

TNAU NEWS



TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : Dr. P. MURUGESA BOOPATHI- Vice Chancellor

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TN-IAMWARM – TNAU website launched

Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, launched the website for TNAU-TNIAMWARM Project (www.tniamwarmtnau.org) on 14.3.2011 during the sub-basin Nodal Officers' Review Meeting. The Vice-Chancellor outlined the advantages and usefulness of the website which will ensure transparency in implementation of TN-IAMWARM Project. Dr. K. Paramathma, DR, Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar, Dr. P. Kalaiselvan, DEE, Dr. K. Samiappan, Director, CPMB, participated in the meeting. Dr. S. Chellamuthu, Nodal Officer, TN-IAMWARM & Director, WTC, welcomed the gathering and explained the features of the



website. Dr. B. J. Pandian, Professor (Agronomy) and Head, IAMWARM proposed a vote of thanks.

Popularization of Blackgram Co (BG) 6 in Cauvery delta zone

A survey has been made on the performance of the newly released variety TNAU Co (BG) 6 in the farmers' fields in the villages of surakkottai, vandaiyariruppu and keelaulur on 17.03.11. Dr. K. Thiyagarajan, Director, CPBG, Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, and Dr. L. Subha AP (PB&G), SWMRI, Kattuthottam, Dr. Ganesh Ram, Associate Professor, CPBG, observed the crop stand and its performance. The farmers were satisfied and pointed out the benefits of the newly released variety in

comparison with the other varieties like T9, ADT5 and ADT3 blackgram. A team of Scientists, from Department of pulses, Dr. A. R. Muthiah, Professor and Head, Dr. S. Palanivelan, Associate Professor (Agronomy), Dr. P. Jayamani, Associate Professor (PB&G) also visited the fields of TNAU Co (BG) 6



in the villages of karakkottai, Naduvur, Kandithempettai and Arulmozhipettai on 18.03.11 and verified the performance of the newly released variety.

Special lecture on "Stress Management"

A special lecture on "Stress Management" was delivered by Dr. V. R. Arivazhagan, Director, Indian Institute of Yoga and Naturopathy, Coimbatore on 16.03.2011 in the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology for the benefit of third year students of B.Sc. (Agri) degree programme as part of their curriculum.

Dr.V.R.Arivazhagan in his lecture emphasized the importance of stress management in the recent electronic era of development in order to improve one's personality traits, besides, maintaining good health and inculcating knowledge on stress management aspects. He stressed the need for yoga education towards stress management especially for the personality development among students.

Field day on groundnut by CRS, Aliyarnagar



Groundnut FLD field day was organized at Kullegoundanur village on 8.03.2011 by CRS, Aliyarnagar. Dr.K.Rajamanickam, Professor and Head, presided over the function. He emphasized the importance of conducting FLD and also the impact of improved technologies. The Groundnut scientists of Aliyarnagar, Dr. N. Premalatha, Dr. V. Vasuki, Dr. T. Srinivasan and Dr. J. Sheela explained the various strategies in groundnut cultivation. Dr. I. Johnson, Assistant Professor (Pl. Path.) proposed vote of thanks.

Vice-Chancellor's visit to State oilseed farm, Bhavanisagar

Our Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi along with the Registrar and DR visited ARS and State Oil Seed Farm, Bhavanisagar on 15.3.2011 and witnessed the seed production of female parents of Rice CoRH 3 at Oil Seed Farm. The ADA (i/c), opined that the seed

production could be successful only because of the technical support from TNAU. The Vice-Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the personnel involved in the seed production and assured technical support in future also.

Programmes at ORS, Tindivanam

World Bank team visits TN-IAMWARM project at Ongur sub basin

World bank team visited the various demonstration activities executed under TN-IAMWARM Project at Ongur sub basin on 02.02.2011. Team consists of Dr.Edward Cook, Dr.Benn Oberion and Dr.Malhothra have interacted with the farmers regarding Raja Rajan 1000 demonstration in 47 acres under tank fed irrigation and their participation in this program.



Various live demonstrations of different components of SRI were made in front of the World Bank Team. Dr.S.Challamuthu, Director, WTC, Dr.B.J.Pandian, Unit Head, IAMWARM, Th. S. Rajagopal & Dr.V.K.Ravichandran MDPU members from Chennai have accompanied the WB team.

