



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore – 641 003



Dr. M. Rajavel, Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer
Mobile: 94890 56730

Phone: 0422 - 6611302
Fax: 0422 – 2431821
E-mail: pro@tnau.ac.in

To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 16.08.2023

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

16th Dr. T.D. Biswas Memorial Lecture

“NUCLEAR TECHNIQUES FOR SOIL ORGANIC MATTER STUDIES”

The Sixteenth memorial Dr.T.D. Biswas Memorial Lecture was organized by the Coimbatore Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Directorate of Natural Resource Management on 16.8.2023. Dr. A. Raja Rajan, Former Dean (Agri.) & Professor (SS&AC), (Retd.), TNAU, Coimbatore delivered the memorial lecture on “Nuclear Techniques For Soil Organic Matter Studies”.

Dr.R. Santhi, Professor and Head, Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and President, Indian Society of Soil Science, Coimbatore Chapter welcomed the gathering.

Dr. P.Balasubramaniam, Director, Directorate of Natural Resource Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore briefed about the Dr. T.D. Biswas Memorial Lecture. In his address, he pointed out that this is the Sixteenth series of lectures dedicated to Dr. T.D. Biswas. He is a Soil physicist and pioneer in manganese on soils of India. He is expert in soil genesis , black soil and Catenary Soil.

Dr. R.Shanmugasundaram, Professor (SS & AC) and Vice-President, Indian Society of Soil Science, Coimbatore Chapter, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore introduced the speaker, Dr. A. Raja Rajan and his commendable contribution towards the field of Soil Science with special reference to Radioisotopes and Tracer Techniques in Agriculture and Environment. He has recently published a book on “ Soil Organic Matter: Key to Sustainable Agriculture: during 2023.He was awarded FAO Fellowship for Post-doctoral training at University of Florida, Gainesville, USA during 2000, Best Researcher of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore (2004) and was also the Keynote Speaker at First International Symposium on Agriculture at Eastern University, Batticaloa, Sri Lanka during 2017.

Dr. V.Geethalakshmi, Vice- Chancellor, TNAU in her presidential address pointed out the importance of soil health and carbon studies in “Long Term Fertilizers Experiment and Permanent Manurial Experiment”. She has emphasized the role of Nuclear techniques as a tool to study the Soil Organic Matter. She highlights the achievements of the Department *viz.*, the operations of Century old Permanent Manurial Experiment Long Term Fertilizer experiments across, TNAU, TNAU-Water Soluble Fertilisers and Crop specific micronutrient mixtures for the benefit of farmers.

Dr. A. Raja Rajan, Former Dean (Agri.) & Professor (SS&AC), TNAU, Coimbatore in his 16th Dr. T.D. Biswas Memorial Lecture on “Nuclear Techniques for Soil Organic Matter Studies” pointed out that application of stable isotopes and Radiotracer in soil health management. He emphasized particularly the carbon dating studies on Soil Organic matter in relation to different land use systems. He suggested for establishing relationship between soil organic matter and soil quality and agronomic productivity.

Dr.S.Maragatham, Professor (SS & AC), Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University & Secretary, Indian Society of Soil Science, Coimbatore Chapter thanked the gathering. About 125 participants attended the memorial lecture both online and offline and got benefitted.

Public Relations Officer