



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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

ஊருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தமர் உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

IDRC President Dr. David M. Malone visited Nanotechnology center



The Department of Nano Science & Technology has funded a project on Enhanced Preservation of Fruits

pathology, post harvest technology, social research and biosafety.

by Nano Film, by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) – International Development Research Center (IDRC), Canada, under the Canadian International Food Security Research Fund (CIFS RF) with a budget outlay of Rs. 449 Lakhs. The project is aimed to develop a smart packaging material using nanotechnological approaches to prevent post harvest losses from fruits (mango) thereby per capita availability could be improved besides nutritional security. The project is in operation for the past one year involving scientists from nanotechnology, horticulture,

Canada – India research partnership – Present & Future



Dr. David M Malone, President of IDRC (International Development Research Center), Canada, delivered a special address on “Canada – India Research Partnership” at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, on February 11, 2013. He highlighted the on-going research projects and interacted with students, scientists and researchers.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, presided over the seminar

and emphasized the role of IDRC in promoting research and development activities of TNAU ever since its inception in 1971. He further indicated the importance of IDRC funding for undertaking research in the sphere of agricultural sciences in order to augment food and nutritional security in India. Dr. Sara Ahmed, Senior Program Specialist of IDRC Regional Office for Asia in New Delhi narrated the on-going research programs in India.

Dr. Gopinath Paliyath, Professor, University of Guelph, Canada, elucidated the significance of a biochemical compound “hexanal” that extends shelf life of temperate fruits such as apples, peaches, cherries, nectarines and strawberries. Similar studies are being done in mango orchards in Tamil Nadu. Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Professor & Head, Department of Nano Science & Technology welcomed the gathering and

Dr. D. Malathy, Professor (FSN) proposed a vote of thanks. About 500 students, scientists, faculty and stakeholders participated in the event.

Implementation of Hon'ble Chief Minister's Special Package



In Cuddalore district, Samba paddy cultivation was in 52120 ha covering 5 blocks. BPT 5204, White

Ponni, CR 1009, ADT 38, ADT 39 and CO 43 were the predominant paddy varieties and due to failure of monsoon and non availability of water in Veeranam lake, nearly 10000 ha of Samba crop was affected.

The team of staff members of KVK, comprising of, Dr. R. Arunachalam, Professor & Head, Dr. M. Raju, Dr. S. Kannan, Dr. V. Dhanushkodi, in hands with the team of scientists of Regional Research Station, Vriddhachalam, Dr. R. S. Purushothaman, Professor & Head, Dr. C. Rajababu, Dr. A. Mothilal, Dr. V. Ambedkar commenced the implementation of drought mitigation strategies announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. PPFM spray (Pink Pigmented Facultative Methylothroph @ 200 ml/200 lit water/ac) and 1% KCl (MOP) foliar spray were given in the drought affected areas using boom sprayers and mini mobile sprinklers.

In few locations which were severely affected by drought, boom sprayers and mini mobile sprinklers were engaged in a war footing manner to spray water in the cropping area to save the crop. Vriddhachalam sub center saved the Samba crop in an area of 5575 ac covering 1600 farmer beneficiaries.

NABARD sponsored seed village training programmes



One day training on Quality seed production in groundnut through seed village concept was organized by TRRI, Aduthurai at Naduvikkottai village of Pattukkottai block on

11.01.2013. The training programme was organized under Training on quality seed production in rice, pulses and groundnut through seed village concept to the farmers of Thanjavur district, sponsored by NABARD. The P&H, ARS, Pattukkottai and scientists of TRRI, Aduthurai, ADA (Incharge) and AAO of Pattukkottai block attended. As part of the programme, groundnut seed was distributed and initial training on quality seed production was imparted to the enrolled farmers.

Training cum demonstration at HRS, Kodaikanal

Training cum demonstration on the use of farm implements in fruits and vegetables production was organized by HRS, K o d a i k a n a l



with Department of Agricultural Engineering and Department of Horticulture under ATMA programme on 31.01.2013. Dr. B. Sentamizh Selvi, AP (Hort.) welcomed the gathering. Dr. J. Rajangam, P&H highlighted the effective utilization of farm machineries for temperate vegetable production and efficient labour management. Th. P. Chinraj, ADH narrated the various schemes and programmes in the department. During this programme, the use of power weeder, earth auger, tree pruner, power operated sprayer, mini weeder and mini tractor were demonstrated to the farmers. The progressive farmers from Vilpatti, Pudukaddu, Chellapuram and Shenbaganur participated and got benefited. Dr. G. Sathish, AP (Hort.) proposed the vote of thanks.

Councillor, Embassy of Israel visited HRS, Kodaikanal

Th. Uri Robinstein, C o u n c i l l o r , International Co - o p e r a t i o n (MASHAV), Science and Agriculture, Embassy of Israel



visited HRS, Kodaikanal on 26.01.2013. The station activities, research and development programmes were explained by the scientists.

CAFTA at TNAU



Twenty one day training programme on Sustainable Weed Management Options: Approaches and Applications was conducted by the

Department of Agronomy, Directorate of Crop Management, under the auspices of Centre of Advanced Faculty Training in Agronomy (ICAR) from 21st November to 11th December, 2012. Seventeen scientists hailing from Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Orissa, M. P, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu attended the training programme. The participants were from the faculties of Agronomy, Horticulture and Soil Science.

Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar, inaugurated the training programme and stressed the importance of weed management and the need for the adoption of integrated weed management and emphasized the importance of mechanization for effective weed control. Dr. M. Premsekhar, Director i/c, Directorate of Crop Management highlighted the facilities created under

Centre of Advanced Faculty Training in this Department and also enlisted strategies for better weed management. Dr. C. Chinnusamy, Professor of Agronomy and Course Co-ordinator, explained the course contents of the training programme. Dr. M. Mohamed Amanullah, Professor (Agronomy) and course Co-ordinator proposed the vote of thanks.

The valedictory function of the training programme was held on 11.12.12 and Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, delivered the valedictory address and distributed certificates and training manual to the participants. In the valedictory address, he emphasized the need to understand the non - chemical weed management options with a view to protect the environment and enhance the food grain production. The importance of farm mechanization on weed management in the context of shrinking labour availability was greatly stressed.

Study tour for students

A study tour for the II B. Sc. (Agri) students of AC &RI, Coimbatore was organized by the Department of Agronomy between 16.12.2012 and 22.12.2012 to South Tamil Nadu. To expose the 108 students on various aspects such as soil, climate, cropping and farming systems, etc. prevailing in Southern

Review of NAIP sub projects by 12th ISM of the World Bank at TNAU



12th Implementation Support Mission (ISM) of the World Bank along with the National Co - ordinators of NAIP projects visited Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, during 22 - 24 January, 2013,

Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture, Chennai and St. Xavier's College, Palayam kottai were reviewed. The team also visited the exhibition arranged depicting the activities of NAIP projects.



Tamil Nadu, they were taken to colleges, research stations and KVKs. Dr. R. Kalpana, Dr.S. Radhamani, Dr. N. Thavaprakash and Dr. S. D. Sivakumar, APs (Agronomy) accompanied the students.

of Zoology, welcomed the gathering and Special address was given by Dr. R. Ravikesavan, Professor & Head, Department of Millets, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr. K. Sethuraman, P&H, MRS, Vagarai, Mr. A. Ramesh Babu, ADA, Thoppampatty and Mr. M. Kalimuthu, AO, Palani. Technical lectures were delivered by Dr. R. Karthikeyan, AP (Agronomy), Dr. C. Bharathi, AP (SS&AC) and Dr. N. M. Arivudainambi, AP (Agrl. Entomology). A total of 75 farmers from Thoppampatty, Palani and Ottanchathiram blocks participated.

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Illinois University professor visited AEC&RI, Kumulur



Dr. S. Gunasekaran, Professor of Food and Dairy Engineering from Illinois University, Urbana, USA visited AEC&RI, Kumulur on 09.01.13. He had an interactive meeting with the staff and students. During the interaction, he stressed the need to change the mindset of the students and to make them morally sound. He shared his experience with the staff to build up good rapport with students. He encouraged the students to go abroad to pursue higher studies and to get exposure. Dr. S. Santhana Bosu, Dean, Dr. V. Thirupathi, P&H, Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, AEC&RI, Coimbatore, accompanied. Dr. Gunasekaran. Dr. A. Tajuddin, Dean, AEC&RI, Kumulur welcomed the team. Dr. R. Lalitha, Professor (SWCE) proposed the vote of thanks.

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Programme on Minor Millets at KVK, Sandhiyur

Initiatives for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP), Millets value addition machinery & equipment centre and Site specific soil based nutrient management training programme were inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice - Chancellor, TNAU, on 26th February, 2013.

During the inaugural address, Vice - Chancellor, emphasized that minor millets and its value added products alone would give nutrition security to the people. Further, he stated that more than 48 per cent of the children in Tamil Nadu have been affected with malnutrition problem. The existing malnutrition problems could be solved only through taking enough nutrient rich minor millets products. Hence, it is our joint responsibility of all the stakeholders to teach and popularize the minor millets cultivation and minor millets value added products among the farming community and general public. Realizing the importance of minor millets, Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu are jointly implementing the INSIMP by providing technical training and value added equipments to the farmers group. Director, Extension Education, TNAU, explained the details about INSIMP programme and how it could be effectively utilized by the farmers group, SHGs and farmers federation for improving their socio - economic status. Director, Natural Resource Management has explained the site specific nutrient management for tribal area crops.

The millets growing farmers have interacted with scientists regarding technical and marketing tie up in millets promotion. P&H, explained how the millets groups were formed and empowered in millets value addition in Salem District. Further, he has also explained about 'Nallam' a trade mark promoted by KVK, Sandhiyur exclusively to promote millets related value added products.

Farmers' training programme at MRS, Vagarai



Maize Research Station, Vagarai, Department of Agriculture, Thoppampatty and Arulmighu Palani Andavar College of Arts and Culture (APAC), Palani, jointly organized a training programme on Maize production technologies for enhancing net income for rural farmers on 28th December 2012 financed by TNSCST, Chennai. The programme was presided by Dr. P. Prabhakaran, Principal, APAC, Dr. C. Kandeepan, Programme Co - Ordinator (TNSCST), AP, Department

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Vice Chancellor and Board Member of TNAU visited SRS, Cuddalore



The Revered Vice Chancellor Dr. K. Ramasamy visited the Sugarcane Research Station Cuddalore on 25.1.2013 along with Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar and Respectable Board Member Thiru M. K. Karruppanasamy, MLA.

on SSI. The team visited the sugarcane field raised with CoC 24 by Thiru Varadhan of Tirukandeswaram village and appreciated the stand of the crop. The Vice Chancellor also suggested to carry out the Big mill test for ascertaining the quality.

Workshop at HSC&RI, Madurai

One day workshop on District Level Entrepreneurship Encouragement and Information Dissemination Programme was conducted by the District Industries Centre, Madurai in collaboration with HSC&RI, Madurai on 17.01.2013. The programme was conducted for the benefit of aspiring entrepreneurs trained under venture capital scheme at HSC&RI under NEEDS and UYEGP. Madurai District Collector, Mr. Ansul Mishra, IAS emphasized the abundant opportunities open to unemployed youth who could turn in to entrepreneurs and also presented subsidy cheques to the beneficiaries under NEEDS and UYEGP. Dr. P. Banumathi, Dean, HSC&RI, Madurai stressed on the importance of skill based training to gain expertise and confidence for entrepreneurship. Dr. Mohamad Haroon, Dean i/c, AC&RI, Madurai called upon the youth to come forward as successful entrepreneurs. Mr. S. Maruthappan, GM, District Industries Centre, Madurai delivered the welcome address. Mr. R. Shankar Narayanan, NABARD, AGM and Mr. Y. Ramu, SBI, AGM outlined the subsidies and their features. Mr. K. R. Gnanasambandhan, Training Consultant, Mr. L. Ramasubramanian, Manager, District Industries Centre, Madurai, Mr. R. N. Iyengar, HR Consultant and Mr. K. N. Subramanian, Manager, Canara Bank, Madurai delivered lectures on the

challenges facing entrepreneurs, loans and subsidies available. The Departments of HSC&RI also show cased exhibition to showcase the various trainings conducted in this Institute. Dr. S. Parvathy, P&H, Department of Home Science Extension proposed the vote of thanks.

Awareness cum training programme at SS&T, Coimbatore

One day awareness cum training programme on Protection of Plant Varieties



and Farmers' Rights was organized at Department of Seed Science and Technology, Seed Centre, Coimbatore on 04.01.2013. About 100 farmers and seed certification officers from various districts viz. Coimbatore, Erode, Salem, Tirupur, Trichy and Pudukottai participated. The training programme was designed with special lectures to create awareness about the PPV&FRA and its functions among the farming community. Exhibition cum demonstration with improved varieties of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University was also arranged for the benefit of the farmers.

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Dr. M. Bhaskaran, Special Officer (Seeds), Seed Centre welcomed the gathering and he briefed about the importance of protection of plant varieties. Dr. N. Ajan, Director (CARDS), delivered special address and informed that the farmers should enjoy the benefits of PPV&FR Act, 2001 by active participation. He also emphasized that the farmers should come forward for registration of their varieties under this Act. The farmers interacted enthusiastically and gave their feedback. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. V. Manonmani, AP (SST).

Training on integrated groundnut cultivation technology

One day training on Integrated groundnut cultivation technology under the scheme viz. , Improving the lively hood of small holders in drought prone area of Sub - Saharan Africa and South Asia through enhanced grain legume production and productivity funded by TL II - ICRISAT phase II was conducted at Ulagampattu Village of Setpet block of Thiruvannamalai district on 15.02.13. Totally 50 farmers of Setpet block participated of which 7 were female and 43 male. Mr. Vadamalai, ADA, Setpet block welcomed the gathering and delivered the lecture on Integrated farming. Dr. G. V. Ramasubramanian, Professor (Entomology) presided over the function and delivered the lecture on integrated pest management. Dr. M. Vaithiyalingan, AP (PB&G), ORS, Tindivanam delivered the lecture on high yielding varieties, improved cultivation and production technologies, latest machineries for sowing and harvest and its importance. Mr. S. Murugesan, SMS (Forestry) of KVK, Vedapuri delivered the lecture on integrated nutrient management. R. Elumalai, Agricultural Extension Assistant delivered the lecture on oilseed production, Mr. S. Babu, AAO, delivered the lecture on soil health. Mr. Venkadesan, Technical Assistant (TL II of ICRISAT) also participated.

NHM farmers training

The Department of Horticulture, Agricultural College & Research Institute, Madurai conducted five days training programme for 60 farmers of Kanyakumari district from 4th to 8th February 2013 under HRD component of NHM. The gathering was welcomed by Dr. S. Mariappan, Professor & Head (Horticulture) and

presided over by the Dean (i/c) AC&RI, Madurai. Resource persons from various departments delivered lectures on hi - tech production technology, plant protection and management, marketing of fruits, spices and flower crops and vermicompost preparation and application to the crops. The farmers were given field exposure on latest technologies being adopted.



Zonal Workshop

Quarterly Zonal Workshop for Horticultural Extension Officials of Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai & Virudhunagar Districts was held at Department of Horticulture, AC&RI, Madurai on 19.02.2013 and discussed in detail the field problems and corresponding solutions.

Training at ORS, Tindivanam

Training program on farmers participatory seed production in pulses and oilseeds funded by NADP was



conducted to Edayankulam Village farmers on 27.2.13 and to Vanniper village farmers of Villupuram District on 28.2.13 by Oilseeds Research Station, Tindivanam. Dr. M. Vaithiyalingan, AP (PB&G), welcomed the gathering and delivered the lecture on high yielding varieties and production technologies in groundnut and sesame. Dr. G. V. Ramasubramanian, Professor (Entomology) presided over the function and delivered the lecture on integrated pest management. Dr. K. Kavitha, AP (Path.) delivered the lecture on Integrated disease management; Dr. R. Umasankareswari, AP. (Micro.) delivered the lecture on role of biofertilizers in yield improvement Dr. Renuga, AP (Hort.) delivered the lecture on micro irrigation system on vegetables.

