



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore – 641 003



Dr. M. Rajavel, Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer
Mobile: 97903 47444

Phone: 0422 - 6611302
Fax: 0422 – 2431821
E-mail: pro@tnau.ac.in

To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 10.02.2023

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

Natural Farming in Dicoccum (Samba) Wheat And Farmers Training

Wheat crop was cultivated in Eastern block farm, Department of Agronomy, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in collaboration with ICAR, Regional Station, Wellington. Wheat crop species viz., *Triticumdiccocum* and *Triticumaestivum* were cultivated in an area of 4.00 acres. The crop was raised during last week of November (late sown) and it was monitored by Dr.S.Panneerselvam, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy and Dr.M. Sivasamy, Principal Scientist (IARI), Regional Station, Wellington by adopting recent scientific package of practices.

Wheat field day and tripartite meeting involving scientists, farmers and industry was organized jointly by ICAR and TNAU on 08.02.2023 with collaboration of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and 75 farmers were participated from Coimbatore and Tirupur Districts and wheat milling industry people.

In this meeting, Dr.V.Geethalakshni, Honourable Vice - Chancellor, TNAU and Dr.Vikrant Singh, Joint Director, DWD, Gurugram, Haryana were attended as Chief Guest. IARI Scientists Dr.M. Sivasamy, Dr.P.Jayaprakash and from TNAU Dr.M.Raveendran, Director of Research, Dr.M.K.Kalarani, Director of Crop Management, Dr.N. Senthil, Director Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Dr.S.Panneerselvam, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy were participated. Dr.Kumaravadivelu, TO, SAET, ICAR-KVK, JDA Coimbatore Tmt.K.Muthulakshmi also attended in this programme.

Vice-Chancellor emphasized about the importance of role of wheat in diet for the diabetic patients, strengthening of wheat seed production and linkage with ICAR. Further, insisted to strengthen the wheat research.

Director of Research, TNAU stated that wheat finds a place in ancient period food system. He highlighted about the strengthening of wheat research and TNAU will help towards collaborative research with ICAR. Director, Crop Management emphasis to give focus on research towards increased production and productivity of wheat and steps to be taken towards expansion of area of wheat cultivation in Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Vikrant Singh, Joint Director, DWD, Gurugram, Haryana, has appreciated that the wheat crop in Tamil Nadu was taken without any inorganic pest and disease management and comparing to wheat production system in North India. He ensures that the quality wheat production may be possible under organic system in Tamil Nadu. Further, he insisted there is great demand for wheat seeds in northern states. So, seed production activity may be taken in Tamil Nadu to meet out the seed demand. Further, he appreciated the efforts taken by TNAU in popularizing wheat among Tamil Nadu farmers.

Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy delivered the information pertaining to late sown condition and explained that the performance of wheat crop was good due to conducive climate for wheat growth prevailed in this year and stated that the crop was raised with less input and minimum cultural operations. ICAR Scientist Dr. M. Sivasamy, he explained about the recent production technologies for wheat, hybridization techniques of wheat and explained about the unique special feature of wheat variety HW 1098 for Tamil Nadu condition and about ongoing research.

Mr. Kiranthikumar Pati, IAS, Coimbatore District Collector has advised the farmers to cultivate less water requirement and profitable crops. Farmers have to utilize the service of ICAR, TNAU, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and KVKs to increase their production and productivity of wheat and other crops. Progressive wheat growing farmers shared their experiences about wheat cultivation to the gathering. Mr. D. Rajesh, CEO, Chiranjeevi Agro Industries, Coimbatore clearly narrated about the past, present and future avenues on wheat marketing scenario. Finally, Dr. P. Jayaprakash, Principal Scientist (IARI) proposed vote of thanks. The following scientists Dr. S. P. Sangeetha, Dr. K. Thirukumaran, Dr. V. Manivannan, and Dr. G. Prabukumar were involved in conducting of wheat experiment and seeds harvested from the trial will be distributed to the farmers for ensuing season.

Public Relations Officer