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To
The Editor,
Sir,

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

TNAU releases new crop varieties to farmers

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) is the emblem of excellence in agricultural education, research and extension activities. Development of crop varieties suited to different agro climatic regions of Tamil Nadu is one of the key mandates of TNAU and new crop varieties are released every year for the benefit of farming community. TNAU has released 929 crop varieties in wide array of crops during its 100 years of existence including agricultural, horticultural and tree crops. Many of the TNAU varieties are very popular across the country and few of them are cultivated across the globe.

During 2025, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) releases 19 new crop varieties suiting to different agro-climatic regions across the state.

In agricultural crops, three varieties in rice, (a semi dwarf drought tolerant CO 59 and two medium slender grain varieties ADT 56 & ADT 60), a maize hybrid COH(M) 12, a blackgram variety VBN 12 suited for irrigated and rice fallow conditions, a drought tolerant groundnut variety CTD 1 and a semi dwarf castor hybrid YRCH 3 were released.

In horticultural crops, four varieties in vegetable crops, including a tomato variety CO 4 having extended shelf life, a bhendi hybrid CO(H) 5, a chilli variety CO 5 suited for industrial purpose and an ash gourd variety PLR 1 having compact fruit type were released. In fruit crops, three varieties including a non-lodging dwarf mutant banana variety Kaveri Vaaman from ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB), Trichy, Avocado TKD 2 and an acid lime variety SNKL 1, one flower crop, Thovalai 1 Nerium, one spices crop (Nutmeg PPI 1) and a Coconut ALR 4, a medicinal crop variety CO 1 *Sirukurinjan* were released. Besides this, a mushroom variety KKM 1 having good shelf life was released. Farmers can make use of these new varieties for improving the productivity and farm income.

Public Relations Officer