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To 2016 The Editor,

Sir,

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

Coimbatore -641003

Model Training Course on Multi Nutrient Management in Soils and Crops inaugurated in TNAU

The model training course on "Good Agricultural Practices for alleviating multi nutrient deficiencies in soils and plants" for the middle level extension officers of Department of Agriculture and Horticulture from throughout the nation was inaugurated by Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean(Agriculture), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) on 21.11.16 at the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry.

Twenty extension officers from all over the country are participating in the training scheduled from November 21st to 28th, 2016. The training course is being sponsored by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi.

Dr.P.Malarvizhi, Professor, Soil Science and Deputy Registrar briefed about the training course and about the participants.

Dr.K.Kumar, Special Officer, Directorate of Natural Resource Management in his felicitation address reiterated that soil health maintenance is vital for enhanced crop production. Due to the emerging multi nutrient deficiencies, the role of extension officials in transferring the nutrient management technologies to farmers assume greater significance. Rejuvenation of organic carbon in soil, balanced and crop specific application of nutrients will pave way for sustainable agriculture.

Dr.S.Mahimairaja, Dean(Agriculture), TNAU released the course handbook. In his thought provoking inaugural address he insisted that current situation is more precarious with rapidly shrinking land resources, burgeoning population, deterioration of land and water quality due to industrial pollutants. Hence extension personnel have pivotal role to play in the coming years because technologies should not remain in books. Lab to land is our motto.

Capacity Building of personnel to gear them towards bringing ever green revolution with farmers participation is highly warranted in the current farm scenario for which trainings of this kind will be inevitable. He wished that participants carry green memories and knowledge on farm technologies to combat multi nutrient deficiencies in crops and enable the development of farmers by transferring the acquired knowledge.

Earlier, Dr.K.Arulmozhiselvan, Professor and Head, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry welcomed the gathering. Finally, Dr.T.Chitdeshwari, Professor, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, proposed vote of thanks. Heads of various Departments and scientists and students attended the function.

Public Relations Officer