Tribal women exposure visit

An exposure visit was performed to Marthandam Honey co-operative Society Ltd., in Kanyakumari district under GOI - DSIR project on tribal women development at Kalrayan hills of Salem district



from 29.01.2013 to 01.02.2013. About 30 tribal women participated and gained knowledge on the honey processing and value addition.

They visited the mechanical honey processing centre at Ammsi on 30.01.2013 and also untreated the manual honey processing centre at Marthandam Honey co-operative Society. They also visited honey value addition unit in YMCA, Kanyakumari and gained knowledge on honey food products. Dr. M. K. Kalarani, AP (CRP), PI of the scheme and Dr. P. Kalaiselvi, AP (ENS), Co-PI of the scheme accompanied.

Exploration and collection of land races and farmers varieties in castor

Exploration and collection of land races and farmers varieties in castor was made from 11.02.13 to 16. 02.13 in the villages of Arur, Manjavadi, Kolathur of Dharmapuri district, Karur and Aravakurichi in Karur district, Dindigul, Ottanchathiram, Palani, Sembatti and Kodai road of Dindigul district, Chinnamanur, Kandamanur, Rayappampatty, Kambam villages of Theni, Tiruppur and Coimbatore districts. Dr. A. J. Prabhakaran, Principle Scientist and Project Investigator AICRP - Castor scheme, DOR, Hyderabad, Dr. S. R. Venkatachalam, Associate Professor (PB&G), Dr. P. Arutchenthil, AP (PB&G), Dr. K. Thirukumaran, AP (Agron), Dr. V. Rajendran, P&H and Dr. Balakishan, Technical Officer (Plant Breeding), DOR, Hyderabad took part in collection and exploration. A total of 105 land races and castor varieties were collected and preserved for further studies.

NABARD scheme training at Muthukapatty, Namakkal District



One day training programme was conducted by TCRS under NABARD scheme on 14.02.2013 at P u d h u k o m b a i M u t h u g a p a t t y

village, Erumapatty block of Namakkal district. Dr. M. K. Kalarani, AP (CRP) and Co - PI of the project

delivered the welcome address and explained the nutrient management technologies in tapioca. Dr. P. Kalaiselvi, AP (ENS) explained the nursery techniques and the role of bio fertilizers in improving the yield and Dr. M. Velmurugan, AP (Hort) delivered the tapioca varieties, pest and disease management practices in tapioca. forty five farmers participated in the training programme and benefited. Pamphlets on tapioca cultivation technologies were distributed to the farmers.

Field day on castor for women Self Help Group

Field day on hybrid castor was conducted under DSIR scheme for women self help groups in S. Valappady village in Salem district on



08.02.2013. Dr. V. Rajendran, P&H, explained the cost & economics of hybrid castor cultivation. Dr. S. R. Venkatachalam, AP (PB&G) explained the salient features of hybrid castor cultivation and Dr. K. Thirukumaran, AP (Agron) elaborated the castor cultivation techniques. About 30 women self help group members participated in the field day and shared their experience of hybrid castor cultivation. Similar field day was conducted at Karumagoundampalayam in Elachipalayam block of Namakkal district on 21.02.13.

Women's day celebrations

At Dryland Agricultural Research Station, Chettinad, World Women's Day was celebrated on 08.03.2013 in a grand manner.



Shri. C. Swaminathan, P&H, welcomed the gathering and stressed the importance of women in the society. Dr. R. Balasubramanian, P&H, Department of Agronomy, AC&RI, Madurai delivered special lecture on Role of women in building stronger Indian family institution. The scientists and post graduate students of Agronomy, AC&RI, Madurai and Scientists, Staff and

farm labourers of DARS, Chettinad numbering 125 participated in the function. Dr. M. Tamilselvan, Farm Manager proposed vote of thanks.

