



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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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:

Agricultural Machinery Mela at TNAU

An one day agricultural machinery mela was conducted in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University on Feb. 15, 2019.

800 farmers across the state have visited the mela for exposure on various farm machineries, coordinated by 21 TNAU KVKs.

At the inaugural function held at Anna Auditorium, Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, presided over the function. He highlighted the growing importance of agricultural equipments for achieving higher work efficiency. He suggested a “Customer feedback approach” for farm machineries as being done by car manufacturers. This approach would fine tune the performance efficiency of farm machineries so as to have wider acceptance.

The chief guest of the function, Dr. K. Alagusundaram, DDG, ICAR, New Delhi, delivered the special address and presented awards to farmers. He informed the gathering that Indian agriculture is 48% mechanized and he hoped to increase this to 70 percentage in another 20 years. The government of India through department of agricultural cooperative centres and customer hiring centres is encouraging farmers to buy farm implements and machineries with upto 80 percent subsidy in some cases. Around 3000 such CHS have been started in Punjab and Haryana alone. He highlighted the role of two machineries viz., happy seeder and straw chapper in bringing down the smoke days from 58 to 3 days in Punjab and Haryana, decreasing straw burying by 45 percentage. He lauded the effort of government in allocating Rs.1,151 crores towards this purpose. He also encouraged farmers to knock at the doors of scientific institutions for technological knowhow on farm technologies.

Three farmers Mr. Saravanan of Namakkal, Mr. Sugavanam Sivaprakasam of Sandhiyur and Th. S. Duraisamy of Karur were presented with the best beneficiary farmers award. 20 appreciation certificates were also issued to farmers who have adopted farm machinery technologies on a larger scale.

Earlier, in the day demonstration of tractor drawn auto spader, Chised plough, Subsoil coirpith applicator, cheek basin farmer cultivator seed drill, hill drop planter, inclined plate planter, Auger digger, boom sprayer, groundnut harvester and robotic based paddy transplantor were witnessed by the farmers.

Dr.B. Shridar, Dean (Agrl. Engineering), Coimbatore welcomed the gathering and Dr.V. Thirupathi, Dean (Agrl. Engineering), Kumulur proposed vote of thanks.

Public Relatios Officer