



**Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**  
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To  
The Editor,  
Sir,

Date: 17.02.2023

I request that the following message may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

### **Field Day on Integrated Pest Management in Lablab**

Vegetable cultivation provides regular income to farmers of the State. The cultivation of lablab bean is one such vegetable which gives opportunity to the farmers to get regular income. The sucking insect pests *viz.*, aphids, leaf hoppers, whiteflies and spotted pod borer causes damage to lablab. Among the diseases leaf spot, powdery mildew and yellow mosaic are the major threat in lablab. Insecticides are the major management strategy for the pest and diseases in lablab bean. Hence it is necessary to create awareness about the available Integrated Pest Management strategy among the farmers. The World Vegetable Center, Taiwan and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University demonstrated the “Integrated Pest Management in Lablab bean” in Mr. Rajkumar, the farmer field at Mettubhavi village, Kinathukadavu block, Coimbatore District.

To disseminate the technologies followed in the demonstration to the fellow farmers, farmers Field Day was organized on 17.02.2023 in the farmers field. Dr. P.P. Murgan, Director of Extension Education, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in his presidential address emphasized the need to reduce the input cost in the farming. He informed the gathering about the importance of farmer producer organization to get better prices for their produce. The Mettubhavai Panchayat president and former Member of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Mr. Muthukaruppanan stressed the importance of organic practices in Agriculture.

The Training Division Professor & Head Dr. N. Anandaraj welcomed the delegates and farmers. He explained about the project activities to the farmers. The Department of Plant Pathology Professor & Head Dr. G. Karthikeyan highlighted the importance of biofungicides in plant disease management. The diseases in Lablab and their management were narrated by Dr. K. Angappan, Professor (Plant pathology). Dr. V. Swaminathan, Professor (Agril. Entomology) and Dr. N. Seenivasan, Professor (Nematology) explained about the Integrated Insect Pest and nematode management to the farmers.

In the field, the integrated Pest management technologies followed *viz.*, use of sticky traps, pheromone traps, biocontrol agents and botanicals were explained by the entomology Associate Professors Dr. T. Elaiyabharathi and Dr. P.S. Shanmugam. The application of *Bacillus subtilis* and *Trichoderma viride* to manage soil borne diseases were demonstrated to the farmers. The Assistant Director of Agriculture Mrs. S.P. Gomathi gave a brief account of schemes operated by the Department of Horticulture to the farmers. The official from Horticulture department, University village stay programme and more than 180 farmers in nearby villages participated in the field day.

**Public Relations Officer**