



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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Planning & Monitoring

ஊருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

PONGAL VIZHA 2015



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University's Pongal Vizha was celebrated at the Department of Farm Management, Directorate of Crop Management, Coimbatore on 15th January, 2015. During the Pongal Vizha, cattle from different farm units were decorated and taken on a procession initiated by the Vice Chancellor. He presented new clothes and mementos to farm supervisors, tractor drivers and cattle maintainers of different farms of TNAU. Later, Pooja was performed to the cattle with a *Patti* (theppam) and sweet pongal and fruits were offered to the cattle. Various competitions were held in which the men, women labourers and wards of labourers participated.

Dr.K.Velayutham, Director (i/c), Directorate of Crop Management, later welcomed the gathering for Sports Events Prize Distribution function. Dr.C.R.Anandakumar, Director (i/c), Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics presided over and praised the untiring efforts and involvement of farm labourers of TNAU in assisting, development of new varieties, technologies and related activities and indicated that they deserve better service conditions and welfare measures which the University always provided. Dr.S.Mariappan Dean (i/c), HC&RI, coimbatore felicitated. Th.G.Vijayakumar Member, Board of management, TNAU distributed the prizes to the farm labourers and delivered the Special Address. Dr.C.Jayanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Farm Management, proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

VERMICOMPOST PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING UNIT



Dr.P.Pandiyarajan, Dean (i/c), ADAC&RI, Trichy inaugurated the vermicompost production unit and narrated the importance of vermicompost in enhancing soil fertility. Dr.M.Jawaharlal, Special Officer (i/c), Horticultural College and Research Institute (W) Trichy inaugurated the vermicompost processing unit and explained the waste recycling techniques to mitigate environmental pollution. Dr.S.Rathika, Assistant Professor (Agronomy), organized the programme and demonstrated the shredder cum coir pith applicator machine to all the participants. All the Heads of the Departments and Scientists of ADAC&RI and HC&RI (W) participated in the event.

TRAINING ON MILLETS PRODUCTION



A one day on-campus training on “Capacity Building on Millets Production” was organized on 21.01.2015 under TN-IAMWARM project at the Centre of Excellence in Millets (CEM), Athiyandal Tiruvannamalai. Fifty farmers from ten

blocks viz., Tiruvannamalai, Kilpennathur, Thuringapuram, Thandrampattu, West Arni, Cheyyar, Anakkavur, Vembakkam, Pernamallur and Vandavasi participated and benefitted. Dr. M. Jayachandran, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering and delivered a lecture on Agro techniques in Millets Production to the farmers. Mr.V.Jayachandran, Joint Director of Agriculture, delivered the Inaugural Address. Dr.A.Nirmala Kumari, Professor (PB&G) Dr.V.Paramasivam, Professor (SS&T), Dr. A. Kalyanasundaram, Assistant Professor (AEN) and Dr. Senthil Raja from CEM, Athiyandal were the other resource persons who delivered lectures on different aspects of millet production technologies.

RELEASE OF COMPENDIUM ON POST HARVEST EQUIPMENTS



A ‘Compendium on Post Harvest Equipment and Technology’ authored by Dr.V.Thirupathi and Dr.M.Balakrishnan from Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering was released by Dr. K.Alagusundaram, DDG (Engineering), ICAR, New Delhi in the Inaugural Session of the 30th AICRP - PHT Annual Workshop held at University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore during 06-09, January, 2015. Dr.D.P.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, UAS, Bangalore, Dr.K.K.Singh, ADG (Engineering), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. S.N. Jha, Project Coordinator (Post Harvest Technology Scheme), Dr.V.Thirupathi, Research Engineer, PHT Scheme and Dr.M.Balakrishnan, Assistant Professor, Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, TNAU were present during the release function.

KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERMENT TO THE DRIP FARMERS ON SYSTEM MAINTENANCE



The drip system maintenance training cum demonstration was organized by the Water Technology Centre, TNAU, at block level to saturate the knowledge of maintenance among the farmers under Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust (NRTT) project at Kannamanaickanur village of Udumalpet block on 29.1.2015. Dr.B.J.Pandian, Director (i/c) WTC, inaugurated the programme and highlighted the need for the drip system maintenance at the present juncture of shrinking water resources. Dr.SP. Ramanathan, Professor of Agronomy and Dr.K.Nagarajan, Professor of Soil Water Conservation at WTC explained the details of the project and various measures involved in maintaining the drip system. Dr.B.Elangovan, Assistant Director of Horticulture, Udumalpet briefed about the schemes operating to benefit the farmers in Udumalpet block. Thiru.Muthukumar, a progressive farmer arranged the logistics for conducting the demonstration in his farm. Fifty farmers using drip irrigation hailing from 10 surrounding villages participated in the capacity building programme

TRAINING ON GINGER PRODUCTION

One day farmers training programme on "Production technology of Ginger" was conducted on 12.01.2015 by the Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC & RI, TNAU, Coimbatore with sponsorship from the GOI-CSS-MIDH, DASD, Calicut.

Dr. J. Suresh, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering and highlighted about the training. Dr.S.Mariappan, Dean (Horticulture) i/c, presided over the training programme and highlighted the ginger cultivation in India and Tamil Nadu. The Deputy Director of Horticulture, Coimbatore felicitated. During the technical session, the scientists made presentations on various topics, viz., Scope and importance of ginger production in Tamil Nadu, Varietal wealth of ginger, Improved production technology of ginger, Pest and diseases of ginger and their management and Post harvest technology in ginger.



A field visit to the ginger field at Jakirnaicken palayam village near Thondamuthur was arranged. Mr.Muthumanickam, progressive farmer explained the success story of ginger cultivation in plains and cleared the doubts raised by the farmers in ginger cultivation. As a part of this training programme, a small exhibition was also arranged to create awareness about the ginger cultivation in Coimbatore district. About 100 farmers from different blocks of Coimbatore district, twenty departmental officials and officials from Spices Board also participated. Dr. S. Subramanian, Professor (Horticulture) proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

HARVEST DAY ON DIRECT SEEDED RICE.

The harvest day on the season long training on Direct Seeded Rice technology was conducted on 28th January 2015 at KVK, Needamangalam. During the harvest day, Dr.R.Rajendiran, Director (i/c), TRRI, Aduthurai, highlighted the advantages seen during the harvest of Direct Seeded Rice.



Dr.K.Chozhan, Professor and Head, spoke on the importance of land leveling in Direct Seeded Rice. Dr.A.Kamaraj, Assistant Professor (Engineering) explained about the criteria for recording yield parameters in Direct Seeded Rice.

KVK FARMER AWARDED FOR HIS OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE.



The progressive and one of the important contact farmer of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam Thiru.S.Ashokan of Thiruvanchuzhi village, received Uzhavar Ookuviappalar award on 09.01.2015 during Southern Agri Fair and Farmers day 2015 at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore for encouraging farmers in rice cultivation and for disseminating the latest agricultural technologies in Thiruvarur District.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON "PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS RIGHT AUTHORITY

To bridge the gap between the farmers awareness on rice varieties and their rights, a one day Awareness Programme on Protection of Plant varieties and Farmers Right Authority was organized at Aathirengam village of Thiruthiraipoondi Taluk on 22.01.2015.



Dr.K.Samiayyan, Special Officer Agricultural College and Research Institute, Thanjavur, Joint Director of Agriculture, Thiruvavur, Joint Registrar of Co Operatives, District Development Manager, NABARD and the Deputy Director of Agriculture attended the programme and delivered Special Address. Also elite farmers, Mr.Sithar, Mr.Senthil Kumar, and farmers numbering 150 from various places attended the Awareness Programme, which was inaugurated by Dr.M.Mathivanan, I.A.S., Collector of Thiruvavur district who delivered the Inaugural Address. Dr.R.Ramesh, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) welcomed the gathering, Dr.K.Chozhan, Professor and Head, explained in brief about the sections of PPVFR Act 2001. Dr.V.Sivakumar, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

TRAINING ON PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF FRUITS AND SPICES

A five days training programme on "Crop Management, Micro Irrigation, Production and Marketing of fruits (Mango, Banana), Spices and Vermicompost production" was conducted under National Horticulture Mission - Human Resources Development Programme at Horticultural Research Station, Pechiparai on 19-23, January, 2015.

