

# TNAU NEWS



## TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : Dr. P. MURUGESA BOOPATHI - Vice Chancellor

Editor : Dr. P. SIVASUBRAMANIAN - Director, Planning and Monitoring

### Centenary Building Inauguration )))



The inauguration of Centenary Building and State level Farmers' Day were held on 27.10.2009 at main campus Coimbatore. Thiru.M.K.Stalin, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister inaugurated the Centenary Building and Farmers' Day, laid foundation stone for new buildings and delivered Chief Guest's address. Thiru. Veerapandi. S. Arumugam, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture inaugurated the Agricultural Exhibition, released new crop varieties and farm implements, launched agri-portal and community radio station and delivered Presidential address.

In his inaugural address, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister stressed that, apart from developing new technologies to improve agriculture production, the University should find ways to prevent pests and diseases in crops that hampered agricultural production.

The Deputy Chief Minister, who unveiled commemorative plaques to inaugurate new buildings of agricultural institutes in Coimbatore, Trichy, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Perambalur

and Virudhunagar, said the State government was committed to improve the condition of the farmers.

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture said agriculture production could increase only with the adoption of modern technologies. He

also emphasized that, shortage of labour could be tackled through modern irrigation methods and also use of modern agricultural implements. He further stressed that efforts must be made for total indigenous production of farm equipments.

The Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries and Animal Husbandry, Pongalur N. Palanisamy, Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary Thiru.K. Nanda Kishore and Coimbatore district Collector P. Umanath also spoke on the occasion.

Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs, Dr.C.Ramasamy, Former Vice Chancellor, TNAU and Dr.K.P.Ramalingam, Thiru. O.V.R. Somasundaram and Thiru. P.S.Anbu, Members, Board of Management also participated in the function.

Our Vice Chancellor Dr.P.Murugesha Boopathi, welcomed the gathering. He narrated the genesis and growth of the University and its contribution to the development of agriculture in the country.





## NSS day celebrations

National Service Scheme Day celebrations of TNAU, Coimbatore was held on 30.09.2009 at the University premises, Coimbatore. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P.Murugesha Boopathy, in his presidential address



highlighted the evolution of NSS movement in Indian educational system with the aim of developing leadership qualities of students through service and emphasized the students to inculcate compassion for fellow humans by reflecting the ethos of NSS "Not me but you". Certificates were distributed to the front line NSS volunteers and Blood donors and to the participants of special programmes organized by various service organizations. Mr. Kalidasan, of 'osai' an NGO organization, Mr. Yoganathan, an eco activist and Dr. Meera Krishnan who were felicitated

in recognition of their services to the society, shared their fruitful association with NSS unit of TNAU, Coimbatore. The programme was graded by Dr. P.Subbian, Registrar, Dr. V.Jayabal, Dean (Agriculture), Dr. N.Kumar, Dean (Horticulture) and Dr. S.Santhana Bosu, Dean (Agrl. Engineering) and Dr.K.Appavu, NSS coordinator. Arrangements for the programme were made by NSS programme officers.

## Village stay program for home science students

The village stay programme is one of the components of Rural Home Science Work Experience (RuHWE) which is part of the curriculum. The other components are placing the students in Government Institutions, Departments and Non Governmental Organization where in students spend time and learnt their activities for the remaining twenty days.

Dr.P.Banumathi, Dean, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai said that village stay enables them to compare what they learnt with what does really exist. Besides, the students while staying in the village can develop self confidence before

they try to make career decisions. Dr.P.Muthiah Manoharan, Professor and Head, Department of Home Science Extension, said that the students get orientation and opportunity to understand the rural situations and gain experience of various development departments



working for the welfare of rural community.

## Orientation day

The Orientation day was celebrated by the senior students and staff members of ADAC&RI, Trichy on 01.09.2009 for the freshers. In the morning, the freshers' had a variety of funny games organized by the senior students in the name of Carnival which was inaugurated by the Dean. The winners of the events were given prizes on the spot. In the afternoon, a special address was arranged for the freshers

## Farmers' Day 2009 )))

A State level 'Farmers' Day' was organized by our University at main campus, Coimbatore on 27.10.2009. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin opened the exhibition arranged in connection with the farmers' day celebration and while addressing, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister pointed out that the TNAU had the reputation of being a frontline agriculture university in the country. He also said that the institution should work hard to bring about a situation in which the rest of the world looked to India for expertise in increasing agricultural production.