Farmers' exposure visit on precision farming under IAMWARM project

Farmers' exposure visit under TN-IAMWARM project was undertaken on 19th & 20th February, 2011. A group of 48 progressive farmers from Villupuram, Kancheepuram and Thiruvannamalai districts were

taken to Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts by the scheme scientist Dr.S.Anbumani of Ongur sub basin. Farmers visited precision farming in Banana, Cucumber, Cabbage, and Tomato. They also visited sustainable sugarcane initiative at Pennagram followed by Brinjal field and community vegetable nursery at Somanahalli village.



Training cum field day on pulses and oil seeds

One day training cum field day on farmers' participatory seed production demo on pulses and oilseeds was conducted at Melsirupakkampudur and Kamarajauram villages of Tiruvannamalai District on 18.3.11 by ORS, Tindivanam. Dr. M.Vaithiyalingan, Assistant Professor (PB&G), welcomed the gathering. Totally 40 farmers were participated. Dr. V. Radhakrishnan, Assistant Professor (Entomology) delivered the lecture on pests of oilseeds and pulses and its management. Dr. K. Kavitha, Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology) delivered lecture on disease management of oilseeds. Tmt. S. Baby Parvatham, ADA (Seed Certification), delivered a lecture on Seed certification Procedures.

Field demonstration on papaya mealybug parasitoids by NPRC, Vamban

A demonstration on Papaya mealybug parasitoid, *Acerophagous papayae* was conducted at Nallathangalpatti village on 22.02.11 by the scientists of NPRC, Vamban. During the

programme, Professor and Head, Dr.S.Geetha talked about the importance of biological control in mulberry pest management.



The entomologists Dr. R.P.Soundararajan and Dr. N.Chitra explained the parasitoids mass multiplication techniques and they demonstrated the field releasing methods in the mulberry fields. The Assistant Director of Sericulture, Junior Inspector of Sericulture and various State sericulture department officials were present. Fifty mulberry farmers from Pudukottai district participated.

Programmes at TCRS, Yethapur

Demonstration on coconut tonic

A demonstration was arranged on root feeding of coconut tonic in Pethanaickanpalayam village on



March 4th, 2011 along with the ADH, Pethanaickanpalayam. Dr. M.K. Kalarani, Associate Professor (Crop Physiology), demonstrated coconut tonic root feeding technique and explained the uses of tonic to the farmers. About 30 farmers participated in the programme

Biogas user camp

One day biogas user camp and awareness creation on CFL bulb was conducted on 08.03.2011 by Department of Bio-energy, AEC&RI and TCRS, Yethapur. The Professor and Head, TCRS delivered a special lecture on importance of renewable energy resources and the utilization of biogas for household purposes. Dr. R. Angeeswaran, Assistant



professor (Bio energy) delivered a special lecture on benefits of biogas plants, operation and maintenance of biogas plants, financial and other assistance. About 50 farmers participated in the camp.

Foreign scientist's visit

Dr. Erika Styger, Director of Programmes, SRI International Network Resources Centre, International Institute for Food and Agricultural Development, Cornell University, USA visited on 11.03.2011 along with Dr. S. Chellamuthu, Director, WTC and Nodal Officer (TN-IAMWARM), Dr. B.J.Pandian, Head, TN-IAMWARM to have first hand information on Raja Rajan 1000 (SRI) cultivation methods and SRI fields in the Upper Vellar sub basin of Vasista river. She visited farmers' fields at Vazhapadi,



Abhinavam, Thamaiyanur and Yethapur and interacted with the farmers regarding the feasibility and problems encountered.

Mealy bug parasitoid release in Pachamalai hills

Tapioca mealy bug parasitoid release and awareness on mealy bug control was done on 16.03.11 in farmers' field at Pachamalai hills, Trichi district. Around 1950 numbers of parasitoid (*Acerophagus papayae*) were released in 20 acres of H165 variety of tapioca crop. Dr. V. Palanisamy, Professor and Head, and Dr. S. Venkatesan, Professor (Entomology) released the parasitoid and explained about the control of mealy bug by the parasitoid.



Programmes at FRS, Thoivalai

Training on aromatic crops

A training programme on "Recent Trends in Aromatic Crop Production" was organized at FRS, Thoivalai on 26.02.2011. Dr. R. Swarnapriya, Associate Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering and Dr. V. Ponnuswami, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam inaugurated the programme and highlighted the merits of aromatic crops cultivation in Tamil Nadu. The status of aromatic plant cultivation was addressed by Dr. K. Rajamani, Professor and Head, Department of Medicinal and Aromatic Crops. The recent cultivation techniques, processing and marketing strategies in tuberose was elaborated by Dr. P. Paramaguru, Professor and Head, Department of Floriculture and Landscaping and

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Dr. J. Rajangam, Associate Professor and Head, HC&RI, Periyakulam explained the advanced production technologies in maruvu and ocimum. Dr. R. Swarnapriya, briefed on value addition in scented roses. Dr. G. Preetha,



Assistant Professor (Entomology), explained the plant protection measures to be followed in aromatic crop production. Dr. P. Hemalatha, Assistant Professor (Horticulture), proposed vote of thanks. About 61 farmers from various parts of the district participated.

Training on precision farming in flowers

Training on “Precision farming in flowers” was conducted on 25.03.2011. Totally 50 farmers from Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts participated. Dr. G. Preetha, AP (Agrl. Entomology) welcomed the gathering. The training was inaugurated by Dr. S. Chellamuthu, Director, WTC. The farmers were trained on the precision farming technologies in flower crops like Jasmine, tuberose, rose and marigold. Mrs. K. Kokila, JRF, proposed vote of thanks.



Bioconcorrenza 2011 at PMB&B

Bioconcorrenza 2011, a National symposium, has been conducted at Department of PMB&B from 28-02-2011 to 01-03-2011. This symposium was inaugurated by our Vice-Chancellor. Two eminent scientists, Dr. Anil Grover, Professor and Head, Delhi University and Dr. Sharmila Mande, Head, Life Sciences, R & D Division, Tata Consultancy Services, Hyderabad have delivered the lead papers in biotechnology and bioinformatics, respectively. Besides, an interaction program with industrial experts has been arranged for discussing entrepreneurial and other opportunities for the students in industries. As a part of the programme, participants have presented their research papers through oral and poster sessions.



Programmes at TRRI, Aduthurai

Capacity building programme on horticultural crop cultivation

An awareness programme on “Capacity building for horticultural crops cultivation” was conducted for 30 women self help group of Thirupanandal block on 10th and 11th March, 2011. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. Vaithilingam, Director (i/c). Scientists delivered lectures on different topics. The ADH facilitated the programme with their field staff.

Awareness campaign on PPV&FR

Training cum awareness programme on “Protection of Plant

Varieties and Farmers' Right” was organized on 15.03.2011. Director, has inaugurated the event and delivered keynote address on the “Importance of the plant varieties protection and issues related to farmers' rights in preserving the traditional varieties”. Dr. K. Thiyagarajan, Director, CPBG



delivered special address. 110 participants including, Heads of Research Stations, Heads of KVKs, technical staff of TRRI, Students from Agrl. Colleges attended. Special Lectures were also delivered on “Procedures on Patent registration” “Geographical Indication, Gene bank and Registration” and “PPV& FR: Issues on seed industry”

Awareness cum training programme on PPV&FR

A National “Awareness cum training programme on “Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights” was organized at Seed Centre, Coimbatore on 19.03.2011. Dr. M. Paramathma, DR, inaugurated the training and 107 farmers of Coimbatore district participated. The gathering was welcomed by Dr. K. Ramamoorthy, Special Officer (Seeds) and keynote address was delivered by Dr. N. Ajjan, Director, CARDS. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. P. Srimathi, Professor and Head, Department of SS&T.



SRI – Experience sharing and stakeholders meeting at KVK, Sandhiyur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sandhiyur, organized one day SRI experience sharing and stakeholders meeting on TN – IAMWARM Swethanadhi sub basin – SRI (Rajarajan 1000) on 12.03.2011. About 30 SRI farmers from Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Villupuram districts shared their experiences. Dr.S.Manickam, Programme Coordinator welcomed the gathering. Dr.S.Chellamuthu, Director (WTC), in his presidential address, explained the scenario of SRI in Tamil Nadu. Dr.Erika Styger, Director, Programs, Cornell university, USA delivered the



special address about SRI activities in other countries. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr.R.Jegathambal Associate Professor (SST).

Field day on release of papaya mealy bug parasitoid by SRS & KVK

The SRS, Melalathur and KVK, Virinjipuram has jointly organized a field day on 10th February, 2011 for the release of papaya mealybugparasitoid in the papaya field at Chennakuppam village. The function was inaugurated by the District Collector, Mr. C. Rajendran, IAS and presided by Dr. P. Jyothimurugan, Vice Chancellor, Thiruvalluvar University. Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar, Dr .T. Jeyaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai, Dr. E.I. Jonathan, Director, CPPS, Dr. P. Kalaiselvan, DEE were also attended. Dr.



R.S.Purushothaman, Professor and Head, SRS, Melalathur welcomed the gathering and Dr. P. Jyothimurugan has delivered the presidential address. The collector released the parasitoid *Acerophagus papayae* and delivered special address. The Director, CPPS has delivered a special technical address on the management of papaya mealy bug and conservation of natural enemies. The Registrar and the Director, TRRI have delivered special address. The DEE has released a folder on “Management of papaya mealy bug” and delivered special address. Dr. P. Sumathi, Professor and Head, KVK, Virinjipuram has proposed vote of thanks.

Programmes at ARS, Bhavanisagar

Training on water management technologies

One week training from 23.03.2011 to 29.03.2011 on “Water Management Technologies” was given to 50 farmers at Akkarai Kodiveri and Makkinamcombai of LBP Command area of Erode district. The farmers were exposed to different aspects of Water Management, Drip irrigation design and layout, fertigation techniques etc. through lectures



and demonstrations. The farmers were also taken to field experiments of the station on water management as exposure visit.

Training on turmeric

Training on 'Turmeric cultivation' was organized on 15.03.2011. About 200 farmers from different blocks of Erode district participated. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi, inaugurated the training and delivered the special address and also released books entitled “Technology for Horticultural crops in Western Zone of Tamil Nadu” and “Agricultural Cultivation technology in Erode district”. Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar delivered the inaugural address. Dr. M. Paramathama, DR and Dr. N. Kumar, Dean (Hort.) offered



felicitations. Dr. M. Mohamed Yassin, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering and Dr. R. Chitra, Assistant Professor (Hort) proposed vote of thanks.

Farmers' training cum awareness programme on jatropha at AC&RI, Killikulam

One day farmers' training cum awareness programme on Jatropha has been organized at AC&RI, Killikulam on 23.03.2011. Dr.B.Selvi, Professor and Head, (PB &G), welcomed the gathering. Dr. J. Sundersingh RajaPandian, Dean (i/c) presided over the function and delivered the presidential address. Dr. P.L.Viswanathan, Professor and Nodal Officer, Centre of Excellence in Bio-fuels, delivered the special

address. Experts from various specialized fields were invited to deliver lectures on various aspects of jatropha cultivation. Thirty progressive farmers from Thoothukudi district were actively participated. Dr. A. Thanga Hemavathy, Asst. Professor and Co-PI (PB&G) proposed vote of thanks.



Workshop on product promotion at AEC&RI, Kumulur

Two days product promotion workshop was organized at AEC & RI, Kumulur on 30th, March 2011. Progressive farmers and self help group personnel, who are involved in rice and pulse production, numbering around 200 from different parts of



the State, have attended the workshop. Dr. K. Kannappan, Professor and Head, Agricultural Sciences, welcomed the gathering. A brief introduction on the workshop was presented by Dr. P. Masilamani, Organizing Secretary of the workshop.

Dr. K. Alagusundaram, Director, Indian Institute of Crop Processing and Technology (IICPT), Thanjavur inaugurated and released the workshop brochure. Dr. A. Tajuddin, Dean, AEC & RI, Kumulur delivered the presidential address. Dr. R. Jagan Mohan, Senior Scientist, IICPT, Thanjavur delivered the special address. Dr. T. Pandiarajan, Associate Professor and Head, Agricultural Processing, proposed vote of thanks. The participants of the workshop were

taken to IICPT, Thanjavur on 31st, March for gaining hands on experience in the production of bakery products using rice and pulse mill by-products.

Training on recent trends in cocoa production techniques at HRS, Yercaud

One day training on “Recent trends in cocoa production techniques” was organized at HRS, Yercaud on 17.03.11. Dr. R. Arulmozhiyan, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering and delivered a lecture on Prospects of Cocoa in India and Globe. Dr. P. Jansirani, Professor and Head, Department of Spices and Plantation crops, Coimbatore delivered a lecture on recent trends to be adopted in Cocoa cultivation. Mr. Rajesh, Manager, Cadbury, briefly explained about the marketing of Cocoa. Mr. T. Bellie, Advisor to Cadbury India Pvt. Ltd. explained about the various Government schemes under operation related to Cocoa cultivation. Mr. Bhaskar, Technical personnel, Cadbury, explained the

Annual research meet on palms



One-day Annual Research Meet on Palms was held on 11th March, 2011. About 75 scientists working on Coconut, Oilpalm and Palmyrah participated in the meet. Dr. M. Paramathma, DR, highlighted the importance of

coconut in day-to-day life. Dr. H. Hameed Khan, former Project Coordinator (Palms), CPCRI, Kasaragod, prescribed the road map for future palm research. After releasing a book on “Coconut Descriptors Compendium”, Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi, in his address emphasized the use of TNAU Coconut Tonic as a remedy for nutritional disorders in coconut. The Vice-Chancellor advised the Scientists to develop Soil Test based research for long term sustainability in coconut farming. Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai proposed vote of thanks.



post harvest operations and value added products of Cocoa. Dr. S. Nagalakshmi, Prof. (Hort) proposed vote of thanks. Around 90 people comprising of planters, progressive and small farmers of Salem and adjacent districts took active participation in the meet.

Training on cocoa production technology

A National level training on "Cocoa Production Technology" was conducted on 22nd & 23rd Feb., 2011 at CRS, Aliyarnagar. The training was attended by extension workers of the Dept. of Hort. and progressive cocoa farmers from Pollachi tract. Dr.K.Rajamanickam, Prof. & Head, welcomed the gathering. The training was inaugurated by Dr. N. Kumar, Dean, HC & RI, Coimbatore and Th.O.V.R.Somasundaram, Board Member. The participants were exposed to different aspects of cocoa cultivation through lectures by scientists of CRS, Aliyarnagar and HC & RI, Coimbatore.



Consultative meet on marketing strategies for vegetables and fruits

The Department of Market Extension, conducted a one day

"Consultative Meet on Marketing Strategies for Vegetables and Fruits" on 15.02.2011. A total of 109 Commodity Interest Group members representing 25 districts of Tamil Nadu participated along with the Department of Agricultural Marketing officials, Bank officers and Consumer Retail Chains. Dr. SP. Ramanathan, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi, presided and delivered the inaugural address. Dr.P. Kalaiselvan, DEE, Dr. N. Ajjan, Director, CARDS offered felicitations. The Deputy Director (Agrl. Marketing), Dept. of Agriculture, Coimbatore and the Joint Registrar (Cooperatives), Salem addressed the gathering.



Good agricultural practices, post harvest handling, value added products of vegetables and fruits, price forecast – DEMIC activities, financial support, role of cooperative department in marketing were discussed by the experts and procurement agencies.

Training on climate change and agriculture

A National training on "Climate change and agriculture: Developing adaptation and mitigation strategies" was conducted from 2nd to 15th March, 2011. The training was inaugurated by our Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi. Director of Research & Special officer NRM were also present. One resource person from UK viz.



Dr.Gummadi Sridar was invited to give lectures. Five resource persons from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh delivered lectures in this programme.

Programmes at KVK, Neeadamangalam

Training on production technologies of direct sown rice

Training on Production technologies of direct sown rice has been imparted to the members of Naveena Vivasayi Farmers' club at Vadamangalam village on 17.03.2011. During the training, Dr.M.Ramasubramanian, Assistant Professor (Agrl.Extension), trained thirty seven farmers and farm women on seed to seed technologies of direct sown rice cultivation.

District Level Seminar on cocoa as intercrop in coconut by CRS & KVK

Directorate of Cashew and Cocoa Development, Kochi, CRS, Veppankulam and KVK



Needamangalam jointly organized a District Level Seminar on Cocoa as intercrop in coconut on 28.03.2011. About 100 farmers across the district participated.

Dr.P.Subramanian, Professor and Head i/c, CRS, Veppankulam welcomed the gathering. Dr.T.Jayaraj inaugurated the seminar. Mr.Regunathan, JDA, Thiruvavur district offered felicitations. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Professor and Head, KVK, Needamangalam during his thanks giving address emphasized the need for constant vigil in the coconut garden intercropped with cocoa to get more yield. Several technical sessions on production technologies, pest and disease management and post harvest management of Cocoa were arranged on the day. An exhibition has been arranged by the Cadbury India Ltd.

