



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

Patron: Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor
Editor: Dr. M. Chandrasekaran, Director (i/c),
Planning & Monitoring

ஊருக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

68TH INDEPENDENCE AT TNAU



The Independence Day celebration was held in TNAU on August 15, 2014. Dr. K.Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU hoisted the national flag and recalled the eternal memories of the martyrs, who sacrificed their lives for new lease of life for Indian people. He emphasized that Science and Technology paved the way for enhancing the food grain production five times since Independence to meet out the growing demands of the populace. Further the Vice Chancellor reiterated the dire need for progressing in the positive direction for attaining food and nutritional security. He also sensitized the gathering to contribute their knowledge and wisdom for nation building, as India is in the seventh position with respect to knowledge delivery system of the globe.

POPULARIZING CR 1009 SUB 1 RICE IN CAUVERY DELTA



Flood tolerant samba paddy variety CR 1009 Sub 1 seeds were distributed to 200 farmers of four districts viz., Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Cuddalore at KVK, Needamangalam on 11.08.2014. Dr. K.Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, highlighted that this rice variety is a boon to farmers facing flooding problem during North East Monsoon season.

Dr. M.Mathivanan, IAS, Collector, Thiruvarur District in his Key Note Address emphasized that this variety will enhance the production and profit of the farmers. Dr. S.Robin, Professor and Head, Department of Rice, TNAU Coimbatore informed the farmers that this variety with a duration of 155-160 days is highly suitable for flood prone areas during the samba season. This variety is rich in amylase starch and thus suitable for idli preparation. Dr. R.Rajendran, Director (i/c), TRRI, Aduthurai in his Felicitation Address indicated its suitability for ill drained area in Cauvery delta during North east monsoon and added that this variety is insect resistant compared to other varieties. Dr. M.Baskaran, Special Officer (Seeds), i/c., Dr. K.Samiyayan, Special Officer, i/c., AC&RI, TNAU, Eachangottai, Mr. K.Mayilvaganan, Joint Director of Agriculture, Mannargudi, Mr. S.Renganathan, Member of Research Council, TNAU, Dr. V.Ravi, Professor and Head, SWMRI, TNAU, Thanjavur and Mr. K.C.Ravichandran, Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Thiruvarur District spoke on the special features of the variety. Farmers' representatives from these delta districts explained their experiences in

introducing newer rice varieties from TNAU. Dr. K.Chozhan, Professor and Head, KVK, Needamangalam welcomed the gathering and Dr. T.Dhamodaran, Associate Professor, KVK proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

FIELD SCHOOL ON MECHANIZED RICE CULTIVATION



Farmers Field School on mechanized rice cultivation was inaugurated at Devangudi Village of Needamangalam block in Thiruvarur district by KVK, Needamangalam on 01.08.2014. The farmers field school coordinator, Dr. A.Kamaraj, Assistant Professor (Agri. Engineering) delivered lessons on land preparation and explained various activities. Later the 25 farmers attended the field school.

SAMBA PRE SEASON TRAINING PROGRAMME



A pre season campaign on Samba Paddy Cultivation Practices was organised at Sathanoor of Thiruvidadimaruthur Block, supported by TRRI, Aduthurai and RAWE students from Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Tiruchirappalli on 07.08.2014. Dr.R.Rajendran., Director

i/c, TRRI, Aduthurai in his Special Address stressed upon the importance of the varieties namely ADT 49, 50, CO 50 and CR-1009 (sub 1) and emphasized the need for community mat nursery and explained on how to increase the number of tillers in rice. Mrs.Rajeswari Varatharajan, President of the village and the farmers of Sathanoor village participated. Dr.P.Parasuraman, Professor and Unit Head, Agronomy, Dr.E.Subramanian Assistant Professor (Agronomy), Dr.S.Arulsevi, Assistant Professor (Plant Breeding) highlighted the varieties and agronomic practices to be adopted in samba season. Dr.S.Suresh, Professor and Head, (Entomology) spoke on pests of rice and their management. Dr.K.Rajappan, Professor and Head, (Plant Pathology) explained the various diseases in rice and their management practices. The farmers interacted with TRRI scientists and clarified their doubts regarding Samba rice cultivation. Students from Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute camping at TRRI, Aduthurai facilitated the programme and proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

FARMERS SCIENTISTS INTERACTIVE MEETING



Farmers - scientists interactive meeting at district level for kharif season was convened on 13.08.2014 and 14.08.2014 at Cotton Research Station, Srivilliputtur, Virudhunagar district with a view to provide information on latest technologies in agriculture and horticulture crops cultivation. In this meeting 6 scientists from different disciplines and 25 farmers from Virudhunagar district participated. Dr.M.Gunasekaran, Professor and Head welcomed the gathering and explained the salient features of cotton varieties namely; SVPR 2, SVPR 3 and SVPR 4 and possibilities of mechanization in cotton cultivation in order to reduce the cost of cultivation and to manage labour scarcity. Dr.M.Shanthi, Professor (Agrl. Entomology) explained proper usage of pesticide, IPM methods and answered farmers queries. Dr.R.Veeraputhiran, Assistant Professor (Agronomy) explained the importance of time of sowing and weedicide usage. Dr.M. Gnanasekaran, Assistant Professor (PB&G) detailed about varietal selection and Dr. K.Bharathi Kumar, Assistant Professor (PB&G) briefed about certified seed production. Dr.G.Gomadhi, Assistant Professor (SS&AC) emphasised the importance of soil test based fertilizer application and INM practices for getting higher yield and maintaining soil health for future generation. Dr.P.Mareeswary, Assistant Professor (Pathology), RRS, Aruppukottai discussed the integrated disease management in agricultural and horticultural crops.

HON'BLE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND PRO CHANCELLOR OF TNAU VISITED HC & RI (W), TRICHY



Honourable Minister for Agriculture, Government of Tamil Nadu and the Pro Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Thiru. Agri. S. S.Krishnamoorthy visited Horticultural College and Research Institute for Women located at Srirangam, Trichy on 03.08.2014. The Pro Chancellor visited the infrastructure facilities available in the college including administrative and academic building and hostel buildings.

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BLOOD DONATION CAMP



A Blood donation camp was organized by NSS unit of TNAU on 9.8.2014 in association with University Hospital and Blood bank of Coimbatore Medical College Hospital in the university hospital premises. The camp was inaugurated by Dr. S. Mahimairaja, Dean (Agriculture) (i/c) in the University Hospital. The Medical team comprising of House Surgeons, Medicos under the leadership of Dr. K. Palaniapan, Blood Bank incharge conducted the camp. NSS volunteers donated 40 units of blood for the noble cause of saving lives. Dr. A.Arulmozhi and Dr. P.S. Ramesh Babu, Medical Officers of TNAU participated in the programme. Arrangements for the programme were made by the NSS programme coordinator Dr. K. Kumutha, along with NSS programme officers, Dr. M.R. Latha, Dr. K. Hemaprabha, Dr. R. Paavendan, Dr. G. Guru, Dr. Valliammai and Dr. S. Varadharaj.

DENGUE FEVER AWARENESS PROGRAMME



NSS Volunteers numbering 150 of TNAU participated in the Dengue Fever Awareness Programme organized on 11.08.2014 by the, Directorate of Students' Welfare, TNAU and Coimbatore Corporation. Dr.N.Raghupathy,

Director (Students' Welfare) (i/c) initiated the programme and briefed about the vector borne diseases. Mr.K.V.Thirumal, Sanitary Inspector, Ward 21, Coimbatore Corporation, showed videos on means of spreading and effects of Dengue fever and initiative taken by the government of Tamil Nadu to control the disease and also spoke about the disease causing virus borne by a vector, infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquito and environment cleanliness. The volunteers were show a live specimen of larvae and pupa of mosquito and its multiplication in good water. Mr. M. Maruthachalam, Sanitary Officer, TNAU and Dr.M.R.Latha NSS Programme Officer organised the Programme.

WORKSHOP ON MMS



KVK,Aruppukottaiconductedaworkshop on Minor millets, Milk and Silk, (MMS) on 13.08.2014. In this Programme, 60 farmers and 20 government officials participated. Th.M.Rajendran, Assistant Professor welcomed the gathering, Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Professor and Head explained the present status about MMS in Virudhunagar district. Dr.K.A.Ponnusamy DEE (i/c), explained the MMS technology and importance of the workshop in terms of adopting the principles of doubling the production and tripling the income of the farmers.

