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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

The Interactive meet invited Plethora of suggestions from Organic Farmers

An interactive cum suggestion meet of “Organic farming practicing farmers” was held here at e-Extension Centre of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) on Mar. 27, 2015. Nearly 25 farmers participated in the counseling and suggestion meet.

Earlier Dr. S. Ramasamy, Professor & Head, Dept. of Sustainable Organic Agriculture, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering. He recalled that the research has been initiated realizing the needs and situations of the agriculture. Ensuring apparent results in the days to come and showcase the technology to public, significance of organic farming is to be sensitized. He said choosing the best 10 organic farm ideas will be mooted out for the spear headed research and for the benefit of the farming community.

While offering the introductory Dr. C. Jayanthi Chinnasamy, Director, Crop Management Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore highlighted the necessity of organic agriculture on the paramount significance of the interactive meet. Reaping the benefits of food security and gratified with the production process in various spheres of agriculture, once again we are back to square to stick on to the organic methods of cultivation, to assess the technical know-how and do how of the farmers and to fulfill the needs and requirement of farming to problem solving approaches for the volley of doubts raised by the farmers.

In the felicitation address, Dr. H. Philip, Director of Extension Education, TNAU recalled the lyrical notes of Pattukottai Kalyana Sundaram and Maruthakasi, whose creative lines and focus on the organic agriculture talked mush on organic farming. He insisted in

the climate smart agriculture and unadulterated food and unpolluted atmosphere are highly essential to feed the huge population through intensive organic farming.

Dr. M. Maheswaran, Director of Research, TNAU in his felicitation, specified the changes in agriculture associated with the change in the scenario at National level. For instance, he said due to advent of green revolution high yielding varieties were raised up to feed the huge population. Fertilizer response variety have been developed which has lead to lot of ramifications in the soil. Most of the pest and disease resistance genes have been associated with the flowering genes due to modified breeding methods. Due to susceptibility the crop height has been reduced drastically.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU invited suggestions from the farmers to extend fullest cooperation and support to augment the organic farming practicing farmers. He also wanted to rejuvenate the cattle population like Kangeyam breed and indicated that the gazettier gives enormous information on the traditional cattle population. He wanted to get back the Palmyra production to the fore and wanted the farmers to set a model farming. He insisted the farmers to provide gingelly, chillies coriander, and ginger for continuous supply to the restaurants, which provide opportunity for good sales. The following are the requirements of the Organic farmers.

Provision of technical details of medicinal plants, details of soil fertility management, subsidized rate for bio products, facilitating transportation for agricultural commodities, grievance redressal of farmers' group, enrolment of organic certification of farmers, creation of integrated farming system, promotion of Indigenous technical knowledge, supply of seeds for papaya and other crops like winged beans. They also insisted in the action plan on earth warm production, biogas production, green manure seeds, bio-fertilizer training, proper monitoring mechanism and control measures for soil evacuation and spoilage. Establishment of more seed outlets, value addition for millets, training for water conservation, kitchen gardening training and establishing village adoption scheme for 100 villages, were other pleas t, were other pleas to be addressed to.

Dr. Sathiyamoorthy, Professor, Dept. of Sustainable Organic Agriculture, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer