

# TNAU NEWS



## TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron : Dr. P. MURUGESA BOOPATHI- Vice Chancellor

Editor : Dr. G.KATHIRESAN - Director, Planning & Monitoring

### 44<sup>th</sup> Research Council Meeting – 2011



The 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Research Council of TNAU was conducted on 17.02.2011 at A C & RI, Coimbatore. Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, chaired and inaugurated the meeting. The Vice-Chancellor in his presidential address mentioned that in the education front, 13 students of TNAU completed dual degree programme with Cornell University and one American student joined M.Sc.(Ag.) in Agronomy. He also informed that Government of India has selected

TNAU Agritech Portal as the best in the country through which, the farm technologies are being spread to the farmers. He emphasized that mobile sprinkler technology may be popularised in dryland farms. He also suggested to develop small machines suited to small farm holdings.

Dr.M. Paramathma, Director of Research welcomed the members and presented the action taken report on the recommendations of 43<sup>rd</sup> Research Council Meeting. He highlighted

the important research achievements viz., new varieties, technologies and farm implements developed by TNAU. He also elaborated the new research activities initiated in TNAU. Nominated expert members Dr. Raniperumal, Retired Prof. & Head, SS&AC, TNAU, Coimbatore; Dr.N. Kalaimani, Principal Scientist, Aquatic Animal Health and Environment Divisions (ICAR), Chennai; Th. Venkataramani Govindan, Water management communication and knowledge sharing specialist, Chennai and Th.P. Palanivel, Managing Director, 'Jaysan' Home Builders, Chennai offered their suggestions.

Th.K.G. Anand Naik, Chief Conservator of Forests (Research); Th.N.Ponnuswamy, Additional Director of Agriculture; Th.K.S. Ramakrishnan, Superintending Engineer (Agrl. Engg.), Coimbatore; Dr.M. Elanchelian, Regional Joint Director (Animal Husbandry) i/c, Th.V. Panneerselvam, ADA, Sericulture, Coimbatore and Th.P.Palani Kumar, ADA (Seed certification), Coimbatore also participated and offered their views.

### Graduation Day at CSIA, Tindivanam

Second graduation day was celebrated at C. Subramaniam Institute of Agriculture, at ORS, Tindivanam on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2011.

Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, Principal, CSIA welcomed the gathering and explained various activities of CSIA. Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar, delivered the special address and distributed "Prof. C. Ramasamy Best Student Award" gold medals to

S. Kamaraj (2006-08), D. Ganesan (2007-09) and A. Gopinath (2008-10). 64 Diploma certificates were awarded to the students who have passed out for the past three years. Dr. A. Raja Rajan, Dean, Agricultural College & Research Institute,



**MoU for research on mungbean**

Two separate memorandum of understanding between Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science, Beijing and Hebei Academy of Agricultural Science, China, signed on 21.01.2011 by Dr. Subbian, Registrar, Professors Dr. Cheng xuzhen from CAAS, Beijing and Prof. Dr. Tian Jing from HAAFS, Hebbai, China, in the presence of Dr. T. Jayaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai.

Coimbatore and Dr. N. Sathiah, Professor and Head, KVK, Tindivanam offered felicitation. Dr. N. Ramalingam, Associate Professor, ORS, Tindivanam proposed vote of thanks.

**Nature Fest' and Photo Expo' 2011**

Students' Nature Club 2011 of FC&RI, Mettupalayam organized one day Nature Festival and Photo Exhibition 2011 on 26.02.2011. More than 100 students participated from 10 schools in and around Mettupalayam. As part of the programme, a Nature Trail was organized in the morning for all the participants. Wildlife Photo exhibition organized by the Nature Club was declared open by the Dean, Forest College & Research Institute. Various competitions viz., Drawing, Essay Writing, Elocution in Tamil and English and Quiz on the topics related to Nature and Environment were conducted. The valedictory function was presided over by Th.P.Durairasu, IFS, Dean, FC&RI. Special address on "Nature and its Importance" was delivered by Dr.R.Tolstoy, M.D, PSG Medical College, Coimbatore. Dr.R.Revathi, Associate Professor (Forestry) welcomed the gathering. Mr.S.Manikandan, Joint Secretary, Students' Club proposed the vote of thanks.



**Farmers' day at ARS, Bhavanisagar**

Farmers' day was jointly organized by ARS, Bhavanisagar and State Department of



Agriculture on 28.02.2011. Two hundred and fifty farmers from Erode district participated. Dr.M.Mohamed Yassin, Professor and Head welcomed the gathering. Dr. Kalaiselvan, DEE, inaugurated the function and delivered presidential address. Dr.S.P.Ramanathan, Professor and Head, Department of Market Extension explained the need for forming commodity group in harnessing the sale of farm produce at the best price to the farmers.

Agricultural technologies like Azolla production, Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative, Vermicompost production, Pest and Disease control in coconut and turmeric cultivation technology have been

demonstrated to the farmers. Talks on major crops production of the district were explained by the scientists along with the interactive technical session with the farmers. Th.A.Manoharan, DDA explained about the facilities available in the Department of Agriculture by way of subsidies. Th.Rajendran, DDA, Farmers Training Centre, Bhavanisagar proposed the vote of thanks.

**Capacity building programme to farmers**

A capacity building programme for the benefit of Climate Rice farmers on direct sown rice under zero tillage to mitigate the climate change was organized at SWMRI on 01-02-2011. ODD ELRIK ARNESEN, Senior advisor (Climate), Norway agency for Development (NORAD), Norway presided over the Capacity building programme and inaugurated, in the presence of Dr.M.A.Khalid, Director, IRCC, Earth watch Team member of NORAD. Dr. V.Geethalakshmi, Professor and Head, Dr. A. Lakshmanan, Associate Professor, Agro Climate Research Centre, Coimbatore, Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, SWMRI, Thanjavur have participated.

Scientists of SWMRI have displayed and demonstrated the technologies on climate mitigation. More than 50 farmers participated, interacted and empowered their knowledge on climate change and technologies for sustainable rice production.



### Exposure visit to banana tissue culture unit



Farmers from Kodangiopatti village coming under Theniyar sub-basin were exposed to banana tissue culture unit at Uthamapalayam on 10<sup>th</sup> of February, 2011 and they visited AEC Agro-technology laboratory and farmers field where tissue

culture banana were cultivated with drip irrigation system at Erasakanayakanur, Muthallapuram and Chinnamanur villages of Theniyar sub-basin. They also interacted with farmers who adopted precision farming. Dr. K. Sujatha, Associate Professor and Head, Vaigai Dam, Dr. Undharaya, Asst. Professor, Mrs. K. Samundeswari, SRF and Th. K.P. Sathiyamoorthi, JRF arranged the exposure visit.

### Inauguration of Bio-Control Laboratory at AC&RI, Madurai

Bio-control laboratory constructed at the cost of R. 40 lakhs at AC&RI, Madurai was inaugurated by our Vice-

Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, on 8.2.2011. Dr. E.I. Jonathan, Director, CPPS; Dr. R.



Samiyappan Director, CPMB; Dr. K.Vairavan, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai; Dr. P. Banumathi, Dean, HSC&RI, Madurai; Dr. S. Manisegaran, Professor and Head, Entomology; Dr. A. Sankaralingam, Professor & Head, Plant Pathology and all the scientists in the Department of Agricultural Entomology, Plant

### TNAU - Inter collegiate tournament and sports meet - 2011

The TNAU Inter - collegiate tournament sports meet 2011 was inaugurated on 3.2.2011 at AC&RI, Madurai and the sports meet held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2011. The total number of 12 constituent and affiliated colleges of TNAU participated. Students numbering 1000 have participated in different events of sports meet.

Mrs.P.Amutha, I.A.S., the Additional Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu was the Chief Guest and declared open the sports meet. The collector of Madurai district Th.C.Kamaraj, I.A.S., also participated and delivered inspiring speech.

The Dean, Dr.K.Vairavan, AC&RI, Madurai appreciated the role played by the staff and students for organizing the sports meet. The Dean, HSC&RI, Dr.P.Banumathi delivered a special address. Dr.C.R.Anandakumar, Staff Advisor welcomed the gathering and Dr.S.Amutha, HSC&RI, proposed vote of thanks.