Hundred farmers from different blocks of Kanyakumari District attended the training programme. During the Inaugural function on 19.01.2015. Dr. R. Kannan, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering. Dr. P. Nainar, Professor and Head, FRS, Thovalai and Mr. P. Sivakumar, Deputy Director of



Horticulture, Kanyakumari District felicitated the occasion. Twenty five lectures on different aspects including crop Management, micro Irrigation, production and marketing of fruits (Mango, Banana), Spices and Vermicompost production were delivered by scientists from HRS, Pechiparai, FRS, Thovalai, KVK/ARS, Thirupatisaram and AC & RI, Killikulam. The training manual including important lectures were distributed to the trainees along with training kit. Dr. R. Swarnapriya, Professor (Horticulture) delivered a formal Vote of Thanks.

REPUBLIC DAY 2015



Two hundred National Service Scheme and National Cadet Corps Volunteers of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University participated in the 66th Republic Day Celebrations at TNAU organised by the Dean (Agriculture). Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU hoisted the National flag and reiterated that innovations in agriculture is the need of the hour. He stated that we are in a transition from fossil fuel based economy to one based on renewable resources and remembered the facts that we have improved in education and medical sector and our life expectancy has increased from 32 years in 1951 to 65 years at present. Technology revolution

in agriculture amidst constraints of land, water, labour and energy should take place to bring about production of 500 million metric tonnes of foodgrains in another 10 years. He took Guard of Honour from NCC Volunteers and inspected the NSS Volunteers and school children from TNAU campus. Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean (Agriculture) (i/c), University Officers, Staff Advisors, NCC and NSS officers and Staff members participated. NSS and NCC Volunteers participated in various competitions conducted by UGC on the eve of good governance day and secured prizes. The Vice Chancellor distributed the certificates to the prize winners. A cultural programme was also organized as part of the Republic Day celebrations.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON QUALITY SEED PRODUCTION



A one day Master training programme was conducted on “Quality Seed Production for Water User Association Members and Farmers” on 12.01.2015 at Seed Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore under TN- IAMWARM Project being operated at Directorate of WTC, TNAU, Coimbatore. Totally 29 scientists from 16 identified Research Stations of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University participated. The objective of the training programme was to train the members of water user association and farmers on advanced technology in seed production of rice, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables and also green manure crops and involve them in seed production and marketing to start the community based small seed enterprise in groups (or) as Self Seed Entrepreneur on a sustainable basis. Dr.M.Bhaskaran, Special Officer (Seeds), welcomed the gathering and explained the

genesis of the programme. Dr.M.Maheswaran, Director of Research (i/c) delivered the Inaugural Address. Dr.B.J.Pandian, Director (i/c), WTC highlighted the importance of quality seed production and felicitated on the event. Dr.A.Vijayakumar, Professor and Head, Department of Seed Science and Technology, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON “MODERN TECHNOLOGIES IN MILLET PRODUCTION”



TN-IAMWARM sponsored Capacity Building on “Modern Technologies in Millet Production” for the farmers of Upper Vellar sub basin in Salem district was organized by Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur on 30.01.2015. The training was inaugurated by Tmt. S. Bharani, Deputy Director (State Scheme) who emphasized about machinaries available for millet processing under subsidy programme.

Dr. S. Manickam, Professor and Head delivered a Special Address about the importance of minor millets and their nutritional value followed by the technical session covering various agrotechniques in millet production and value addition. Fifty farmers from Attur, Valapady, Pethanaickanpalayam, Gangavalli and Ayothiapattinam blocks benefitted by this training programme.

FREE EYE CAMP IN TNAU HOSPITAL



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Lotus Eye hospital, Coimbatore jointly organized free eye checkup camp on 31st January 2015 in the University Hospital premises. The camp was inaugurated by Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean(Agriculture) (i/c) in the presence of Dr.A. Arulmozhi, University Medical Officer. 270 members including general public, University Staff and National Service Scheme volunteers were given free eye check up and advice on the problems and eye disorders.

Important visitors

- ◀ Dr. L.V.Subba Rao, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer (Rice) for DUS Testing, Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad visited the Department of Seed Science and Technology, Seed Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore on 21.01.2015 to monitor the DUS Testing of rice varieties under the GOI-DUS scheme

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