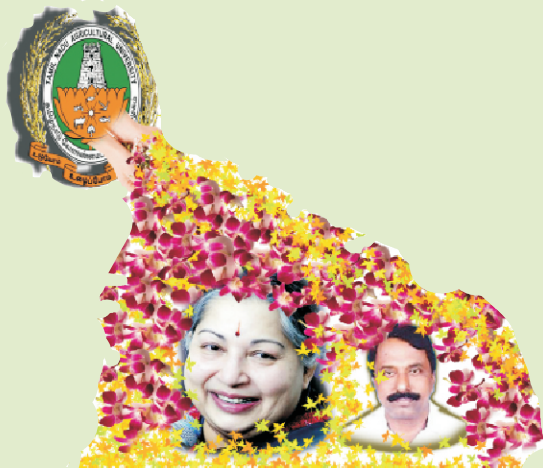
# TNAU NEWS



## TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : Dr. P. MURUGESA BOOPATHI- Vice Chancellor

Editor : Dr. G.KATHIRESAN - Director, Planning & Monitoring



### Hearty Congrates our Honorable CM and our Honorable Agricultural Minister

#### National Seminar on 'Soil health improvement for enhancing crop productivity'



The National Seminar on "Soil Health Improvement for Enhancing Crop Productivity" was conducted during 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> March, 2011 at Coimbatore. It was jointly organized by TNAU and Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal. In the Inaugural function, Dr. V. Velu, Special Officer, DNRM, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Y. Muralidharulu, Project

Coordinator, STCR Project, IISS, Bhopal briefed about the seminar. The special guests Dr. A. Subba Rao, Director, IISS, Bhopal, Dr. M. Velayudham, Former Director, NBSS&LUP, Nagpur, Dr. Sardesai, DDG, National Informatics Centre, Pune, Dr. Muneshwar Singh, Project Coordinator, LTFE Project, IISS, Bhopal and Thiru. Ponnusamy,

Additional Director of Agriculture, TN State Department of Agriculture addressed the gathering. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, delivered the presidential address. Dr. P. Duraisami, Professor and Head, SS&AC, proposed vote of thanks. Bulletins on Permanent Manurial Experiment and Seminar Abstracts were released in the function. Overall, 18 lead papers were presented and from various parts of the country 242 participants have registered for the seminar.

In the plenary session, Dr. P. Rama Mohana Rao, Principal Secretary and Agricultural Production Commissioner, Agricultural Department of Tamil Nadu delivered special address, released the land resource reports and delivered the presidential address. He presented the recommendations for the futuristic plan of action in all states of the country.

**Performance of TNAU Black gram Co (BG) 6 in Cauvery Delta Zone**



A survey has been made on the performance of the newly released variety TNAU Co (BG) 6 in the farmers' fields. On 08.04.11, Mr. V. Balasubramanian, JDA, Mr. S. Rajkumar, DD (State schemes), Mr. G. Ramadoss, DD, (Central Schemes) and Mr. Eswaran A.O (State schemes) along with Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, SWMRI, Mr. Pankaj Singh, Consultant CSISA Project have visited the field trials in the farmers holdings at Thirukattupalli, Soorakottai and Vandayariruppu and observed the performance of TNAU Co (BG) 6 Black gram in CSISA and FPARP project trials. The farmers were satisfied and pointed out the benefits of the variety in comparison with the other varieties like T 9, ADT 5 and ADT 3 blackgrams. The farmers were recommended to spray pulse wonder or DAP to augment flower retention, more pod formation and for more yield.

**Release of papaya mealy bug parasitoid**

**By ARS, Vaigaidam**

Papaya Mealy Bug Parasitoid (*Acerophagus papayae*) release function was organized at



Timmarasanayakkanur, Aundipatty Taluk on 07.04.2011. Dr. K.Sujatha, Associate Professor and Head, presided over the function and delivered a lecture on the biocontrol of papaya mealy bug (*Paracoccus marginatus*) with the parasitoid. Nearly 30 papaya farmers attended the meeting. The parasitoid was released in the Papaya field of Mr. Chinnachamy and distributed the parasitoid to the four more papaya farmers of that area.

**By TRRI, Aduthurai**



Parasitoid was released in papaya crop on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2011, at Vannakudi village of Thiruvidadamaruthur taluk. Director (i/c) inaugurated the event with released the egg parasites on the papaya home garden. Farmers in the village witnessed the campaign and scientists from TRRI Aduthurai attended the event.