The valedictory function was held on 07.02.2011. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr.P.Murugesha Boopathi, delivered the presidential address and distributed prizes to the winners. Dr.K.Vairavan, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai felicitated the students. Dr.A.Rajarajan, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore and sports council chairman delivered the special address. The Deans of the constituent colleges Dr. A.Tajuddin, Dr.V.Jayabal, Dr.S.Ramasamy, Dr.P.Durairasu, Dr.A.Baskar, Dr.V.Ponnusamy, Dr.G.James Pitchai, Dr.R.Ganesan,

Dr. N. Sivasamy and Dr.A.Balakrishnan felicitated the function. Dr.P.Banumathi, Dean, HSC&RI, Madurai welcomed the gathering and Dr.K.Selvi, Director (Physical Education), TNAU, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks.

AC&RI, Coimbatore won the overall championship and AC & RI, Madurai came second. Mr.P.Madasamy from AC & RI, Coimbatore won the individual championship for men while P.Anushya from AC & RI, Madurai won the championship for women

Pathology and Heads of various departments, AC & RI Madurai participated in the function. During the function, our Vice Chancellor has distributed papaya mealy bug parasitoid, *Accerophagus papaya* to the scientists of FRS, Thovazlai and ARS, Thirupathisaram, and asked them to initiate the mass production of parasitoid in their respective research stations.

**Programmes at TRRI, Aduthurai**

**Field day for mitigation strategies in rice production for climate change**

A field day cum special training on mitigation strategies in rice production for climate change was organized under ClimaRice scheme on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2011 for 30 farmers. Field demonstration was conducted on “Rajarajan 1000 method of rice cultivation with Azolla application in rice to mitigate the ill-effects of global warming and climate change the rice production system.” Dr. V.Ravi, Professor of Agronomy explained the mitigation strategies for climate change. The pest and disease complexity developed due to climate changes were narrated by the concerned scientists.

**Seed village training programme**



One day training on “Quality seed production in rice fallow pulses through seed village concept” was organized at Keezhmanthur,

Thiruppanandal block on 22.02.2011, sponsored by NABARD. The Director and Scientists of TRRI, Aduthurai, AGM, NABARD, Thanjavur and Assistant Director of Agriculture, Thiruppanandal attended and graced the event. As part of the programme, training on quality seed production was imparted to the enrolled farmers.

**Programmes at TCRS, Yethapur**

**Field day on hybrid castor**

Hybrid Castor (YRCH1) Front Line Demonstration Field Day was conducted on 28.01.2011 at Elaichipalayam, Kokkalai village of Namakkal district. Dr. V. Palanisamy, Professor and Head, delivered a special lecture on scope and potential for hybrid castor cultivation in Tamil Nadu. Explanations on the varieties, hybrids and season of cultivation, castor production technologies, and pest and disease management were explained to the farmers.



**Tapioca field visit**

A field visit was made by a team of scientists to a farmer's field at Kalkurichi, Namakkal District based on the request from the District Collector, Namakkal. Dr. V. Palanisamy, Professor and Head, Dr. K. Nageswari, Associate Professor (Horticulture), Dr. M.K. Kalarani, Associate Professor (Crop Physiology), Dr.V. Jayalakshmi, Associate Professor (Plant Pathology) have visited and identified the problems and offered solutions.

**Mealy bug parasitoid release in farmers' field**



Tapioca mealy bug parasitoid release and Field Awareness on mealy bug control was done on 10.02.2011 and 23.02.2011, in the farmers' fields at Edayapatti village, Attur taluk of Salem district and at Kariakoil village, Chinna Kalrayan hills of Salem district respectively. Dr.V.Palanisamy, Professor and Head, and, Dr.S.Venkatesan, Professor (Entomology) released the parasitoid and explained the control of mealy bug by the parasitoid.

**Director (CPBG) visit**

Dr. K. Thiyagarajan, Director, CPBG visited TCRS, Yethapur on 24.02.11 and inspected the plant breeding trials. He discussed with the scientists on the cropping pattern of the area. He also visited the tapioca mealy bug parasite mass culture in the lab and field levels. He encouraged the scientists to get new externally funded schemes.



**Programmes in hilly areas of Tamil Nadu**

**Training on “Production and Post harvest technology of garlic”**

One day training

## State level two Awards for TNAU in NSS



The NSS unit of AC&RI, Coimbatore has bagged state level award for the best NSS Programme officer and best NSS volunteer for the year 2009-10. The awards were given at Chennai on 8<sup>th</sup>, February by Hon'ble Minister for Sports, Youth Affairs and Environment Mr.



