



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron: Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor
Editor : Dr. M. Chandrasekaran, Director (i/c),
Planning & Monitoring

ஊருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

MEDICINAL PLANTS PARK at Ooty



The medicinal plants park of the Horticultural Research Station at Woodhouse would be thrown open to the public soon, said the Honourable Minister for Agriculture Thiru. S. Damodaran after a visit to the spot on 22.08.2013. The Commissioner of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, Mr. Satyabrata Sahoo, I.A.S., The Nilgiris Collector, Ms. Archana Patnaik, I.A.S. and other dignitaries were taken around the facility by Dr. N. Selvaraj, Professor and Head, Horticultural Research Station, Ooty. The Honourable Minister evinced keen interest in the functioning of the park and opined that it should become an attraction for tourists.

67th Independence Day Celebration at TNAU

The 67th Independence Day was celebrated in a grand and fitting manner at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 15.08.2013. Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, hoisted the National Flag at the R.I. Building and accepted the Guard of Honour of the NCC Cadets. During his Independence Day Address, he remembered the martyrs of the freedom struggle and highlighted the role of agriculture in the National economy and community development after Independence. Lt. Dr. S. Manonmani, Lady NCC Officer and Lt. Dr. K. M. Sellamuthu, NCC Officer presented an impressive Guard of Honour along with NCC cadets and NSS volunteers. The University Officers, Heads of Departments, NSS Coordinator, NSS Programme Officers, Teaching and Non Teaching staff members and students enthusiastically participated in the Independence Day celebration.



International Training at Agro Climate Research Centre



Agro Climate Research Centre, Directorate of Crop Management, TNAU, Coimbatore conducted an International Training on "Agriculture Weather Network and its Application" to personnel of Ministry of Agriculture, Afghanistan from 26.08.13 to 06.09.13 sponsored by M/s. Sutron Corporation, Sterling, Virginia, USA. Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor inaugurated the training programme and stressed the importance of agriculture weather forecast and its impact on crop production during his Inaugural Address. The training programme was designed with two modules viz., role of weather in agriculture, observational network, remote sensing tools & applications, agro - meteorological applications, crop simulations and impact of climate change.

Dr. K. Velayudham, Director, i/c, Directorate of Crop Management welcomed the gathering and enlisted the strategies for better application of weather forecast modules. Dr. R. Jagannathan, Professor of Agronomy and Course - Coordinator explained the course contents of the training programme. Dr. N. Maragatham, Professor and Head, ACRC, proposed a Vote of Thanks.

RAWE Exhibition at Agriculture College and Research Institute, Coimbatore



Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU inaugurated the RAWE (Rural Agricultural Work Experience) Exhibition on August 26, 2013 at TNAU main campus and interacted with the student groups. While interacting with the students, the Vice Chancellor advised all the groups that the observations made during the RAWE should be verified for their scientific basis, which is the essence of RAWE. During the exhibition, all the groups displayed their learning outcomes, activities conducted, models, etc., based on their experiences, which were evaluated by a team of Scientists. The RAWE provided an opportunity for the students to have direct experience with farming and extension work. Besides, it also helped them to gain confidence about the subject matter, field realities, and enabled them to gain interaction skills with farmers and officials, and analytical skills. Dr. S. Mahimairaja, Dean (Agriculture) i/c., Dr. M. Chinnadurai, Director (CARDS) i/c., Dr. R. Vijayaraghavan, Special Officer (Publications & Public Relations) i/c., Course Teachers, Year Coordinators, Group Facilitators and other Staff Members were present during the interaction.

49th Students Club Inauguration at Agriculture College and Research Institute, Madurai

The 49th Students Club was inaugurated on 20.08.2013 at Kakkan Auditorium in Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai. Dr. N. Muthukrishnan, Staff Advisor, welcomed the gathering.



