



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 26.07.2024

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

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University organized workshop on “Nanopore Sequencing”

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University’s Centre for Plant Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, organized a one-day workshop on “Nanopore Sequencing” on 26.07.2024 at TNAU. The scientists and students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University participated in this workshop. Dr. E. Kokiladevi, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Biotechnology welcomed the resource persons and workshop participants. Dr.D.Suresh Kumar, Director, CARDS and Dean, SPGS, TNAU presented the Professor of Practice certificate to Dr.Raman Babu and explained about the importance of the innovative technologies for agricultural research and the undergraduate students should be exposed to non academic skills for better placement opportunities, he added.

Dr. N. Senthil, Director, CPMB&B highlighted the significance of sequencing technologies in his introductory speech. He emphasized that collaborations between the public and private sectors would boost research outcomes and provide students with valuable practical experience. Dr. Jaganmay Anand, Business Development Manager at Twist Bioscience India, and Dr. Hemadev Boopalan, Regional Manager at Zelle Biotechnology Pvt Ltd in Mumbai, gave prelude about the workshop to the gathering.

Dr. Raman Babu, Head of Seeds R & D – South Asia, Corteva Agriscience, Hyderabad & Professor of Practice, TNAU in his presidential address and the follow-on lecture explained about the current trends, improvements in plant breeding and effective utilization of the technology for developing a viable product. He mentioned about the five different paradigm shift in current research including, development of parent material in short period of time, utilization of genomic selection for developing representative breeding material, high through put phenotyping using digital tools, breeding for improvement of quality parameters, its practical implications and about the digital agriculture for precision farming. The students can explore in emerging areas of genome

editing, stem cell research and tissue engineering. Also, they can learn specialized skills in the desirable areas for better employment prospects, he added.

Finally, Dr. M. Sudha, Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Biotechnology proposed a vote of thanks. It is followed by the technical session in which the scientists from industries Dr.Divya Shetty, Senior Field Application Scientist, Zelle Biotechnology Pvt Ltd gave an elaborate lecture on Introduction to Oxford Nanopore and Illumina sequencing and its applications. Dr.Ramesh Vaidyanathan, Business Development Manager, Synthetic Biology, Twist Bioscience explained about the importance of synthetic biology and its applications.

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