Vocational training on composite fish culture

Two days vocational training on Composite fish culture was conducted on 15th & 16th March, 2011. Forty farmers of Thiruvavur district participated in the training. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Professor and Head highlighted the remunerative nature of composite carp culture in Cauvery delta which supplements the income from farm. Dr. M. Ramasubramanian, Asst.Professor (Agrl. Extension) and the training organizer briefed about the training. Mr.V.Senthil Kumar, Asst.Professor (Fisheries) from UVTRC, Thanjavur delivered a lecture on carp culture.

Programmes by HRS, Pechiparai

National level workshop cum seminar on off season mango

Two days National level workshop cum seminar on off



season mango was organized by the HRS, Pechiparai on 26th & 27th Feb., 2011. Dr J. Prem Joshua, Professor and Head welcomed the gathering. Mr. Y.T.N. Reddy, Principal Scientist, IIHR, Bangalore delivered special address. Dr. N. Kumar, Dean. HC & RI, Coimbatore, presided over the function. Mr. Bijay Kumar, IAS and Managing Director, National Horticultural Board. inaugurated and delivered the key note address. Dr. P.K. Singh, Zonal Director, NHB offered felicitation. The CCPI-NAIP Off season mango project Dr. R. Richard Kennedy proposed vote of thanks. About 250 farmers hailing from different states have actively participated. A souvenir on off season mango production and 4 pamphlets in different regional languages for the benefit of farmers of different states were released.

Off season mango festival

A mango festival has been organized at Kanyakumari. A wide array of off season mango varieties numbering around 150 types have attracted the off season mango growers. This exhibition on off season mangoes was the first of its kind in the country. The farmers, traders, NAIP and TNAU Scientists, students and public have visited the exhibition. Dr. R. Richard Kennedy Associate Professor (Hort.) and CCPI of the NAIP project, Dr. R. Balakumbagan and Dr R. J. Prem Joshua, Professor and Head, HRS, Pechiparai have made all the arrangements.

Programmes at SRS, Cuddalore

Training on improved production technologies in blackgram

One day training on improved production technologies in blackgram was conducted at Vanamadevi village of Cuddalore district on 7.2.2011. Dr. S. Nazeer

Ahamed, Professor and Head, inaugurated the training and delivered special address. Dr. V. Manoharan, Professor(Plant Breeding), Dr. S. Douressamy, Associate Professor(Agrl. Entomology) delivered lectures on black gram production techniques. Method demonstrations on seed treatment, Line sowing technique, DAP spray, IPM and IDM techniques were also performed. Totally 50 farmers attended the training.

Training on precision farming and SSI in sugarcane

One day training on precision farming and Sustainable Sugarcane Initiatives in sugarcane was conducted at Varakkalpattu village of Cuddalore district on 9th Feb., 2011. Dr. S. Nazeer Ahamed, Professor and Head, inaugurated the training and delivered special address. Dr. B.J. Pandiyan, Professor and Head, TN-IAMWARM Cell, delivered special lecture on SSI techniques in sugarcane. Method demonstrations were done on the preparation of bud chips, raising sugarcane seedlings in Protrays sugarcane sett treatment technique, Precision farming techniques. Totally 50 farmers attended the training.

Exposure visit to precision farming fields

Two days Exposure visit was arranged on 24th & 25th Feb., 2011 to the beneficiary farmers of TN - I A M W A R M project implemented in the Gadilam sub basin. The farmers visited the Precision farming fields of banana, cabbage, cauliflower, potato, carrot, brinjal, turmeric, sugarcane etc., raised by SSI techniques in Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri

Release of papaya mealy bug parasitoid at Dindigul by MRS, Vagarai

Maize Research Station, Vagarai, organised the field release



scientists of other faculties of the research station and farmers attended the function.

Training on “Cutflower cultivation” at HRS, Ooty

Training on “Cutflower cultivation” was organised on 11.03.2011 by HRS, Ooty. Dr.R.M.Vijayakumar, Professor and Head, welcomed the trainees. Dr.M.Jawaharlal and Dr.M.Kannan, Professors (Hort), Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram Professor (Ag.Ent) and Dr.Venkatesa Palanisamy, Assoc.Professor (Agrl.Marketing) from TNAU, Coimbatore delivered lectures to the Technical Officers. Thiru.Dharmalingam, Deputy Director (Horticulture), all the Assistant Directors of Horticulture and Horticultural Officers attended the programme.



