



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
Coimbatore - 641 003

# TNAU NEWS

September 2021

## VC's Desk

It is a proud moment for TNAU which bagged three National Awards viz., Green and Clean Campus Award for Main campus, PG Fellowship awards (second position) under Horticulture and Forestry and Agricultural Engineering groups from Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi. Agricultural College & Research



Institute, Coimbatore, a constituent college of TNAU bagged the second prize and won a cash prize of Rs. Eight lakhs which will be utilized for strengthening green and clean activities at the campus.

Community Science College and Research Institute (CSC&RI), Madurai organized the International Seminar on 'Opportunities and Challenges in Food Processing Sector' on 06.09.2021 as a part of Golden Jubilee celebrations of TNAU. The Award Ceremony for the Open and Distance Learning PG Diploma and Diploma in Agri Inputs programmes and special certificate courses was held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 12.09.2021. TNAU participated in the Curtain Raiser of International Year of Millets 2023 online on 17.09.2021 which was organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi.

A training programme on 'Watershed Planning and Agricultural Engineering Project Monitoring using GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing' with Open Source Software was conducted during 20-25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore. Lateral Thinking Cell was launched and Virtual Certificate course in Media Advertising and Graphic Designing was inaugurated on 22.09.2021. Training programme on 'Recent trends in quality control of biofertilizers' was organized by the Department of



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

Agricultural Microbiology, Directorate of Natural Resource Management, TNAU, Coimbatore during 23-24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

An International Conference entitled 'Global Rice Conference 2021: Deliberations on Advances in Rice Research' was jointly organized by Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai and Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Thanjavur at IIFPT, Thanjavur during 24-25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. With an intention of hand holding private R & D institutions in uplifting the standards of farmers, TNAU, Coimbatore signed an MoU on 09.09.2021 with M/s Rasi Seeds, Athur, Salem to establish close research and educational collaborations. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between TNAU and PSG College of Pharmacy, Coimbatore on 16.09.2021 for offering a Diploma programme in Production and Quality Control of Medicinal Plants and a special Certificate course in Herbal Formulation and Technology under Distance Learning Mode. Another MoU was signed on 16.09.2021 between TNAU and Kothari Agricultural Management Centre, Coonoor for offering a Diploma programme in Tea Plantation Management under Distance Learning Mode.

I chaired the TNAU Board of Management meeting held at Chennai on 04.09.2021. I participated in the International Horticulture Conference, Next Generation Horticulture held at TNAU, Coimbatore and presented a lead Paper on 'High Density Planting and Plant Architecture Manipulation in Fruit Crops' on 16.09.2021.

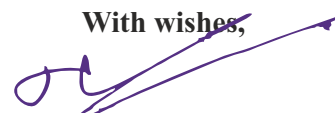
Besides, I also participated in the Global conference on "Innovative approaches for enhancing water productivity in Agriculture and Horticulture" organized by Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University and presented a lead paper on "New Approaches to enhance the water productivity in Horticultural Crops" with special reference to Tamil Nadu on 17.09.2021.

As a welcome move, I participated as Chief Guest in the 11<sup>th</sup> Graduation Day ceremony of Nehru Institute of Engineering and Technology online on 22.09.2021 and apprised the students on the avenues in Agriculture and integration of other sciences with Agriculture. I met Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Hon'ble Director General, ICAR and Secretary, DA&FW at New Delhi on 27.09.2021. I participated in the Annual Vice-Chancellor's Conference at New Delhi on 28.09.2021 and received the coveted awards finalized for the University for Green and Clean Main campus and the excellent performance of PG students in AIEEA-PG under Horticulture and Forestry and Agricultural Engineering groups.

I was conferred with 'M.S. Swaminathan medal of appreciation award' by Tmt. Thamizhisai Soundararajan, Hon'ble Governor of Pondicherry instituted by the Agricultural Scientific Tamil Society, New Delhi on 11.09.2021.

More to come...

With wishes,



(N. Kumar)

September 2021

## Awards Won

### TNAU bagged three Awards at National Level

TNAU bagged three ICAR - National Awards *viz.*, Green and Clean Campus Award (second position) for the Main campus with a cash incentive of Rs.8.00 lakhs, PG Fellowship award (second position) under Horticulture and



Forestry and Agricultural Engineering groups. The awards were received by Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU from Dr.Trilochan Mohapatra, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi during the ICAR and State Agricultural Universities' Vice-Chancellors' Conference held on 28.09.2021 at



New Delhi. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India declared virtually the Green and Clean Campus Award 2021 to TNAU among the State Agricultural Universities. Vice-Chancellor appreciated the efforts taken by the team of scientists and students in achieving this feat.



## Events organized in the Main Campus

### Meeting to explore the possibility of MoU with VRD Foods, Madurai

A Meeting was organized on 02.09.2021 to explore the possibilities of entering MoU with M/s VRD Foods, Madurai, one of the leading food industries primarily exporting gherkins, for



identifying the areas of mutual interest. Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, CSC & RI, Madurai, Dr. B. Shridar, Dean, AEC & RI, Coimbatore, Dr.K.T.Parthiban, Dean, FC&RI, Mettupalayam, Dr.S.D.Sivakumar, Director, Agribusiness Development discussed with Mr.V.R.Dharmendra, VRD Foods, Madurai.

## Launching of online application of Master's and Doctoral Admission

The online application for the Masters and Doctoral admission at TNAU for the year 2021-22 was launched on 08.09.2021.



Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU launched the website and other University Officers attended the launching program. Dr.J.S.Kennedy, Dean, SPGS briefed the modalities of online PG application.

## ODL Award Ceremony

The Award Ceremony for the Open and Distance Learning PG Diploma and Diploma in Agri Inputs programmes and special certificate courses was held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 12.09.2021. The programme was presided over by Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. The Chief Guest Dr.G.Krishnamohan, Director and Country Head (Retd.), Eurofins Agro Science Services Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru delivered the keynote address. Dr.M.Ramanathan, PSG College of Pharmacy,



Coimbatore delivered special address. Dr.R.Shanthi, Director, Natural Resource Management and Dr.S.Sundareswaran, Director, Seed Centre felicitated. Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning highlighted the various activities of the Directorate. Totally, 206 ODL candidates received the certificates and Awards were given to all the first and second rank holders. University Officers, Heads of Departments and Faculty members attended the programme. Dr.B.Anita, Professor (ODL) welcomed the gathering and Dr.K.Boomiraj, Asst. Professor (ODL) proposed a formal vote of thanks.



