



TNAU NEWS

Patron: **Dr. K. Ramasamy**, Vice Chancellor
Editor: **Dr. G. Kathiresan**, Director, Planning & Monitoring

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

All India Seminar on Engineering Interventions for Profitable Agriculture



Calorie 12' – food, fuel and future, organised by B.Tech. (Energy and Environmental Engineering) and B.Tech. (Food Process Engineering), students of AEC&RI TNAU and two days All India seminar on Engineering Intervention for Profitable Agriculture, organised with The Institution of Engineering (India), Tamil Nadu State Centre & Coimbatore Local Centre were held during 11-12 September 2012.

In the inaugural address, Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice-chancellor, stressed that the importance given to the genetic potential of crops need to be shifted to the farm machinery and irrigation systems. He also added the importance of the implementation of precision farming and development of biosensors in agriculture. He appealed the agricultural engineers to change

the forth coming green revolution in to a machinery revolution. Er.P.R.Seshadri, Chairman, Institution of Engineers (India), Tamil Nadu State Centre, Chennai, welcomed the gathering and Er.K.P.Sathyamurthy, Secretary, proposed vote of thanks. Dr.P.Radhakrishnan, Chairman, Institution of Engineers (India), Coimbatore Local Centre, Er.V.Sivaprakasam, Superintending Engineer, Agrl. Engg. Dept., Coimbatore and Dr.A.Tajuddin,

Dean, AEC&RI, Kumulur, offered felicitations. Dr.S.Santhana Bosu, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore presided over the function.

In the valedictory session, Er.P.Sundar, Superintending Engineer, Agriculture Engineering Department, Chennai and Er.R.Elangovan, Executive Engineer, PWD, Coimbatore, delivered special addresses on "Pollution Free Environment for Agriculture" and "Comprehensive Development and Management of Watershed for Sustainable and Profitable Agriculture". Dr.S.Thangavelu, Chairman, Sakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore motivated the students for entrepreneurship development and distributed the prizes.

5th SAC Meeting of KVK, Virinjipuram,

Fifth Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was held on 24.09.2012. Vice-Chancellor, Dr. K. Ramasamy, inaugurated the meeting and delivered the presidential address. Dr. S. Prabhukumar,

Project Director, Zone – VIII, ICAR and DEE, Dr. P. Kalaiselvan, delivered the special addressess. Dr. S. Nanthakumar, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Virinjipuram welcomed the gathering and presented the report on action taken on the suggestions given during the previous meeting. Line department officials, viz.,



Joint Director of Agriculture, Clinician, O/o Regional Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Executive Engineer,

Dept. of Agrl. Engineering, representatives from Dept. of fisheries, Dept. of Sericulture, Dept. of Agriculture Marketing, Dept. of Horticulture and Plantation crops, Dept. of Forestry, TANUVAS training centre and member representatives of farmers participated.

Vice-Chancellor emphasized on drought mitigation technologies, Integrated Farming System (IFS), Farm mechanization suited for small and marginal farmers, Water conservation technologies, post harvest technologies, formation of model villages demonstrating the improved varieties and technologies and agricultural marketing. Dr. S. Prabhukumar, Zonal Project Director, Zone VIII, ICAR, in his speech, narrated the importance of rain water harvesting system for managing the drought situations, broiler, goat production and farm implements.

17th PG Biotechnology AC Meeting

Under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor, the 17th PG Biotechnology advisory committee meeting was held at VC committee room on 25.9.12. Dr. Suman Govil, Advisor, DBT, New Delhi, participated as DBT nominee. Dr. S. Krishnaswamy, Professor, School of Biotechnology, Madurai Kamaraj University and Dr. N. Sakthivel, P&H, Dept of Biotechnology, Pondicherry University participated as external members.

Organic Farming Team visit to TNAU



A team of progressive Organic Farmers headed by Dr. A.S. Anand, Chairman, Organic Farming Mission, Government of Karnataka visited TNAU on September 25 and 26, 2012. Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor,

received the team and gave an overview about the ongoing organic farming activities at TNAU. The team visited the Agricultural Machinery Research Centre and Department of Farm Power and machinery. The team appreciated TNAU for its novel direct paddy seeder and its convenience for use by women. The Chairman suggested that a sharp edge may be provided on the rear side of the manual sugarcane detrasher developed by TNAU, which can be tried for cutting the cane. The team also visited the germplasm collection of Paddy Breeding Station and high yielding varieties. The Chairman in his remarks appreciated that the Station is not only scientist friendly but also farmer friendly.

Block level Farmers – Scientists interaction meeting by KVK, Sandhiyur

Farmers – Scientists interaction meeting was organized by KVK, Sandhiyur in co-ordination with State



Department of Agriculture, at Kuppanur of Edapadi block, Peramanur of Panamarathupatty block and Kullampatty of Sangagiri block. In these meetings the farmer's field level problems on Pest and Disease, nutrient deficiencies and other problems were discussed. An awareness programme on Kissan Credit Card (KCC) was also conducted along with the officials from the Lead Bank. Dr. S. Manickam, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, Sandhiyur addressed the farmers. Dr. M. A. Vennila, AP (Extension) organized the meeting in association with ADAs of the concerned blocks.

NOVOD Sponsored Training at KVK, Madurai

Two days training programme on Integrated development on Tree Borne Oilseeds for Waste Land and Degraded land was organized at KVK, AC&RI, Madurai, from 12.09.2012 to 13.09.2012. The objective was to create awareness about tree borne oil seeds in waste and degraded lands among the interested



farmers group. The programme was supported by the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD), Ministry of Agriculture, GOI, Gurguon (Haryana). Dr. N.S.Venkataraman, P&H, welcomed the delegates and Dr. C. Ravindran, AP (Horticulture), and Principal Investigator of the Project, explained the project and importance of the training programme.

Dr. K.Vairavan, Dean, AC & RI, Madurai inaugurated the programme and emphasized the tree borne oil seeds contribution towards the income generation for the farming community. Thir. A.S. Ovi Reddy, SAI Agro System and Thiru. Saravanan, Manager Production Division, Auro Mira Bio-Energy Madurai Limited, delivered special lectures on export potential on Pungam cultivation and Tree borne oil seeds for bio energy production respectively.

The training programme was attended by 50 participants from Alanganallur and Melur Taluk farmers of Madurai district.

Field Experience Training for ARS Scientist



Field Experience Training (FET) programme for ICAR-ARS scientists of 96 Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS) batch was conducted at Madurai from 18th August to 5th September, 2012. The FET Co-ordinating centre Head Dr N.S.Venkataraman, P&H, KVK and FET Co-ordinator Dr. C.Ravindran, AP (Horticulture) organized the programme. A. Kokkulam village in Thirumangalam Taluk of Madurai district was selected for study. The scientists studied the village for 15 days and spent 6 days for industrial visit located in the Taluk. The study results were presented in the

village seminar to the Kokkulam farmers and KVK, scientists.

Awareness programme on Assessing Gendered Knowledge on pesticide use and IPM practices on vegetables

Two days workshop cum awareness programme on Assessing Gendered Knowledge on



pesticide use and IPM practices on vegetables was convened by Dept. of Agricultural Business Management, and KVK, Papparapatty under IPM CRSP Second Phase South Asia Regional IPM Programme – Gender Global Theme on 06.09.2012 at the KVK premises. Scientists Dr. K. Uma and Dr.M.Anjugam explained the need for IPM awareness among the women and men farmers.

Mr.P.Manoharan, JDA and Tmt. K.Kalaiselvi, DD narrated the initiatives taken by the respective departments to promote IPM practices among the farmers. Dr.N.Tamilselvan, P&H, KVK, Papparapatty explained the importance of popularising the Integrated Pest Management technologies.

Dr.P.S.Shanmugam, AP (Entomology), Dr. R.Jansirani, AP and Dr.K.Indhumathi, AP narrated the ways of implementation of IPM through various participatory modes and importance of plant health management. In this programme, ten men and 40 women farmers participated.

Training on weed management in Tomato

K V K , Dharmapuri and Dhanuka Agri Tech, Salem jointly organized a training programme on 'Weed management in Tomato'



The meeting was held at farmer Mr. Kuppusamy's field at Kadagathur Mr. V. Selvaraj, Regional Manager and Mr. S. Ganesan, Development Officer of Dhanuka AgriTech, explained the mode of application of herbicides.

Dr. N. Tamiselvan, P&H, KVK, Dharmapuri gave a detailed lecture on the chemical weed control. Dr. K. Indhumathi, AP (Horticulture) and Dr. Shanmugam, Assistant Professor (Entomology) gave lectures on integrated production technologies.

Demonstration by B.Tech (Hort.) Students



A demonstration on banana pseudo stem weevil management was organized by a group of five students of final year B. Tech (Horticulture) undergoing Rural Horticulture Work Experience Programme at Chinnaganahalli village of Dharmapuri district. They explained the integrated management practices such as avoiding suckers from infested fields for planting, removal and destroying infested plants and prophylactic injection of Azadirachtin 10000 ppm in the ratio 1: 4 during 5th to 8th month at monthly intervals. About 60 farmers participated and got benefited by the training programme.

Awareness campaign for self help group women

One day Awareness campaign on Hybrid castor cultivation was conducted at Manjakalpatty village on Sangakiri block and Elupilli Village of Elachipalayam block in Namakkal and Salem districts on respectively 06.09.12. Dr.V.Rajendran, P&H, TCRS explained the Hybrid Castor cultivation through Drip fertigation. Dr.G.Selvarani, AP (Agri Extension), Dr.S.R. Venkatachalam, Associate Professor (Plant Breeding and Genetics), Dr.K. Thirukumaran, AP (Agronomy) explained the fertilizer management in

hybrid castor. Dr.G.Senthilkumar, Assistant Professor (Agronomy), Dr.V.Jayalakshmi, Associate Professor (Plant Pathology)



and Dr.P.Kalaiselvi, AP, (Environmental science) delivered lectures on cultivation practices. About 30 farm women from self help groups participated in the campaign.

Programmes by KVK, Needamangalm

Seminar on slatted goat house rearing

To popularize the hygienic goat rearing, one day district level seminar on slatted goat house rearing was conducted at KVK, Tiruvarur on 7th August, 2012. The seminar was chaired by the Thiruvarur district Collector, Mr.S. Natarajan and delivered inaugural address. He emphasized the advantages and need to have slatted goat rearing in the present farming situation of the district. Mr.N.Ravishankar, DDO, NABARD, delivered key note address and loan facility available for the slatted goat rearing. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, P&H spoken on role of goat rearing in integrated farming system. About 235 participants from different sectors of Cauvery delta attended the seminar. Dr. G. Mahendiran, Assistant livestock surgeon, Needamangalam. explained the importance of slatted floor rearing of goats by utilizing the locally available low cost woods and enunciated the various cattle diseases and the ways to prevent them through vaccinations.



Training on Backyard poultry rearing

Training on Backyard poultry rearing was conducted on 29th August 2012. A total of 132 men and 8 women from different blocks of this district attended.



One day district level awareness campaign on 'sustainable income through sericulture' was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam on 26.09.2012. A total of 85 farmers attended the training.

To improve the mechanical harvesting and to reduce the drudgery and to get good quality kapas, off campus training cum demonstration was conducted on cotton picker at Simizhi and Poonthottam villages in Thiruvarur district. Mr.Elanchezhian, DD, Needamangalam participated in the programme and emphasized the importance of mechanization in cotton cultivation. About 80 cotton growing farmers attended. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, the P&H, emphasized the usage of cotton picker. Dr.A.Kamaraj, AP (Agri. Engg.) demonstrated the machine and Dr.M.Senthilkumar, AP (Ento.) answered for plant protection queries.

