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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

World Soil Day – 2018 “Soil - The Soul of Infinite Life”

World Soil Day is celebrated on December 5th of every year to make aware of the importance of soil. Soil acts as a mitigator of biodiversity loss and climate change. The Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Directorate of Natural Resource Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore has organized the programme of World soil day a special lecture on Soil – The Soul of Infinite Life on Dec. 5, 2018.

Dr. D. Jawahar, Director, DNRM, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering of Retired Soil Scientists, University Officers, Scientists and Students and in his welcome address pointed out the genesis of world soil day and the role of younger generation in preserving the soil.

Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided over the function and in his presidential address emphasized the importance of soil in crop production and the role of organic matter in sustaining the soil fertility. He also expressed his concern over increasing soil degradation, Chemical degradation like soil salinity and alkalinity should be approached is collaborative research mode with the integration of various management practices, microbes and tolerant plants. Further he also stressed the importance of protecting the soil from various types of degradation and the role of Soil Scientists in maintaining the soil health.

Dr. K.K.Krishnamurthy, Former Dean, AC&RI, Madurai while delivering the lecture on “Soil - The Soul of Infinite Life” gave an overview about the importance of soil. He explained soil from various perspectives and compared the soil with a human system which clearly brought out the concept that soil is a living dynamic system. It takes millions of years to form an inch of soil, but it is easier to degrade or erode the soil in no time. So it is the responsibility of each and every individual's to preserve the mother earth for the future generation. Also, explained clearly the importance of soil, physical, chemical and biological properties and the need for maintaining the soil fertility. While concluding, the speaker stressed that, soil is the great connector of our lives, the source and destination of all. It is the healer, restorer of everything that supports our life on this planet. Without proper care for it, we can have no life on this planet.

Dr. R. Santhi, Professor and Head, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, TNAU, Coimbatore and President, Indian society of Soil Science, Coimbatore Chapter, highlighted the significance of leaving fertile soil for future generation besides proposing the vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer