



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: 11.01.2023

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

TNAU hosts the launch event of International Year of Millets 2023

India had proposed the importance of millets during March 2021 and submitted a proposal to UN. As per the proposal of India, United Nations announced 2023 as International Year of Millets (IYoM) with the approval of 73 countries. Indian government has planned to celebrate IYoM 2023 in all the states in a grand manner. In connection to this, among the SAUs in India, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University is the first SAU launching the celebration of IYoM 2023. On 11.01.2023, TNAU launched the celebration of IYoM 2023 successfully.

Dr.R.C.Agarwal, Deputy Director General (Education) and Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU inaugurated the millets exhibition and visited the stalls in which the popular varieties of millets, technologies, machineries, value added products and millet products by FPOs were exhibited. Dr. R. Ravikesavan, Director, CPBG welcomed the gathering and narrated the importance of millets. Th. Annadurai, I.A.S. Director of Agriculture, TN delivered a special address through online mode and elaborated various government schemes for improving millets production in Tamil Nadu and activities planned to be executed for implementing the celebrations of IYoM 2023 in Tamil Nadu. He also insisted to cultivate Millets in uncultivable lands in Tamil Nadu to increase the millet production and food security.

The Vice Chancellor delivered a speech on International Year of Millets 2023 activities at TNAU and explained the importance of millet cultivation and consumption. She also insisted that in ancient days, people were consuming millet foods and had good health and longevity.

She emphasized that millets could be grown in rainfed condition, low fertile/saline soils and need low water requirement with shorter growing period of 60-90 days and Millets are the storehouse of nutrition and hence known as Nutri-Cereals. They contain higher protein, health friendly carbohydrates and crude fibre. The Vice Chancellor announced that the celebrations of IYoM 2023 would be celebrated throughout the year by all the agricultural colleges, research stations and KVKs under TNAU through organizing exhibitions, seminars, conferences, trainings and millet festivals.

Dr. R. C. Agarwal, DDG (Edn.) appreciated TNAU for launching IYoM 2023 as the first SAU in India in a grand manner. He released a set of millets value added products, Millets processing machineries and a book on “Millets”. He requested researchers and students to carry out the millets related research activities and find out new innovations and technologies for the benefit of farming community in India. In his inaugural address, he narrated the nutritional values of millets and insisted to increase the demand of millets in India by creating awareness and consumption of millets thereby to increase the production and productivity of millets worldwide. TNAU signed MOUs with Millets FPOs to promote the millets cultivation and marketing of millet products.

In this function, technical sessions on Technologies for enhancing millet production, Millet processing and value addition and Marketing and export of Millets were conducted. More than thousands of farmers, students, members of FPOs participated in the inaugural function and benefited with millet information. Finally, Dr. P.P. Murugan, Director of Extension Education, TNAU delivered the vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer