

# TNAU NEWS



## TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : Dr. P. SANTHANA KRISHNAN - Acting Vice Chancellor Editor : Dr. R. BALASARASWATHI - Director (i/c), Planning and Monitoring

### 107th Campus interview at DSW >>>

The Directorate of Students Welfare (DSW), TNAU, Coimbatore organized the 107<sup>th</sup> Campus Interview on 17.4.2009 to promote employability for fresh graduates of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. About 200 graduates have participated in the event. Dr.M.Thangaraju, Director (Students' Welfare) welcomed the Company Executives and students. In his address, he narrated various efforts taken by TNAU to groom the graduates to fit in the changing scenarios in job market. Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Professor (Students' Welfare) briefed the protocol to be adopted in the Campus Interview besides indicating the points for pre-placement talks by Executives from various organizations. Six companies have participated in the Campus Interview. Selection of



candidates was done based on their performance in group discussion and interviews. The company executive short-listed about 60 fresh UG and PG graduates in the disciplines of agriculture, horticulture and

agricultural engineering and the final interview is expected to be held in their head quarters and the appointment orders will be issued after the completion of their academic programs.

### Magnificent performance in management tests

The directorate of Students welfare (DSW) organized Manage Test recently at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. More than 100 students participated. TNAU students did exceedingly well in the test. With the efforts of Director (Students' Welfare), TNAU-Coimbatore has been recognized as one of the testing centers for Manage Entrance Examination and successfully conducted the test for the past two years. It is proposed to organize coaching classes for CAT & GMAT to facilitate students aspiring for management courses. On behalf the university and the Directorate of Students Welfare, the Director takes this opportunity to congratulate the winners and wish them best of luck.

### USA Scientists' visit to TNAU

Dr. Sukant Misra, Associate Dean of



Research and Dr. Norman Hopper, Associate Dean of Academic and Student Programmers Texas Tech. University, Lubbock, USA visited Tamil

Nadu Agricultural University on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2009. The visiting scientists presented the various activities of the students at Texas Tech. University, Lubbock, USA and the possible avenues for fellowship assistance at UG and PG levels. They also interacted with the UG and PG students during their visit. The interactive meeting with the Dean (School of PG Studies), Director Students Welfare and Dean (Agri.) were also made for future tie up programmes including education, research, extension and faculty exchange programmes. The programme was organized by the Department of Crop Physiology.

**TNAU participation in career expo – 2009 at Tirunelveli**



As a part of the UG admission awareness programme, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam, participated in the Career Expo-2009, an education exhibition organized at Tirunelveli from 23.4.2009 to 25.4.2009. About 3000 higher secondary students from Tirunelveli, Thoothkudi and Kanyakumari districts visited the education exhibition. The Teaching staff of the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam explained about the scope and opportunities for the various UG

courses offered by the University. Charts highlighting the various UG courses, Dual degree programmes, brochures of TNAU colleges were displayed in the stall. College brochure and leaflets were distributed to the students.

**CAS training on 'Genome assisted plant breeding'**

The 21 days CAS training on "Genome Assisted Plant Breeding" organised by the Centre of Advanced studies in Genetics & Plant Breeding, TNAU, Coimbatore was held during Feb 13-05 March 2009. Valedictory function of the training programme was held on 05.03.2009 at Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, TNAU. A total of 14 participants from all over India attended the training programme. During the valedictory function Dr. P. Shanmugasundaram, Professor (Genetics) welcomed the audience. Presidential address was delivered by Dr. T. S. Raveendran, Director, CPBG,

TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Director of Research, TNAU was the chief guest who delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates to the trainees and Dr. S. Rajeswari, Associate Professor (Cytogenetics) proposed vote of thanks.

**Training program on marketing**

Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India jointly organized two, one day training programmes on "**Market Access and training Interventions to Improve the Net Profitability of Agricultural Commodities in Tamil Nadu**" at Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai on 04.03.09 and 05.03.09. The trainings were mainly organized to the farmers of Cauvery Delta Zone, to create awareness on marketing of rice and pulses. Hundred farmers from Cauvery Delta Zone benefited through the training.

On 04.03.09, Dr.S.Jebaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai inaugurated the

**XXIV Annual group meeting of AICRP – NSP (Crops) >>>**



A three day XXIV Annual Group Meeting of All India Co-ordinated Research Project (AICRP) – National Seed project (Crops), organized jointly by ICAR and Seed Centre, Tamil Nadu Agricultural

University, Coimbatore was held at TNAU, Coimbatore from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2009. Dr.S.P.Tiwari, Deputy Director General (CS & Edn.), Dr.N.D.Jambhale, Asst. Director General (Seeds), Dr.Asit B.Mandal,

Project Director, DSR, Mau of ICAR and about 200 participants working under NSP in different ICAR Institutes and SAUs and representatives of seed companies attended. The meeting was presided over by the Acting Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Dr.P.Santhana Krishnan and inaugurated by Dr.S.P.Tiwari, Deputy Director General (CS & Edn.). The retiring scientists of NSP including Dr.A.S.Ponnuswamy, Special Officer (Seeds) were felicitated and 5 booklets including a TNAU publication on "**Potential seed plan for Tamil Nadu**" was released during the inaugural function. Technical programmes of seed physiology, seed production, seed processing, seed pathology and seed entomology were finalized during various sessions of the meeting.

