

TNAU NEWS



TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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

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

APC & Secretary (Agri. Dept.) visits TNAU >>>

Th. K. Nanda Kishore, IAS., Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary (Agri. Dept.), Govt. of Tamil Nadu visited TNAU between February 7th & 9th, 2009. Dr.P.Santhanakrishnan, acting Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, TNAU received the APC & Secretary and appraised about the important activities of TNAU. During the field visit on February 8th, the APC & Secretary visited the Banana cultivation plots under

precision farming mode and greenhouse culture of cutflower rose at Velliankadu village; protected cultivation of hybrid tomato at Pogalur village; organic farming at Pallathu Thottam and Agricultural Research



Station, Bhavani-sagar.

On February 9th, the APC & Secretary visited the field experiments on sunflower, groundnut, maize, lab lab, cereal & leguminous fodders, SRI, Automatic

Weather Station and observed farm machinery like rice transplanter, cono weeder, mat nursery tray sowing machine, gardenland power weeder and paddy drum seeder and visited the Post Harvest Technology Centre, Horticulture research in Orchard, TNAU Agritech Portal and video conferencing under e-extension project. Presentations were made on the functioning of precision farming project and Open & Distance Learning Programmes. Later during the evening, the APC & Secretary interacted with all the University Officers.



Farmers Training on Jatropha Cultivation and Biodiesel Production

The Centre of Excellence in Biofuels, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, TNAU organized a one day training programme for farmers on Jatropha cultivation and biodiesel production. Thirty six farmers from different districts of Tamil Nadu attended the training. Dr.A.Sampathrajan, Dean,

Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, inaugurated the training programme and explained the importance of biofuels in this keynote address. Dr.M.Paramathma, Professor and Nodal Officer (Biofuels), initiated the training program by giving a brief introduction on the cultivation of jatropha, development of varieties and hybrids and Biofuel policy. He explained the farmers about the crop management practices to be followed,

and the economics of jatropha.

The farmers were trained on Jatropha nursery technology, cultivation practices, pest and disease management, and biodiesel production. The farmers were also exposed to nursery techniques in the Jatropha nursery and they also visited the Jatropha experimental trails. The training programme ended with a valedictory function which was presided by Dr.A.Sampathrajan,

Dean, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute. The training ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr.R. Jude Sudhagar, Assistant Professor (Forestry).

Demonstration on DAP spray

Under National Agricultural Development Project (NADP) to enhance pulse production in Tamil Nadu, trainings and demonstrations were given through the scientists of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. In continuation of this programme, one day training cum demonstration was organized at Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai on 04.02.09. Twenty farmers from Thiruvarur and Nagapattinam districts participated in the training. The importance of pulse production, pulse varieties, agronomic practices in pulse cultivation, pest and disease management were the

subjects dealt in the training. Preparation and application of 2% DAP solution was demonstrated. Dr. S.Jebaraj, Director, TRRI inaugurated the programme and addressed the farmers about the status of rice fallow pulses in Tamil Nadu. Dr.K.R.Latha, Professor, Agronomy, Dr. Palanivelan, Associate Professor, Agronomy, from TNAU, Coimbatore coordinated the training. Professors Dr.R.Rajendran, Agronomist, Dr.S.Jalaluddin, Entomologist and Dr.A.Karthikeyan, Plant Pathologist of TRRI, Aduthurai imparted training to the farmers.

Research fellows of TNAU honoured

Academy of Plant Sciences India (APSI), Muzzaffar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh honoured Dr.A.Ramesh Kumar and Dr.M.Prabhu research fellows working in DBT Palmyrah

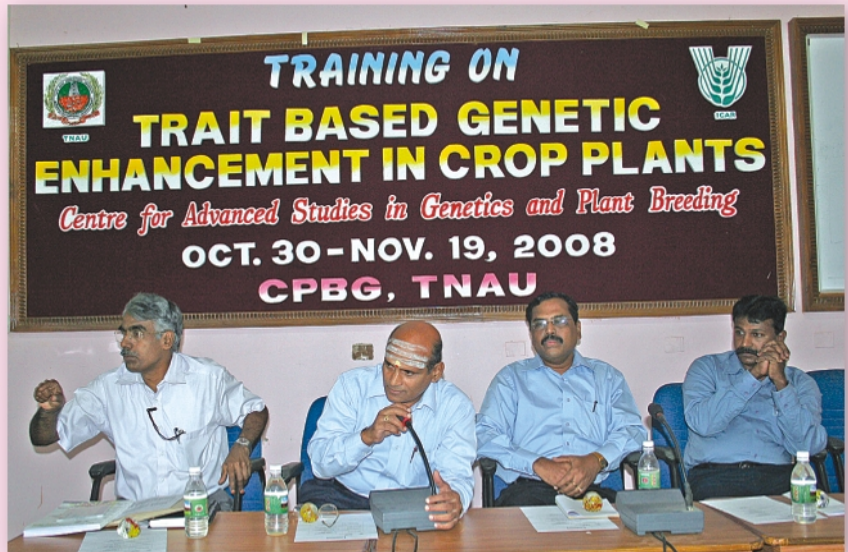
schemes at HC&RI, Faculty of Horticulture, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Both of them received the "Certificate of excellence" for their research activities in the field of Horticulture in the recently held National Conference on "Present scenario and Perspectives in plant science research" at Institute of Science, Mumbai.

Variety release proposals screening meeting

The research stations under the Directorate of Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai proposed nine varieties including Rice (Aduthurai), Groundnut (Tindivanam), Cashew (Virudhachalam), Brinjal (Virinjipuram), Snakegourd (Palur), Gingelly (Tindivanam), Sugarcane (Sirugamani), Sugarcane (Cuddalore) and

Training on trait based genetic enhancement in crop plants)))

A twenty one day training programme on "Trait Based Genetic enhancement in crop plants" was conducted by the Centre for Plant Breeding & Genetics, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore recently. Seventeen scientists from SAUs, ICAR Institutes and Spices Board drawn from Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu attended the training. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. T. S. Raveendran, Director, Centre for Plant Breeding & Genetics, TNAU. During his inaugural address, he stressed the importance of improving various traits among the different crops to fulfill the need of ever-growing population. Dr. P. Shanmugasundaram, Professor (Genetics) welcomed the participants and briefed about the training programme and Dr. A. John Joel, Professor (Cytogenetics) proposed a vote of thanks. The training course was programmed to expose the



participants both by way of lectures and hands on training on the aspects like, exploratory research on novel sources of genetic variation, genetic resources conservation, characterization, informatics and distribution, new techniques for selection for specific traits and identification of elite genotypes, biochemical and physiological

procedures involved in trait enhancement in plants.

During the valedictory function, Dr. S. Jebaraj, Director, Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute Aduthurai delivered the valedictory address and distributed the training manual (both hard and soft) and certificates to the participants.

Training on latest rice production technologies >>>

A training programme was conducted on “**Latest Rice Production Technologies**” jointly by Department of Agronomy, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore-3 and NABARD for three days from 19th to 21st January, 2009. Twenty five farmers from twelve rice growing districts of Tamil Nadu participated in this program. Dr.P.Muthukrishnan, Professor and Head, Dept. of Agronomy, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the training and delivered the presidential address. Dr.V.Suresh, AGM, NABARD highlighted the various initiatives taken by NABARD in the TOT to the clientele. Dr. S. Ramasamy and Dr. N. Maragatham, Professors of Agronomy spoke on the occasion.

Training was given on the various aspects of rice production technologies that included nursery management, integrated nutrient management, weed management, irrigation management pest and disease management, mechanization in rice cultivation, system of rice intensification hybrid seed production and certification. Bank official narrated the institutional



financial support available to the farmers.

The participants were also taken to rice research farm in the main campus and also to Agricultural Research Station, Bhavanisagar to know the latest rice research activities.

In the valedictory function Dr.P.Muthukrishnan, Professor and Head, dept. of Agronomy, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the

gatherings. Dr.S.Natarajan, Director of Soil and Crop Management Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore in his valedictory address emphasized the need for such a training program and encouraged the farmers to go for value addition for produces to make the rice cultivation more remunerative. Then he interacted with the farmers and distributed the participation certificates to the farmers. Dr.P.Murali Arthanari, Assistant Professor proposed the vote of thanks.

Greengram (Vamban) for release during 2009. Under the chairmanship of Dr.S.Jebaraj, Director, TRRI, the proposals were reviewed and suitable modifications were suggested. Scientists from the concerned stations presented the proposal and the scientists of TRRI participated in the meeting and gave their suggestions.

National horticultural mission ICT training programme

Trainings on Information & Communication Technology (ICT) for State Officers of Horticultural Departments were conducted for 8 weeks for nearly 15 batches from 17-11-2008 to 31-01-2009. About 480 Officers from all the districts of

Tamil Nadu were trained. The trainings were organised by the Directorate of Extension Education. Training was imparted on Open Office Word Processor, Spreadsheet, Presentation, e-mail id creation and internet browsing under the Linux Operating System. Also computer Hardware, Software and Basic operations, Viruses, Search Engines and Web designing, e-Governance, Government Portals usages and Linux based open source applications etc., were dealt.

Demonstration of multi crop thrasher at SWMRI, Tanjore

The special officer (seeds) monitored the NADP Scheme and seed production activities of the SWMRI. He visited the on going

paddy breeder seed production and blackgram breeder seed production fields, Seed processing unit and BSP seed godown.

The demonstration of newly purchased multi crop thrasher under the NADP Seed scheme was conducted in the presence of Special officer (seeds) on 31.1.2009. He also discussed with the Professor and Head and scientists of SWMRI about the progress of NADP scheme, ICAR mega seed project and other seed production activities.

Training on seed production in paddy

One day training on 'Commercial Seed Production in Paddy' was

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Field day on direct sown drum seeder)))

A field day was conducted at Ammanpettai village under the Farmers participatory action research programme funded by MOWR, GOI, on the "Popularization of direct sown drum seeder rice at Ammanpettai village on 9.2.09. The farmers of Ammanpettai village participated in the field day function and discussed with the Professor and Head and Scientists of Soil and Water Management Research



Institute, Kattuthottam, Thanjavur seeded rice over conventional about the advantages of drum transplanting.

organized at Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai recently to the farmers of Barathi Uzhar Mandram, Athamangalam, Sirkazhi. Sixteen

progressive farmers participated in the training. In the training programme, Breeder, Nucleus, Truthful Labeled and Hybrid seed production, crop management

and crop protection for quality seed production were dealt. Scientists of Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute imparted training to the trainees.

NEW SCHEMES

Name of the Scheme	PI	Amount (lakh Rs.)	Funding Agency
Implementation of PVP legislation through DUS testing under ICAR and SAU systems	Dr.P.Srimathi Professor and Head, SS&T	47.00	DUS-GOI
Design fabrication and performance evaluation of a dust proof turmeric polisher funded by National medicinal Plants Board, GOI, New Delhi.	Dr.R.Kailappan, Professor (F&APE)	10.0	NMPB New Delhi

IMPORTANT VISITORS

- Dr.D.B.Singh and Dr.H.P.Singh, DDG extension between 11.2.09 and 14.2.09
- Ganth. Patterson, Saskatoon, Canada on 20.2.09.
- Albert Vandenbar, Saskatoon / Toranto, Canada between 19.2.09 and 20.2.09.
- Dr.Harinder Makkar, Hohenheim between 21.2.09 and 24.2.09.

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From
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