

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore – 641 003

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The Editor,

Sir,

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

TNAU Trained Students and Faculty on Big Data Analysis

Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, TNAU, Coimbatore organized a two day (22-23rd January, 2016) training program on "Genomics and Big Data Analytics in Agriculture" for students and young faculty with the help of M/s. Genome Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd. (GLS), a DSIR-recognized Bioinformatics R&D company based at Chennai.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, conceived the idea of developing skills in young researchers in Computational Genomics and Bioinformatics in agriculture and upon his discussion with GLS team this two day workshop was organized. Dr. K. Ramasamy particularly keen that the students of TNAU should be given training in the field of genomics and bioinformatics and skill enhancement. Genomics and Bioinformatics sciences are becoming as effective tools in accelerating gene discovery and crop improvement. Advancements in next generation sequencing technologies (NGS) have resulted in rapid increase in the number of whole genomes sequenced which necessitate development and use of Big Data Analytical tools.

Dr. Periannan Senapathy (currently in USA), Founder, GLS, a renowned researcher in the fields of Computational Genomics, Bioinformatics, Clinical Genomics and Personalized medicine, aims to serve India by supporting capacity building in genomics and bioinformatics research.

GLS brought its in-house subject matter experts along with their invited research scholars from various parts of the state working on Agri-Genomics to TNAU, Coimbatore. During this two day event, students were trained through intensive hands-on in Linux for data analysis and a few selected NGS data analysis pipelines.

The workshop also facilitated the exchange of ideas between both parties on identifying areas through which their collaboration can trigger high-impact genomics research in agriculture.

Asst. Public Relations Officer