## Workshop on cashew at RRS, Vridhachalam >>>



An One day “Workshop on Cashew” was jointly organized by the Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development, Cochin and TNAU-Regional Research Station, Vriddhachalam on 19.03.2009 at RRS, Vriddhachalam. Nearly 200 participants comprising farmers, Extension functionaries of State Department of Horticulture, Agriculture, cashew processors, Exporters participated in the workshop.

Mrs. M. Rema, Statistical Investigator, DCCD, Cochin inaugurated the workshop by lighting the kuthuvilakku. Dr.P.L.Viswanathan, Professor and Head, Regional Research Station, Vriddhachalam welcomed the guests and participants attending the workshop and gave a brief introductory address about the workshop and about the guests invited for the felicitating the workshop.

Mrs.M.Rema in her presidential address, requested the farmers to use improved practices for increasing the yield of Cashew and wished for the success of the workshop. She released the book “Technologies for cashew production” which was received by the Assistant Director of Horticulture, Vriddhachalam.

In connection with the workshop, an exhibition depicting various aspects of cashew production technologies in the form of charts, models and live specimens were arranged for the benefit of participants.

A total of seven technical presentations viz., High yielding varieties of cashew, softwood grafting in cashew, Integrated nutrient management for cashew, Micro irrigation in cashew, cashew management technologies, Management of pests in cashew, value addition in cashew were made for the benefit of farmers.

During the workshop the farmers were provided with training material Dr.S.Jeeva, Professor (Hort.), proposed vote of thanks.

training. In his inaugural address the Director spoke on the latest technologies to enhance the rice production. The resource person from DMI, Madurai, Dr.Ganesan, elaborated about Rural Godowns and Agmarknet. The scientists from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Dr.Saravanakumar spoke on agricultural marketing, import and export and regulated market. The scientists of TRRI, imparted training on good agricultural practices, precision farming, storage pests, post harvest technologies and value addition in rice respectively.

On 05.03.09 Good Agricultural Practices, storage pests, post harvest technologies, and agricultural marketing aspects with regard to enhancing pulses production in Cauvery Delta Zone were imparted to the farmers. The training ended with the concluding remarks of Dr.S.Jebaraj and vote of thanks by

Dr.Saravanakumar.

### World environment day and World water day celebrations

The World Environment (March, 21) and World Water Day (March, 22) were celebrated by the NSS volunteers of A C & R I, Coimbatore. Mr.Yoganathan, a President Award recipient for Tree Planting was invited as chief guest. He has planted more than 50,000 saplings with the help of student volunteers. During the programme he motivated the students to contribute for tree planting and emphasized the need to conserve environment. Thagam, a documentary film shot by him on issues related to water was screened to create



awareness among students on the importance of tree planting.

### Training on coir yarn spinning

One day training programme on coir yarn spinning was organized under GOI, DBT scheme on “Upliftment of Rural Women Through Employment Generation” functioning at Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur on 17, 18

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and 19.3.2009 at Denishpettai, K.N.Pudur and Mookanur of Kadaiyampatty block in Salem District. More than 155 socially backward rural women were participated and benefited.

In the inaugural function Dr.M.K.Kalarani, Associate Professor (Crop Physiology) and scheme officer welcomed the gathering. In inaugural address, Dr.D.Raja, Professor and Head, KVK, Sandhiyur explained about the activities of the scheme and

highlighted the importance and benefits of the scheme. In the special address Dr.V.Palanisamy, Professor and Head, Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur, explained the role of women in agriculture and allied activities.

In the technical session, Th.K.Kamaraj, Assistant Director (Industries and Commerce), DIC, Salem, explained about the marketing avenue for coir products. Th.R.Sundharamoorthi, Special

Officer, DIC explained the value added products from coir yarn and Th.C.Palanisamy, Manager, Central Coir Board Society, Salem explained about the activities of Coir Board and did demonstration on coir spinning. Apart from the regular proceedings, interaction session among the rural women Coir Board Society and scientist were held. The highly interested rural women were identified from the group. Finally Th.R.Sivachandran, Senior Research Fellow proposed vote of thanks.

**NEW SCHEMES**

Name of the Scheme	PI	Amount (lakh Rs.)	Funding Agency
Understanding the mechanism of off-season flowering and fruiting in mango under different environmental conditions	Dr.R.Richard Kennedy, Assoc. Prof. (Hort.)	54.462	ICAR-NAIP
Optimization and stabilization of crop livestock silvipastoral farming system for livelihood security of rural women in dry land areas of western zone of Tamil Nadu.	Dr. C.Jayanthi, Professor (Agronomy)	11.49	DST
Characterization of allelic difference of eui gene and its effect on endogenous GA3 expression for solving poor panicle exertion in hybrid rice technology	Dr.R. Thangapandian Asst. Prof. (PB&G)	9.01	UGC
Techno-economic Assessment of the Unexploited Value Added Agro-processing Technologies of the Hill Tribals for Commercialization and Rural Empowerment	Dr.C.Sekar, Professor (Agrl. Eco)	7.50	NABARD

**IMPORTANT VISITORS**

- Dr.B.C. Virakthamath, Project Director, Directorate of Rice Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad visited TRRI, Aduthurai on 16.4.09.
- Dr.Peter Sale and Dr.Mark Jois La Trobe University, Australia on 17.04.2009.
- Dr.S.N.Shukla, Assistant Director General, (F&FC), ICAR, New Delhi between 24.4.09 and 26.4.09.

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From  
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