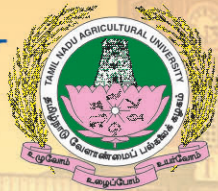


# TNAU NEWS



## TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : **Dr. C. RAMASAMY** - Vice Chancellor

Editor : **Dr. R. BALASARASWATHI** - Director of Planning and Monitoring (i/c)

### INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The 61<sup>st</sup> Independence Day was celebrated in a grand and fitting manner at Agricultural College & Research Institute, Coimbatore on 15.8.2007. The Vice-Chancellor Dr.C.Ramasamy was welcomed by Dr.K.Vanangamudi, Dean (Agriculture). The Vice-Chancellor hoisted the National Flag and delivered the special address. Captain Dr.A.Palanisamy, NCC Officer and Lt.Dr.S.Manomani, Lady NCC Officer presented an impressive guard of honour by the NCC cadets and NSS volunteers. The Vice-Chancellor distributed sweets to the participants. All University Officers, Heads of Departments, Teaching and Non-Teaching staff members enthusiastically participated in the Independence Day celebration.



### LAUNCHING OF DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM AT RRS, AMBASAMUDRAM



Station, Ambasamudram on 20.08.2007. In the inaugural address, the Honourable Speaker informed the gathering that it was the dream of the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi to start the Diploma in Agriculture Programme in the Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu, to cater the needs of the poor farming community and to improve their standard of living.

Dr. P. Santhana Krishnan, Registrar, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, in his special address highlighted the demand for the Diploma holders in various Private organization. Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Director of Research encouraged the scientists to work for the upliftment of the farming community. The Representatives of Local Bodies and Panchayats, Farmers, Students'

The Honourable Speaker of Tamil Nadu Assembly, Thiru. R. Avudaiappan, M.A.B.L. inaugurated the two years '**Diploma in Agriculture**' programme at the Institute of Agriculture, Rice Research



**MoU FOR IMPLEMENTING 'TN-IAMWARM' PROJECT**

TNAU is one of the components in 'TN-IAMWARM' project funded by World Bank operated by Government of Tamil Nadu. The Director, WTC is the Nodal Officer for TN-IAMWARM project and implemented through research station / campus / KVK. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Dr. P. Santhanakrishnan, Registrar, TNAU and Th.Vibhu Nayar, IAS, Project Director, TN-IAMWARM, Chennai on 9.8.07 for implementing the project. The total outlay finalized for TNAU is 89.18 crores for five years.

parents, Government Officials of various departments, Scientists from Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam, Agricultural Research Station, Kovilpatti and Thirupathisaram participated in the function.

Dr.S.Nalliah Durairaj, Professor and Head, Rice Research Station, Ambasamudram welcomed the gatherings. Dr. Y.S. Johnson Thangaraj Edward, Associate Professor (Entomology) proposed vote of thanks.

**LAUNCHING OF TWO UG DEGREE PROGRAMS**

**B.Tech. (Agricultural Information Technology)** is an exclusive programme designed for applied Information Technology in agriculture to create IT savvy land use planners, landscape ecologists and IT Managers.

The graduates may become IT service facility manager, weather / crop forecasting expert, e-learning specialist. Knowledge management expert, commodity trades, ERP system manager, farm / plantation manager, e-commerce portal manager, Financial analyst, supply chain manager, BPO service manager, crop insurance manager and e-Governance portal designer.

**B.S.(Agribusiness Management)** is another Under-Graduate programme with a vision to mould the students to become Agribusiness Managers in public and private financial institutions, Farm and plantation management, market and advertising, super and hyper markets, financial, insurance and product marketing, Procurement personnel, Human Resource Managers, Supply chain and logistic manager, Capital and commodity trading, Market Research and analysts and overseas employment in Asia – Pacific region.

The above two new degree programmes were inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor. In his address to the students, he emphasized that the students should utilize the facilities available and develop their skills, capacity and personality in order to get a gainful employment or to become an entrepreneur. Two new modernized lecture halls with 'e-learning' facilities were also inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor.

**STUDENTS' AWARENESS MEETING ON 'MY IDEA PROGRAMME'**

An introductory meeting of 'My Idea Programme' (MIP) under 'L-RAMP' scheme was organized at

Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, TNAU, Navalur Kuttapattu, Trichy on 9.8.2007.

Dr.N.R.Padmanaban, Professor and Head, Department of Social Sciences and Languages, ADAC&RI, Trichy welcomed the gathering. Dr.S.Jebaraj, Dean of the institute exhorted the innovativeness of the MIP under L-RAMP scheme and made a plea to all the stakeholders, specifically the students and the faculty for availing this as an opportunity to mould the 'Ideas' into 'Innovations'.

Dr.R.Ganesan, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology and the Principal Investigator, L-RAMP scheme explained the **L-RAMP activities** in general and '**My Idea Programme**' in specific. He emphasized the benefits of participation by the students in MIP and enthused them for "**ideas**" generation by the young minds. Heads of various Departments of the Institute and 60 identified elite students participated in the meeting.