**By CRS, Srivilliputtur**



Papaya mealy bug (PMB) parasitoid release and its awareness camps were conducted in farmers' fields at several villages viz., Singampalpuram, Melathottipatti and Kunnur of Srivilliputtur Taluk; and Enjar of Sivakasi Taluk in Virudhunagar District. Dr.N.Murugesan,

Professor and Head, released the parasitoids (*Acerophagus papayae*) in the infested fields of Cotton, Papaya, Tomato, Tapioca, Mulberry, Pomegranate and Hibiscus. Dr R.Vimala and Dr.G.Gomadhi, explained and answered the queries of farmers.

**Officers' training on maize production technologies at MRS, Vagarai**

Two Days "Officers training on maize production technologies" was organised on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2011 for the officers of the Department of Agriculture. Totally 60 trainees comprising ADAs, AOs and SAOs attended the training. Thiru. S. Ganesan, JDA, Dindigul inaugurated the training. Dr. R.Ravikesavan, Associate Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering. Thiru. M. Deivendran, DDA (State schemes), Thiru.



N. V. Krishnamoorthy, DDA (GOI), Thiru. G. R. Saranath Babu, DDA (Agrl. Marketing) and Thiru. S. Krishnamoorthy, DDA, (FTC) delivered special address. Scientists of MRS, Vagarai delivered lectures on maize scenario, seed production, pest and diseases of maize, role of microorganism in maize, nutrient deficiencies and maize cultivation practices. Dr. A. Yuvaraja, Assistant Professor (PB&G) proposed vote of thanks.

**Programmes at ORS, Tindivanam**

**Training cum field day on pulses and oilseeds**

One day training cum field



day program on Farmers Participatory seed production demo on pulses and oilseeds was conducted at Kudisaipalayam and Kattuciviri village of Villupuram District on 19.4.11. Dr. M. Vaithiyalingan, Assistant Professor (PB&G), welcomed the gathering and delivered a lecture on high yielding varieties and cultivation and production technologies in groundnut and sesame. Totally 40 farmers were participated. Dr. N. Ramalingam, Assoc. Professor (Micro.), delivered a lecture on role of bio-fertilizers in groundnut and sesame. Dr. M. Vaithiyalingan, Asst. Prof. (PB&G) proposed vote of thanks.

**BPD hub inauguration**

One day training was conducted on 30.3.11 funded by NAIP – BPD. Our Vice – Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi inaugurated the BPD Hub and delivered the presidential address. Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, Professor and



Head, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Sivasubraminiam, Director, ABD, delivered technical address. Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai and Dr. N. Sathiah, Professor and Head, KVK, Tindivanam felicitated. Totally 42 farmers participated from Villupuram District. Dr. A. S. Krishnamoorthy, Professor (ABD), proposed vote of thanks.

**Citizen consumer club inauguration**

Citizen Consumer Club sponsored by Government of Tamil Nadu, Civil supply and Consumer Department, Chennai, was inaugurated at C. Subramaniam Institute of Agriculture on 30.3.2011. The club was inaugurated by our Vice – Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi and delivered presidential address. He stressed the importance of consumers rights in day to day life and he also suggested the scientist to join as member in the club. Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, Principal, CSIA, welcomed the gathering. Special address was delivered by Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI and Dr. P. Sivasubraminiam, Director, ABD. Mr. S. V. Namasivayam, District President, Consumer Protection Forum of Villupuram district delivered technical address. 60 students of CSIA were joined as



club members to serve the community. Dr. V. Radhakrishnan, Programme co-ordinator proposed vote of thanks.

**Inauguration of new play ground at CSIA**

New Play Ground was inaugurated by our Vice – Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi on 30.03.2011. The



playground has the facility for various games and sports viz., Volley Ball, Shuttle, Ball Batmitton Courts, Kho-Kho and Kabadi. Total area of the CSIA playground is 1.2 acres. Vice – Chancellor inaugurated the Ball Batmitton and Volley ball Courts and he played with the CSIA students.