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Pro-Chancellor of TNAU Thiru.Veerapandi S.Arumugam released 11 new crop varieties and 4 new farm implements on the



occasion. While addressing he stressed that, greater focus should be given to the research. He also mentioned that, shortage of labour could be tackled only through modern irrigation methods.

Earlier, our Vice-Chancellor Dr.P.Murugesha Boopathy, welcomed the gathering and explained the achievements of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University for sustainable agriculture.



## Felicitation to our VC )))



A function to felicitate our Vice-chancellor Dr.P.Murugesu Boopathi and also Bharathiar University Vice-Chancellor Dr.C.Swaminathan was held on 12.10.2009 at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University campus, Coimbatore. The function was presided over by the Chairperson of Tamil Nadu State Women's Commission Mrs. R. M. Ramathal.

Mr.Shanmugasundaram, President

of the 'Nesam' trust welcomed the gathering. Mrs. R. M. Ramathal, Chairperson, Tamil Nadu State Women's Commission in her Introductory remarks, emphasized the need for eradicating the social menace like eve-teasing, ragging and sexual harassment meted out to the women in teaching Institutions as well as in working places. Professor Salamon Pappya a popular Tamil orator in his special address

highlighted the importance of preserving the ponds as well as trees. He suggested to the students to grow atleast flower plants though not grow trees in streets. He said that, it is the duty of the students' community to preserve the trees from being cut down.

Mr.P.Umanath, Collector Coimbatore District Mr.N.Krishnakumar, Director Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding Coimbatore and Mr. S. Vincent Selvam, member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology have delivered felicitation addresses. Finally the acceptance speeches were delivered by Dr.P.Murugesu Boopathi, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Dr.C.Swaminathan, Vice-Chancellor, Bharathiar University. The function was attended by large gathering including staff and students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Bharathiar University and also other important guests from other Institutions.

for which Dr.P.Alagu sundaram, Director, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur was the Chief Guest. This programme was concluded with the variety of entertainment by the new comers and seniors.

### Anti-ragging awareness campaign by AEC&RI, Kumulur

Lalgudi Taluk Legal Services Committee conducted an anti-ragging legal awareness campaign at the Agricultural Engineering College & Research Institute, Kumulur on 18.9.2009. District Judicial Magistrate P.Parthasarathy chaired the function. Dr.A.Tajuddin, Dean of AEC & RI, Kumulur felicitated the function.

D.Gowthaman, Chairman of Legal Services Committee, Lalgudi elucidated the anti-ragging legal awareness by quoting the sections of law and punishments. Mr. Poovai

Karuthalan, Secretary of the committee spoke on the occasion. Advocate K.S.Kennedy briefed the gathering about RTI (Right To Information) Act.

Mr.T.Anbuneshan, DSP, Lalgudi Circle, Mr.K.Senthilkumar, Inspector of Police from Siruganur were also present. Mr.Vikash Shringi, Club Secretary and Ms.Madhana Supriya, Joint Club secretary of AEC & RI, Kumulur spoke on the occasion. Dr.K.Annadurai, Staff Advisor welcomed the gathering and Mr.Praveen, I year Representative proposed the vote of thanks.



### Brain storming of plant protection scientists

The Director, CPPS, Dr. E. I. Jonathan recently had a brain storming session with the plant protection scientists of Region II at TRRI, Aduthurai to finalise the work plan for the next three years. The plant protection scientists of TRRI, Aduthurai, SWMRI, Thanjavur, RRS, Vridhachalam, VRS, Palur, SRS, Cuddalore, CRS, Veppankulam, KVK, Needamangalam and Vridhachalam participated and presented their work plan for next three years.

### Field day inauguration

Our Vice Chancellor Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi, visited the TN-IAMWARM Pennaiyar upto Krishnagiri project and inaugurated the field day on "Precision Farming on Banana with intercrop" at Pillekothur. He was briefed about the IAMWARM activities by Dr .S. Vijayabaskaran,

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IAMWARM Scientist and Dr. A. K. Mani, Professor and Head, RRS, Paiyur. He appreciated the efforts and achievements of farmers of “SWAFIA – Save Water Farmers Interest Association – Pillekothur” which was promoted through IAMWARM.