Moideen Khan, to Dr.K.Bhuvanewari, Associate Professor (Entomology) as the best NSS Programme Officer and Mr.Nidhil Vergheese, III year B.Tech(EEE) student as best NSS Volunteer. The award comprises of a certificate, shield and cash.

## TNAU scientist bagged Tamil Nadu young women scientists award

Dr.M.S.Aneesa Rani, Associate Professor (Horticulture), RRS, Vridhachalam has been honoured with the prestigious Tamil Nadu Young Women Scientists' Award 2009 instituted by the Science City, Department of

Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai. Thiru K.Ganesan, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Dept. of Higher Education presented the award on 29.01.2011 at the Science City Campus, Chennai.

programme was organised by the HRS, Ooty under NHM scheme with financial support by the Director of Arecanut and Spices Development, recently. Dr. R.M. Vijayakumar, Professor and Head, welcomed the gathering. Principal Scientist and Head, Dr.O.P.S.Khola, Dr. Iyue, Professor & Head, Sheep Breeding Research Station, Ooty and Dr. Nanjan, the former Professor & Head of HRS, Ooty released the training manual. The farmers of Anikkorai, Marakkal, Eppanadu, Thoraiatty villages of Nilgiris were benefited by the training.

### **Growers' training on Production and post harvest technology of marigold**

A training programme on "Production and post harvest technology of marigold" was conducted on 4.2.2011 at the office of the MYRADA, Thalavadi. Forty four growers of marigold participated in the training. Dr. M.

Kannan Professor and Co - Principal Investigator, Department of Floriculture and landscaping, Coimbatore, highlighted the NAIP project and delivered a lecture on production technology of marigold. Dr. P. Muthulakshmi, Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology) and Mr. N. Sridhar, Senior Research Fellow (Agrl. Entomology) clarified the farmers' queries pertaining to plant protection. Mr. P. Sridhar, Assistant Manager, AVT Natural Products Pvt. Ltd., Sathyamangalam welcoming the gathering and emphasized the advantages of contract system of marigold cultivation at Thalavadi area. The farmers were taken to marigold fields for an exposure visit. Certificates were issued to the participants. Dr. P. Thiyagarajan, Research Associate (Agrl. Entomology), Horticultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore proposed the vote of thanks.

### **Growers' training on production and post harvest technology of carnation**

A training on production and post harvest technology of carnation flowers was conducted at UPASI - KVK, Coonoor on 07.01.2011. In the training programme, 44 carnation growers participated. Dr.P.Kumaravadivelu, Programme Coordinator & Head, UPASI - KVK, Coonoor welcomed the farmers and spoken on marketing and quality of carnation flowers. Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Professor (Hort.), Department of Floriculture & Landscaping and Consortium Principal Investigator of the scheme highlighted the NAIP project besides, delivering a lecture on "Production technology of carnation". Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Professor (Agrl. Entomology) and Dr. P. Muthulakshmi, Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology) clarified the farmers' queries on plant

protection in carnation. Dr. M. Kannan, Professor (Hort.) and Co-PI (NAIP - Flowers), HC&RI, Coimbatore, explained the post harvest technology of carnation. Dr. V. Jegadeswari, Assistant Professor, HRS, Ooty, demonstrated fumigation techniques in poly house. Vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. V. Venkadesh, Elkil Agrotech, Ooty.

**Training on black pepper**

One day training programme on “Recent trends in black pepper production techniques” was jointly organized by HRS, Yercaud and Directorate of Arecanut Spices and Plantation crops, Calicut on 4.2.2011 at HRS, Yercaud. 120 participants comprising of planters, progressive and small farmers of Salem and adjacent districts took part in the meet. The programme was inaugurated and presided by Dr. N. Kumar, Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore and released the guide on Pepper production techniques. Dr. R. Arulmozhiyan, Professor and Head, HRS, Yercaud welcomed the gathering and delivered a lecture on Prospects of Black Pepper in India and Globe. Dr. A. Sankari was the Co-ordinator of the programme. Dr. V. L. Sujatha, Professor (Spices), KAU, Vellanikara; Mr. S. Ramalingam, Senior Field Officer, Spices Board; Dr. S. Nagalakshmi, Professor (Hort.); Dr. T. Saravanan, Asst. Prof. (Plant pathology) and Dr. P. Thilagam, Asst. Prof. (Agrl. Ento) delivered series of lectures on the



recent production technologies. Dr. M. Anand, Asst. Prof. (Hort) proposed the Vote of thanks.

**Programmes at ORS, Tindivanam**

**Training on boosters and tonics utilization in different crops**

Three days training programme on “Boosters and tonics utilization in different crops for yield maximization” was organized with NABARD to 30 members of farmers' club of Villupuram District from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2011. Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, Professor and Head, inaugurated the training programme and delivered presidential address. Thiru. G. Uma Maheshwara Rao, Assistant General Manager (DD), NABARD,



Villupuram delivered the special address. Dr. C. Tamilselvi, Assistant Professor (Crop Physiology) and Course Director welcomed the gathering and explained the activities of the training programme. Dr. H. Vijayaraghavan, Professor (Crop Physiology), Vamban delivered a special lecture to the farmers' club members.

**Storage pest management training**

NABARD sponsored training programme on Management of storage pests and diseases using Eco-friendly methods was organized from 7.02.2011 to 9.02.2011 to NABARD farmers' club members of Villupuram



District. Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, Professor and Head, inaugurated the training and delivered presidential address. Dr. V. Radhakrishnan, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) and Course Director welcomed the gathering and explained the training programme. Dr. S. Mohan and Dr. K. Ramaraju, Professors (Agricultural Entomology), TNAU, Coimbatore delivered special lectures on Gadgets for stored grain insect pests and storage pests and their management, respectively.

**Groundnut pest and disease management training**

Thirty NABARD farmers' club members of Villupuram districts attended three days training programme on Non-chemical methods for Pest and Disease management in Groundnut conducted during February 10 – 12, 2011. Dr. V. Radhakrishnan, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) and Course Director welcomed the gathering. Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, Professor and Head, inaugurated the training and delivered presidential address. Dr. S. Douressamy, Professor



(Agricultural Entomology), SRS, Cuddalore and V. Sathiyamoorthy, Organic Certification Inspector, Vellore delivered special lectures to the trainees.

### Programmes at KVK, Sandhiyur

#### Exhibition cum training on farm mechanization and value addition

An exhibition cum training programme on "Farm Mechanization and Value Addition" was conducted on 15.2.2011. Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, presided and delivered the presidential address. In his speech he stressed the importance of farm mechanization. He also reiterated about the importance of value addition and asked the farmers to go for value addition instead of selling as agricultural products.

Thiru. K. Koseel, IFS, Managing Director, Sago Serve, Salem; Thiru. V. Raju, Assistant General Manager, NABARD; Thiru. C. Paneer Selvam, Deputy Registrar, Cooperatives, Salem division and Thiru. P. Subbarathnam, JDA, Salem and the Scientists from TNAU, Coimbatore and officials from Department of Agriculture, Salem were participated. Dr.S.Manickam, Programme Coordinator, welcomed the gathering. About ten stalls exhibiting farm implements, machineries and value added products from agriculture and horticultural crops were kept. Lectures on farm mechanization and value additions were



arranged. About 750 farmers from Salem and Namakkal districts were participated. Dr. M.A.Vennila, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Extension) proposed the vote of thanks.

#### Training cum exhibition on farm machineries and implements

One day training cum exhibition on farm machineries and implements and value added products was held on 15.02.11. Our Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi delivered the presidential address. Dr. S. Manickam, Programme Co-ordinator welcomed the gathering. Dr. V. Palanisamy, Professor and Head, TCRS delivered felicitation address and explained the importance of tapioca and castor crop for increased farm income. Dr.V. Rajendran, Professor (Soil Water Conservation) delivered a lecture on Farm machineries and Implements.

#### Training on precision farming in sugarcane

Training on Precision farming in Sugarcane was organized under TN-IAMWARM project at AC&RI, Madurai on 08.02.11. Our Vice Chancellor Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi, inaugurated the training and released a souvenir on Precision farming in Sugarcane. He insisted the participating farmers to adopt the latest technologies of precision farming and drip fertigation to attain maximum productivity in Sugarcane equivalent to that of Brazil. About 70 farmers from Kottakkaraiyar sub basin have participated. Dr.K.Vairavan, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai and Dr.P.Banumathy, Dean, HSC&RI, Madurai participated. Dr.A.R.Mohamed Haroon, Professor and Head Department of Soil and Environment

welcomed the gathering and Dr.R.Indirani, Scientist Incharge of TN-IAMWARM and Assistant Professor of the Department proposed vote of thanks.