**Training and field day on Co (R) -50 by KVK, Pechiparai**

To popularize Co(R) - 50, extension functionaries' training was organized on 15.03.2011 at Nagercoil. Dr. K. Eraivan, Professor and Head, KVK, Pechiparai emphasized the advantages and needs of the Co (R) - 50 and SRI techniques, Dr. T. Selvakumar, SMS (Agronomy) briefed the cultivation techniques of SRI and Dr. S. Suresh SMS (SS&AC) explained the nutrient management techniques. As the Co(R) – 50 performances was accepted by the farmers and registered great success, a field day was conducted in a beneficiary farmer's field at Theroor on 17.03.2011. Farmers and extension functionaries were participated and Dr. T. Selvakumar, SMS (Agronomy) briefed the cultivation techniques of SRI.



**Training on hi-tech production technology of tree spices**

District level farmers training on Hitech Production Technology of Tree Spices was conducted at Nagarcoil on 30.03.2011. Dr. J. Prem Joshua, Professor and Head HRS, Pechiparai welcomed the

gathering. Thiru. Nesakumar, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Nagercoil delivered the inaugural address. Thiru. Maria Joseph, DDH, delivered the presidential address. Dr.K. Eraivan, Professor and Head, KVK, Pechiparai and Dr. R. Swarnapiria, Associate Professor and Head, FRS Thovalai felicitated the training programme. Dr. R. Balakumbahan, Assistant Professor (Hort.), proposed vote of thanks. Seventy farmers participated in the training programme. An exhibition was also arranged, depicting various spices and their value additions

**Training on data analysis using SAS**

The Department of Physical Sciences and Information Technology, AEC & RI Coimbatore, has conducted a University level training on data analysis using SAS to TNAU Scientists. The third batch of training was conducted during

28<sup>th</sup> February to 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2011. The training for the 1<sup>st</sup> batch was inaugurated by our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi and he released a manual entitled 'Introduction to Data Analysis Using SAS'. The training focuses on Base SAS, Statistical Analysis, Reporting and Advanced Multivariate techniques using SAS Enterprise Guide.

**Growers training on carnation at HRS, Ooty**

Growers' training on "Production and post harvest technology of carnation" was conducted on 11<sup>th</sup> march, 2011. Fifty eight carnation growers and HOs participated. Dr. R. M. Vijayakumar, Professor & Head, welcomed the gathering and spoke on marketing and quality of carnation flowers. Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Professor (Hort.), Department of Floriculture & Landscaping and Consortium Principal Investigator

of the scheme delivered a lecture on "Production technology of carnation". Dr M.Kalyanasundaram, Professor (Agrl. Entomology ) highlighted the importance of pest and diseases management. Dr. M. Kannan, Professor (Hort.) and CO - PI, explained the post harvest technology of carnation. A field visit to carnation unit was arranged by Elkill Agrotech Pvt.Ltd, Ooty.

**Field day on conservation agriculture by SWMRI, Thanjavur**

Field Day was organized on 26.04.11 at Pamani under the chairmanship of Dr. Wall Patrick, Director, Global Conservation Agriculture programe, CIMMYT. Dr. M.L.Jat, Cropping System Agronomist, CIMMYT, Dr. S. Jeyaraman, Director, DCM, Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, SWMRI and officials of agriculture and other line

**National seminar on nano agriculture**



The Department of Nano Science & Technology organized a national seminar on "Nano Agriculture 2011 - Nanotechnology for Enhancing Food Security" on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2011. About 300 participants encompassing scientists,

students, researchers and industrialists across the country have attended. Dr. W. Selvamurthy, distinguished scientist and chief controller, DRDO inaugurated the seminar and presented an overview of various nanotechnology interventions in

agriculture. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, delivered presidential address and indicated various efforts taken by TNAU in the establishment of the state-of-the-art facility, human resource building and initial support for the eight research projects.

Thiru K. Shanmugam IAS, Principal Secretary (Finance), Government of Tamil Nadu, enlightened that, nanotechnology will be beneficial to achieve the goals enshrined in the evergreen revolution. Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Professor & Head and the organizing secretary provided the preamble of the seminar. Dr. V. Velu, Special Officer (DNRM) welcomed the gathering and Dr. N. Natarajan, Prof. (NST) proposed vote of thanks.

departments have participated. Dr. Wall Patrick highlighted the need of farmers involvement on assessment of problems. He also stressed the need of location specific technologies of CA for better adoptability and success at farm level. The need of integration of research, extension and farming community was also emphasized. Dr.S. Vallal Kannan, Agronomist of SWMRI, proposed vote of thanks.

### Annual workshop and 6th CIC and CAC meetings of NAIP Flowers

Under NAIP funded scheme entitled “Value chain on flowers for domestic and export markets”, an annual workshop for the year 2010-11 was conducted for two days at HC&RI, Coimbatore, during 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.



