



**Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**  
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To  
The Editor,  
Sir,

Date: 14.05.2024

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

### **TNAU Celebrates International Day of Plant Health**

On commemoration of International Day of Plant Health, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University celebrates the day on 12.05.2024 at Anna Auditorium, TNAU under the theme “Plant Health, Safe Trade, and Digital Technology”. The function was organized by Centre for Plant Protection studies and was inaugurated by Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU presided over the function and emphasized the significance of plant health cannot be overstated, it encounters several hurdles recent day such as the proliferation of invasive pests and diseases, the impact of climate change, and environmental deterioration. Tackling these obstacles necessitate collaborative efforts at local, national, and international levels are highly essential. The Vice Chancellor also enlightened experts and stakeholders to share knowledge and insights aimed at safeguarding the health and vitality of our plants, which coverages into human health.

Dr.M.Shanthi, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies briefed about the programme and initiated the International webinar on Plant health, safe trade and digital technologies with key note speaker both at international and national level. Dr.B.M.Prasanna, Programme Director (GMP), CIMMYT, Mexico gave online lecture and discussed about the importance on Plant Health Management in the Global South: Challenges and Opportunities followed by Safe and judicious use of pesticides by Dr.T.Sonairajan, Assistant Director, CIBRC, Faridabad.

Dr.Y.G.Prasad, Director, ICAR, CICR, Nagpur emphasized the recent need of digital innovations in cotton farming, the most flourishing crop in our country. Dr.C.Alice R.P.Sujeetha, Director (PBD), NIPHM Hyderabad stressed the importance of Plant quarantine regulations for bioscurity in India.

Earlier, Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Vice chancellor gave cash awards to the winners of the competitions conducted on photography, drawing and essay writing on three different themes aimed at fostering awareness and importance of plant health.

Earlier Dr.M.Murugan welcomed the gathering and Dr.K.Angappan, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Pathology proposed vote of thanks. Around, 450 post graduate students, research fellows and scientists participated both on and off line mode and got benefitted through this programme.

**Public Relations Officer**