### Visit of foreign delegates to the Controller of Examination

A three member team of Mrs. and Mr. Bernie Mac Donald, Co-President and Dr. Brain Cruse, Manager from Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Nova Scotia, Canada had visited the Controller of Examinations on 07.02.2011. During the visit, the team had a discussion with the staff of the Controller of Examinations about the activities.

### Training cum Awareness Programme on "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Act 2001" at different centres

#### \*At AC&RI, Coimbatore:

A state level training cum awareness programme on "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right" (PPV&FRA) was conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2011 at the Department of Plant Genetic Resources, CPBG. The participants included fifty agricultural officers from the State Department of Agriculture, twenty five farmers and twenty five students. The training was inaugurated by our Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. Murugesha Boopathi. Dr. M. Paramathma, Director of Research welcomed the gathering. Dr. N. Ajjan, Director of CARDS explained the modalities and implications of PPV&FRA 2001 in his keynote



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address. Our Vice-Chancellor, after releasing the training manual, a DVD entitled "Ramiah genebank: a dream comes true" and the PGR registration software, stressed the importance of conservation of Plant Genetic Resources for food security. At the end, the participants had a group discussion and shared their understanding on the act. Dr. K. Thiyagarajan, Director, CPBG and Dr. P. Shanmugasundaram, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Genetic Resources distributed certificates to the participants during the plenary session.

**\* At AC&RI, Killikulam :**

The programme was organized by the Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics at AC&RI, Killikulam on 23.02.2011. The main Objective of the training is to create awareness and motivation among the Scientists,

farmers, breeders, students and development workers. Dr. B. Selvi, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics welcomed the gathering. Dr. R. Ganesan, Dean, presided over the function and delivered the presidential address.

Experts from various specialized fields were invited to deliver the lectures about Social and Economic issues of PPV&FR Act. Exhibits were displayed concerning distinctness uniformity and stability testing procedures, Benefit sharing model of traditional knowledge, Geographical Indications and Traditional Rice varieties. Around 100 trainees representing Scientists, State Agricultural Dept. officials, PG scholars and farmers actively participated. Dr. M. Arumugam Pillai, Associate Professor (Plant Breeding) proposed the vote of thanks.

**\* At ORS, Tindivanam :**

The programme was conducted at ORS, Tindivanam on 25.2.2011. Dr. N. Ramamoorthi, P&H. welcomed the gathering. Dr. K. Thiyagarajan, Director, CPBG, released the training manual on Protection of Plant varieties and Farmers' rights act and delivered the special address. Totally 108 participants including 42 students of CSIA, Tindivanam, 17 Agricultural officers and 3 horticultural officers and 33 farmers, 7 JRFs were participated. Special lecture on Procedure for registration of varieties in PPV &FRA was delivered by Dr. M. Vaithiyalingan, Asst. Prof. (PBG) and lecture on Economic Issues on Access to Genetic Resources and plant varieties under PPV &FR act delivered by Dr. R. Senthil Kumar, Dept. of IPR, CARDS, TNAU, Coimbatore.

**Important visitors**

- \* Mr. Suresh and Mr. Vijayakumar, PHI, Hyderabad visited Aduthurai on 3.2.2011
- \* Director General, CIMMYT, Mexico, visited CSISA Aduthurai on 8.2.2011
- \* Dr. Mathias Pohl, BASF, Germany, visited DPMB&B on 8.02.2011.
- \* Prof. Chidambaram, T.N. Government Planning Commission Member visited DPMB&B on 9.02.2011.
- \* Dr. Muthuraman, Principle Scientist, DRR, Hyderabad visited TRRI on 10.2.2011
- \* Dr. Robert Zewart Zeigler, Director General, IRRI, Philippines visited activities of CSISA project at TRRI on 17.2.2011
- \* Prof. Dylan Edwards, School of Biological Science University of East Anglia, Norwich, England visited DPMB&B on 18.02.2011.
- \* Dr. Subodh K. Sharma, Advisor, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi visited ACRC, Coimbatore on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2011.

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From  
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