Similarly distribution of awards and certificates for 2020-21 batch ODL students of AC&RI, Vazhavachanur, ORS, Tindivanam, ARS, Virinjipuram and RRS, Vridhachalam was organized at AC&RI, Vazhavachanur, the Zonal Centre of Northern Districts on 14.09.2021 by the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. D. Dinakaran, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Protection, AC&RI, Vazhavachanur welcomed the gathering. Dr.M.Ananthan Director, Open and Distance Learning, TNAU, Coimbatore and Dr.N.Muthukrishnan, Dean, AC&RI, Vazhavachanur offered felicitations. Thiru.T.Balakrishnan DGM (Amelioration) of Bannari Amman Sugars delivered special address. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor delivered the Presidential address.

Dr.K.Selvarasu, Professor, ODL, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr. K. Subramanian Professor and Head, RRS, Vridhachalam, Dr.P.Sridhar, Professor and Head, ORS, Tindivanam and Dr.S.Nandakumar Professor and Head, ARS, Virinjipuram were the special invitees. Totally, 12 ODL students, three from each centre received Awards, 210 Diploma Agri-Input students received certificates and 41 students of Certificate Course on 'Sugarcane Production Technology' received certificates. Dr.N.Muthukrishnan, Dean and Dr.P.Senthil Kumar, ODL Co-ordinator of AC&RI, Vazhavachanur organized the programme.

### International Horticulture Conference Organized

The International Horticulture Conference (IHC 2021) - Next Generation Horticulture was organized by HC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore in collaboration with Society for Promotion of Horticultural Science and Technology on 16.09.2021. Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean (Horticulture) Coimbatore welcomed the gathering. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided and delivered the presidential address. Dr.B.M.C.Reddy, Former Vice-Chancellor, Dr.Y.S.R. Horticultural University, Andhra Pradesh delivered the keynote address and Shri.D.Sathiyam, IFS, Secretary, Spices Board, Cochin delivered the special address. Dr.Jayasankar Subramanian, Professor, Tree Fruit Breeding and Biotechnology, University of Guelph, Canada delivered the keynote lecture.



The 'Life time Achievement' award was conferred upon Dr.Jayasankar Subramanian, 'Best Farmer' award was given to Mr. Pavala Rajan, Farmer of Pattiveeranpatti, Dindigul district, 'Outstanding contribution in Horticulture' award to Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore and Dr.T.Saraswathi, Professor (Horticulture) and 'Young Scientist' award was presented to Dr.A.Subbiah, Assistant Professor and Head (i/c), Grapes Research Station, Theni and to Dr.C.Kavitha, Assistant Professor, Department of Fruit Science, HC&RI, Coimbatore. Book of abstracts and Compendium of lead and research papers of IHC were released and the website of TNAU Botanical Garden was also launched. A total of 350 National and International participants attended the Conference both online and onsite. Dr.K.Rajamani, Professor and Head, Dept. of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture proposed vote of thanks.

### Curtain Raiser of International Year of Millets 2023

TNAU participated in the Curtain Raiser of International Year of Millets 2023 held online on 17.09.2021 which was organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi. Shri.Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare inaugurated the programme virtually and highlighted the programmes and the themes for the International Year of Millets 2023. Dr. M.Jawaharlal, Director of Extension



Education, TNAU welcomed the gathering. Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore presided over the function. Tmt.R.Chitradevi, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore addressed the participants. Dr.P.Rajkumar, Professor & Head, Department of Food Process Engineering, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr.A.Subramanian, Professor (PB&G) and Dr.Umesh Kanna, Professor (Forestry) delivered special lectures. Dr.Ravi Kumar Theodore, Professor & Head, Training Division, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks. Around 100 participants including farmers, students and staff attended.

### **Training programme on Watershed Planning**

A training programme on 'Watershed Planning and Agricultural Engineering Project Monitoring using GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing' with Open Source Software was conducted during 20-25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore. The programme was funded by Agricultural Engineering Department (AED), Government of Tamil Nadu. Dr.K.Nagarajan, Professor and Head (SWCE) welcomed the gathering. Dr.B.Shridar, Dean, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore explained the importance and expected outcome of the training program. Dr. S. Panneerselvam, Director, WTC, TNAU, Coimbatore presided the function and delivered the inaugural address. Er.N.Unnikrishnan, Superintending Engineer (AE), AED, Coimbatore felicitated. Dr.Balaji



Kannan, Professor, Department of SWCE proposed vote of thanks. The training was offered to 20 recently recruited Assistant Engineers of the Agricultural Engineering Department.

### **Discussion meeting on FMC India Science Leaders Scholarship Programme**

M/s. FMC India Private Ltd., Mumbai an agricultural sciences company is implementing FMC Science Leaders Scholarship Programme in key Agricultural Universities like TNAU and other SAUs in seven states offering greater opportunities to the aspiring students by providing 10 scholarships to MSc and PhD students to develop their attitude in agricultural



research. A preliminary discussion meeting through virtual mode for finalizing the *modus operandi* was held on 21.09.2021. Dr.J.S. Kennedy, Dean, SPGS welcomed the gathering and Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided. Dr.Anandkrishnan Balarman, Research and Development Director and Dr. Bakul Chandra Joshi, National Head of Corporate Partnerships, FMC India Private Ltd participated online. Dr.T.Raguchander, Dean, Students Welfare also attended the meeting and offered his remarks.

### **Launch of Lateral Thinking Cell and inauguration of Certificate course**

Lateral Thinking Cell was launched and Virtual Certificate course in Media Advertising and Graphic Designing was inaugurated on 22.09.2021. Dr.J.Venkata Pirabu, Director,



Planning and Monitoring welcomed the gathering. Dr.S.D.Sivakumar, Director, Agri Business Development delivered the introductory note. Felicitation was offered by Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor deliberated on the significance of Media Advertising and Graphic Designing and its wide range of avenues to provide jobs in the social platform. Mr.J.Parthiban, J & J Media Solutions 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 totally around 60 attended the programme virtually.

### Training on Quality Biofertilizer Production for Agricultural Officers

Training programme on 'Recent trends in quality control of biofertilizers' was organized by the Department of Agricultural Microbiology, Directorate of Natural Resource Management,



TNAU, Coimbatore during 23-24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. Dr.V.Gomathi, Professor & Head, Department of Agrl. Microbiology welcomed the gathering. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore in his inaugural cum presidential address mentioned the importance of biofertilizers in supplementing chemical fertilizers. Dr.R.Santhi, Director, NRM delivered the key note address and Mrs.R.Chitra Devi, Joint Director of Agriculture felicitated. Dr.S.Marimuthu, Associate Vice-President, T-Stanes Company delivered the special address. Dr.N.O.Gopal, Professor (Agrl. Microbiology) proposed vote of thanks. Totally, 28 Agricultural Officers involved in the production and quality control of Biofertilizers in the Department of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu participated.

### Extension Officials trained on Biocontrol Agents

Centre for Plant Protection Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore organized a Refresher course on 'Hands on Training on the Production Technologies of Biocontrol Agents for Crop Pests, Diseases and Nematodes' during 27.09.2021 to 01.10.2021 with the financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu. Preparation of different type of formulations for biocontrol agents and their field application were also demonstrated during the refresher course. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided in the Valedictory function and elaborated the efforts taken by the University in



managing invasive and native insect pests using biocontrol agents. Dr.N.Sathiah, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Entomology presented the training report. Dr.K.Prabakar, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies, Dr.J.S.Kennedy, Dean, School of Post Graduate Studies, Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Coimbatore and Dr.T.Raguchander, Dean, Students' Welfare felicitated. Dr.G.Karthikeyan, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Pathology, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering and Dr.A.Shanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Nematology proposed the formal vote of thanks. Totally, 22 Extension Officials associated with State Biocontrol Laboratories across the State participated.

### MoUs Signed

#### MoU to promote Public-Private-Partnership

TNAU, Coimbatore signed an MoU on 09.09.2021 with M/s Rasi Seeds, Attur, Salem for establishing close research and educational collaborations. Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research narrated that TNAU bestowed interest to involve with Rasi Seeds in the areas of wide hybridization for abiotic and biotic stress tolerance, design breeding, double haploid production in rice, cotton and banana, quick diagnostics for seed quality assessment, sharing of pre-breeding materials, development of vegetable hybrids, nanotechnologies, commercialization of TNAU products besides students' internships under IDP program. The MoU was signed by Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy,



Registrar and Dr.M.Ramasami, Chairman, Rasi Seeds, Athur in the presence of Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Dr.R.Suresh Babu, Vice President, Sales & Marketing and Dr. Balakrishnan, Coordinator of M/s Rasi Seeds. Dr.S.Sivakumar, Professor (PBG), Directorate of Research coordinated the event.

#### MoU between TNAU and PSG College of Pharmacy

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between TNAU and PSG College of Pharmacy, Coimbatore on 16.09.2021 for offering a Diploma programme in Production and Quality Control of Medicinal Plants and a special Certificate course in Herbal Formulation and Technology under Distance Learning Mode in the presence of the Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU and Dr.M.Ramanathan, Principal, PSG College of Pharmacy, Coimbatore signed the MoU. Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning highlighted the details of the programme. Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore and Dr.K.Rajamani, Professor and Head, Department of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants and officials of PSG College of Pharmacy were present.



Another MoU was signed on 16.09.2021 between TNAU and Kothari Agricultural Management Centre, Coonoor for offering a Diploma programme in Tea Plantation Management under Distance Learning Mode.



Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU and Dr.R.Shanmugam, Director, Kothari Agricultural Management Centre, Coonoor signed the MoU in the presence of Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, Open and Distance Learning highlighted the details of the programme. University Officers and faculty from the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning, TNAU, Coimbatore were also present.

### Events organized outside TNAU Main Campus

#### International Seminar on Opportunities and Challenges in Food Processing Sector

Community Science College and Research Institute (CSC&RI), Madurai organized an International Seminar on 'Opportunities and Challenges in Food Processing Sector' on 06.09.2021 as part of Golden Jubilee celebrations of TNAU. Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI, Madurai welcomed the gathering. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the Seminar virtually and delivered the presidential address. Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore delivered the key note address. Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai felicitated. Mr.S.V.Suraj Sundara Shankar, Managing Partner, SVS Foods, Madurai offered special address. Dr.S.Kanchana, Professor and Head, Department of Human Development and Family Studies addressed the gathering. Dr.G.Hemalatha, Professor and Head,



Department of Food Science and Nutrition proposed vote of thanks. Totally, 198 participants from across the globe participated and presented around 70 oral and 110 poster papers both online and offline.

#### District Collector's visit to ARS, Bhavanisagar

Shri. H.Krishnanunni, I.A.S. District Collector, Erode visited ARS, Bhavanisagar on 08.09.2021 to know about the activities of the station followed by field visits to different blocks. During the visit, he discussed about the staff



position of the station, research and seed production activities. Maize and turmeric experimental fields and seed production plots of paddy and blackgram were also visited during the programme.

#### Global Rice Conference 2021

An International Conference entitled 'Global Rice Conference 2021: Deliberations on Advances in Rice Research' was jointly organized by Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai and Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Thanjavur at IIFPT, Thanjavur during 24-25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. Dr.V.Ambethgar, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai delivered the welcome address. Dr.M.Raveendran, Professor (Biotech.), CPMB&B, TNAU, Coimbatore narrated the events of the conference. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the conference and released the Book of Abstracts of



the conference and Compendium of Permanent Manurial Experiments conducted for 30 years at TRRI, Aduthurai.

The Vice-Chancellor was honoured with 'Pro-Farmer Award'. Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, IARI, New Delhi delivered the Presidential address online in which he highlighted the herbicide tolerant mutant named after Dr.S.Robin. Dr.S.Uma, Director, ICAR-NRC for Banana, Trichy, Dr.M.Nagarajan, Principal Scientist & Head, IARI-Regional Centre, Aduthurai and Mr.K.Balamurugan, DDM, NABARD, Thanjavur felicitated. Dr.C.Anandharamakrishnan, Director, IIFPT, Thanjavur emphasized the importance of reducing the post harvest losses in rice. Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore presented the Key Note address in the plenary session. Dr.Raman Meenakshi Sundaram, Director, ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad delivered Special address. Dr.M.Jawaharlal, Director of Extension Education, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean, AC&RI, Eachangkottai, Dr.P.Masilamani, Dean, ADAC&RI, Trichy and Dr.A.Kamalakaran, President, MASU, TNAU, Coimbatore delivered felicitation address. The dignitaries presented awards for Best Oral and Poster presentations and the conference. Dr. V. Ambethgar, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai proposed vote of thanks.

### Mass Tree Plantation at AC&RI, Madurai

Mass Tree Plantation programme was organized at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai on 17.09.2021. Dr. V. K. Paul pandi, Dean presided over the function and highlighted the importance of tree planting. In this programme, nearly 2000 tree saplings (native species) were planted by the Dean and all HOD's of this College in the backside of the PG boys hostel with the support of District administration, Madurai and with active involvement by the MGNREGA workers for further maintenance.

### Infrastructure Facilities Inaugurated

#### TNAU Main Campus

##### Directorate of Students' Welfare

The refurbished Indoor stadium was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor on 08.09.2021. The stadium was constructed during 1978 for practising Badminton, volley ball and



basketball. This was the first ever indoor stadium then in the city of Coimbatore. The damaged floor was repaired, roofing was replaced with steel and improved lighting facilities were provided. University Officers, Heads of Departments, staff members of main campus and the students took part in the Inaugural program.

#### Department of Entomology

The infrastructure facilities available at the Department of Agricultural Entomology, Centre for Plant Protection Studies, TNAU,



Coimbatore were renovated and the Pesticide Toxicology Laboratory was relocated. The old Biocontrol Laboratory of the Main Department and the Insectary were facelifted. The heritage building (1913) at the Insectary was restored with heritage value. The Pesticide Testing Laboratory (NABL Accredited) was relocated in the new NABL Complex. Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the refurbished structures on 09.09.2021. He declared open the new ISO 2017 certified NABL - PTL Laboratory, the newly commissioned Fermentor and Low Speed Wind Tunnel Laboratories with the financial aid of Government of Tamil Nadu under the GoTN - FAW project. University Officers, Scientists and staff attended the opening ceremonies.

### Department of Nematology

The Vice-Chancellor also inaugurated the new premises of Department of Nematology established with facilities of Seminar Hall, Smart Class Room, Office and Laboratories on 09.09.2021. University officers, Scientists and staff members attended the opening ceremony.



### AEC&RI, Coimbatore

Ag-IoT & iOS App Development Laboratory established at the Department of Physical Science & Information Technology, AEC&RI, Coimbatore under ICAR-NAHEP-IDP was inaugurated by Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor on 09.09.2021. The laboratory is used for mobile application development with low-code tools imparting drag-and-drop functionality, intuitive process flow capabilities



and visual guidance. This facilitates the farm graduates to develop android and iOS agriculture based mobile applications. The Laboratory also facilitates visualization of real time data from the sensors installed and commissioned in the agricultural field. Dr.B.Shridar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering and Dr.S.D.Sivakumar, Director, ABD & IDP Coordinator proposed vote of thanks. A training programme on Mac OS and Swift Coding was conducted for the skill upgradation of faculty.

### AC&RI, Vazhavachanur

Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the Tissue Culture Laboratory at AC&RI, Vazhavachanur on 14.09.2021. Dr.M.Ananthan, Director, ODL, TNAU, Coimbatore indicated the existing demand for tissue cultured plants of various horticulture crops. Vice-Chancellor also inaugurated the Irrigation Cafeteria established to demonstrate different irrigation methods suitable for various crops to the farmers of



Northern Districts. All the scientists under the leadership of Dr.N.Muthukrishnan, Dean coordinated the various events.

### AC & RI, Eachangkottai

Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU inaugurated the controlled fodder grazing unit in the farm complex at Agricultural College and



Research Institute, Eachangkottai on 24.09.2021. Vice-Chancellor also inaugurated the RO unit established in the library premises and advised the staff to speed up the accreditation process.

### Visit of University Officers to different centres

#### Director, CPBG to RRS, Vridhachalam

Regional Research Station, Vridhachalam organized a field day on



01.09.2021 for early maturing (90-95 days) groundnut culture VG 17-008 at Kuppanatham village, Vridhachalam. Dr.K.Subrahmaniyan, Professor and Head, RRS, Vridhachalam welcomed the gathering. Dr.S.Geetha, Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore inaugurated the field day and briefed about the characteristic features of the culture VG 17-008. Dr.N.Sriram, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, Vridhachalam, Th.S.Ramesh, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cuddalore, Scientists of KVK and RRS, Vridhachalam besides Officials of Department of Agriculture, Vridhachalam block participated. Dr.M.Pandiyar, Professor (PBG), RRS, Vridhachalam, proposed vote of thanks. Around 50 groundnut farmers attended.

### Dean, ADAC&RI, Trichy to CRS, Veppanthattai

A demonstration plot on Fall Armyworm management was taken up in two acres on 08.09.2021 at CRS, Veppanthattai. Dr.P.Masilamani, Dean, ADAC&RI, Trichy participated in the programme.



Dr.S.Somasundaram, Associate Professor and Head informed that the Maize hybrid CO H M 8 was sown by mechanical seed drill to showcase the integrated FAW management practices to the farmers. A folder on Fall Armyworm Management in Maize was also released.

#### **Director, Seed centre to ARS, Bhavanisagar**

Dr.S.Sundaeswaran, Director, Seed Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore visited ARS, Bhavanisagar on 17.09.2021 and reviewed the progress of seed production activities under ICAR-Mega seed project, Revolving fund schemes and University research projects at ARS, Bhavanisagar.

#### **Director of Research to AC&RI, Madurai**

Dr.K.S.Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore visited Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai on 18.09.2021 and interacted with the scientists of Department of Agronomy. Director appreciated the initiative to promote traditional



rice varieties through its cultivation in an area of 10 acres and supply of quality seeds to the farming community. He suggested to validate the duration of crop, suitable season and eco system and also their nutrient requirements.

#### **Director, Crop Management to AC&RI, Madurai and RRS, Aruppukottai**

Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Director, Directorate of Crop Management, TNAU, Coimbatore reviewed the activities of Crop

Management scientists at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai on 25.09.2021 in the presence of Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai. Director motivated multi-disciplinary approach in research and novel technology development. Dr.R.Durai Singh, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy coordinated the programme.



Director, Crop Management also visited Regional Research Station, Aruppukottai on 30.09.2021 and reviewed the ongoing research projects. A brief presentation on the research activities was given by Dr.C.Subesh Ranjith Kumar, Associate Professor (Horticulture) followed by field visit with the concerned scientists. New Arid Zone Fruit crop Dragon fruit introduced for research programme at the station was planted by the Director. The programme was coordinated by Dr.G.Srinivasan, Professor and Head i/c, RRS, Aruppukottai.

### **Extension Activities organized**

#### **Vocational Training for Transgender Empowerment**

KVK, Sirugamani offered vocational training on 'Organic input production technology' during 1-3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2021 to 10 transgenders of Tiruchirappalli district who were interested in establishing new organic input production unit for income generation. This programme was inaugurated by Dr.N.Tamilselvan, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Sirugamani. Detailed lecture on advanced



vermicompost and coirpith compost production was delivered by Dr.V.Dhanushkodi, Soil Scientist. Besides, hand on training on preparation of Panchagavya and Meen amilam (Fish oil) was also offered. Use of organic inputs in nursery media preparation and establishing vertical garden was explained by Programme Assistant Mrs.Yamuna Devi. An exposure visit to organic production unit at Sirugamani and Pulivalam village was also arranged. Thiru. Moorthy and Thiru. Natarajan, Progressive farmers shared their experience on Organic input production technology. Besides, 12 rural youth from Tiruchirappalli district also participated and benefitted from this training.

### **SBGF training on backyard poultry rearing**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri conducted three training programmes on 'Scientific management of improved backyard poultry rearing' under SBGF (State Balanced Growth Fund) project on 'Livestock support and nutritional security of tribal women through improved backyard poultry rearing in Dharmapuri district' at Avarankatur, Bothagadu of Pappireddypatty block and Velanur of Harur block of Dharmapuri district on 01.09.2021, 08.09.2021 and 15.09.2021 respectively. Dr.M.Vijayakumar, Programme coordinator, KVK Dharmapuri welcomed the gathering. Thiru.K.Athimulam, Statistical officer, District Planning Cell, Dharmapuri and Thiru.Palanisamy, Field Director, Srinivasan Service Trust, Dharmapuri addressed the

gathering. Dr.R.Thangadurai, Subject Matter specialist (Veterinary and Animal Science) delivered technical lecture. Around 40 tribal women attended each of the training programmes and interacted with the scientists.



Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri also conducted a programme on 'Farmer scientist interface on climate resilient varieties, technologies and practices and sustainable fodder production strategies for enhancing livestock productivity' in collaboration with Department of Forage crops, TNAU, Coimbatore" under Hatsun Agro project at KVK Dharmapuri on 28.09.2021. Dr.M.Vijayakumar, Programme Coordinator, KVK Dharmapuri welcomed the gathering. Dr.K.N.Ganesan, Professor and Head and Dr.S.D.Sivakumar, Associate Professor, Department of Forage Crops, TNAU, Coimbatore, Dr.R.Thangadurai and Dr.M.A.Vennila, Subject Matter Specialists delivered technical lectures. Dr.V.Veeranan Arun Giridhari, Assistant Professor (FSN), KVK, Dharmapuri proposed vote of thanks. Around 100 Field Officers of Hatsun Agro Private limited attended.

### **Awareness Programme on Horticultural Technologies**

KVK, Salem organized an awareness programme on IIHR technologies suitable for Tribal areas of Shervaroy's hills on 08.09.2021 at Arangam village of Yercaud block. Dr.R.Jegathambal, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Salem welcomed the participants.



Dr.P.Senthilkumar, Principal Scientist, IIHR delivered technical lecture. Mr.Ibrahim, SMS (Horticulture) of KVK, Lakshadweep and two Horticultural Officers from the Department of Agriculture, Lakshadweep Islands also participated in the programme for cross learning activities. Mrs.Mohana Saridha, Agricultural Officer, Department of Agricultural Marketing, Salem addressed the gathering. Inputs were issued to the beneficiaries. Dr.G.Malathi, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) proposed vote of thanks.

### **Skill Training on Repair and maintenance of Farm Machinery**

Skill training programme on Repair and Maintenance of Farm Machinery was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madurai during 13-18<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 by the State Department of Agriculture, Melur Block under ATMA. Dr.M.Hemalatha, Programme Coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra welcomed the gathering. Thiru.T.Vivekanandan, Joint Director of Agriculture, Madurai presided the programme. Thiru.G.Sv.Amuthan, Deputy Director (GOI), Thiru. M. Muresh Kumar, Executive Engineer, Tmt.P.Dhanalakshmi, Deputy Director cum PA (Agri) to District Collector, Tmt.M.Laksmi Prabha, DD, Water Management Training Institute, Vinayagapuram, Dr.Chelvi Ramessh, Professor, Department of Agronomy, AC&RI, Madurai participated in the inaugural programme. Dr.R.Durai Singh, Professor and Head, Department of Agronomy,



AC &RI, Madurai, Dr.N.Anandaraj, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Engineering and Dr.S.Vallal Kannan, Assistant Professor, Agronomy besides Er.S. Saravanaperumal, Assistant Executive Engineer and Er.M.Velpari, Assistant Executive Engineer delivered technical lectures. Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai and Th.P.Sankaralingam, Director, STAMIN distributed the Certificates. Tmt.M. Selvi, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Melur proposed vote of thanks. Totally, 28 rural youth participated in the training programme.

### **Cane Expo 2021 organized at AC & RI, Eachangkottai**

Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean, Agriculture College and Research Institute, Eachangkottai inaugurated the Cane Expo 2021 on 22.09.2021 and visited the stalls arranged in the Expo. Around 220 entrepreneurs exhibited their farm machineries focusing live demo for the benefits of cane growers. Dr.S.Selvasurabi, DRO and Chief Executive, Arignar Anna Sugar Mill, Kurungulam distributed the awards and prizes



to the growers for higher cane yield during 2020-2021. Thiru.E.Ramu, Cane Development Officer (CDO), Arignar Anna Sugar Mill, Kurungulam, Thanjavur coordinated and organized the event. Nearly 400 farmers from Thanjavur District participated in the Cane expo.

