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The Editor,

Sir,

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

TNAU OFFERED ONE DAY TRAINING ON "BEEKEEPING"

Agriculture contributes 18.30% to the Indian economy, and bees play a vital role in enhancing agricultural productivity. Bees are essential in agriculture to increase crop yield and improve quality through cross-pollination. In Tamil Nadu, the Marthandam region of Kanyakumari district is a hub for beekeeping, with approximately 20,000 beekeepers managing 2 lakh Indian beehives. This region produces over 2,500 tonnes of honey annually, reflecting the economic and ecological importance of bees.

Public awareness about the essential role of bees in agriculture and environmental sustainability is steadily increasing day by day. Therefore, to promote beekeeping, a one-day training on "Beekeeping" is conducted regularly by the Department of Entomology at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. The training for the month of April, 2025 was conducted on 07.04.2025 with 10 participants. This hands-on training imparted various essential aspects of Beekeeping including identification of bee species and social organization of bees, rearing Indian bees in boxes, general and seasonal management, bee forage, yield increase in crops through cross pollination, honey extraction, and enemies and diseases of bees and their management in theory sessions. Also, the trainees obtained enough knowledge on handling of Indian, Italian and Stingless bee colonies, colony management, colony division and uniting, honey extraction, and identification of adulteration in honey during the practical session. Finally, the participants were awarded the certificates.