Dr. C. Chinnusamy, Dean (i/c) presided over the function. He insisted on the importance of practical knowledge over bookish knowledge and also spoke on the ways and need to gain and use knowledge for the development of the society and the importance of developing leadership quality among students. The Secretaries of various Clubs and the Captains of various Sports and Games Teams were sworn - in by taking oath. Dr. M. Ravi, I.P.S. and Chief Vigilance Officer, Aavin, Chennai, an alumnus of AC & RI, Madurai was the Chief Guest and shared the fond memories of his college days with the students and gave good insight into preparing for Civil Services examination. Dr. G. Pushpa, Dean (i/c), Home Science College and Research Institute, reminded the duties of the students in performing the club activities in an appreciable manner. Mr. A. Senthamil Arasan, Student's Club Secretary proposed the activities of the Students Club for the academic year. Mr. D. Karthik, the Sports Secretary gave an outline on the various sports events to be held during the academic year. Miss. R. D. Shalini, Joint Students Club Secretary proposed a Vote of Thanks.

National Level Training for Farm Scientists

A training programme was organized for farm scientists from 11th September to 1st October, 2013 at Department of Agricultural Entomology, AC & RI, Madurai on "Securing stored grains from pests and diseases". Twenty three scientists from all over India participated. During the Inaugural Function, the Organizing Secretary of the Winter School, Dr. N. Muthukrishnan welcomed the gatherings. Dr. R. K. Murali Baskaran, Course Director of the Winter School explained the purpose and usefulness of the training. Dr. C. Chinnusamy, Dean i/c, , Agricultural College, Madurai and Dr. G. Pushpa, Dean i/c, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai delivered the Inaugural Address, followed by the release of course materials for the benefit of participants. Dr. S. Mohan, Dean i/c, School of Post Graduate



Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, delivered the Key Note Address and explained the possibility of launching a gadget within few days, for securing grains under storage, which would be one of the components in Second Green Revolution, being planned by the State Government. On the 3rd day of the Winter School, Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, interacted with participants and emphasized the importance of Winter School for the benefit of participants.

Training on Seed Production in Vegetable Crops at KVK, Madurai



An off - campus training programme on 'Seed production in vegetable crops' was organized at Kallanai Village, Thirumangalam Block of Madurai District by the KVK, Madurai in collaboration with the National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation (NHRDF) on 12.09.2013. The training programme was conducted based on the expression of interest by the farmers those who participated in the on - campus training programme held at KVK on 7th and 8th February, 2013. Twenty five progressive vegetable growers from Kallanai and T.Pudhur Villages participated and the farmers got registered to take up vegetable seed production under buy back arrangement through MoU between the farmers and NHRDF. Dr. C. Ravindran, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) welcomed the delegates and emphasized the importance of seed industry in small - scale

vegetable seed production and marketing systems to become successful entrepreneurs. Dr. A. K. Singh Deputy Director of Horticulture, NHRDF explained about seed production policy and distributed tomato seeds to the farmers. Mr. M. Saravana (Technical Officer) NHRDF, Coimbatore, explained the package of practices for seed production of tomato variety PKM - 1 and the economic benefits of seed production activities.

Field Day on Marigold



Field day for assessment of Marigold Varieties under OFT programme was organized on 11.9.2013 at Thadhagoundanpatti village in Alanganallur Block of Madurai District. Twenty five progressive flower growers from Alanganallur Block participated. Marigold varieties viz., Pusa Narangi Gainda (Deep Orange), Pusa Basanti Gainda (Sulphur Yellow) from IARI, New Delhi, MDU - 1 (Orange) from TNAU and local variety (Medium Yellow) were tried in farmers field for assessment. Dr. N. S. Venkataraman, Programme Co - ordinator, KVK, Madurai emphasized the importance of flower crops and enhancing area in the district due to better price in domestic and export markets. Dr. C. Ravindran, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) explained the post harvest management of flower crops particularly marigold to extent vase life of flowers. Mr. A. Thirumurugan, Assistant Director of Horticulture, Alanganallur Block explained ways to extent area under flower crops in the district through various schemes available with the Horticulture Department.