### **Training programme on Value addition**

Training programme on 'Value addition of cereals, pulses, fruits and vegetables' by Department of Food Process Engineering (FPE) under the ICAR-AICRP-PHET-SCSP scheme and Distribution of Renewable Energy gadgets under ICAR-AICRP on EAAI sponsored SCSP Programme by Department of Renewable Energy Engineering (REE), AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore was organized at Hulical village, Coonoor, Nilgiris on 26.09.2021 in coordination with Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM-Mahalir Thittam). Food



pulverizing and packaging machine and renewable energy gadgets including TNAU single pot chulha, Double pot chulha, biomass gas stove, domestic solar dryers and solar lantern were distributed to the self-help group workers and selected beneficiaries. Dr.I.P.Sudagar, training coordinator & Associate Professor (FPE) welcomed the gathering. Dr.P.Rajkumar, Professor and Head, FPE, Dr.P.Subramanian, Professor and Head, REE, Dr. P.Raja, Asst. Professor, Horticulture Research Station, Ooty, Er.T.Balasubramanian, Asst. Executive Engineer, AED, Coonoor delivered technical

lectures. Dr.R.Mahendiran, Associate Professor (REE) proposed vote of thanks.

### **Farmer – Scientists Interface Meet on Climate Resilient Practices**

TNAU as per the request of ICAR participated in the Farmer - Scientists interface meet on Climate Resilient Varieties, Technologies and Practices which was held online on 28.09.2021 on the occasion of Annual Conference of Vice-Chancellors of State / Deemed / Central Agricultural Universities. Dr.M.Jawaharlal, Director of Extension Education, TNAU welcomed the gathering. Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore presided the function. Tmt. R. Chitradevi, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore, Dr.S.Geetha, Director, Centre for



Plant Breeding & Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore and Dr.E.Somasundaram, Professor (Agronomy), TNAU, Coimbatore delivered special lectures. Dr. Ravi Kumar Theodore, Professor & Head, Training Division, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks. More than 100 Farmers and Scientists participated in the programme.

### **Training on Millets, Pulses and fruits Processing**

Two trainings were organized under ICAR-Scheme on 'Establishing Agro Processing Centre on Millets, Pulses, Fruits and Vegetables' operating in the Department of Processing and Food Engineering (DPFE), AEC&RI, Kumulur on





28.09.2021 at Agro Processing Centre established at KVK, Sirugamani and on 29.09.2021 at the Agro Processing Centre established at Banana producers Union, Thottiyam. Dr.V.Thirupathi, Dean, AEC&RI, Kumulur presided over the training programmes. Dr.T.Pandiarajan, Professor and Head, DPFE, AEC&RI, Kumulur and Dr.N.Tamil Selvan, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, Sirugamani besides their staff organized the trainings. Thiru. Dheenadayalan and Thiru. A.Subramaniam, Directors of Banana producers' union, Thottiyam co-ordinated. Around 40 farmers participated in each of the trainings.

### **Training Programme on Rapid Composting of Municipal Bio-wastes**

Training programme on Production of quality compost from municipal bio-wastes was organized by the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam on 28.09.2021 under the externally funded scheme sponsored by the Thoothukudi City Municipal Corporation (TCMC). Dr.S.Suresh, Professor and Head,



Department of Soil Science welcomed the gathering. Dr.V.M.Sankaran, Professor and Head (Agronomy) and Dean (i/c) addressed the gathering. Mrs.T.Charusree, I.A.S. Corporation Commissioner outlined the efforts of TCMC officials in handling 10 to 12 tonnes of bio-wastes per day and the fruitful association with TNAU, Killikulam campus for scientific interventions in the recycling processes to produce good quality compost. Dr.V.Vidya, City Health Officer felicitated the event. Dr.B.Bhakiyathu Saliha, Principal investigator of the smart city project organized the programme. Composting technology was demonstrated at Perumalpuram microcompost centre. Around 80 staff from 16 micro composting centres covering 11 locations of TCMC participated. A technical bulletin was also released by the Commissioner. Dr.D.Lenin Raja, Assistant Professor proposed vote of thanks.

### **Farmers Awareness Programme on Weather Based Agro Advisory Services**

Agro Climate Research Centre (ACRC), TNAU, Coimbatore in collaboration with the India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India organized a Farmers' Awareness Programme (FAP) at Anaimalai block of Pollachi Taluk on 28.09.2021. The programme was inaugurated by Dr.SP.Ramanathan, Principal Nodal Officer (GKMS) cum Professor and Head, ACRC. Thiru.S.Vivekanandan, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Anaimalai besides scientists of



ACRC addressed the gathering. Around 50 farmers were trained on the importance of the weather based agro advisories, mobile applications for agromet advisories and Crop - Weather - Pest & Disease interactions.

### **National Campaign on Poshan Vatika Maha Abhiyan and Tree Plantation**

#### **KVK, Madurai**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madurai organized the National Campaign on Poshan Vatika Maha Abhiyan and Tree Plantation on 17.09.2021. Dr.M.Hemalatha, Programme Coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madurai welcomed the gathering. Dr. V.K. Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai presided over the function. Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, CSC&RI delivered the special address. Thiru.T.Vivekanandan, Joint Director of Agriculture and Thiru. S. Saravanakumar, Manager, IFFCO, Madurai besides Thiru. S.Thirupathi, Kodikulam Panchayat President addressed the gathering. Inauguration of the function at National level and Speech of Shri. Narendra Singh Domar, Honourable Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers welfare was telecasted to the farmers. Technical sessions were also handled by Dr.S. Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Horticulture, AC&RI, Madurai and Dr.R.Vijayalakshmi, Associate Professor (FSN), CSC&RI, Madurai. A total of 500 tree seedlings were planted in AC&RI, Madurai and 100 vegetable seed packets were distributed to the farmers. First year B. Sc. Hons. (Agri.) girl



students from AC&RI, Madurai, 50 farmers and 20 Anganwadi workers participated. Millet based healthy food and snacks were distributed to all the participants.