Training on cocoa cultivation



Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC & RI, Coimbatore organized a DCCD sponsored training programme on Recent Technologies in Cocoa Cultivation at HC & RI, Periyakulam on 24.01.13 for the benefit of farmers from Theni, Dindigul and Madurai districts. Around 100 farmers participated in the training. In the inaugural function Dr. P. Paramaguru, P&H, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops welcomed the participants. Dr. N. Kumar, Dean (Hort.) inaugurated the seminar and Dr. V. Ponnuswamy, Dean (Hort.), HC&RI, Periyakulam presided. Scientists from TNAU, delivered speech on different aspects of cocoa cultivation. Mr. R. Rajesh, Manager, Cadbury India Ltd. explained the marketing strategies in cocoa. Th. Lingaiyan, a leading farmer from Dindigul district shared his experience with the farmers. Dr. L. Jeeva jothi, P&H, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC&RI, Periyakulam proposed the vote of thanks.

Mass campaign on chilli cultivation



Mass campaign on chilli cultivation for farmers of Virudhunagar district was inaugurated at KVK, Virudhunagar on 28.01.13. The campaign was conducted by ARS, Kovilpatti under NHM scheme. Dr. V. Ponnusamy, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam presided over the inaugural function and delivered special address. He said that farmers have to choose prominent varieties like CO 1, PKM 1, K1 and K2 in chilli and use good quality seeds and seedlings. He stressed on improved practice of protray method of raising nursery, broad bed with polythene mulch, judicious use of fertilizers and irrigation water through fertigation and crop insurance. He requested for formation of farmers' groups to reap the benefits of Market Intelligence for

efficient marketing of the produce. Dr. D. Jawahar, P&H, ARS, Kovilpatti, stated that this training is arranged for farmers of Virudhunagar district in which chilli is cultivated in a larger extent. Dr. V. K. Paulpandi, Professor and Programme Co - ordinator, KVK, Virudhunagar, requested the farmers to do market oriented agriculture and use improved varieties. Dr. V. Rajaram, P&H, RRS, Aruppukottai, stated that farmers should use organic manures in order to improve the water holding capacity of the soil to sustain the crop in dryland cultivation. Dr. L. Jeevajothi, P&H, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC&RI, Periyakulam and in - charge of NHM scheme, explained the objectives of NHM. Dr. S. Muthulakshmi, Professor, ARS, Kovilpatti, made arrangements for conducting this training.

Science forum meeting

At Dryland Agricultural Research Station, Chettinad, under the aegis of the newly started Science Forum science meeting was organized on 14.02.13. In that the former Chief Scientist Prof. Dr. V. Veerabadran delivered a lecture on, Challenges and opportunities in drylands under changing climate. In his talk, he emphasized the need for adoption of mitigation and adaptation techniques in dry lands supported by crop diversification with short duration and less water loving crops. The Sivaganga district Collector, Thiru. V. Rajaraman, I. A. S., was the Chief guest. Dr. C. Swaminathan, P&H welcomed the gathering while Dr. P. Arunachalam, AP, proposed vote of thanks. About 50 scientists, field staff and officials of Department of Agriculture participated.

Integrated weed management training to tribal farmers

Indian Council of Agricultural Research sponsored AICRP on Weed Control Unit, Department of Agronomy, Directorate of Crop Management, Coimbatore has organized two weed management trainings for tribal farmers of Karumanthurai, Athur taluk of Salem district and Perunkadu village, Kendanahalli, Palacode taluk of Dharmapuri district.



In the first Integrated Weed Management hands - on training organized on 19.02.2013 at the Giant Orchard, Karumanthurai, nearly 130 tribal farmers attended. Dr. N. Asokaraja, Professor & Head, Department of Agronomy, Coimbatore, while presiding over the programme, explained the water management technologies in conjunction with integrated weed management practices. Dr. C. Chinnusamy, Project Investigator, AICRP - WC elaborately dealt about the weed management issues and problems in general and integrated weed management options for various crops and cropping systems and problem weed management technologies. Dr. Manickam, Programme Co - ordinator, KVK, Snadhiyur and Dr. V. Rajendran, Professor & Head, TCRS, Yethapur also spoke on the occasion. In the second training organized on 21.02.13 at Perunkadu village (Kendanahalli),

