



# TNAU NEWS

Patron: **Dr. K. Ramasamy**, Vice Chancellor  
Editor: **Dr. G. Kathiresan**, Director, Planning & Monitoring

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

## KVK, Virinjipuram bagged the second prize in the Vellore Dinamalar Agri Expo.



The third Dinamalar Agri Expo was conducted at Vellore Fort for four days from 27.7.12 to 30.7.12. This Agri Expo served as a platform to disseminate information on the recent technological interventions in agriculture, horticulture, food processing, dairy and poultry sector. Scientists from the KVK, Virinjipuram participated in the seminars and interacted with the farmers on various innovative technologies viz., SRI, Organic farming, Integrated farming systems, Integrated nutrient management, Integrated pest and disease management, farm mechanization and precision

farming in horticultural crops. The technological interventions were displayed to the farmers in the form of charts and specimens viz., Management of root rot and wilt in groundnut, Leaf folder and stem borer management in paddy, Management of sucking pests in cotton, Micronutrient deficiency in cotton, Mechanization in paddy cultivation, Application of *Trichoderma viride*, Vermicompost, Pulse wonder, specimens of Brinjal - VRM – 1, Sugarcane bud chipper, Protray nursery, Brinjal – Nematode management, Coconut – Rhinoceros beetle management, Yellow sticky trap, Banana – Pseudostem weevil management, Leaf Colour Chart, Annual Moringa, Mushroom production, Cumbu Napier CO 4 grass, Coconut tree climber, Greengram -VRM (Gg) 1, Sugarcane sett cutter, Conoweeder for SRI, Banana bunchy top management and Papaya mealy bug management. About 91,000 farmers from Vellore, Kancheepuram and Thiruvannamalai Districts visited the exhibition and gained knowledge on existing newer technologies. KVK, Virinjipuram bagged the second prize.

## Seminar at HRS, Kodaikanal



One day seminar on “Post harvest management and value addition in temperate fruits and vegetables” was organized by Horticultural Research Station, (HRS), Kodaikanal, in

collaboration with Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT), Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Thanjavur on 24.08.2012. Dr. Paranthaman, Scientist, IICPT, Thanjavur welcomed the gathering. The training was presided over by Thiru. T. Chinnaraj, ADH, Kodaikanal. Dr. J. Rajangam, Assoc. Professor and Head, inaugurated the training programme and explained about the importance of postharvest management and value addition of temperate fruits and vegetable crops. The special lectures on processing and post harvest disease and pest management in

temperate fruits and vegetables were given by Dr. B. Senthamizh Selvi, AP (Hort.), Dr. T.K.S. Latha, AP (PI. Pathology) and Dr. K. Premalatha, AP (Ento.). During the seminar, preparation of value added products from temperate fruits was demonstrated to the trainees. The farmers, farm women, entrepreneurs and Self Help Group members from Upper and Lower Pulney hills of Kodaikanal participated and benefitted. Dr. T. K. S. Latha, AP (Path.) proposed the vote of thanks.

### TNAU Scientist at Taiwan APO Workshop



The Asian Productivity Organization (APO) organized an International Workshop on

“Nanotechnology Applications for Boosting Agricultural Productivity” in Taiwan, during September 3-7, 2012. Scientists from member countries such as India, Indonesia, Iran, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand participated and presented their reports. Dr. Mohammad Saeed, Asian Productivity Organization, chaired the workshop and scientists from USA, Oman and Taiwan served as resource persons. During the workshop, delegates were taken to Nanotechnology Research Center of Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) and Kuang Chuan Nano-milk Producing Center in Taiwan.

Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Professor & Head, Department of Nano Science & Technology, and Dr. Fakrudin Bashasab, Associate Professor (Biotechnology), University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, represented India. During the workshop, representatives from the member countries presented the status reports and evolved strategies and action plan in three theme areas namely nano-technological approaches to promote crop productivity, nano-food systems and post-harvest technology and nanotechnology applications in animal systems. The efforts of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in the sphere of “Nano Agriculture” were very much appreciated by the member countries and the APO.

### Field day on foundation seed production Greengram cv. CO 6

A field day on foundation seed production in greengram cv. CO 6 was conducted on 22.08.2012 under NADP (RKVY)



programme on “Production and supply of Pulses foundation seed by TNAU”. The scientists, students and farmers numbering about 100 participated in the programme. The farmers shared their experience on the performance and management of the foundation seed crop. To create awareness among farmers on selection of improved variety and adoption of seed crop management techniques, demonstrations were organised.

In the interactive meeting, Dr.M.Bhaskaran SO (Seeds) welcomed the gathering. In his Presidential address by Dr.P.Subbian, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore emphasized on the importance and the significance of Pulses seed production. Dr.P.Kalaiselvan, DEE, in his special address emphasised the farmers to take up foundation seed production. Dr.A.Chandrasekaran, DR (i/c), Dr.N.Aijan, Director (CARDS), Dr.K.Thiyagarajan, Director (CPBG) and Dr.S.Jeyaraman, Director (CMS), TNAU, Coimbatore offered felicitations. Dr.A.Velayutham, P&H (Central Farm), proposed vote of thanks.

### Programmes by KVK, Virudhunagar

#### Training on Cumbu Co(Cu) 9 Production Techniques

Training programme on Cumbu Co(Cu) 9 production techniques was conducted. This



programme was inaugurated by Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Programme Co - ordinator and highlighted the importance of pearl millet in human diets. Dr.S.Rathika, AP (Agronomy) explained the package of practices



to be followed in Cumbu cultivation and enlightened the special features of Cumbu Co(Cu) 9 which is highly drought tolerant, powdery mildew resistant, high yielding and suitable for rainfed tracts of Tamil Nadu. In this programme Co(Cu) 9 cumbu seeds were issued to the farmers for conducting FLD on "ICM in Cumbu Co(Cu) 9". Mrs. M. Kavitha, Technical Assistant proposed vote of thanks.

### Training on Weed Management in blackgram



Training on Weed management in blackgram was conducted to the blackgram growers. Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Programme

Co-ordinator inaugurated and highlighted the problems of weeds in blackgram cultivation. Dr.S.Rathika, AP (Agronomy) explained the different methods available for weed management in blackgram particularly use of herbicides. She also narrated the benefits of pre and post emergence herbicides in managing weeds in

blackgram. During this programme, seeds and herbicides were issued to the farmers for conducting OFT on "Assessment of herbicides on the WCE in blackgram". Mrs. M. Kavitha, Technical Assistant proposed vote of thanks.

### Semi Dry Rice Cultivation Techniques

Training on Semi dry rice cultivation Techniques was organized. Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Programme



Co-ordinator inaugurated and explained the importance of semi dry cultivation in Virudhunagar District. Dr.S.Rathika, AP (Agronomy) explained the improved agro techniques in semi dry rice cultivation to increase the rice productivity and enlightened the special features of Anna@4 rice variety. During the programme, Anna (R) 4 paddy seeds were distributed to the farmers for conducting FLD on "ICM in Anna 4 rice under semi dry cultivation"

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### Advisor, British Deputy High Commission visit



Dr. C.Udayasooriyan, Dean (SPGs), Dr. A. Vijayakumar, Deputy Registrar (Education) and other staff members attended the meeting. The Advisor expressed his happiness over his visit to this historical institute and gave an overview about the activities of the British High Commission in India. He highlighted the role of the 'Research Council' of the High Commission functioning at New Delhi, which serves as a channel for funding various Indo-UK

Thiru. Vimal Subramanian, Knowledge Economy Advisor, British Deputy High Commission, Chennai visited TNAU on Sep. 7, 2012. Dr. P. Subbian, Registrar, received the Advisor and appraised the activities of the University during a brief interactive meeting. Dr. A. Chandrasekaran, DR (i/c),

projects throughout the country. The Advisor was also looking forward for identifying areas for international exchange and research collaborative activities. The Advisor was taken to Department of Plant Biotechnology, e-Extension Centre and Language Lab and was exposed to their activities.

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### Groundnut Field day at CRS, Aliyarnagar



Field day on groundnut was organized at Gandhi Ashram Village, Anaimalai block on 22.08.2012. Dr. K. Rajamanickam,

Professor & Head, Coconut Research Station, Aliyarnagar welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of timely usage of all relevant inputs given to the beneficiaries of FLD in Groundnut. The meeting was presided by Dr. A. Chandrasekaran, DR (i/c). He explained the importance of groundnut cultivation both in rainfed and irrigated conditions, the released varieties of Groundnut and usage of bioagents for the management of groundnut pest and diseases. About 40 farmers attended the function. The Scientists of CRS, Aliyarnagar viz., Dr. N. Premalatha, AP (Plant Breeding), Dr. V. Vasuki, AP (Agronomy), Dr. T. Srinivasan, AP (Agricultural Entomology) and Dr. J. Sheela, AP (Plant Pathology) delivered the lectures. Dr. J. Sheela, AP (Plant Pathology) proposed the vote of thanks.

### Evaluation of Sugarcane seedlings pruner



Sugarcane seedlings pruner under Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative method of cane cultivation was evaluated at

Sugarcane Research Station, Melalathur on 31.08.2012. The tool has saved the labour upto 75 percent of cost when compared to conventional method of pruning. In the demonstration, twenty five farmers attended and feedbacks were recorded. The same tool was evaluated in the farmers field viz., A. Sankaran, Konur village near Pennadam in Ambika sugar mills area on 01.09.2012. The results showed that 28.3

percent of labour has been saved by the tool compared to conventional sickle pruning. The cane officers and cane assistants of that mill attended the demonstration and tested the tool.

### Training on Apparel Technology

Six days training on women garments from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of August '12 and two numbers of two days training on machine



embroidery on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of August '12 and 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of September '12 were conducted in the Department of Apparel Designing and Fashion Technology, HSC&RI, Madurai. The trainees expressed that the trainings were skillful and motivating to start their own enterprise.