#### **CSC&RI, Madurai**

As a part of the same programme on Rashtriya Poshan Maah, CSC&RI, Madurai also conducted an Awareness Campaign on Nutridense food to combat Malnutrition at Chatrapatti village in Madurai District on 30.09.2021. Dr.S.Amutha, Dean, CSC & RI delivered the presidential address. Dr.G.Hemalatha, Professor and Head, Department of Food Science and Nutrition,



Dr.P. Parimalam, Professor and Head, Department of Family Resource Management and Consumer Studies, Dr.M.Ramasubramanian, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Extension Education and Communication Management deliberated on how to be nutritionally fit to build a strong India. An Exhibition was arranged in the sidelines of the awareness campaign besides distribution of vegetable seeds to the participants. Totally, 52 participants including aged people, women and children took part in the programme.

#### **KVK, Sandhiyur**

KVK, Salem also organized similar programme on 17.09.2021 at ADA office, Magudanchavadi. Special address by the Hon'ble Agricultural Minister of India was also webcasted during the programme. Dr.P.Kohila,



Programme Coordinator (i/c), KVK, Salem welcomed the gathering. Dr.B.Kannan, Deputy Director, Farmers Training Centre, Salem presided over the programme. KVK staff delivered technical lectures. Officials from IFFCO, KRIBHCO of Salem also participated in the event. Vegetable seed kits (sponsored by IFFCO) and biofertilizers (sponsored by KRIBHCO) were distributed to the farmers. Totally, 114 farmers attended and benefitted from the programme. Dr.G.Malathi, SMS (Hort.) proposed vote of thanks.

### Training on Native Chicken Rearing

Training programme on 'Native Chicken Rearing' was conducted at ICAR, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Virudhunagar on 30.09.2021 to create awareness among the farmers and rural youth including women about native chicken rearing. A leaflet on 'Profitable Native Chicken Rearing' was distributed to the trainees. Technical lectures were delivered by the staff of KVK, Virudhunagar. Dr.A.Sumithra, Assistant Professor (Veterinary and Animal Science) and Dr.G.Srinivasan, Programme Coordinator



organized the training. Around 50 participants attended and benefitted from the training.

## Celebrations organized

### World Coconut Day

#### HC&RI, Coimbatore

The World Coconut Day was organized on 02.09.2021 at the Coconut Nursery Farm, Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr.K.Venkatesan,



Professor and Head, Scientists and Students planted coconut seedlings of West Coast Tall to commemorate the event.

#### HC&RI, Periyakulam

Department of Spices and Plantation Crops, HC&RI, TNAU, Periyakulam also celebrated World Coconut Day. Planting of different tall and dwarf varieties was taken up which would be useful to the students for identification, intensive coconut research and raising of high yielding authentic coconut seedlings for the farming community. The programme was inaugurated by



Dr.T.Arumugam, Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam. All the HoDs of various Departments and staff participated and planted coconut seedlings. Dr.S.Parthiban, Professor and Head and Dr. R. Chitra, Assistant Professor (Hort.), Dept. of Spices and Plantation Crops organized the programme.

### World First Aid Day

World First Aid Day was observed at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyanmalai on 11.09.2021 to encourage and sensitize the students about first aid which helps in preventing injuries and saving lives in



critical situations. Dr. M.Balasubramani, Medical Officer of the college delivered a special lecture. All the NSS volunteers participated and learned the first aid procedures. Dr.N.A.Saravanan, NSS Programme Officer, AC&RI, Kudumiyanmalai and Mrs. M. Rani, Female Nursing Assistant organized the event.

### Students' Activities

#### NSS Day

#### TNAU, Coimbatore

The 52<sup>nd</sup> NSS Day was celebrated at TNAU, Coimbatore on 24.09.2021.

Dr.T.Raguchander, Dean, Centre for Students Welfare, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering. Dr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU delivered the presidential address. The Chief Guest, Dr.Kezevino Aram, President, Shanti Ashram, Kovaipudur, Coimbatore



delivered the special address. Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC&RI, Dr.B.Sridhar, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore felicitated. Certificates were distributed in appreciation to the winners of the events conducted as part of NSS day celebration. Dr.M.R. Backiyavathy, NSS Programme Coordinator proposed vote of thanks. University officers, Heads of Departments, faculties and NSS volunteers participated in the celebration.

#### AC & RI, Madurai

The 52<sup>nd</sup> NSS day programme was organized by NSS volunteers of AC & RI and CSC & RI, Madurai on 24.09.2021. Thiru.V.R.Dharmendra Mohan Prabhu, Member, TNAU Board of Management and Managing Director, VRD Best Foods Pvt. Ltd., was the Chief Guest. Dr.P.Vellaichamy, NSS programme officer welcomed the gathering and Dr.V.Ramamoorthy, Programme officer presented the NSS annual report for the year 2020-2021. Dr.V.K.Paulpandi, Dean, AC & RI, Madurai delivered the presidential address and



reiterated the importance of green campus. To commemorate the event, tree saplings were planted and geotagged in the college campus. Dr.E.Tamil Selvi, Programme Officer proposed vote of thanks.

### AC&RI, Eachangkottai

NSS day was celebrated at National Service scheme unit 16/25 of TNAU at AC&RI, Eachangkottai on 24.09.2021. Dr A.Velayutham, Dean, AC & RI, Eachangkottai elaborated the NSS activities and responsibility of the NSS volunteers to the society in his presidential address. Dr K.R. Jahanmohan, Professor & Head



(Social Science) offered felicitation address. All the teaching and nonteaching staff and 166 NSS volunteers of I & II year B.Sc. (Agri) and other students participated.

### HC & RI (W), Trichy

The NSS Day was celebrated on 24.09.2021 at HC&RI (Women), Trichy. Dr.P.Paramaguru, Dean presided the event and also inaugurated tree planting. The guest



speaker, Dr.O.Ajitha, Medical Officer, HC&RI (W), Trichy spoke on the topic 'Keep Away from Stress' in which she deliberated about the various forms of stresses students undergo and ways to cope up. Certificates were awarded to the NSS volunteers of III B.Sc (Hons.) Horticulture.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Camp at AC&RI, Killikulam

A vaccination camp for Covid-19 was jointly organized by NSS unit and Primary Health Centre, Vallanad on 02.09.2021 at AC&RI, Killikulam. Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Ayyanathan, Dean of the college inaugurated the camp and



highlighted the importance of COVID-19 vaccination. Staff members and students got vaccinated in this camp.