Palacode, 90 farmers participated. Dr. N. Tamilselvan, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, Papaarapatti in his presidential address explained the weed management technology transfer through the KVK and the benefits out of it. Dr. C. Chinnusamy, PI, AICRP - WC explained the intricacies of weed management for the crops that are cultivated in the hilly terrain under rainfed conditions. Dr. C. Sivakumar, AP (Agron), RRS, Paiyur and Mr. N. Meghanathan, DDA, ATMA and FTC, Dharmapuri spoke on the occasion. Dr. K. Govindarajan, Professor (Agrl. Economics) welcomed the gathering and Dr. P. Murali Arthanari, AP (Agron) proposed the vote of thanks. The tribal farmers from both the locations had hands on training on the techniques of use and methods of application of herbicides for various crops and on problem weed management.

New schemes

Name of the scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakh ₹.)	Funding Agency
Design and development of tractor operated precision planter for pulses	Dr. P. K. Padmanathan Assistant Professor (Farm Machinery) Krishi Vigyan Kendra, AC & RI, Madurai	5.45	Fast Track Young Scientist - SERB - Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi
Fast Track Young Scientist - SERB - Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi	Dr. V. Ponnusamy, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	69.77	DASD, Calicut
Health management of horticultural and agricultural crops using Excel Crop care chemicals	Dr.V.Ponnusamy, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	15.82	Excel Crop Care Ltd. Mumbai
Nutrient management in horticultural crops using tropical agro chemicals	Dr.V.Ponnusamy, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	4.00	Tropical Agro System India Private Limited, Chennai
Cultivation of cool season vegetables	Dr.V.Ponnusamy, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam	3.11	The Principal Agriculture Officer, Idukki under RKVY programme
Development of tractor operated hydraulic ladder	Dr. R. Thiyagarajan, Assistant Professor (Farm Machinery)	7.85	Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientist, Department of Science & Technology, GOI, New Delhi.
Development of power operated sugarcane sett cutter cum detopper and detrasher.	Dr. P. Kamaraj, Assistant Professor (Farm Machinery)	4.14	Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientist, Department of Science & Technology, GOI, New Delhi.

Residue studies of Halosulfuron methyl and its combinations with chlorimuron ethyl and metribuzin in sugarcane crop	Dr. P. Janaki, Ph. D. , Assistant Professor (SS & AC), Agronomy TNAU, Coimbatore- 3	6.65	Crystal Crop Protection Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
Evaluation of physiological effects of Antracol 70 WP in combination with Mn and B in tomato	R. Sivakumar Assistant Professor (Crop Physiology)	1.78	Bayer Crop Science, Bangalore

Important visitors

- Dr. Gopinadhan Paliyath, Professor, Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada visited Dept. of Nano Science & Technology on 10.02.13 to 13.02.13
- David M.Malone President, IDRC, Canada and Mr. Raghavan, Canada visited Dept. of Nano Science & Technology on 11.02.13
- Dr. Hiroshi Handa, Professor (Entomology), University of Tsukuba, Japan visited Dept. of Agrl. Entomology on 20.02.13
- Dr. Nagothu Udaya Sekhar, International Co-ordinator, The Norwegian Institute for Agricultural & Environmental Research, Norway visited ACRC on 31.01.13 to 01.2.13
- Dr. R. Muniappan (Director), Dr. George Norton (Economist), Ms. Miriam Rich (Director of Communications) from Virginia Tech, Dr. Edwin Rajotte (Entomologist) from Pennsylvania State University and Dr. Sally Miller (Plant Pathologist) from the Ohio State University and Hon. Marty McVey, member of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) from U. S. A. visited IPM - CRSP project on 30.1.13 to 1.2.13
- Dr. Gimme Walter, Dr. Graham and Dr. Michelle from University of Queensland , Australia visited TNAU Indo - Australia collaborative project on 01.02.13
- Dr. Jayasankar, University of Guelph, Canada, Dr. Prakash, National University of Singapore, visited TNAU on 06.02.13
- Dr. Nancy Pitts and Dr. Balakrishnan Prithiviraj from Dalhousie university, Canada visited School of PG studies to discuss on dual degree programme on 25.02.13

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