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To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 06.09.2025

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

**TNAU organized a one-day training programme on “Value Addition in
Traditional Horse gram Varieties”**

The Agro Climate Research Centre, Directorate of Crop Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, organized a one-day training programme on “Value Addition in Traditional Horse gram Varieties” on 04.09.2025. The programme was conducted under the scheme “Exploiting Climate Resilient Crops for Improving Nutritional Security under Projected Climate Scenario in Developing Countries”, sponsored by Grand Challenges Canada. Dr.S.Kokilavani, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Meteorology) welcomed the gathering and highlighted the role of climate change adaptation strategies in traditional horse gram cultivation. The overarching theme of the training was to create awareness on consumption of nutritious traditional horse gram varieties and their value-added products, thereby contributing to improved nutrition and resilience against lifestyle-related diseases.

The training was presided over and inaugurated by Dr. N. Senthil, Director (i/c), Directorate of Crop Management, TNAU, Coimbatore who emphasized the export of traditional varieties-based value-added products. Dr. N.K. Sathyamoorthy, Professor and Head, ACRC, TNAU, delivered about the application of weather information in horse gram cultivation practices. Dr.S.Karthikeyan, Professor and Head, CPHT, TNAU, explained about the resistant starch and protein content present in the traditional horse gram. Dr. Saraswathy Eswaran, Secretary, Ramasamy Chinnammal Trust (RCT), shared insights on the role of NGOs in entrepreneurship development and their contribution to doubling farmers’ income. Dr. V.M. Indumathi, Associate Professor (ARM), Department of Agricultural and Rural Management, CARDS, TNAU, presented on “Marketing and Export opportunities of Traditional Horse gram Varieties.” The programme witnessed the participation of 20 farmers from Dharmapuri District and five progressive SHG women representatives from NGOs.

The participants were provided with practical knowledge on preparation of value-added products of with the traditional horse gram base ingredients. The traditional rice-based health mix sample which was prepared under this scheme were given to the beneficiaries. The programme was concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. P. Geetha, Professor (FSN) who also shared her experiences in value addition and product development.

Public Relations Officer