### Demonstration on use of Fire Extinguisher

Demonstration on use of fire extinguisher available at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyamalai was conducted on 04.09.2021. An experienced staff from M/s Shanmuga Fire safety Engg., Pudukkottai



demonstrated the operation of fire extinguisher at critical situation in laboratories and buildings. All the NSS volunteers of AC & RI, Kudumiyamalai participated and were given hands on training. Dr.N.A.Saravanan, NSS Programme Officer, AC&RI, Kudumiyamalai and Dr.G.Vigneswaran, TA, Physical Education organized the event.

### **IDP Sponsored International Webinar on Machine Vision Enabled Precision Agriculture**

An International Webinar on 'Machine Vision Enabled Precision Agriculture' was organized at AC&RI, Killikulam under ICAR - NAHEP - IDP on 06.09.2021. Dr.K.Eraivan Arutkani Aiyathan, Dean, AC&RI, Killikulam



welcomed the gathering with a brief introduction about the resource person cum speaker, Dr. Sujoe Bose, Founder, DSine Dynamics, Texas, USA. The resource person highlighted different technology enablers like Cloud computing, Machine learning and Deep learning and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in agriculture. The programme was organized by Dr.Jeberlin Prabina, Associate Professor (Agricultural Microbiology). A total of 114 Undergraduate students participated.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Agricultural Graduate Students Conference 2021**

In commemoration of TNAU Golden Jubilee Celebrations, 7<sup>th</sup> Agricultural Graduate Students Conference 2021 (AGSC) was



conducted as a Hybrid event (Online & Offline) at TNAU, Coimbatore during 7-8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. Mr.M.Guna, Ph.D. Scholar (Agrometeorology) cum Student Secretary welcomed the gathering. Dr.J.S.Kennedy, Dean (SPGS) & Convenor (AGSC-2021) gave the introductory remarks. Dr.V.Praveen Rao, Vice-Chancellor, PJTSAU, Hyderabad, the Chief Guest delivered the Keynote Address and Dr.N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU inaugurated and delivered the Presidential Address. Dr.M.Kalyanasundaram, Dean, AC & RI, Dr.L.Pugalendhi, Dean, HC & RI, Dr.B.Shridar, Dean, AEC & RI, and Dr.K.T.Parthiban, Dean, FC & RI, Mettupalayam felicitated the student participants. The theme of the conference was 'Food, Farmers and Future: Envisioning Amassment of Regenerating and Nourishing Food' with ten sub-thematic areas. Totally, 20 lead papers were presented by eminent scientists across the world. Dr.T.Janakiram, Vice-Chancellor, Dr.YSR Horticultural University, Andhra Pradesh was the Chief Guest of Valedictory Ceremony. Participants numbering 294 young researchers including M.Sc. Students, Ph.D. Scholars, JRFs, SRFs, PDFs, RAs and TAs from TNAU and other SAUs participated and presented their research outcome through oral and poster presentations.

### **Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 organized**

The Nationwide Campaign, Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 was conceptualized by Fit India Mission to commemorate the 75th

Independence Day celebration 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to encourage fitness and to get freedom from obesity, laziness, stress, anxiety, diseases *etc.* The first and second year NSS volunteers of the various degree programmes of TNAU Main Campus were involved during 11-18<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. Around 750 NSS volunteers actively participated. Dr.M.R.Backiyavathy, NSS Programme Coordinator and NSS Programme Officers guided the NSS volunteers.



Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 was also organized at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyanmalai on 07.09.2021. Dr.T.Senguttuvan, Dean inaugurated the programme. All the NSS volunteers attended and participated in the freedom run for three kilometers distance from the Vayalogum village to Kudumiyanmalai village. Dr.N.A.Saravanan, NSS Programme Officer, AC & RI, Kudumiyanmalai organized the programme.

#### **Sowing of Palm tree seeds organized**

National Cadet Corps unit of AC&RI, Madurai took up sowing of around 1200 Palm tree seeds near the college in the adjoining forest area on 18.09.2021. Dr. V.K. Paul Pandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai initiated the event.

#### **Inauguration of Agropreneur Club**

Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean, AC&RI, Eachangkottai inaugurated the Agropreneur Club on 20.09.2021 and insisted the members to become self-reliant and provide job opportunity. On this occasion, specially designed logo and



amla based recipe prepared by the club members were released. A capacity building programme cum workshop for a duration of 8 days on 'Bio-fertilizer and Bio-control Agent Production Techniques' was initiated on 29.09.2021 under the guidance of Dr.M.Senthil Kumar, Associate Professor (Microbiology). Dr.N.Anandaraja, Associate Professor (Agrl. Extn), Coordinator of the Club arranged the programme.

#### **Guest Lecture on Smart Farming with GIS and Drone**

Guest lecture on 'Smart farming with GIS and drone' was delivered virtually by Mr.Rishabh Choudhary, Co-Founder, Bharat Rohan Airborne enterprises Pvt Ltd., Hyderabad on 25.09.2021. Dr.B.Bhakiyathu Saliha, Associate Professor (SS&AC) welcomed the participants, introduced the speaker and co-ordinated the event. The lecture was attended by 259 I B.Sc (Ag.,) Hons students of Killikulam and Madurai campuses who are currently undergoing course on Geoinformatics for precision farming. Student representatives of I B.Sc (Ag.,) Hons from both the campuses proposed vote of thanks.

#### **Guest lecture on Bio Energy for Sustainable Development**

Department of Agricultural Engineering, AC&RI, Madurai organized a guest lecture on 'Bio Energy for Sustainable Development in Rural Agro-Industries' on 25.09.2021 sponsored by Directorate of Agri Business Development, TNAU, Coimbatore under Institutional Development Plan. Dr.N.Anandaraj, Associate



Professor and Head i/c, Dept. of Agricultural Engineering welcomed the gathering. The felicitation address was delivered by Dr. V.K. Paulpandi, Dean, AC&RI, Madurai. Dr.S.Kamaraj, Director, International Institute of Renewable Energy, Coimbatore, delivered the Guest lecture and emphasized the importance of renewable energy sources. Totally, 110 students of II BSc. Hons (Agriculture) participated in the programme.

### Orientation Day organized

Orientation day was organized on 27.09.2021 at AC&RI, Eachangkottai for inviting the Freshers of 2020 Batch. Dr.A.Velayutham, Dean delivered the special address. Dr.T.Raguchander, Dean, Centre for Student



Welfare, TNAU, Coimbatore was the Chief Guest. The function ended with cultural programme performed by Freshers' batch 2020.

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