



TNAU NEWS

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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உறுக்கெல்லாம் உணவளிக்கும் உத்தம உழவர்களுக்கு
உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

World Environment Day - 2017



The World Environment Day 2017, organized by the Department of Environmental Science, Coimbatore was celebrated on 5.6.2017. "I am with nature" was the theme of the day. Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, presided over the function. The motivational speaker Dr. Jayanthasri Balakrishnan, Professor of English (Retired), PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore was the Chief Guest. She provoked the students by keeping a catalogue of thoughts like not to waste a single drop of water and food. She emphasized to inculcate use of proverbs among students. The emission checkup for two wheelers and planting of saplings of native tree species were the other major events. In memory of Late. Shri. Anil Madhav Dave (Former Union Environment Minister), tree saplings were also planted. About 200 two wheelers underwent emission checkup. Nearly 50 students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University participated in a 'Cycle rally' covering R.S. Puram and Lawley road with placards emphasizing environmental protection.

'Irrigation Water Saving' Programme

NABARD and Soil & Water Management Research Institute (SWMRI), Thanjavur organized three days training programme (07.06.2017 to 09.06.2017) on Capacity building and Adoption of Technology (CAT) on "Irrigation Water Saving". A group of 20 farmers from different blocks viz., Orathanadu, Ammapatti,

Thiruvaiyaru, Papanasam, Thanjavur district participated. Dr. N. Venkatesa Palanichamy,



Professor (ARM) and Dr. M. Nagarajan, Assistant Professor (SWC) of SWMRI, Thanjavur explained the need and objectives of the program. Dr. S. Porpavai, Professor and Head, SWMRI, Thanjavur delivered the Presidential Address. Dr. K. Samiayyan, Dean, (i/c), AC & RI Eachangkottai, Thanjavur delivered the Special Address. A training manual "Irrigation Water Saving" was released by Dr. K. Subramanian, NABARD (DDM), Thanjavur.

Besides, an exposure visit (08.06.2017 & 09.06.2017) to Amaravathy irrigation system in Govindapuram, Dharapuram Taluk and Parambikulam Aliyar Project (PAP) at Veruedampalayam of Palladam Taluk, Coimbatore district was arranged. The farmers also visited Water Technology Centre, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Kovai Pandhal Vegetable Growers Company and Jain irrigation farms.

'Training on Groundnut' at Pachamalai hills



Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sirugamani organized a pre - season training on integrated crop management practices, water conservation

and mechanization in groundnut as an operating project on Frontline Demonstration of Integrated Crop Management Practices in *Rabi*/Summer Groundnut under Tribal Sub Plan scheme. The training was conducted on 9.6.2017 at Top Senkattupatti tribal village.

Dr. R. Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, Sugarcane Research Station, Sirugamani welcomed. The Subject Matter Specialists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sirugamani spoke on water conservation techniques, field preparation methods, new high yielding varieties, integrated weed management, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest and disease management, groundnut sowing, harvesting, groundnut harvester, pod separation through seed drill and pod stripper for groundnut cultivation under rainfed and irrigated conditions. Around 30 tribal farmers of Pachamalai hills benefited.

‘Demonstration of millet mill’ at DARS, Chettinad



An awareness cum demonstration of ‘Improved Millet Mill’ developed by ICAR- Central Agricultural Engineering, Coimbatore - Regional Centre of CIAE, Bhopal was organized at DARS, Chettinad on 16.06.2017 at Sakottai Village, Karaikudi for the benefit of millet farmers. Dr. Aleksa Kudos, Senior Scientist, CIAE, ICAR, Coimbatore highlighted the various unit operations and processing of small millets. Dr.V.Thirupathi, Professor (FAPE), DARS, Chettinad explained the scope for development of novel products from millets with de-husking efficiency of 95 per cent and capacity of 100 kg/hour, found suitable for small millets at 10-12 per cent moisture content. Dr. T. Myrtle Grace, Professor and Head and Dr. P. Kannan, Assistant Professor, DARS, Chettinad, organized the event.

Training on ‘Advanced Maize Production Technologies’

The Maize Research Station, TNAU,



Vagarai along with Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF) and NABARD organized a training program on “Advanced Maize Production Technologies” on 16.06.2017 to Ariyalur farmers. Dr. K. Sethuraman, Professor and Head presided over the training programme and Dr. P. Thukkainannan, Assistant Professor (Agronomy) spoke on agronomic methods of maize production, Dr.N. Kumari Vinodhana, Assistant Professor, spoke on Origin, Botany and Value added products, Dr. R. Radha Jeyalakshmi, Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology) and Dr.N. M. Arivudainambi, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) spoke on plant protection aspects in maize production.

25th All India Mango show at RRS, Paiyur



The Regional Research Station, TNAU, Paiyur and District Collectorate, Krishnagiri District organized 25th All India Mango show cum exhibition at Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Krishnagiri from 17.06.2017 to 16.07.2017. Thiru. P.Balakrishna Reddy, Hon. Minister for Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences, Government of Tamil Nadu, inaugurated in the presence of Th. C.Kathiravan, I.A.S., District Collector, Krishnagiri District and Joint Director of Agriculture, Deputy Director of Horticulture and other Departmental Officials. Dr.S. Mohamed Jalaluddin, Professor and Head, RRS, Paiyur spoke. The valedictory function was held on 16.07.2017, presided by Thiru. C.Kathiravan, I.A.S., the District Collector. The first prize was awarded to RRS, Paiyur. Many mango varieties like Alphonso, Arkapuneet, Arka Aruna, Manjeera, Kalneelum, Banganapalli,

Bangalora, Kalepad, Mallika, Mulgoa, Himayuddin, KO8, Salem Bangalora and local variety were displayed.

‘Maize as alternative crop’ in Cauvery Delta zone.



Water Technology Centre, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Soil & Water Management Research Institute, Kattuthottam, Thanjavur organized a field exposure day programme on 21.06.2017 under Tamil Nadu Irrigation Agriculture and Modernization (TN-IAM) project at Vadakkur village, Orathanadu block, Thanjavur district to popularize the Maize crop as an alternative cropping system during *kuruvai* season in Cauvery delta zone. The programme was inaugurated and presided by Dr. V. Ravi, Director (*i/c*), TRRI, Aduthurai. Dr. S. Porpavai, Professor and Head, Soil & Water Management Research Institute (SWMRI), Kattuthottam, Thanjavur, Dr.SP. Ramanathan, Professor (Agronomy) and Programme Co-ordinator felicitated. Mr.K.Suresh, Co-ordinator, Broiler Co-ordination Committee (BCC), Palladam, Coimbatore spoke on the marketing details of Maize and signed MOU with TN-IAM project for the minimum assured price of Rs.14.50 per kilogram of Maize to the delta farmers. The participating farmers had interaction with the maize pioneer farmers of Cauvery Delta, Mr. Durairaj, Mr. Kathalingam and TNAU scientists. Dr. M. Nagarajan, Assistant Professor proposed the formal Vote of Thanks.

Training on ‘Problem soil management’



An off - campus training on problem soil management was conducted on 22.6.2017 at Santhapuram village of Manikandam block, Tiruchirappalli. Farmers prefer rice cultivation in these areas as it is suitable for rehabilitating

saline and alkaline soils. During the programme Dr.M.Ravi, the Programme Co-ordinator, emphasized necessity of increasing food grain production and yield increase through reclamation of problem soils and growing of salt tolerant crops. Dr. V.Dhanushkodi, Subject Matter Specialist (Soil Science) spoke on the properties and reasons for the development of saline and sodic soils and Dr. K.Padmadevi, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture) on importance of integrated crop management in salt affected soils. The exhibition was arranged with technical posters, charts, compost material and green manure seeds. Thiru. Ayyappan, Assistant Agriculture Officer of Manikandam block was also present. Around 30 progressive farmers participated.

‘Integrated Pest management’ training in Rice



An on - campus training on Integrated Pest management in Rice was conducted on 23.6.2017 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sirugamani to rice growers of Tiruchirappalli district. Dr.R.Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, SRS, Sirugamani spoke on importance of IPM in reducing the cost of cultivation, benefits to non-target organisms and environment. Further, rodent management through ITK's were explained to the participants. Use of pheromone traps for monitoring the insect pests and 'wonder trap' to trap rats were explained to the farmers. In this programme, 27 progressive rice growers benefited. Awareness on non-target effect of pesticides and Integrated Pest management in Paddy was created.

Inauguration of ‘Integrated Drip Automation Unit’

The Water Technology Centre, Coimbatore, installed Integrated Drip Automation Unit at crop cafeteria in Eastern block of TNAU on 27.6.2017. Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore presided the event. The drip automation is a system by which all the operations related to the supply of irrigation water and the fertilizer to the crop are carried out automatically with no or minimum manual



interventions. The unit possesses unique system to demonstrate all the types of automation viz., time, volume and sensor based in a single unit. fertigation scheduling for different crops can be standardized. The scientists of TNAU and staff from M/s. Jain Irrigation System Ltd., participated.

Training on 'Conservation, Cultivation and Post-harvest management of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants'



The Department of Medicinal and Aromatic Crops, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and the Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research (DMAPR), Gujarat organized a three-day training program on 'Conservation, Cultivation and Post-harvest Management of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants' at TNAU, Coimbatore from 28th to 30th June, 2017 for scientists and farmers of the region. Dr.K.Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University inaugurated and offered Presidential Address. Dr.P.Manivel, Director of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research,

Gujarat, Dr.M.Maheswaran, Director of Research(i/c), TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr.M.Jawaharlal, Dean (i/c) (Horticulture), Horticultural College and Research Institute, TNAU, Coimbatore felicitated. The training was organized to impart knowledge on improved varieties, technologies for enhancing the productivity of medicinal and aromatic crops, improved post-harvest techniques and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants. Dr.R.Nagaraja Reddy, Scientist, DMAPR, Gujarat proposed the formal Vote of Thanks. Scientists from Agricultural Universities in India and 50 progressive farmers from different regions of Tamil Nadu and neighboring states participated in the training program. The National Medicinal Plant Board, New Delhi extended financial support for conduct of the training program.

ICAR QRT team visited Nanotechnology Centre



The ICAR QRT team headed by Dr Gajendra Singh, DDG (Retired), visited the Department of Nano Science & Technology on 20.06.2017. The team was accompanied by Dr B.J. Pandian, Director(i/c), Water Technology Centre, Coimbatore. Dr. G.J. Janavi, Professor & Head, Nano Science and Technology, explained the activities of the Centre and highlighted the research outputs of nano-based processes and products developed by the Department that are likely to hit the farm gate at an early date. The team interacted with students, researchers and faculty members to get updates of the advanced research activities going on in the Department.

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