Training on curry leaf

The Dept. of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC & RI, Coimbatore, has organized, One day training on “Recent Trends in Curry leaf Production” to the curry leaf growers of Coimbatore district on 2.3.2011 at karamadai. This training was presided by Dr. N.Kumar, Dean, HC & RI, Coimbatore. About 100 farmers participated in this training. The Scientists of TNAU dealt with various aspects of curry leaf. The ADH, Karamadai highlighted the various Govt. Programmes implemented for the benefit of the farmers. A field visit was also arranged at T.G.Pudur, Karamadai, where the yellowing of leaves, various pest and disease symptoms in curry leaf were identified and control measures adopted.

of parasitoid, *Acerophagous papayae* for papaya mealybug in mulberry field at Kalthurai Village, Kottathurai Panchayat, Palani Taluk Dindigul district on 07.03.2011. The farmers of Kottathurai Panchayat participated in this programme and Dr R. Ravikesavan, The Associate Professor and Head, Mr. T. Ravichandran, ADA, Palani, Mr. S. Ganesan ADA i/c, Thoppampatti and A. Kalimuthu Agricultural Officer, Palani, presided over the function and released the parasitoids. In this programme, Dr. S. Suganya Kanna, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology), explained the nature of damage, life cycle and management of papaya mealybug through biological control. The

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B.F.Tech. programme by DODL



such a way, that the farmers should have the privilege of being a degree holder and an expert in agricultural technologies, with utmost self-confidence and a recognition in the society.

Totally 235 farmers have enrolled for the academic year 2010-11. The B.F.Tech degree programme is being offered in the following 6 centres viz., 1. DODL, Coimbatore, 2.AC&RI, Madurai, 3.AC&RI, Killikulam, 4.TRRI, Aduthurai, 5.KVK, Sandiyur and 6.KVK, Tindivanam. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, issued smart cards to the individuals on 5.2.2011.

The B.F.Tech degree programme is offered by the DODL from the year 2010 onwards. It is first of its kind in the global agriculture. The B.F.Tech., programme has been structured in

New schemes

Name of the scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakh R.)	Funding Agency
GOI – schemes on “Farmers’ Participatory Action Research Programme (FRARP) Phase II on Water Management”	Dr. K. Ramaswamy Professor, (SWC)	25.00	Ministry of Water Resources, GOI,
Dissemination of Improved tapioca production technologies and value addition techniques among SC/ ST tapioca growers for their economic upliftment in Salem District of Tamil Nadu.	Dr. A. Janakirani, Asst. Prof., (Agrl. Extension)	18.07	DBT
Commercialization of Anthurium and Heliconia among the farmers of Kanyakumari District	Dr. R. Swarnapriya, Assoc. Prof. and Head. FRS, Thovalai	8.30	NABARD
“Decomposition of coffee pulp wastes using Effective Microorganism”	Dr. J. Ejilane Assistant Professor, (Microbiology)	6.52	UGC,
Bioefficacy and Phytotoxicity of Fipronil 5% SC against pests in Chillies, Cabbage, Cotton and Rice	Dr. K. Samiyyan, Professor, (Agrl. Entomology)	5.84	M/S Indofil Industrial Ltd., Mumbai.
Evaluating the efficiency of Isotianil 200SC & Isotianil 200SC + Trifloxystrobin 500 SC as seed treatment against paddy blast disease	Dr. V. Sendhilvel,	0.87	Bayer Crop Science Limited,

Important visitors

- Dr. S. Jayasankar, University of Guelph, Canada visited Dept. of vegetable crops from 3.3.2011 – 6.3.2011
- Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Member, Central Planning Commission visited CPMB on 5.3.2011
- Dr. Evika Styger, Director of programs, Cornell International Institute for Food and Agriculture Development, Cornell visited WTC from 9.3.2011 – 13.3.2011
- Dr. Natalia Palacios, CIMMYT visited DPMB&B on 23.3.2011
- Th. Ahmed Farid Nabi, Executive Director, Comprehensive Agriculture and Rural Development Facility (CARD-F), Kabul, Afghanistan visited CARDS from 28.3.2011 – 30.3.2011.

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To
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