### Inauguration of Institute of agriculture at SWMRI, Thanjavur

Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor has presided the Inaugural and Orientation function of the Diploma



in Agriculture, Institute of Agriculture at SWMRI, Thanjavur on 03.09.2012 and delivered a special address to the newly joined students on the various opportunities and benefits and insisted the need of quality education to the future generations. He also initiated the community nursery for the benefit of farming community of the Cauvery delta zone. Dr.T.Jayaraj, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai delivered the inaugural address and advised the students to better utilize the institute during their course of study. Dr. K.Jayapaul, Dean, ADAC& RI, Trichy felicitated and Dr. G.Rangaraju, P&H and Principal of the Diploma Institute, SWMRI, Thanjavur proposed vote of thanks. Parents of the Students, Scientists from various research stations, progressive farmers and officials from the Agricultural department participated in this function.



## World Coconut Day Celebration



usage of inputs like seed materials, fertilizers, water and plant protection chemicals. He also emphasised the involvement and cooperation of the farmers for achieving the goal. The introductory address was given by Shri. S.Panneer Selvam, Secretary, Coconut Growers Association, Theni. Highlights of Coconut Research in Tamil Nadu was explained by Dr.K.Rajamanickam, P&H, Coconut Research Station,

Coconut Development Board, Regional Office, Chennai, in association with Rethinam Institute of Management, Coconut Research Station, Aliyarnagar, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Coconut growers associations celebrated the WORLD COCONUT DAY on 2nd September 2012 in Rethinam Techzone Campus, Coimbatore. Sri.K.Sugumar, Member of Parliament, Pollachi presided over the function. Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, was the Chief Guest In his address he stressed the importance of timely

Aliyar Nagar, Pollachi. Scientists from CRS, Aliyarnagar interacted with the farmers in connection with coconut production technologies. Dr.Madhan A Sendhil, Chairman, Rathinam group, Sri.C.M. Kamaraj, MD, Sakthi Coco Products, Pollachi, Sri.S.Lakshmi Raj, JDA, Coimbatore, Sri.Hemachandra, Dy. Director, CDB, Chennai, Sri.T.A.Krishnasamy Gounder, President, UCGASI, Pollachi offered their felicitations. A total of 500 farmers attended the function. Sri. S.S. Selvakumar, Technical officer, CDB proposed the vote of thanks.

### New schemes

Name of the scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakh ₹.)	Funding Agency
Developing guide lines for conduct of test for Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability in Small Millets (finger millet, foxtail millet, kodo millet, little millet, barnyard millet and proso millet)"	Dr.A.Nirmalakumari, Professor (PB&G), Department of Millets, CPBG, TNAU, Coimbatore	7.40	Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer's Right Authority(PPV&FRA), Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India
Optimization of <i>Agrobacterium</i> mediated transformation protocol for local elite cultivars of Fox tail Millet ( <i>Setaria italica</i> )	Dr. E. Kokiladevi Assistant Professor	6.15	UGC
"Genetic diversity, population structure and linkage disequilibrium assessment for association mapping studies in Coconut ( <i>Cocos nucifera</i> L.) germplasm at CRS, Aliyarnagar	Dr.S. Geethanjali Assistant Professor (Plant Breeding and Genetics) Coconut Research Station, Aliyarnagar – 642 101	15.95	Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi

Name of the scheme	Principal Investigator	Amount (Lakh ₹.)	Funding Agency
"Modern agricultural implements, science and technology transfer to tribal community for sustainable livelihood in the Western ghats of Coimbatore district, Tamilnadu (Part II)	Dr.K.Rajamanickam, Professor and Head Coconut Research Station, Aliyarnagar – 642 101	13.59	Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi

### Important visitors

- Dr. P.S. Bhattacharya, Director, Tierra Seed Science Pvt., Ltd., Hyderabad visited to explore new initiatives for collaborative research (esp. low phytate maize) on 1.8.2012
- Dr. D.N. Tewari, Former Member, Planning Commission, GOI & Ex DG, ICFRE, Dr. R.N. Mishra, IFS., Former PCCF, Chattisgarh, Dr. SR. Arya, Ex. DDG (ICFRE) and Dr. S.K. Dhyani, Director, NRCAF, Jhansi visited Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam on 1.08.2012 to 3.08.2012.
- Dr. Ravisankar Palanivelu, Arizona University, USA visited Department of Plant Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics on 6-8-2012 to 7-8-2012
- Dr. I.V. Ramanuja Rao, Programme Director, International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INB&R) Beijing, China visited Department of Bio-Energy on 15-8-2012 to 17-8-2012
- Th. S. Damodaran, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture visited O/o The Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore on 19-8-2012
- Shri. Charan Das Mahant, Honorable Union Minister of State for Agriculture, New Delhi visited O/o The Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore on 25-8-2012 to 26-8-2012
- Dr. T. Sampath Kumar, Senior Advisor , CIDA Canadian High Commission, New Delhi visited Department of Nano Science and Technology on 25-8-2012 to 27-8-2012

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