The workshop was presided by Dr. M. Paramathma, DR and inaugurated by Dr.

T. Thangaraj, Former Dean (Hort.) and CAC Chairman (NAIP –Flowers). Dr. T. Radhakrishnan, DSW and Dean (Hort.)i/c. welcomed the gathering. Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Consortium PI, appraised the NAIP project and 100 flower growers and entrepreneurs from Coimbatore, Sathyamagalam, Ooty, Nilakkotai, Udumalpet Trichy and Deepam Self Help Group, Kotagiri participated in the workshop. A Field visit was arranged on the second day. At the end, Dr. P.Paramaguru, Professor and Head, Department of Floriculture and Landscaping proposed vote of thanks.

The CIC and CAC meetings of NAIP- Flowers conducted on 26.03.2011. Discussions and review on the progress of NAIP – Flowers at Coimbatore were held. The meetings were chaired by Dr. T. Thangaraj, Former Dean (Hort.) and CAC Chairman (NAIP – Flowers)

### Growers training on Jasmine

Growers' training on “Production and post harvest



technology of jasmine” was conducted at Dept. of Floriculture and Landscaping on 31<sup>st</sup> march, 2011. Fifty four jasmine growers and entrepreneurs have participated in the training. Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Professor (Hort.) and PI of the scheme highlighted on the NAIP project and value chain on jasmine. Dr. M. Kannan, Professor (Hort.) and CO - PI , spoke on production and post harvest technology of jasmine. Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram discussed on plant protection in jasmine cultivation. Dr. P. Paramaguru, Professor and Head, Dept. of Floriculture & landscaping, explained the jasmine varieties and concrete extraction from jasmine flowers. Farmers were the field at Dept. of Floriculture where jasmine is cultivated in open field and poly house conditions.

### New schemes

Name of the scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakh Rs.)	Funding Agency
Establishment of mother plant nurseries for high pedigree planting for fruit crops	Dr. V. Ponnuswami, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	75.00	NHB
“Isolation of Clostridium strains and two phase digestion system for efficient butanol production”	Dr. N.O. Gopal Prof., (Agrl. Microbiology), Dept. of Bioenergy,	48.67	ICAR
Pilot project on augmenting productivity of lead crops / activities through adoption of sustainable agricultural practices	Dr. S. Vallal Kannan Asst. Prof. (Agronomy) SWMRI, Kattuthottam	48.23	NABARD

Development of Dwarf and Early Mutants in White Ponni Rice Using Mutation Breeding	Dr. M. Arumugam Pillai, Assoc. Prof., (PB&G) AC&RI, Killikulam	17.00	BRNS – GOI
Evaluation of FACT-MIX for major crops of Tamil Nadu	R.K.Kaleeswari Assoc. Prof. (SS&AC) AC&RI, Coimbatore	11.74	M/s. FACT, Cochin
Identification of quantitative trait loci (QTLs) for drought tolerance in groundnut	Dr. N. Manivannan, Assoc. Prof. (PB&G) AC&RI, Coimbatore-3.	8.41	UGC
Efficacy evaluation and phytotoxicity of Bisphribac Sodium 10% SC in transplanted rice and its residue	Dr. A. Velayutham Professor and Head Dept. of Farm Management Coimbatore	4.31	Crystal Phosphate Ltd., New Delhi
Co-opting centre for arid zone fruits	Dr. V. Ponnuswami, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	2.00	ICAR
“Revalorizing small millets: Enhancing the food and nutritional security of women and children in rain fed regions of South Asia using under utilized species”	Dr. D. Malathi, P&H, (Food Science & Nutrition), PHTC, Coimbatore	1.48	IDRC- Canada
Exploring the use of natural flowers as food colourants	Dr. V. Ponnuswami, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	24.62	Ministry of food processing industries.
Transcript Profiling and identification of markers for drought and salinity stress tolerance in Rice.	Dr. S. Rajesh, Asst. Prof., (Biotech) AC&RI, Killikulam	19.87	DST-GOI

### Important visitors

- ▶ **Dr. John Turner** University of East Anglia, UK visited DPMB&B on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2011
- ▶ **Dr. G.S.V. Raghavan**, Prof., McGill University visited Dept. of PHTC on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2011
- ▶ **M.L. Jat** and his team visited the CSISA research trials at TRRI, on 27-04-11

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To  
Thiru

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