



**Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**  
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To  
The Editor,

Date: 25.10.2021

Sir,

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

**TNAU conducts Training for Scheduled caste beneficiaries  
on “Mushroom Cultivation and Value addition” under ICAR scheme**

One day training programme on "Mushroom Production and value addition" was organized by the Department of Plant Pathology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore to the Scheduled caste woman beneficiaries at Karamadai through the financial support of All India Coordinated Mushroom Improvement Project of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. Hundred women beneficiaries identified through Good Shepherd Health Education Centre from ten villages viz., Velliankadu, Thekkampatti, Pungampalayam, Thimampalayam, Mangalakraipudur, Seeliyur, Sasthri Nagar, Chinnathottipalayam, Therampalayam, Venmani Nagar of Karamadai block participated in the training programme.

Dr.G.Karthikeyan, Professor and Head stressed the significance of mushroom cultivation as a hitech horticulture venture that would pave for the socioeconomic livelihood of the farming community with more income per unit area due to vertical space utilization. Dr.K.Prabakar, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies in his special address pointed out the importance of mushroom production towards health in the current covid - 19 crisis owing to the presence of Vitamin D and selenium in mushrooms. He also mentioned that TNAU would extend necessary technical support for the upcoming entrepreneurs so as to create self employment opportunities among youngsters. Dr.G.Thiribhuvanamala, Associate Professor and scheme officer of the project conducted demonstrations and hands on training to the beneficiaries on spawn production, oyster mushroom cultivation, conversion of spent mushroom substrate in to biomanure and value addition of mushrooms. An exhibition was also set up to create awareness on different mushroom varieties and value added products. The beneficiaries were provided with the essential input materials at free of cost required for mushroom production and value addition. Dr.G.Umapathy, Professor and Dr.K.Angappan, Professor addressed the problems on pest management and disease management .

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**Public Relations Officer**