TNAU Observed Parthenium Awareness Week

Parthenium awareness week was observed between 16th and 22nd August, 2013 at Weed Control Unit, Department of Agronomy, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. In this connection a series of programmes viz., Parthenium Quiz Competition, Parthenium Awareness Rally, Demonstrations and awareness meetings were conducted with wide



publicity about parthenium, its ill effects and control. On the first day, a Quiz competition was organized at the Department of Agronomy, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore for the under graduate students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and on the second day a demonstration on parthenium management was organized for NSS volunteers, residents and sanitary workers of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. On 20th August, 2013 a rally was organized with NSS volunteers in Lawley road and R.S. Puram areas. This programme was inaugurated by Dr. S. Mahimairaja, Dean (Agriculture) i/c, Subsequently, parthenium awareness programme was organized at Millets and Oilseeds Centre, Velandipalayam. This programme was inaugurated by Dr. C. R. Anandakumar, Director, i/c, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics. Dr. K. Velayudham, Director, i/c, (Directorate of Crop Management), Dr. R. Ravikesavan, Professor and Head, Department of Millets, Dr. N. Asoka Raja, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy participated in this programme.

The KVK Needamangalam also organized **“Awareness Campaign on Parthenium”** at Neelan Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Needa - mangalam on 22.08.2013. A total of 85 students, teachers, public from different parts of Thiruvavur district were taught about the various eradication methods and composting techniques of parthenium. Dr. K. Chozhan, Programme Co - ordinator and Dr. S. Anandha Krishnaveni, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy) Th.llanchezhan, ADA, Needamangalam and ten final B.Sc.(Ag.) students of A.D.A.C. & R.I., Trichy, also participated in the event.

IAMWARM Farmers Visited DARS, Chettinad



An Expo visit to Dryland Agricultural Research Station, Chettinad for the Gridhamal Sub - basin farmers was organized on 08.08.2013. About 45 farmers from Muthuvanthidal, Kaliyanthur, Allinagaram, Konthagai villages of Thirupuvanam Block visited the station and were appraised on the dryland technologies adopted for crop production; demonstration of machine sowing in pulses and groundnut was done. Dr. C. Swaminathan, Professor and Head narrated the dryland pulses production technology. Dr. P. Kannan explained nutrient responsiveness of different crops. The visit was organized by Dr. M. Paramasivan, Assistant professor (Plant Pathology) DARS, Chettinad and Mr. P. Ganesh prabhu, JRF (TN - IAMWARM).

Training on “Preparation of Value Added Products From Minor Millets”



To popularize the Minor Millets, a two day district level training on **“Preparation of Value added products from Minor Millets”** was conducted at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam on 1st and 2nd August, 2013 on the eve of the **9th Foundation day of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam**. The seminar was chaired by Dr. R. Rajendiran, Director i/c, Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai, who delivered the Inaugural Address. He emphasized the advantages and need of minor millets in food in the present day life style. Dr. K. Chozhan, Programme co - ordinator of KVK spoke

on the role of minor millets in children's growth and the value of value added products in the present system. About 125 participants from different regions of Cauvery delta attended the training. Different products from minor millets were prepared by the trainees to know about their easiness in preparation. The training session was handled by Mrs. D. Reka, Programme Assistant (Technical), KVK, Needamangalam. She explained the importance of value addition in minor millets by utilizing the locally available inputs and further she enunciated the various vitamins and minerals and food and nutritional values of minor millets.

Field Demonstration on Machine Sowing

A field demonstration was organized at DARS, Chettinad on machine sowing in red gram on 12.08.2013 for the benefit of farmers of Muthuvanthal, Kaliyanthur, Allinagaram, Konthagai villages of Thirupuvanam Block, Sivaganga District. About 50 farmers benefitted. Dr. P. Kathirvelan explained the benefits of machine sowing and the farmers got 'hands on' training. Thiru. R. Manivannan, ADA, Sakkottai Block of Sivaganga District along with his field staff participated in the demonstration.



Field Day on "TNAU Rice CO 51" at Melanatham, Thiruvarur District

A field day was conducted at Melanatham village in Thiruvarur district in the field of Mr. Sooriamoorthy on 23rd August 2013, to popularize the new rice variety TNAU Rice CO 51. Dr. S. Robin, Professor and Head, and Dr. P. Jeyaprakash, Professor (PB &G) from Department of Rice, TNAU, Coimbatore, and about 50 local farmers attended the field day. Dr. K. Chozhan, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Needamangalam emphasized the importance of TNAU Rice CO 51. Dr. S. Robin, explained the importance, varietal characters and yield advantages.



