



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

Kovai Mayor Visits TNAU Apiary and Bee Keeping Exhibition

The first citizen of Coimbatore city, his Worshipful Mayor, Thiru. P. Rajkumar visited the Apiary and bee keeping exhibition hall in the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Campus. Live colonies of various honey bee species namely Indian honey bee (*Apis cerana indica*), Italian honey bee (*Apis mellifera*), Little bee (*Apis florea*) and Stingless bee (*Tetragonula irirdipennis*) are displayed in the TNAU Apiary which were explained to the Mayor by the scientists of TNAU. His worshipful Mayor showed keen interest in the rearing techniques of various honey bees and handled the honey bees and honey combs himself.

Dr.M.R.Srinivasan, Professor of Agricultural Entomology at the Apiary, explained the various beekeeping equipments namely bee hive boxes, honey extractor, comb foundation mill, smoker, queen excluder and protective clothing for handling bees which are displayed in the exhibition. Information on bee products namely honey, bees wax, royal jelly, pollen and propolis also find a place in the exhibition.

Charts and photographs displaying various life stages of honeybees, social organization of bees, plants providing pollen and nectar to honey bees, crops

pollinated by honey bees are kept in the exhibition hall at the Apiary. The Mayor interacted with the scientists of TNAU and enquired about the outreach programmes on beekeeping.

The Vice-Chancellor of TNAU Dr. K.Ramasamy, the Registrar, Dr. C.R.Anandakumar, The Director of Research, Dr. M. Maheswaran, The Director Centre for Plant Protection studies, Dr.K. Ramaraju, the Director (ABD), Dr. R. Murugesan, The Dean (Horticulture), Dr. S. Mariappan, the Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Entomology, Dr T. Manoharan, the scientists and students of the department were also present at the Apiary during the interactive meeting with the Mayor of Coimbatore City.

Asst. Public Relations Officer