Training on Spirulina cultivation



To impart knowledge on spirulina, one day training was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam.

Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Professor & Head, Needamangalam chaired the training and emphasized the importance of spirulina and its medicinal value. About 40 participants across the Cauvery Delta districts attended the training. Dr.Manikanda Velu, Professor, Tamil Nadu University of Fisheries and Mr.Dhinesh Kumar, an entrepreneur from Chennai conducted technical sessions and Dr. T.Dhamodharan, Associate Professor (Agri. Extn.) delivered vote of thanks.

Book release on Micro Irrigation technology

A General Meeting was convened by the

teaching staff of AC&RI, Madurai with Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr.K.Ramasamy on 01.10.2012, During the meeting,



a book authored by Prof. Dr.K.Vairavan, Dean, AC & RI, Madurai and Dr.P.Thukkaiyannan, AP (Agronomy), KVK, Ramanathapuram entitled "Micro Irrigation – Designing and Maintenance" was released by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and received by Prof. Dr.S.Krishnasamy, Chief Scientist, Water Management Scheme. This book exhibited the technology of Micro Irrigation viz., Drip Irrigation and Fertigation, Sprinkler Irrigation and Mini Portable Sprinkler.

ADG (Education), ICAR and Expert from British High Commission visit to DSU

Dr.M.K.Agni hotri Controller of Examination ADG (Education) of ICAR and Er.S.P.Machanda., Executive Engineer,



ICAR visited the Directorate of Students Welfare on 20.09.2012. The activities of the Directorate, Career guidance workshop, personality development, Placement of students through campus interview, Job fair and the infrastructure facilities were explained by the faculty members.

Dr. Vimal Subramanian, an expert from the British High Commission visited on 07.09.2012 and appreciated the activities of the DSU students placement. In an Official Campus Recruitment held in the Directorate on 21.09.2012, the Officials of ITC, Guntur Division, Mr.Srinath Ramakrishnan, Mr.R.Rajashekar and Mr.Prateek Prakash participated and selected 21 Post Graduate students for different position in ITC.

New schemes

Name of the scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakh ₹.)	Funding Agency
Physiological evaluation of bio-herbicide on wetland and garden land weeds	Dr.S.Vincent, Associate Professor, Department of Crop Physiology, TNAU, Coimbatore-3	2.80	M/s. T. Stanes and Company Limited
Integrated development of Tree Borne Oilseeds for Waste and Degraded land	Dr. C.Ravindran Assistant Professor (Horticulture) KVK, AC& RI, Madurai	1.81	National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD), Ministry of Agriculture, Gurgon
Socio-Economic Impact Evaluation of Informal Food Sector in Tamil Nadu	Dr.C.Sekar Professor of Agricultural Economics	8.14	Indian Council for Social Sciences Research (ICSSR), New Delhi.
Technological empowerment and sustainable livelihood security of tribal women through agricultural farm productivity and employment generation activities in Kalrayan hills of Tamil Nadu	Dr.M. K. Kalarani, Assoc. Prof (Crop Physiology) Dr.K. Nageswari, Assoc. Prof (Horticulture) Dr.P. Kalaiselvi, Asst. Professor (ENS) Dr. G. Selvarani, A.P. (Agrl.Extn) Dr. V. Jayalakshmi, Assoc. Professor (Plant Pathology)	14.0	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, GOI, New Delhi.

Important visitors

- Dr. Stephen Devadoss, University of Idaha, United States of America visited, Department of Trade and Intellectual Property on 9-9-2012 to 13-9-2012
- Dr. Mathew Nelson, Assoc. (Professor), University of Western Australia, Perth visited , Maize Research Station, Vagarai from 28-9-2012 to 1-10-2012.

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From
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