Dr.Thiyagarajan, Professor of Agricultural Extension coordinated the programme. The students have shown keen interest to submit winning proposals of innovative '**ideas**'.



**L-RAMP AWARENESS PROGRAMME FOR FARM LEADERS**

An awareness programme on L-RAMP scheme to benefit the farm leaders was organized at KVK, Sirugamani on 10.8.2007.

Dr.S.P.Ramanathan, Professor and Head, KVK, Sirugamani welcomed the gathering and appealed the farmers to reap benefits from the L-RAMP as an out-reach programme.

Dr.R.Ganesan, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology and the Principal Investigator of L-RAMP scheme explained the benefits, activities of L-RAMP project and the participatory role of farm leaders to nurture innovations at grass –root level. He explained the scope of the scheme to scout for innovations and encourage the rural innovators to get identified through L-RAMP.

30 selected FDG convenors and all the scientists of KVKs participated in this programme. At the end of the programme, all the farm leaders were guided to prepare / consolidate their innovative ideas /indigenous technologies at their village and send it as 'proposals of innovation generation' for further

incubation involving the experts of the concerned field.

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE**



A National Conference on "Impacts of climate change with particular reference to agriculture" was organized at TNAU by the Agro Climate Research Centre, Centre for Soil and Crop Management Studies between 22 and 24, August, 2007. About 150 scientists from different State Agricultural Universities, ICAR institutions, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences and representatives of NGO organizations actively participated in the conference. Scientists from

IRI, USA and Chicago Climate Exchange, USA delivered special talks in the conference. More than 150 students attended this conference and learnt the current

developments in the field of climate change as well as its influence on agriculture.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr.P.S.Goel, the Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India. In his inaugural address, he stressed that though India contributes only 4 per cent to the world global warming, our country is one of the most affected because of its effects. Extreme events in the weather are increasing in the recent past and the sea level is raising. These

**INAUGURATION OF STUDENTS CLUB AND ORIENTATION DAY AT HC&RI, PERIYAKULAM**



The combined 'Club Inauguration and Orientation Day 2007-08' function was celebrated at the Brindavan Hall on 7.8.2007. Dr.S.Natarajan, Dean presided over the function and Th.R.Sudhakar, I.P.S, Superintendent of Police, Theni district was the chief guest. The newly joined I B.Sc (Hort) and I M.Sc (Hort) students were introduced to the staff and other students in the function. The chief guest distributed prizes to the winners of the competitions held earlier in the day for the newly joined students and addressed the gathering. Cultural programmes by students were held at the end of the function.



**SENSITIZATION TRAINING PROGRAMME**



A sensitization training programme on '**Development / Strengthening of Agrl. Marketing Infrastructure**' was organized on 17.08.2007 at Soil and Water Management Research Institute, Kattuthottam,

Thanjavur in order to create awareness among the block and district level officials on capital investment, subsidy scheme for developing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, grading and standardization. Fifty officials

belongs to the of Department of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Agrl. Marketing, Co-operation and Civil supplies were attended the training Programme. Dr. T. Jayaraj, Professor and Head welcomed the gathering. Mr. B. Senthamilselvan, JDA, Thanjavur inaugurated and explained the need and the importance of the training programme. Mr.R.Mohanasundaram, Senior Marketing Officer, Directorate of Marketing and Inspection delivered special address and interacted with participants Mr.P.Vetriselvan, Lead Bank Manager, IOB, Thanjavur participated in the training programme. Dr. M. Chidambaram, Assistant Professor (Agrl. Eco.) proposed vote of thanks.

impacts made the issue of mitigating global warming an important mission.

Dr.C.Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, in his presidential address stressed that the country should have an exclusive national body to control climate change. He said that stabilization of emission is possible but involves huge investments where in policy makers, politicians, scientists, farmers, students and the public should join hands to tackle this global problem.

Mr.B.Siddarthan, Advisor, Norwegian Embassy in his special address indicated that Agricultural Scientists alone cannot solve the problems arising out of global warming, as climate change is a global issue and he made an appeal for congregation of scientists form different areas like Agriculture, meteorology and Geology to work out a solution for climate change.

Rural industries Minister Th.Pongalur N.Palanisamy launched the Automatic Weather

Station installed by TNAU at 45 locations over Tamil Nadu in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and emphasized that the issue of global warming was the immediate need of the hour.

Dr.P.G.Chengappa, Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore in his address during the inaugural function cautioned the farmers to stop burning crops, particularly sugarcane, since such activity would increase the green house gas concentration in the atmosphere. He suggested technological options like aerobic paddy, bio-fuels and aerosol-free disposal of biomass, as alternatives that could bring down the level of global warming.

Prof.M.C.Varshneya, Vice-Chancellor, Anand Agricultural University, Gujarat cautioned that the climate change should be viewed as a serious issue and all sectors should take care to reduce the emission levels.