**Directors visits ARS, Virinjipuram.**



Dr. T.Jayaraj, Director (TRRI), Aduthurai, Dr.K.Thiyagarajan, Director (CPBG) and Dr.K.Ramamoorthy, Special Officer (seeds), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore visited the Agricultural Research Station, Virinjipuram on 08.10.09 and conducted review meeting. They also inaugurated the NADP-Precision Farming training programme and delivered special lectures on the

importance, benefits of Precision Farming scheme. Forty farmers participated in the training.

They inspected the ARS farm and gave suggestions to improve the water use efficiency, production and productivity of the farm. They insisted to lay demonstration plots on improved technologies of oil seeds and pulses and to popularize the new varieties and technologies released by the University.

**VC's visit to HSC&RI, Madurai**

Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathy, visited Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai recently and declared open the New Annex Room for housing the Gas Chromatograph equipment, Food Processing Centre established under the auspices of Department of Science and Technology and Printing and Dyeing Lab. He also interacted with the Heads of Departments, staff members and suggested the need for new research areas in environment friendly and to explore the possibilities of utilizing the newly designed evapo-cooling chamber for storing fruits and vegetables in the

Farmers' market.

**Special officer seeds visits SWMRI, Thanjavur**

The Special officer, Seeds, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore visited the Soil and Water Management Research Institute farm and breeder seed production fields on 18.09.09. He monitored the progress



of ongoing seed production activities of SWMRI and discussed with the professor & Head and scientists of SWMRI for strengthening the seed production activities. He also participated in the bhoomi pooja function for the construction of protected threshing floor at a cost of Rs. 3 Lakhs under NADP – strengthening of quality seed production and distribution at seed centre.

**Mealy bug awareness programme at ADAC&RI >>>**



To create awareness on papaya mealy bug, a campaign was organized at Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Trichy on 15.09.09 to all extension officials of Agriculture,

Horticulture and Sericulture Department of Trichy, Karur, Perambalur and Ariyalur Districts. About 100 extension officials participated in addition to local progressive farmers.

Dr.E.I.Jonathan, Director (CPPS), TNAU, Coimbatore, delivered inaugural address and highlighted the mealy bug spread in Tamil Nadu and its seriousness. Dr. G. Kathiresan, Dean, Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Trichy in his presidential address mentioned that the main motto of this campaign is to prevent the spread of the insect from western parts of Tamil Nadu to elsewhere. The Scientists from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Dr. S. Suresh, Dr. C. A. Mahalingam, imparted technical presentation. The Joint Director of Agriculture, Perambalur, Deputy Director and Asst. Director of Agriculture and Asst. Director of Sericulture Trichy, shared their field experiences. Dr.G.Gajendran. Professor and Head Department of Crop Protection welcomed the gathering and Dr.D.Dinakaran, Professor offered vote of thanks.



## Seminar on Agro-Exports Promotion >>>



A seminar on promoting agro exports was conducted by the CARDS in collaboration with Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO) in Chennai on 23.9.2009. Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture,

Th.K.V.Thomas, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce, Mr.Jyotiraditya Scindia, Th.Veerapandi S.Arumugam, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Dr.P.Murugesu Boopathy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU and

Th.A.Sakthivel, president and regional chairman, FIEO chaired the inaugural session. About three hundred farmers, exporters of agro commodities, institutions promoting exports, Department of Marketing and Agribusiness, Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture and TNAU participated. Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr.P.Murugesu Boopathy, delivered the key note address. Dr.N.Ajjan, Director (CARDS) presented commodity wise export potential and opportunities in the State of Tamil Nadu and highlighted the various activities initiated from the directorate for promotion of exports. Dr.M.Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, Dr.K.N.Selvaraj, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Dr.K.Mahendran, Associate Professor, Department of ARM and Dr.S.Balamohan, Professor and Head, Department of Fruit crops attended the Seminar.

### Director (ABD) attends FICCI conference on agri-business

Dr.R.Ganesan, Director, Agri-Business Development, TNAU, Coimbatore has attended the International Conference-cum-Exhibition on Agri-Business and Food processing organized by Tamil Nadu State Council (TNSC) of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2009 at Chennai. and delivered the special



address on "International Trends in Agricultural Development"

### VC visits State Oil seed Farm at Bhavanisagar

Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathy, visited the seed production



plots of CoRH-3 paddy hybrid at State Oilseed Farm, Bhavanisagar on 20.09.2009. Dr.K.Ramamoorthy, Special Officer (Seeds), Dr.P.Subbian, Registrar, Dr.M.Paramathma, Director of Research and Mr.P.S.Anbu, Member, Board of Management, TNAU accompanied the Vice-Chancellor.

### Campus Seminar at HSC&RI, Madurai

Dr.G.Hemalatha, Associate Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai was deputed to Cornell University, USA under the Dual Degree Programme. In this connection, a detailed presentation on her "Experiences at Cornell University, USA" was made

in the campus seminar on 24.09.2009. The programme helped to sensitize PG students regarding the Dual Degree Programme. Dr.P.Banumathi, Dean, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai presided over the seminar and Dr.P.Muthiah Manoharan, Professor and Head, Dept. of Home Science Extension and Seminar Co-ordinator proposed vote of thanks.

### Seed Science Forum felicitates our VC



Our Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathy was felicitated by the Seed Science Forum on 26.09.2009. All the members from different college campuses and research stations, retired professors and students of Seed Science & Technology attended the function.

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**Foreign delegates visits HSC&RI, Madurai**



Delegates from Ministry of Education; Women & Child Affairs; Women Empowerment; Agriculture; Finance & Economics from developing countries viz, Africa, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Kabul, Nepal, Srilanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Zambia, visited Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai on 23.10.09 to

understand the activities of the college. Dr. P. Banumathi, Dean, Home Science College and Research Institute explained in detail about the educational and research activities of the Institution.

**Director (WTC) visits SWMRI, Thanjavur**

Dr. S. Chellamuthu, Director, WTC, TNAU, Coimbatore visited the Soil and Water Management Research Institute, Kattuthottam, Thanjavur on 08.10.09. A review report was submitted on the ongoing and future activities of the institute. He visited the micro irrigation park, seed processing unit, BSP seed godown, Farm pond, on going CSRSC, paddy breeder seed production fields, MLT, medicinal garden, Long Term Experiment and thornless bamboo

fields and suggested to embark more projects on water management aspects



in future.

**VC visits RRS, Tirur**

Our Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. Muruges Boopathi, visited RRS & KVK, Tirur recently and reviewed all the research programmes and KVK activities. He inspected the experimental plots and interacted with Scientists. He inaugurate the goat rearing unit and

**VC inaugurates "Technology week" at KVK, Sirugamani**



The Technology Week was inaugurated by our Vice Chancellor Dr.P.Muruges Boopathi at Sirugamani on 13.10.2009 in the presence of Dr.S.Prabhukumar, Zonal Project Director of ICAR, Zone VIII, Bangalore and Dr.P.Kalaiselvan, Director of Extension Education, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Dr.S.Jayaraman, Director, Soil and Crop Management Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Dr.Banumathi, Dean, Home Science College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,

Madurai were present on the occasion.

The Vice Chancellor after releasing the publications brought out by the KVK, Sirugamani praised the KVK for its widespread performance resulting in achieving the Best KVK in Tamil Nadu award twice.

Dr.S.Prabhukumar, the Zonal Project Director, ICAR after distributing the critical inputs to the farmers for laying out front line demonstrations stressed that the KVKs should identify the thrust areas and work in

order to attain the goal.

Dr.P.Kalaiselvan, DEE, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University appreciated the activities of KVK and efforts taken by them in organizing the big mela" Technology Week" within a short span of time.

Dr.S.Jayaraman, Director, SCMS spoke on the importance of SRI in rice and Dr.Banumathy, Dean, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai highlighted the need for value addition in crops for realizing good returns by the farming community. In the beginning, Dr.SP.Ramanathan, Professor and Head, KVK, Sirugamani welcomed the gathering.

The prizes were given to the farmers who brought the Best Produce. An Exhibition was also arranged in which the activities of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, National Research Centre for Banana, Line departments, IFFCO, Private Industries were explained to the farmers. Around 500 farmers participated in the inaugural function of the Technology week.



## Awareness campaign on tapioca mealy bug »»

One day awareness campaign on Tapioca mealy bug was jointly organized by SPAC, Tapioca Products Ltd., Poonachi and Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur on 25.9.2009 at Poonachi in Erode District. More than 60 farmers from different blocks of Erode District were participated.

In the inaugural function, Th. Annamalai, Agricultural Officer, SPAC welcomed the gathering. Dr.V.Palanisamy, Professor and Head, Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur offered his technical suggestions as solution for the outbreak of tapioca mealy bug. Dr.S.Venkatesan, Professor (Entomology) explained in detail about the mealy bug damage in tapioca and their control measures.