Dr. V. Alex Albert, Assistant Professor (SST.) arranged the meeting and clarified the doubts of farmers on TNAU Rice CO 51.

Training For Rural Youth

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vriddhachalam organized a four days long vocational training programme to the Rural youth of Cuddalore District on 3rd september 2013. In which 30 youths attended and benefited. Dr. R. Arunachalam, Programme Co - ordinator, KVK inaugurated the training programme and explained the marketing management techniques and encouraged the trainees to start their own agri - business ventures. Dr. K. Venkatalakshmi., SMS (Agronomy) trained the youth on the production of Panchakavya, enriched farm yard manure and Vermicompost and their application to the crops. Dr. M. Malarkodi, SMS (Soil Science) conducted skill demonstration on the production and uses of coir pith compost and seed treatment using Bio fertilizers. Dr. T. Saravanan, SMS (Plant Pathology) explained the youth on the biological methods in the control and management of insect pest and diseases. He also demonstrated the effective use of *Trichoderma viride* and *Pseudomonas fluorescense* in the effective control of crop diseases. Dr. V. Vijageetha explained the youth about the processes involved in the certification of product produced organically.



NEW SCHEMES

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Principal / Co-Principal Investigator	Budget (Lakhs Rs.)	Funding agency
1	Impact assessment of GroMore 2 crop care programme on arthropod diversity in rice ecosystem	Dr. V.G. Mathirajan Asst. Prof (Entomology) TRRI, Aduthurai Dr. K. Karunanithi Prof (Pathology) TRRI, Aduthurai	5.12	Syngenta India Ltd., Coimbatore
2	Evaluation of bio - efficacy of Met 52 EC (<i>Metarhiziumanisoplliae</i>) and Taegro (<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>) against Brown Plant Hopper and Blast, Sheath blight and Bacterial Leaf blight in rice	Dr. V.G. Mathirajan Asst. Prof (Entomology) TRRI, Aduthurai Dr. K. Karunanithi Prof (Pathology) TRRI, Aduthurai	5.75	Novozyme South Asia Ltd., Chennai
3	Evaluation of bioefficacy of Chlorpyrifos 30%CS against brown plant hopper, white backed plant hopper and Green leaf hopper in rice	Dr. V.G. Mathirajan Asst. Prof (Entomology) TRRI, Aduthurai	5.12	GSP Crop Science Private Ltd., Ahmedabad, Gujarat
4	Evaluation of RIL-166/F1 (10+240 g/l) SE for its efficacy, phytotoxicity and residue against important weeds in wet direct seeded rice	Dr. T. Ramesh Asst. Prof (Agronomy) TRRI, Aduthurai Dr. P. Parasuraman Professor (Agronomy) TRRI, Aduthurai Dr. S. Rathika Asst. Prof (Agronomy) TRRI, Aduthurai	6.62	Rallis India Ltd., Bangalore

Important Visitors

A team of scientists led by Dr. Roland, J. Buresh, Scientist, consisting of Romena Castillo, Associate Scientist, Dr. Sheetal Sharma, Nutrient Management Specialist, Dr. Sudhir Yadav, Scientist, from International Rice Research Institute, Phillipines visited Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai on 13th August, 2013.

Dr. Piedad Moya, Senior Research Manager, Social Sciences Division, International Rice Research Institute and Flordeliza H. Bordey, Jose Redentor, H. Besinio, Economists, Cheryll Launio, Department of Agriculture, Phillipines visited Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute on 27th of August, 2013.

Published by
Directorate of Planning and Monitoring,
TNAU, Coimbatore - 641 003.

Printed at :
TNAU Offset Printing Press,
Special Officer (Publications & Public Relations)
TNAU, Coimbatore - 641 003.

To

From
Directorate of Planning and Monitoring,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore - 641 003