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To

Date: 15.12.2023

The Editor,  
Sir,

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

**TNAU conducts Hands on training “Molecular Breeding for Crop Improvement”**

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University’s Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology conducted hands on training programme entitled “Molecular Breeding for Crop Improvement” on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 at the Department of Plant Biotechnology. A total of 18 participants from Tamil Nadu and Kerala participated in the training programme, comprising of PG students and faculty members from Bharathiar University, Annamalai University, Kerala Agricultural University and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

The training programme was inaugurated by Dr.N.Senthil, Director, CPMB&B. Dr.E.Kokiladevi, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Biotechnology welcomed the gathering. The special address was delivered by Dr.R.Ravikesavan, Director CPBG. Following the inaugural session, a series of lectures were delivered by subject matter specialists on basics of molecular markers and their practical applications in crop improvement. Hands on experience was imparted on PCR techniques and marker assisted selection. Participants were trained on linkage map construction, QTL mapping and GWAS analysis using ICIM, STRUCTURE and TASSEL softwares. The two day training programme was successfully conducted and the valedictory session was organized on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023, with Dr.N.Senthil, Director CPMB&B presiding the function. The session ended with positive feedbacks from the candidates, followed by distribution of training certificate to the participants.

**Public Relations Officer**