



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To

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The Editor,
Sir,

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

International conference on “Emerging Post harvest Technologies for Shelf Life Enhancement and Valorisation of Horticultural Crops (ICPHTV’ 24)

Horticultural College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore jointly with Society for Promotion of Horticultural Science and Technology (SoPHoST) organized an International Conference on “**Emerging Post harvest Technologies for Shelf Life Enhancement and Valorisation of Horticultural Crops (ICPHTV’ 24)**” from **04.01.2024 to 05.01.2024** at Horticultural College & Research Institute, TNAU, Coimbatore – 641 003. The conference was organized in hybrid mode for the participants from foreign countries.

A total number of 400 Horticultural Scientists belonging to different states of India participated in this conference. Twenty experts from 10 countries including USA, European countries, Netherland, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Thailand delivered lead talks under six theme areas *viz.*, Crop improvement for leveraging the post harvest quality, Advances in shelf life and post harvest quality research, supply chain management, logistics and new age packaging for augmenting shelf life, Smart processing techniques and value addition, Trends in phytochemicals, pigments, nutraceuticals, nano delivery systems.

The inauguration of the event was held at Anna Auditorium of TNAU, Coimbatore on 04.01.2024. Dr. P.Irene Vethamoni, Dean, Horticultural College and Research Institute, Convenor & Chairman of the conference welcomed the gathering and briefed the glimpse of the programme. She insisted the importance of cold chain, pre-cooling and refrigerated transportation in reducing post harvest losses. Further, the Dean (Hort.) enlightened the forum about the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) scheme of central government that help farmers to setup better postharvest infrastructures Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, the Honourable Vice Chancellor of TNAU graced the occasion by delivering presidential address. The Vice Chancellor highlighted the importance of food and nutritional security which is the most important for the well being of

farmers. She mentioned that the production of horticultural crops has increased from 25 million tonnes in 1952 to 350 million tonnes in 2022 and horticultural crops contributes 30% for GDP even though it occupies only 13% of cultivated area. Further, she accentuates the significance of crop modelling for yield prediction in horticultural crops. The chief guest Dr. T. Janakiram, Vice-Chancellor, Dr.Y.S.R.Horticultural University, Andhra Pradesh delivered inaugural address and emphasized the efficient usage of solar energy in the field of post harvest technology. The guest of Honour Shri. D. Sathiyam, I.F.S, Secretary, Spices Board, GoI, Cochin indicated the role of Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) headed by the Spice Board, Cochin.

Felicitations were offered by Mr. S. Senthilnathan, Chairman and MD, ACSEN Agriscience, Dr. P.Balasubramaniam, Director (ODL), TNAU, Dr. S. Pazhanivelan, Director, CWGS, TNAU and Dr. P. Paramaguru, Dean, HC&RI(W), Trichy.

During the event distinguished dignitaries were honoured with awards for their exemplary achievements. The Vice –Chancellor, TNAU was honoured with Lifetime Inspiration Award, the Dean (Horticulture), HC&RI, Coimbatore with Academic Excellence award and Dr. P. Paramaguru, Dean (Hort.), HC&RI (W), Trichy with Excellence in guiding students to achieve ICAR Ranking. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between TNAU and Dr.Y.S.R.Horticultural University, Andhra Pradesh for conduct of collaborative Research, Education and Extension related programmes. Compendium of Research Abstracts and Lead papers and textbooks were released during the event. Dr. C. Subesh Ranjith Kumar, Professor (Horticulture) and organizing secretary of ICPHTV'24 proposed the vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer