



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore - 641 003

TNAU NEWS

August 2021

VC's Desk...

Workshop on 'Emotional intelligence for personal and professional success' was organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the Directorate of Planning and Monitoring, TNAU, Coimbatore during 5-6th August, 2021. The centre also formally launched the Self-Paced Virtual Course on Dynamic Engagement of Language for Polishing Professional Communication on 27.08.2021.



Hon'ble Prime Minister's virtual address to the Nation on 'Roadmap to achieve USD 400 Billion Merchandise Export 2021-22' was telecasted by the Directorate of Agri Business Development on 06.08.2021 to the beneficiaries.

Training programmes on 'Watershed Planning and Agricultural Engineering Project Monitoring' using GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing with Open Source Software organized by the Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering and 'Non-conventional Energy Utilization in Agriculture' organized by the Department of Renewable Energy Engineering were inaugurated on 16.08.2021.

Inaugural function of online training programme on 'Video Production and Editing Techniques' was held at Digital Extension Innovation Lab (DEIL), Department of Agrl. Extension and Rural Sociology (AE&RS), Coimbatore on 19.08.2021.

International Webinar Series on 'Natural Resource Management for Agriculture- Potentials and Prospects' was



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Patron : Dr. N. Kumar
Vice-Chancellor
Chief Editor : Dr. J. Venkata Pirabu
Director, Planning & Monitoring
Editorial Committee : Dr. R. Kalpana
Associate Professor (Agronomy)
Dr. M. Kumar
Professor (Plant Breeding & Genetics)

organized by the Directorate of Natural Resource Management (DNRM), TNAU, Coimbatore during 23-27th August, 2021 in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of TNAU, Coimbatore wherein Laureates addressed the gathering.

Directorate of Agribusiness Development, TNAU, Coimbatore organized a Programme on Agricultural Exports funded by APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority), New Delhi on 26.08.2021.

The renovated building of the TNAU Press with modern machineries was inaugurated in the presence of University Officers on 26.08.2021. The First Trimester batch of Agriculture, Horticulture and Agrl. Engineering 1972 - 76/77 graduated from the University organized a meet as part of Golden Jubilee celebrations of TNAU during 28-29th August, 2021 in which I am also one of the members.

A fresh Memorandum of Understanding concerning the performance of the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Thanjavur, a Government of India Institute to ensure and maintain the updated standards in imparting Agricultural Education was signed on 10.08.2021. An MoU was signed between TNAU and Coromandel International Limited, Chennai on 23.08.2021 to conduct training programme on Neem based bio-pesticides in nine districts of Tamil Nadu.

Shri.J.C.Madhuswamy, Hon'ble Minister for Law, Parliamentary Affairs, Legislation and Minor Irrigation, Government of Karnataka visited TNAU, Coimbatore on 23.08.2021.

As Chairman, I participated in the Departmental Promotion Committee meeting at Sugarcane Breeding Institute on 02.08.2021. I participated in the MSSRF Board of Trustees meeting on 07.08.2021 through online. I participated in the Academic Council meeting on 27.08.2021.

More to come...

With wishes,



(N. Kumar)

Events Organized at TNAU Main Campus

Workshop on Emotional Intelligence for Personal and Professional Success

Workshop on Emotional intelligence for personal and professional success was organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the Directorate of Planning and Monitoring, TNAU, Coimbatore during 5-6th, August 2021. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor presided and deliberated on the significance of Emotional Intelligence to subside emotional outbursts and insisted on the dire need to control the temperament while dealing people at various



levels with cordiality and humility. Guest Speakers were Mr. R. Narasimha Iyengar, Corporate Trainer & Consultant and Dr. R. Deepa, Associate Professor & Head, Faculty of Human Resources, Chief Coordinator, PSG Center for Academic Research and Excellence, Coimbatore. Felicitations were offered by Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar and Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore. Dr. J. Venkata Pirabu, Director, Planning and Monitoring organized the sessions



and Dr. R. Kalpana, Associate Professor proposed a formal vote of thanks. Nearly 165 Scientists (2014 batch) and 57 Scientists of other batches participated both offline and online.



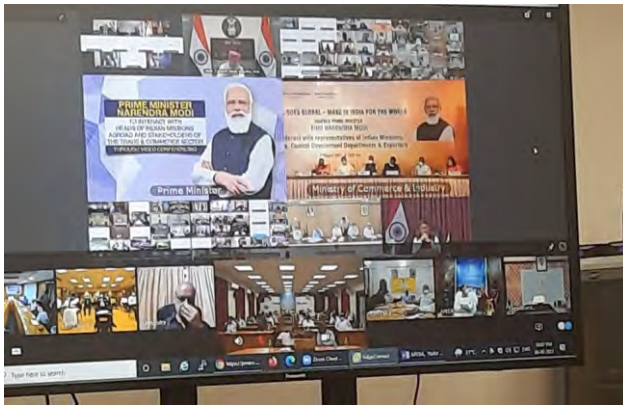
The centre also formally launched the Self-Paced Virtual Course on Dynamic Engagement of Language for Polishing Professional Communication on 27.08.2021. Dr.J.Venkata Pirabu, Director, Planning and Monitoring welcomed the gathering. Dr.S.D.Sivakumar, Director, Agri Business Development delivered the introductory note. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the programme. Dr. T. Raguchander, Dean, Centre for Students Welfare and Dr. B. Sridhar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore offered felicitations. Mr. Santhosh Karnananda, Chief Executive Officer, Global Consulting Services was the Resource person. Dr.C.Velavan, Associate Professor, DPM proposed vote of thanks. All the Deans of Constituent colleges, Heads of Departments besides II Year and III Year Students of all the Constituent Colleges attended the programme virtually.

PM's Virtual Meeting Attended

In view of the priority accorded by the Government of India and to provide impetus to expand export activity, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India held a virtual meeting on 'Roadmap to achieve USD 400 Billion Merchandise Export 2021-22' on 06.08.2021. The



meeting was attended by Union Ministers, Secretaries of concerned Ministries / Departments, all Indian Ambassadors / High Commissioners; Export Commissioners from States / UTs, Industry Organizations, Export Promotions Councils, Commodity Boards /



Authorities and all those had a connection with exports. In TNAU, this virtual meet was telecasted by the Directorate of Agribusiness Development, Coimbatore in which FPO members, Exporters, start-ups and faculty members participated.

Training Programme on Watershed Planning and Project Monitoring

Training programmes on 'Watershed Planning and Agricultural Engineering Project Monitoring' using GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing with Open Source Software organized by the Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering and 'Non-conventional Energy Utilization in Agriculture' organized by the Department of Renewable Energy Engineering were inaugurated on 16.08.2021 by Dr. N.Kumar,



Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.P.Subramanian, Professor and Head, Department of Renewable Energy Engineering welcomed. Er. B. Kumaresan, Executive Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Training Centre, Trichy and Mrs. R. Chitradevi, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore addressed the gathering. Dr. B. Shridar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore delivered felicitation address. Er. N. Unnikrishnan, Superintending Engineer (AE), AED, Coimbatore explained the use of GIS and renewable energy in Agriculture. Dr. K. Nagarajan, Professor and Head (SWCE) proposed vote of thanks.

Inauguration of Online IDP Training Programme on Video Production

The inaugural function of online training programme on 'Video Production and Editing Techniques' to enrich the knowledge and skills of UG and PG students was held at Digital Extension Innovation Lab (DEIL), Department of Agrl. Extension and Rural Sociology (AE&RS), Coimbatore on 19.08.2021 with funding from



ICAR-NAHEP-IDP, Directorate of Agri Business Development, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.P.Balasubramaniam, Professor and Head, AE&RS, welcomed the gathering. Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU, the Chief Guest of the function stressed the importance of video production and editing techniques for farm graduates in technology transfer. Dr. K.R. Ashok, Director, CARDS and Dr. M. Kalayansundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore emphasized the role of editing agricultural programmes and its effect on reaching the public. Dr. S.D. Sivakumar, Director, Agribusiness Development and Dr. J. Venkata Pirabu, Director, Planning & Monitoring spoke on the role of NAHEP-IDP in capacity building of farm graduates and production of Agrl. Video programmes and video modules respectively. Dr. S. Vara Buddhi Bhuvaneshwari, Assistant Professor (Extension) proposed vote of thanks.

International Webinar Series on Natural Resource Management for Agriculture

International Webinar Series on 'Natural Resource Management for Agriculture-Potentials and Prospects' was organized by the Directorate of Natural Resource Management (DNRM), TNAU, Coimbatore during 23-27th August, 2021 in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the webinar series and delivered the Presidential Address. He



highlighted the landmark achievements of the disciplines of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Agricultural Microbiology, Environmental Sciences, Remote Sensing and GIS and Nano Science and Technology towards scaling agricultural productivity. Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management), ICAR, New Delhi in his inaugural address emphasized the role of soil-water- energy nexus in the era of climate change. Mr. Hillel Magen, Former Director, International Potash Institute, Switzerland delivered the keynote address online from Israel. Dr. P. Murugesu Boopathi and Dr. K. Ramasamy, Former Vice-Chancellors of TNAU besides Dr. M. Velayutham, Former Director, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS & LUP), Nagpur delivered special addresses. The World Food Prize Laureate and Director, Carbon Management and Sequestration Centre, Dr. Rattan Lal, Ohio State University, USA and Laureate Professor Dr. Ravi Naidu, Founder Director, Global Centre for Environmental Remediation (GCER), University of New Castle, Australia deliberated. Besides several scientists of National and International repute delivered technical lectures. A book entitled 'Natural Resource Management Technologies for 2021' compiled by the Directorate of Natural Resource Management was released by the Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.R.Santhi, Director (DNRM), TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering and Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks. Dr. R. Santhi, the Director and team of scientists in the Directorate of Natural Resource Management, TNAU, Coimbatore organized the programme. Around 300 participants including scientists and research Scholars attended. Dr. P. Malarvizhi, Professor and Head (SS&AC), TNAU, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks.

Programme for Boosting Agricultural Exports in Tamil Nadu

Directorate of Agribusiness Development, TNAU, Coimbatore organized a Programme on Agricultural Exports funded by APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority), New Delhi on 26.08.2021. Dr. S.D. Sivakumar, Director, Agribusiness Development welcomed



the gathering. The presidential address was given by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU Coimbatore. Dr.M.Angamuthu I.A.S, Chairman, APEDA, New Delhi delivered a special lecture. Major events including signing MoU between TNAU and APEDA, exhibition on agricultural



exports by FPOs, start-ups and Exporters besides a Capacity building programme on Agricultural Exports were organized. Directors / CEOs of FPOs across Tamil Nadu engaged in exports or interested in exports, start-ups and exporters and Government officials related in agricultural exports and faculty members, TNAU participated in the programme.

Renovated and Modernized TNAU Press Inaugurated

The TNAU Press metamorphosed from Letter Press to Rotary Press to Mono Colour Offset Press till 2018 and is presently in a new form. The building was renovated with modern look and transformed as a place of learning for visiting students and general public. Educational Displays depicting the printing chronology,



TNAU Press printout and exhibits of Binding gadgets were created along with a Vintage Room having Oldest Offset Machine as an attraction point.



A Hologram Projection was also made to explain the colour concepts used in the printing industry. Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU inaugurated the renovated building and commissioned the modern machineries in the presence of University Officers on 26.08.2021. Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Director, Directorate of Extension Education, Dr. Ravikumar Theodore, Professor and Head, Training Division and Dr. S. Raguraman, Professor, TNAU Press organized.

TNAU Golden Jubilee Celebrations: First Trimester Batch Alumni Meet

The First Trimester batch of Agriculture, Horticulture and Agrl. Engineering 1972 - 76/77 met during 28-29th August, 2021 as part of Golden Jubilee celebrations of TNAU. The Alumni cherished the objective to 'Re Live the Life' had in TNAU and hostel. As a humble token of gesture



and gratitude to the Alma mater, alumni installed a life size statue of a Farmer with a Plough made of brass, mounted on a podium of 4 feet from the ground in the Botanical garden. The Monument was unveiled by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor who also belongs to the same batch. They also visited Kallar Research station and



Forest College & Research Institute, Mettupalayam for an exposure learning on Agro Forestry. The replica of iconic RI building made of wood was gifted to all members as a Memoir.

MoU Signed

Memorandum of Understanding with IIFPT

A fresh Memorandum of Understanding concerning the performance of the Indian



Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Thanjavur, a Government of India Institute to ensure and maintain the updated standards in imparting Agricultural Education was signed on 10.08.2021 by Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore and Dr. C. Anandharamakrishnan, Director, IIFPT, Thanjavur in the presence of Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. M. Asokhan, Deputy Registrar (Affiliation) and other officials of IIFPT were also present.

TNAU Signed MoU with Coromandel International

In connection with the Research Project on 'Neem based Bio-Pesticides and Assessment of its Impact and Future Potential' sponsored by the Coromandel International limited, Chennai, an MoU was signed between TNAU and Coromandel International Limited, Chennai on 23.08.2021 to conduct training programme on Neem based bio-pesticides in nine districts of Tamil Nadu. The MoU was signed by Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU and



Mr. L.K. Baburaj, Head, Business Division on behalf of Coromandel International Limited, Chennai in the presence of Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. K.R. Ashok, Director, CARDS, Dr. P. Balasubramaniam, Professor & Head, Dept. of AE&RS, TNAU, Coimbatore and PI of the Project, Dr.P.S.Shanmugam and Dr.R.Parimalrangam Co-PIs of the project and Dr.R.Pushpavalli of Coromandel International.

Important Visitors

Visit of Hon'ble Minister, Government of Karnataka to TNAU, Coimbatore

Central Farm Unit

Shri.J.C.Madhuswamy, Hon'ble Minister for Law, Parliamentary Affairs, Legislation and Minor Irrigation, Government of Karnataka visited TNAU, Coimbatore on 23.08.2021. Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Director, Crop



Management accompanied the Minister to the Wetland Farms, Vermicompost Production Unit, and Oxygen Park with Beema Bamboo Plantation. Dr. C.R. Chinnamuthu, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy detailed the processes involved in the accelerated vermicompost production technology and different machineries and infrastructure facilities. The scientists of the Central farm unit coordinated the visit.

Department of Fruit Science

The important research accomplishments in banana and papaya, Ultra High Density



Planting (UHDP) in mango, Cultivation aspects of Dragon Fruit and Arid Zone Fruit Crops were highlighted to the Hon'ble Minister by Dr. L. Pugalendhi, Dean and Dr. M.S. Aneesa Rani, Professor & Head, Department of Fruit Science, HC&RI, Coimbatore. The Hon'ble Minister visited the demonstration blocks raised with Dragon Fruit and UHDP in mango established and maintained by the Department of Fruit Science, TNAU, Coimbatore.

Events Organized outside TNAU Main Campus

Hi-Tech Mango Planting and Solar Fencing Inaugurated at ARS, Bhavanisagar

The Hi-Tech planting system of mango at Thoppampalayam block of Agricultural Research Station, Bhavanisagar was inaugurated by Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore on 12.08.2021. Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean, HC&RI, Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research and Dr.S.Panneerselvam, Director, Water Technology Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore also graced the inaugural function. The mango varieties viz., Himampasand, Banesan,



Bangalora and Salem Bangalora were planted in the model and planted at a distance of 4m x 3m spacing. All the staff of ARS, Bhavanisagar participated in the function.



The dignitaries also commissioned the solar fencing erected in Pungar block. Different types of fencing like Offset, Vertical and two line solar fencing (over the old chain link fencing) were made in the boundary.

Diploma in Agri Inputs Award Ceremony

Award Ceremony for the students of 2020-2021 batch from Madurai, Theni, Killikulam and Thirupathisaram Centres who completed Diploma in Agri Inputs programme was held at AC&RI, Madurai on 17.08.2021. The programme was presided by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. V.K. Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Dr. S. Amutha, Dean, CSC & RI, Madurai and Dr. M. Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning offered felicitations. Mr. M. Mohan, State President, Tamil Nadu Agro Input Dealers Association and Mr. M. Sathiyamoorthy, State Secretary were the



special invitees. The Vice-Chancellor in his presidential address highlighted the role of Agri Input Dealers in farming and the welfare of the farmers as they are directly in contact with the farmers and said that through the Diploma in Agri Inputs programme, they would be able to deliver the correct recommendations to the farmers. He also announced that refresher courses will be offered to Agri Input Dealers by the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning and the Directorate of Extension Education. Totally, 136 Diploma in Agri Inputs candidates received the Diploma certificates and Awards were given to all the first and second rank holders from each ODL centre. Heads of the Departments and Faculty of AC&RI, Madurai and CSC & RI, Madurai attended the programme. Dr. K. Mahandrakumar, Professor and Head, Department of Agril. Extension and Rural Sociology, AC&RI, Madurai welcomed the gathering. Dr. B. Anita, Professor (ODL), TNAU, Coimbatore proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Entomology Laboratory Inaugurated at AC&RI, Madurai

'Botanical Extraction and Formulation Laboratory' established at Insectary, Department of Agricultural Entomology, Agricultural College and Research Institute (AC&RI), Madurai was inaugurated by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, in the presence of Dr. V.K. Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai and Dr. S. Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI, Madurai on 17.08.2021. This laboratory was established



utilizing the funds from FMC, GoTN-FAW scheme and Dean, SPGS-SSS and is equipped with the instruments required to extract and formulate botanicals. Dr. M. Shanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Entomology explained the facilities available and the formulations developed were exhibited. Vice-Chancellor released a pamphlet highlighting the usage of various instruments available in this laboratory. In addition, an exhibition on 'Economic Entomology' was also inaugurated.



Vice-Chancellor also visited the Common Incubation site funded under the Prime Minister Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme for 'Establishing Common Incubation Centre for Dhal, Fruits and Vegetable Processing' at AC&RI, Madurai. Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, Community Science College and Research, Madurai accompanied.

Board of Studies (Agricultural Engineering) at AEC&RI, Kumulur

The Fifty second meeting of the Board of studies (Agrl. Engineering) was convened at AEC&RI, Kumulur on 18.08.2021. Dr.V.Thirupathi, Dean AEC&RI, Kumulur and Chairman, BoS (Agrl. Engg.) welcomed the gathering and presented the agenda. Dr. B. Shridar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore, Dr. K. Soorianathasundaram, Controller of Examinations (Online mode), Heads of Department from AEC&RI, Coimbatore and

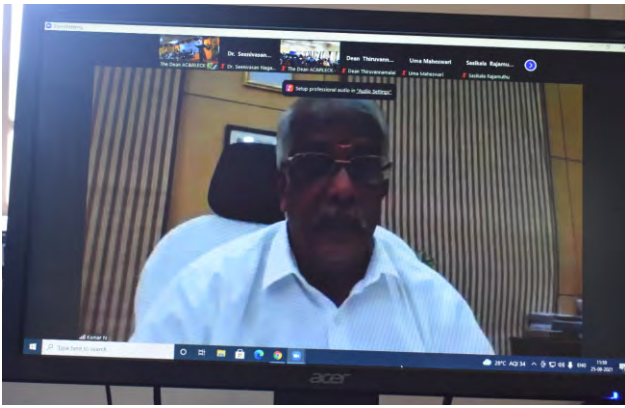


AEC&RI, Kumulur and other members of Board of Studies participated and offered their remarks. The External Experts Dr.P.R.Jayan, Professor & Head, Dept. of Farm Machinery & Power Engineering, Kerala Agricultural University, Kerala and Dr. Udaykumar Nidoni, Professor and Head, Dept. of Processing and Food Engg., College of Agricultural Engineering, UAS, Raichur (Online mode) appreciated the healthy deliberations. Dr. B. Shridar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks.

International Conference on Plant Protection for Vegetable Cultivation

Agricultural College and Research Institute (AC&RI), Eachangkottai organized an International Conference on 'Emerging Trends in Plant Protection for sustainable Vegetable Cultivation' during 25-26th August, 2021 in commemoration of Golden Jubilee year of TNAU. Dr. A. Velayutham, Dean, AC&RI, Eachangkottai, welcomed the gathering. The Conference was virtually inaugurated by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU,





Coimbatore. Shri. T. Venkatakrishna, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Chennai and Dr. K. Prabakar, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore offered felicitations. Totally, 12 technical sessions on 12 different themes were organized. There were 19 plenary and keynote speakers, 41 oral presentations and 83 poster presentations through online and offline mode. For the Valedictory session, Dr. C. Anandha ramakrishnan, Director, Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Thanjavur was the Chief Guest and Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU was the Guest of Honour. Dr.V.Ambethgar, Director, Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai felicitated. The organizing secretary Dr.A.Thirumurugan, Professor and Head, Department of Crop Protection, AC&RI, Eachangkottai presented the technical report. Dr.A.Kalyanasundaram, Associate Professor (Entomology) proposed vote of thanks. Around 170 delegates from various Universities all over the world participated through online and offline mode.



In remembrance of this Conference, a mass coconut seedling planting programme was organized. Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Dr.L.Pugalendi, Dean, HC&RI, Dr.K.Prabakar, Director, CPPS, Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, ODL, Dr.S.Mohankumar, Director, CPMB, Dr.T.Raghuchander, Dean, CSW, TNAU, Coimbatore planted coconut seedlings. Apiary unit established under FMC fund was also inaugurated in this occasion.

Solar Fencing and Coconut Research Programme Inaugurated at AC&RI, Killikulam

Vice-Chancellor, TNAU visited Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam on 18.08.2021 and inspected various farms such as wetlands, garden lands and newly developed farm areas. Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the newly established solar fencing facilities, renovated farmers hostel, automatic weather station, farm service and refreshment centre, insect proof net house, computer centre, language laboratory and smart class room



facilities of AC & RI, Killikulam. He had discussions with Heads of Departments and faculty. He advised the faculty to improve the quality of education and research in line with the current needs and insisted to follow Covid-19 precautions.



Strengthened coconut seedlings development by developing elite natural tall coconut hybrids was inaugurated and the first seedling was planted by Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore followed by Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Aiyathan, Dean and other staff members of AC&RI, Killikulam. This research programme was initiated at this college to develop more vigorous elite natural tall coconut hybrids for commercial cultivation by planting 10 selected tall available from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and allowing them for panmixis in isolation. Through this elite coconut plantation, elite natural T x T hybrid seedlings can be produced and supplied to the farmers. This is a pioneering attempt in coconut carried out for the first time in Asia.

Awards Obtained

TNAU bagged the Award for Excellence in Mushroom Research

The ICAR - All India Coordinated Research Project on Mushroom is functioning at the Department of Plant Pathology, TNAU, Coimbatore since 1983. Various research activities including collection and development of mushroom varieties of oyster, milky, butter



and medicinal mushrooms are being conducted. TNAU is also imparting training programmes on mushroom cultivation to farmers, woman self help groups, educated youths for developing entrepreneurship. Recognizing the significant achievements, TNAU has been awarded with Overall Outstanding Contribution Award at National Level by the Directorate of Mushroom Research, Solan of ICAR at the Annual workshop held online during 6-7th August, 2021. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice- Chancellor appreciated and motivated the scientists to expedite intensive research on mushroom to achieve much more greater heights in the coming years.

Thiruvarur District Collector awarded the Scientists of KVK, Needamangalam

Two TNAU scientists of KVK, Needamangalam namely Dr.A.Anuratha, Asst. Prof (Soil Science) and Dr.V.Radhakrishnan, Assistant Professor (Agrl. Entomology) were presented with Appreciation Certificate by Tmt.B.Gayathri Krishnan, District Collector, Thiruvarur at the 75th Independence Day





Function held on 15.08.2021. The recognition was given to felicitate the services rendered by both the scientists to solve soil and plant protection related problems of Thiruvavur farmers.

Extension Activities Organized

CAT Training Programme organized by AC&RI, Eachangkottai

AC&RI, Eachangkottai, Thanjavur organized 3 three days Training programmes for the farmers of Thanjavur district at M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Thiruvaiyaru and Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai to create awareness and popularize the use of biofertilizer and biocontrol agents during 3-19th August, 2021. The training programme funded by NABARD, Thanjavur under Capacity Building for Adoption of Technology (NABARD - CAT) programme was inaugurated by Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean, AC&RI, Eachangkottai and special address was delivered by Shri.K.Balamurugan, District Development



Manager (DDM), NABARD, Thanjavur. Dr.V.Ambethgar, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai delivered special address. Technical sessions and exposure visit were organized by the scientists of AC & RI, Eachangkottai and TRRI, Aduthurai. Totally, 100 farmers participated and benefited.

Farmers Awareness cum Training on Ground Water Contamination

Farmers' Awareness cum Training Programme on Groundwater Contamination and Mitigation Measures was organized by the Water Technology Centre, TNAU at Muthaiyanpatti village, Kundadam block, Tirupur district 09.08.2021. Dr.S.Panneerselvam, Director, Water Technology Centre delivered the Inaugural address and explained about groundwater contamination and its impact on



the food chain. Dr.M.Elayarajan, Associate Professor (SS & AC), WTC spoke about Fluoride contamination, remedial measures and its impact on agriculture. The awareness cum training programme was sponsored by ICAR under the scheme of Agri-Consortia Research Platform on Water 'Groundwater contamination due to geogenic factors and industrial effluents and its impact on food chain'. Totally, 50 farmers from Kundadam block attended and benefited.

Foundation Day Celebrated at KVK, Needamangalam

The 17th Foundation Day of KVK, Needamangalam was celebrated on 10.08.2021. As a part of celebration, a Seminar on



Management of Rugose Spiralling White fly was organized. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the event online and greeted the team of scientists for their excellent work which has transformed the KVK as one of the best performing KVKs in TNAU. Dr.M.Jawahar, Director of Extension Education, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr.V.Ambethgar, Director, Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai and Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean, AC & RI, Eachangkottai offered felicitations. Former Heads of the KVK including Dr.V.Ravi, Founder Head and Retired Professor (Agronomy) and Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Dean, AC & RI, Kudumiyanmalai felicitated. An Exhibition on the management of Coconut Rugose White fly was arranged. Dr.M.Ramasubramanian, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Needamangalam made arrangements and welcomed the gathering. Dr.A.Anuratha, Assistant Professor (Soil Science) proposed vote of thanks.

Distribution of Medicinal Plants (Sirukurujan) to Tribals in Usilampatti

Department of Biotechnology, AC & RI, Madurai organized a training programme on cultivation of medicinal plant (sirukurujan) for the tribal people in Kurinji Nagar, Dottappanaickanur, Usilampatti on 13.08.2021 under the State Planning Commission sponsored project on 'Empowering socially-challenged sector of Usilampatti through advanced medicinal plants cultivation and value addition'.



The programme was chaired by Mr. S. Durairaj, District Planning Officer Cum Panchayat Secretary, Madurai. Mr.B.Balamuruga Maharaja, Panchayat President and Mrs. Ramya, VAO participated and distributed the seedlings. Dr.R.Renuka, Associate Professor and Head (i/c) & Project Director, Department of Biotechnology, Centre of Innovation, AC & RI, Madurai organized the programme.

Training for farmers on Soil Test and Fertilization

On the occasion of 75th year of Independence and commemoration of Golden Jubilee celebration of TNAU, an online training on 'Soil Test and Yield Target Based Fertilization for Sustainable Soil Health' was organized on 15.08.2021 by the scientists working in All India Coordinated Research Project-Soil Test Crop Response scheme (AICRP-STCR), Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry (SS&AC), DNRM in collaboration with Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal. Dr.Pradip Dey, Project Coordinator, AICRP-STCR, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal in his inaugural address accentuated the soil test based fertilizer application and adoption of the same in drip fertigation to attain higher fertilizer and water use efficiency. Dr.R.Santhi, Director, DNRM emphasized the importance of soil testing and the adoption of STCR-IPNS based fertilizer prescriptions. Dr.P.Malarvizhi, Professor and Head (SS&AC), Dr.S.Maragatham, Associate Professor (SS&AC) and other scheme scientists delivered technical

lectures. Totally, 20 farmers participated virtually.

Training Programme on Grain Amaranth and Oyster Mushroom

In order to uplift the livelihood of farm women / women SHG of Pudukkottai district, NABARD sponsored CAT (Capacity building for Adoption of Technology) Training programmes on 'Grain amaranth cultivation and Value addition' and 'Oyster Mushroom Production Technology' were organized at AC & RI, Kudumiyamalai during 17-20th August, 2021. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Dean delivered the presidential address and emphasized the importance of traditional food habits and role of



grain amaranth and oyster mushroom as food, followed by special address by all the Heads of Departments. Technical lectures were delivered. Ms.S.Jayasree, DDM, NABARD, Pudukkottai in her special address highlighted the role of women in agriculture and types of agricultural loans provided from NABARD Bank. Hands on training and field visit were also conducted. A total of 66 farm women and women self help group participated.

Parthenium Awareness Week Observed

TNAU Main Campus

To create awareness amongst the general public, farmers, school and college students and policy makers and planners about the impact of the obnoxious parthenium weed and how to



manage this weed, 'Parthenium awareness week' was observed between 16th and 22nd August 2021 by the AICRP Weed Management Unit, Department of Agronomy, TNAU, Coimbatore. A webinar on ill effects of Parthenium was organized for the Under Graduate and Post Graduate students of TNAU. On second day, the famers of Periyakumarapalayam, Erode district were sensitized about Parthenium and leaflets on Parthenium were distributed to the farmers and public and *Zygogramma* beetles were released in the Parthenium infested areas. An awareness meeting was organized at Public Park of Bhavanisagar Dam wherein Dr.C.R.Chinnamuthu, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy, Dr.P.Murali Arthanari, Associate Professor (Agronomy) and PI, AICRP on Weed Management, TNAU explained about the ill effects of Parthenium and its management. A sensitization programme was also organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sandhiyur, Salem District on 19.08.2021. The programmes were organized and coordinated by the scientists of AICRP Weed Management Unit.

AC&RI, Kudumiyamalai

An awareness and sensitization programme on Parthenium as a component of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was conducted on 18.08.2021 by the Department of Crop Management, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyamalai. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Dean sensitized about the menace of Parthenium which is responsible for causing health problems



in human beings and animals, besides deteriorating environment, loss of productivity and biodiversity. Dr.N.Senthil Kumar, Assistant Professor (Agronomy) briefed about the prevention, eradication, making compost and other management practices of obnoxious parthenium weed. Around 50 women self-help group members participated in the one day parthenium free campus awareness programme. Besides staff and workers of this institute also participated. Farm unit of the college made all arrangements for the programme.

Farmers Trained with Sustainable Weed Management

To create awareness among the farmers about sustainable weed management methods for field crops, hands on training programme was organized under auspicious of Indian Society of Weed Science, Tamil Nadu Chapter at



Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sandhiyur, Salem District on 19.08.2021. Dr. C.R. Chinnamuthu, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy, TNAU and Vice President, Indian Society of Weed Science

presided. Dr. P. Murali Arthanari, Associate Professor (Agronomy) and Joint Secretary, Indian Society of Weed Science (ISWS) demonstrated the herbicide application methods. Dr. M. Vijayakumar, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Sandhiyur participated. Dr.M.Malarkodi, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK, Sandhiyur proposed vote of thanks. Around 75 farmers attended the programme and interacted with the scientists.



Department of Agronomy also conducted a training programme on 'Integrated Weed Management' to scheduled caste farmers under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan of ICAR at Chiththalamputur, Srivilliputhur on 27.08.2021. The scheduled caste coconut farmers were trained with herbicidal weed management in the cropped and non cropped areas.

This programme was presided by Dr.C.R.Chinnamuthu, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy. Mrs.L.Muthulakshmi, Assistant Director of Agriculture and Dr.Veeraputhiran, Associate Professor and Head, Cotton Research Station, Srivilliputhur delivered special address. Dr.P.Murali Arthanari, Associate Professor and Principal Investigator, AICRP Weed Management organized the programme. Dr.K.Thiyagu, Assistant Professor (Plant Breeding) proposed vote of thanks. Around 50 farmers participated and benefited.

Farmers' Meeting on Mealybug Management in Cassava

Farmers Interactive meeting and demonstration on cassava mealy bug management was organized at Tapioca and Castor Research Station (TCRS), Yethapur in collaboration with Department of Horticulture, Salem on 24.08.2021. Dr.S.R.Venkatachalam, Professor and Head, TCRS, Yethapur welcomed the gathering. Thiru.S.Karmegam,



District Collector, Salem presided and delivered the Presidential address, Special addresses on Cassava mealybug problem in Salem District were delivered by Thiru.K.Ganesan, Joint Director of Agriculture, Salem and Mrs.V.Sathya, Deputy Director of Horticulture,



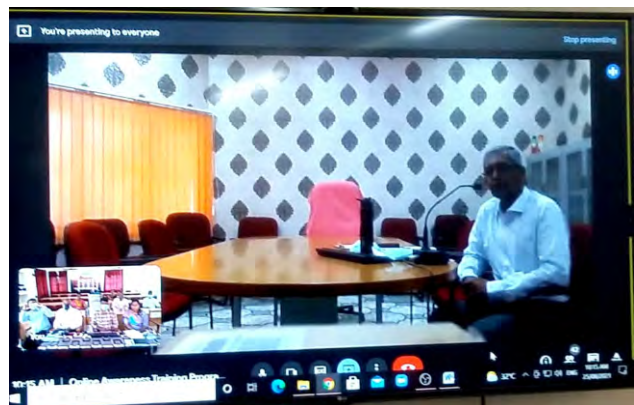
Salem. Technical sessions, exhibition and method demonstration were arranged on cassava mealybug management by scientists of TCRS. Vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs.S.Selvamani, Deputy Director & PA (Agri) to Collector. Department officials from Agriculture, Horticulture and Agricultural Engineering besides around 50 farmers participated.



This centre also organized another farmers' interactive meeting cum demonstration on cassava mealy bug management on 28.08.2021, which was presided over by Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore, Dr.K.Prabakar, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies and Dr.N.Sathaiah, Professor and Head, Department of Entomology, TNAU, Coimbatore deliberated on mealy bug management. Around 50 farmers participated and interacted with the scientists.

Awareness Training Programme on Export Opportunities in Agriculture

Awareness training programme on 'Export opportunities in Agriculture' was organized during 25-26th August, 2021 at Department of Social Sciences, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam in collaboration with EDII-Killikulam Agribusiness Incubation Forum, Killikulam. Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Aiyathan, Dean, AC&RI, Killikulam delivered the special address. Mr.N.Moosa





Kaleemullah, Export Consultant, Horizon Training Academy, Coimbatore; Mr.S.Sivaraman, Consultant and Trainer, Export procedures and documentation, Chennai; Dr.R.Senthilkumar, Professor and Head, Department of Social Sciences, AC&RI, Killikulam explained various export opportunities to stake holders in Agriculture. Mrs.M.Jeevitha, Chief Executive Officer, EDII-KABIF proposed vote of thanks. Around 203 farmers including Chief Executive Officers (CEO) of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) participated.

SBGF training on Backyard Poultry Rearing

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri conducted a Training programme on 'Scientific management of improved backyard poultry rearing' under SBGF project on 'Livestock support and nutritional security of tribal women through improved backyard poultry rearing in Dharmapuri district' of Tamil Nadu at Kombur village, Pappireddypatty block, Dharmapuri on 25.08.2021. Dr.C.Sivakumar, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Dharmapuri welcomed the



participants. Thiru.M.Marimuthuraj, District Planning Officer, Dharmapuri and Thiru.K.Athimulam, Statistical Officer, District Planning Cell, Dharmapuri addressed the gathering. Veterinary scientists of KVK and Veterinary University Training and Research Centre, Dharmapuri explained the management of backyard poultry disease and vaccination schedule. Around 40 tribal women attended the training programme and interacted with the scientists. This centre also conducted a veterinary health camp for sheep, goat and milch cows at Pattayapatty village, Palacode block on 27.08.2021. Around 42 cattle, 66 sheep and goat and 460 poultry were given treatment at the camp.

Farmers Training on Canopy Management in Mango

Farmers' training on 'Canopy management in mango' was organized at the Regional Research Station, Paiyur on 27.08.2021. Dr.V.Jayachandra Banu Reddy, District Collector, Krishnagiri inaugurated the programme. Dr.P.Parasuraman, Professor and Head explained about the activities of the Mango Research Centre. Dr.L.Jeeva Jothi, Professor



(Horticulture) gave a practical demonstration on pruning and training practiced in mango. The use of manual and power operated pruners were demonstrated. Technical lectures were delivered by the scientists of the centre. More than 50 farmers from Krishnagiri and Tirupattur districts participated in the training.

Zonal Level Training on Weather Forecasting at ARS, Kovilpatti

Zonal level training on Weather Forecast and Agromet Advisory bulletin preparation for Department officials was organized by Agricultural Research Station, Kovilpatti on 27.08.2021. Thiru. M.S.N. Selvaraj, Joint Director of Agriculture, Thoothukudi district was the Chief Guest. Dr. K. Baskar, Professor and Head addressed the gathering. Technical lectures were delivered by the scientists of the centre. Totally, 32 Department officials in the cadres of Deputy



Directors, Assistant Directors of Agriculture, Agricultural officers and Deputy Agricultural officers from Thoothukudi district participated.

Demonstration on Mechanized Sowing and Spraying at CRS, Veppanthattai

Mechanized sowing and insecticide spraying in cotton was demonstrated at CRS, Veppanthattai for farmers and extension officials on 17.08.2021. Dr.S.Somasundaram, Associate Professor and Head of the station highlighted the



increasing interest of farmers in planting cotton under high density system for which he suggested the use of good precision pneumatic seed drill. This seed drill can cover 1 acre per hour. The mechanized spraying machine can be operated in standing crop which covers one acre in 40 minutes. Mr. Elumalai, Deputy Director of Agriculture also stressed the importance of mechanization in cotton cultivation for increasing cotton area both in Perambalur and Ariyalur districts.

Students' Activities

Inauguration of Rotaract Club of AC&RI and CSC&RI, Madurai

Inauguration of the Rotaract Club 2021 of AC&RI and CSC&RI, Madurai was organized on 02.08.2021 through virtual mode. Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai and Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI, Madurai marked their presence along with the Rtn. Rajee Dhanasekaran, President, Rotary Club, Madurai west. Rotaract Club Staff Coordinator



Dr.C.Vanniarajan, Professor and Head, Plant Breeding and Genetics welcomed and introduced the new president of Rotary Club of Madurai West, Rtn. Rajee. Rtn. Ragul, President, Rtn.Anagha Pradeep, Secretary, Rotaract club 2020 summed up their club activities and shared their experiences. The newly appointed President Mr.R.Hariharan and new secretary Ms.E.K.Keerthanna, III year UG students of the Institution took their oath. Dr.S.Thiruvudainambi, Staff Advisor, AC&RI, Madurai and Dr. P. P. Parimalam, Staff Advisor, CSC & RI, Madurai through their encouraging speech made a request to come with innovative ideas to serve the society. The ceremony was wrapped up with an energetic poetry by Ms. Cindrella followed by vote of thanks by Rtn. Divyabharathi.

Avenue Tree Planting at AC&RI, Killikulam

The alumni belonging to the first batch of B.Sc. (Ag.) students who passed out from AC & RI, Killikulam in 1988 engaged themselves in a green initiative by planting tree seedlings at AC & RI, Killikulam. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the avenue tree planting programme on 18.08.2021 by planting the first tree seedling in the campus. This programme is part of the Golden Jubilee Year celebrations (1971-2021) of the University. The Vice-Chancellor opined that it must be a 'Tree care programme' rather than 'Tree planting programme'. Moreover, such programmes will motivate more alumni of the college to plant trees



and the campus will soon turn into a beautiful garden. Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Aiyanathan, Dean, AC & RI, Killikulam arranged the programme and Thiru.Gangadharan Kaveri, Indaena India Pvt. Ltd., Dr.S.Chinnadurai, former Senior Scientist, ICAR and the Managing trustee of the Green Super Killies Trust planted tree seedlings. Dr.M.R.Srinivasan, Professor and Head, Dept of Agrl. Entomology, AC & RI, Killikulam, Dr.R.Selvarajan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NRC Banana, Trichy and Dr.P.Manivel, Principal Scientist, ICAR- CTRI, Veda sandur were also the other members of that batch. The programme was attended by staff members and PG students of the college.



Vice Chancellor also launched an Android Mobile App 'TNAU Statistics Quiz' at AC&RI, Killikulam. This Android App was developed by Dr.R.Gangai Selvi, Assistant Professor (Statistics), Department of Social Sciences, AC&RI, Killikulam with Dr.J.Arockia Stephen Raj, Assistant Professor (Computer Science) and Ms.C.Dhivya, IV B.Tech. (AIT), TNAU, Coimbatore sponsored under TNAU-DABD-IDP. Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Aiyanathan, Dean, AC&RI, Killikulam, Dr. B.Sridhar, Dean, AEC & RI, Coimbatore and Dr. S. D. Sivakumar, Director (ABD), TNAU, Coimbatore appreciated the team efforts. This App deals with the different levels of MCQ Quiz with description based exclusively on ICAR-JRF Agricultural Statistics Syllabus. The Android mobile App satisfies the aspirants of National level ICAR-JRF

Examination, UG and PG students of all the disciplines of TNAU.

Independence Day Celebrations

TNAU Main Campus, Coimbatore

The 75th Independence Day was celebrated at TNAU, Coimbatore on 15.08.2021. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU hoisted the National flag and delivered the Independence Day address. The Vice-Chancellor inspected the Independence Day parade by NCC cadets and NCC Officers of the University. He also distributed prizes and certificates to the NSS volunteers who won in the competitions earlier conducted. The Vice-Chancellor hoisted the



National flag at Century old Madras Agricultural Students Union also. The University Officers, Scientists, Staff, Students, NCC cadets, NSS volunteers and school children of TNAU campus participated in the celebration.

AC&RI, Killikulam, Vallanad

The 75th Independence Day was celebrated at AC&RI, Killikulam, Vallanad.



Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Aiyathan, Dean hoisted the Flag and delivered Independence Day address. The Heads of Departments, faculties, non- teaching staff and farm workers participated in the programme. School students and children of staff sung patriotic songs and performed cultural programmes.

AC & RI, Kudumiyanmalai

The 75th Independence Day was celebrated at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyanmalai on 15.08.2021. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Dean hoisted the national flag at the college ground stadium and distributed sweets. He paid tributes to all the martyrs who suffered and sacrificed for the noble cause of our country's freedom. All the teaching, non teaching, farm workers and other supporting staff members took part at the event by strictly adhering COVID protocol.



This Institute also celebrated National Library Day on 12.08.2021 to mark the birth day of S.R.Ranaganathan, popularly known as Father of Library Science. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Dean



motivated the students to utilize the library facilities for enlarging their ambit of learning. As a part of celebration of the event, online speech competition both in Tamil and English on the topic 'Role of Library in shaping our personality' was organized for the students. Totally 49 students enrolled and participated in the competition. Heads of Departments and other teaching faculties of the college were present.

AC &RI, Eachangkottai

During the Independence day celebration at AC&RI, Eachangkottai Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean hoisted the national flag and delivered presidential address highlighting



the struggles and sacrifice of freedom fighters to get independence, remarkable growth of independent India and shared the latest achievements of our nation in Tokyo Olympic Games 2021. All the teaching and non-teaching staff, students, farm workers and families of staff

and students participated following the SOP procedures. Mass planting of native tree species was carried out by the participants as a part of independence day celebration.

AEC&RI, Kumulur

Agricultural Engineering College & Research Institute (AEC&RI), Kumulur celebrated 75th Independence Day. Various competitions were conducted virtually for students and children of the staff members. Dr.V.Thirupathi, Dean, AEC&RI, Kumulur hoisted the national flag and delivered the Independence Day speech. Competition winners were presented with certificate and books.



Dr.P.Kamaraj, Academic coordinator, Dr.M.Nagarajan, NSS Programme officer and Dr. C. Senthilkumar, Physical Education Director organized the event. Totally, 70 students and 30 children participated in the event.

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