Officials from the Departments of Agriculture, Animal husbandry and Sericulture also participated and shared their valuable experiences with the farming community. Dr.K.Ramakrishan, Assistant Professor (Agrl. Extension) spoke about the action plan for MMS and delivered a formal Vote of Thanks.

CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING PROGRAMME ON WATERSHED MANAGEMENT



A two days training programme cum exposure visit for user group members on “Watershed Management - issues and concerns of drought prone areas” under capacity building component of Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP II to X Projects) of Namakkal District was conducted at Water Technology Centre, Coimbatore between 31-7-2014 and 2-9-2014. Dr.B.J.Pandian, Director (i/c) (WTC) in the Inaugural Session emphasized the need for watershed development activities in the drought prone areas for sustainable development of agriculture.

The training was conducted in eight batches to benefit 700 user group members. The lectures in the training covered, Soil Water Conservation (SWC), Rain Water Harvesting (RWH), SRI method of Rice cultivation, Vermicomposting, Integrated Farming System (IFS), Micro irrigation and demonstrations of watershed management models. Dr.M.Chinnadurai, Director (i/c) (CARDS) participated in the valedictory function. Dr.A.Raviraj Professor (SWCE), Dr.P.Jothimani Asst.Prof (ENS), Dr.A.Valliammai, Asst.Prof (SWCE) organized the above training programme.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON EXTRA LONG STAPLE (ELS) COTTON CULTIVATION



Cotton Research Station, Veppanthattai organised an awareness programme on Extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton cultivation on 28.08.2014 in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, Perambalur. Thiru. Alagiriswamy, Joint Director of Agriculture, Perambalur stressed the importance of ELS cotton cultivation during the inaugural session of the training programme.

Dr. S. Sivakumar, Professor (PB&G) presented the characteristics of various ELS cotton varieties, Hybrids and Bt cotton hybrids and their suitability for cultivation in Perambalur District. Dr. R. Kavimani, Professor and Head made a Power Point presentation on the importance, constraints in ELS cotton cultivation and production technologies to get the maximum yield in ELS cotton. Dr. T. Anand, Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology) delivered a lecture on important insects and diseases causing yield loss in ELS cotton and their management.

An exhibition was organised on that occasion and more than 80 farmers from four blocks of Perambalur District participated. Tmt. Geetha, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Veppanthattai proposed a formal Vote of Thanks.

TRAINING ON MILKY MUSHROOM



A DBT sponsored milky mushroom training was conducted at Horticultural Research Station, Pechiparai on 04.08.2014 in which 20 farmers including rural youth and women participated. Dr. M. Jayasekhar, Principal Investigator of the scheme and Professor (Plant Pathology), Agricultural Research Station Kovilpatti described the purpose and benefit of the scheme in detail to the trainees. Dr. R. Kannan, Professor and Head, Horticultural Research Station, Pechiparai and Co-PI of the scheme explained the cultivation aspects of oyster mushroom and milky mushroom starting from the construction of mushroom shed and maintenance of mushroom bed until harvest.

Miss. Janani, Senior Research Fellow of the scheme demonstrated the mushroom bed preparation using paddy straw and spawn.

RELEASE OF BOOKLET ON SEED PRODUCTION



A booklet on seed production was prepared by the Seed Centre for the benefit of farm women entrepreneurs to gain knowledge on seed production techniques to produce and sell seeds. This booklet was released and AMMA SEEDS were distributed to the farm women entrepreneurs by the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Thiru. S.S. Krishnamoorthy during the Golden Jubilee function at AC & RI, Madurai on 19.08.2014. Fifty farmers and entrepreneurs participated in the programme and benefited.

Important visitors

- ◀ Dr. M. Rajendiran, IAS, Director of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam on 10.08.2014.
- ◀ Dr. S.R. More, Assistant Breeder, MPKV, Rahuri, Dr. Pradik Sathya, Senior scientist (Breeder) and Dr. K. Selvaraj, Scientist, Central Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Kolkatta visited Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai on 22.08.2014 to monitor the All India Network Project on Jute and Allied Fibres.

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