



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore – 641 003

Dr.M.Rajavel, Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer
Mobile: 94890 56730

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

To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 10.12.2025

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

TNAU organized a training on “Soil Test Crop Response (STCR) based Fertilizer Prescription for Various Crops”

The inauguration of the Training Programme on “Soil Test Crop Response (STCR) Based Fertilizer Prescription for Various Crops” was organized by the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, TNAU, Coimbatore on 10th December 2025, jointly with the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu.

Dr.D.Selvi, Professor and Head, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, TNAU welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of STCR technology in promoting sustainable agriculture and conserving natural resources. During the inaugural session, trainees from Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) and Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories (MSTLs) introduced themselves and outlined their ongoing activities in soil analysis and advisory services.

Dr.R.Santhi, Professor and Former Director (NRM), TNAU, delivered the felicitation address. She recalled her experience in coordinating six STL training programmes during the past 2 decades and urged the continuation of such capacity-building efforts for young STL personnel. She emphasised the close linkage between soil health and human health and acknowledged the contributions of former STL experts, including Thiru. Lakshminarayanan, Thiru M.N. Munusamy and Thiru Dhanapa lan Mosi. She also outlined the evolution of soil testing initiatives at TNAU since the 1980s and expressed gratitude to scientists instrumental in establishing the Agri Clinic–cum–STL under NADP, as well as in developing software tools such as DESSIFER and VDK. She noted that, during the 2021 pandemic, the interactions with the Principal Secretary (Agriculture), Tamil Nadu, paved the way for the current STCR-based training programme. She thanked the Government of Tamil Nadu for deputing STL and MSTL officers and wished the trainees and organizers a successful programme.

Dr.P.Balasubramaniam, Director (DNRM), TNAU, delivered the inaugural address, stressing the critical role of soil testing in sustainable agriculture. He traced the historical changes in fertilizer-use efficiency from the Green Revolution to modern cultivars and underlined the environmental consequences of imbalanced fertiliser use. He reiterated the need for the judicious and integrated use of fertilizers and organic manures, promoting STCR and targeted yield approaches. He also encouraged scientists to develop STCR models for all major crops of Tamil Nadu.

Dr.R.Thamiz Vendan, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, TNAU, delivered the Presidential Address. He highlighted the distinguished legacy of the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry and the long-term experiments such as 116-year-old Permanent Manurial Experiment and the 54-year Long-Term Fertilizer Experiment which reinforce the value of Integrated Nutrient Management for sustainability. He acknowledged major achievements of soil scientists, including soil organic carbon maps, STCR equations for 37 crops, 10 cropping sequences, and 18 soil series, along with innovations such as nutriseed packs, micronutrient mixtures, chelates, patents and decision-support software tools. He emphasised the need for effective knowledge dissemination from laboratory to field and advocated the adoption of the 4R nutrient stewardship principles for sustainable agriculture. He conveyed his best wishes for the success of the training programme.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. S.Maragatham, Professor (SS&AC) and Scheme incharge AICRP (STCR), TNAU, Coimbatore.

Public Relations Officer