In the concluding session Th.Annamalai proposed vote of thanks and also expressed sincere

thanks for war footing action taken by the scientists for the timely arrangement of this campaign.

also one day training programme. In his presidential address the Vice-Chancellor stressed the need for dissemination of newer technologies evolved by the University to the farming community. A total of 40 AAOs' attended the training programme.

### VC visits ARS, Vaigaidam

The Vice-Chancellor and the Dean, HC & RI, TNAU, Coimbatore visited the Agricultural Research Station, Vaigaidam on 25.9.09 and inaugurated



the labour rest room and protected threshing floor. During the interaction with the scientists he stressed the importance of farm mechanization and to concentrate more on seed production. He further emphasized to increase the fertility of the soil by applying tank silt and incorporating green manure crops and also to install fertigation system for tree plants The Vice-Chancellor visited seed production fields, MLT trials and wood lots area.

### Food Xplore '09

A National Symposium on "Prospective Trends in Food Processing" – FoodXplore'09, partly sponsored by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Govt. of India, New Delhi was organized at Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil

Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) Coimbatore, on October 13, 2009. One hundred and fifty participants from other colleges participated. In his presidential address, Dr.S.Santhana Bosu, highlighted the importance of reduction in post harvest losses in food grains and horticultural crops and increase the level of value addition.

Dr.P.Subbian, Registrar, in his inaugural address recalled the contribution by the agricultural university in developing number of improved and hybrid varieties and technologies to increase the crop yield and thus the production. Dr.M.Paramathma, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore, distributed the various prizes for the paper and poster presentation and quiz programme to the participants. In his valedictory address, he emphasized the role of food industries in the society.

### IMPORTANT VISITORS

- Mr.Sheryl N. Sierra, Assistant Scientist, IRRI, Philippines between 30.09.09 and 08.10.09
- Th.V.Thangaraju, Deputy General Manager, Zonal head, Corporation Bank, Coimbatore on 22.10.09
- Mr.Samsudin Amit & Team, Dow Agro Sciences on 26.10.09.
- Prof. Ding Vveichgrebe, Mr.Sebastian Meier and Dr.Balasubramanian Ramani Hannover University, Germany between 23.10.09 and 25.10.09.

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## NEW SCHEMES

Name of the Scheme	PI	Amount (lakh Rs.)	Funding Agency
Seed production in Agricultural Crops	Dr.K.Ramamoorthy Special Officer (Seeds)	131.00	ICAR Mega seed project
Marker Assisted selection and development of blast resistant rice varieties suitable for Tamil Nadu	Dr.N.Kumaravadivel	63.23	DBT, New Delhi
Development of new functional microbial consortium formulation suitable for biofertiligation and phyllosphere spray in precision farming	Dr.S.P.Sundaram, Prof. (Microbiology)	21.58	DBT, New Delhi
Development of salinity resistance in rice varieties	Dr.M.Raveendran	21.50	DBT, New Delhi
Noni-based agroceuticals and biopesticides: A new dimension for enhancing productivity in farming	Dr. K. Ramamoorthy, Special Officer (Seeds)	9.90	World Noni Research Foundation, Chennai
Evaluation of bio-efficacy of Emamectin Benzoate 5 % SG (New source) and Emamectin 5 % WG (UV protectant) against insect pests of Okra, cotton and cabbage	Dr. R. K. Murali Baskaran, Professor (Ento.)	6.40	M/s Syngenta India Ltd., Mumbai
Efficient production of secondary metabolites from medicinal plants through in vitro culture	Dr. V. Krishnasamy Professor ( Biotech.)	6.15	DST
Evaluation of insect Resistant Transgenic corn hybrids	Dr. S.V.Krishnamoorthy Professor ( Ento.)	5.20	Dow Agro Sciences India Pvt Ltd.,
Evaluation of Potassic fertilizers (MOP and SOP) on growth, yield and quality parameters in Rice crop	Dr.M.Dakshninamurthy Professor(SS&AC)	1.99	Potash Research Institute of India
Adoption level under different irrigation source and farm size categories	Dr.K.R.Karunakaran Assoc.Prof.(Agrl.Eco.)	1.93	IWMI Colombo, Sri Lanka
Evaluation of Allwin Wonder and Allwin Top in Tomato	Dr. T. Sivakumar, Asst. Prof. (CRP)	1.87	M/s Sree Ramcides Chemicals Pvt. Ltd

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