There were five technical sessions covering various topics viz., Climate change assessments and projections, Climate change impacts on agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, hydrology, forestry and ecology, Climate change adaptation for agriculture, Climate change mitigation and Energy options. An exclusive session was organized for the students to interact with the scientists of Climatology, Meteorology, Geology, Agriculture and other disciplines. There were eight invited talks, 14 lead talks and 20 oral presentations and 84 poster cum short oral presentation were made in the conference covering the conference themes.

**TRAINING ON PULSES, VEGETABLES AND AGRI ENTERPRISES**

At Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai a two day training on '**Rice, pulses, vegetable cultivation technologies and agri enterprises**' was organized on 28.08.07 and 29.08.07. Farmers



numbering 88 from Karaikudi and Devakottai area participated in the training.

In the training, various aspects of rice cultivation, vegetables cultivation, agri enterprises like mushroom cultivation and vermiculture were covered. The Director, TRRI, Aduthurai inaugurated the training. Dr.A.Karthikeyan, Professor (Plant Pathology) coordinated the training.

**SURVEY ON NEW DISEASE OCCURRENCE IN COCONUT**

Dr.R.Bhaskaran, Professor (Plant Pathology) accompanied the staff of CIPMC, Trichy, Regional Plant Quarantine Station, Chennai and Agriculture Department to under take survey on the new coconut disease in taluks of Orathanadu, Pattukkottai, Peravurani, Thiruthurai and Vedaranyam. In all, 41 coconut gardens in the above five taluks were visited. Only two trees with typical symptoms of the new disease were observed during the survey, one tree at Edayakadu village (Madukkur



block) and another tree at Thonthupulikadu village (Peravurani block).

**PROFITABLE CASTOR CULTIVATION IN TIRUNELVELI**

One day seminar on 'Profitable Castor Cultivation' was organized at Tirunelveli on 27.8.07 by the scientist of Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur. About 64 farmers from Tirunelveli and

Tuticorin districts and 15 agricultural field officers of Mother India Agro Farms Pvt. Ltd participated in the seminar. The seminar motivated the farmers to go for hybrid castor cultivation. Because of higher net profit realized in castor cultivation coupled with low water requirement of castor crop, hybrid castor cultivation is a boon to dryland and to the areas with limited irrigation potential.

**SEMINAR CUM FIELD DAY ON COCOA AT ALIYARNAGAR**



A National level Seminar cum field day on 'Intercropping of cocoa in coconut' was organized by Coconut Research Station, Aliyarnagar at Anaimalai region,

Pollachi. About 250 farmers participated in the function which was inaugurated by Dr.G.Selvaraj, Director, Open and Distance Learning.

Dr.K.Sathyamoorthi, Professor and Head, CRS, Aliyarnagar welcomed the gathering. Dr.D.Veeraraghavathatham, Dean (Horticulture), Mr.A.Harirajkrishnan, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore and Mr.R.Selvaraj, Joint Director of Horticulture, Ooty were the guest speakers. The farmers were taken to the cocoa field of Dr.Jayaraj, Sethumadai, a Doctor by profession and an agriculturalist by passion. Farmers were explained on the aspects of cultivation of cocoa, varietal development and improvement, post harvest handling, storage and processing value addition etc. Dr.N.Meyyazhagan, Professor (Agronomy) proposed vote of thanks.



**NEW SCHEMES OBTAINED**

Name of the Scheme	PI	Amount (lakhs)	Funding Agency
Breeding and biotechnological approaches for the improvement of Jatropha genetic resources	Dr. K.T.Parthiban	23.77	DBT
Hybrid seed production under the component 'promoting cereal hybrid seeds'	Seed centre staff	12.06	Central sector scheme
Frontline demonstration on cotton a) FLD on production technology b) FLD on farm implements	ICAR-KVK staff Virudhachalam	2.0	TOT project
ICAR-KVK-Villupuram front line demonstrations of Cotton	Dr. K.C.Ravi	1.5	ICAR

**IMPORTANT VISITORS**

- High level delegation from Gujarat headed by **Shri.Dilipkumar Thakor**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture from August 2-4, 2007.
- **Mr. B.Siddarthan**, Advisor Norwegian Embassy on August 22, 2007.
- Scientist from IRI, USA and Chicago Climate Exchange, USA from August 22-24, 2007.
- **Dr. P.S.Goel**, the Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences. Government of India, on August 22, 2007.
- Honourable Minister for Rural Industries **Th. Pongalur N. Palanisamy**, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, on August 22, 2007.
- **Dr. P.G.Chengappa**, Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Science, Bangalore, on August 22, 2007 .
- **Prof. M.C.Varshneya**, Vice-Chancellor, Anand Agricultural University, Gujarat, on August 22, 2007.

Published by :  
**Directorate of Planning & Monitoring, TNAU.**  
 Coimbatore - 641 003.

Printed at :  
**Directorate of Open & Distance Learning,**  
 TNAU Offset Printing Press,  
 Coimbatore - 641 003.

To  
 Thiru

From  
 Directorate of Planning and Monitoring, Tamil Nadu  
 Agricultural University, Coimbatore - 641 003