

SPARK BULLETIN

Monthly Momentum of Zone - X KVKs

Voicing the vision of KVKs- One Story at a Times



AUGUST 2024

ICAR – Agricultural Technology
Application Research Institute (ATARI),
Zone – X, Hyderabad



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From the Director, ICAR-ATARI's Desk



डॉ. शेक एन. मीरा
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Message

Greetings,

I am delighted to publish August Month publication of SPARK BULLETIN - Monthly Momentum of Zone-X KVKs which showcases the extension interventions of ICAR-KVKs Zone-X – Hyderabad.

This edition of the SPARK Bulletin highlights a diverse range of activities and accomplishments undertaken by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) during the month of February, reflecting their unwavering commitment to holistic agricultural development. Key initiatives included training on salinity management in paddy, organic farming, biopesticide production, and the innovative use of drones for banana nutrient application. KVKs empowered rural youth and women through skill development in mushroom cultivation, nursery management, backyard poultry, and value addition of coconut shells, while also promoting clean energy through PM-KUSUM workshops and energy efficiency campaigns. Flagship events such as Kisan Melas, Technology Week, and Vana Mahotsav promoted farmer engagement and environmental awareness. Infrastructural enhancements like the inauguration of shade net houses, administrative buildings, and distribution of critical inputs further strengthened on-ground capacity. The Golden Jubilee Torch Relay, celebrated across multiple KVKs, showcased the legacy and unity of the extension system. Through farmer-scientist interface meetings, climate-smart agriculture initiatives, entrepreneurship promotion, and livelihood enhancement programmes, the KVKs continue to play a pivotal role in transforming India's agri-food systems.

My appreciation to all the Directors of Extension, Programme Coordinators, Senior Scientists and Head of ICAR KVKs and Scientists for their great support in organizing the events and making this SPARK news bulletin effective for the betterment of farmers community.

(Shaik N Meera)

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Chronicles of August Activities - ICAR-ATARI, Hyderabad



ATARI Hyderabad staff planted saplings on the occasion of "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" plantation event on 29th August 2024 creating momentum to Global Campaign is arranged at ICAR-ATARI, Hyderabad.



Dr. B. Jamuna Rani, Director of Extension, and Dr. P. Raghu Rami Reddy, Registrar, PJTSAU, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, visited ICAR ATARI - Zone X, Hyderabad for a productive meeting with Dr. Shaik N Meera, Director, ATARI, and the Scientific & Administrative staff. The meeting focused on discussing key issues and exploring potential improvements in KVKs across Telangana.



**Celebrated Independence Day
at ATARI-X, Hyderabad**



**Swachhtha Pakhwada at
ICAR-ATARI-X,
Hyderabad**



**Dr. S.R.K Singh, Director,
ICAR-ATARI-IX,
Jabalpur, Madhya
Pradesh visited ATARI-
X, Hyderabad**

Tamil Nadu

► ICAR- KVK, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu

Salinity Management in Paddy

A research trial was initiated on August 6, 2024, to address salinity issues affecting Kuruvai paddy in Ariyalur district, which has impacted 2,500 hectares since 2022, especially in villages like Thenkatchiperumal Natham, Idankanni, and Kuruchi. This trial, conducted in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and TRRI TNAU Aduthurai, included seven management treatments, notably a water softener device. Treatment plots received copper sulphate (5 kg/ha) and gypsum (250 kg/ha) to evaluate algal growth, crop establishment, and yield. Diagnostic visits monitored pests and diseases, benefiting 10 SC farmers across 8 hectares to enhance crop yield and establishment.



► ICAR- KVK, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Sensitization Workshop on Cotton

A pilot project on high-density planting systems (HDPS) for cotton was launched on August 11, 2024 in collaboration with CICR Nagpur under the NFSM project, "Targeting Technologies to Agro-Ecological Zones." A workshop in Kuppichipalayam village, Periyanaickenpalayam block, led by Mr. S. Sureshkumar, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy), highlighted the importance of HDPS practices. Dr. P. Sankaranarayanan, Principal Scientist, chaired the event, promoting mechanized cultivation with pneumatic planters. Dr. Isabella Agarwal emphasized cotton's economic value, encouraging farmers to seek higher returns. The project aims to boost productivity across 60 acres, with over 55 farmers participating.



► ICAR- KVK, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu

Awareness Campaign on Energy Efficiency in Agriculture and Expert consultation meeting

An awareness campaign on energy efficiency and demand-side management in agriculture was organized by ICAR-KVKs of TNAU at KVK, Vridhachalam on August 9, 2024. The event included 77 participants, including farmers from Cuddalore district and officials from the State Department of Agriculture. Discussions focused on energy-efficient solutions for optimizing power usage in water extraction via pumps and motors. Inputs from farmers were collected to inform policy decisions. Additionally, the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS) held a consultation, where scientists presented strategies to boost farm income to Rs. 2.5 lakh/hectare/year.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu

Samridhi Kisan Utsav Programme

Samridhi Kisan Utsav program was held on August 23, 2024, in collaboration with Krishi Jagran, New Delhi. Dr. M.A. Vennila, Programme Coordinator, presided over the event, which featured technical lectures on millet cultivation, water management, crop and pest management, dairy management, and clean milk production. Bank managers discussed agriculture-related schemes, while an Agriculture Officer highlighted marketing opportunities. A Krishi Jagran representative shared their initiatives. Around 280 farmers participated, benefiting from the insights provided. The program aimed to empower farmers with agricultural knowledge, banking schemes, and market access.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu

Inauguration of shade net house and distribution of critical inputs to the farmers

A program on shade net houses and input distribution was held on August 27, 2024 at KVK farm. Dr. N. Panchanatham, Vice-Chancellor of GRI (DTBU), inaugurated the new shade net house and planted vegetable (capsicum, chillies) and flower (marigold) seedlings with farmers. Dr. L. Rathakrishnan, Registrar, Dr. S. Meenakshi, Director (R&D), Dr. M. Sundharamari, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Animal Sciences and Dr. C. Pitchai, Finance Officer, also planted neem saplings. Blackgram VBN11 seeds, vermicompost grow bags, and Manila Tamarind PKM2 were distributed to farmers. The Vice-Chancellor awarded appreciation certificates to KVK staff. A total of 44 farmers attended the event.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Erode, Tamil Nadu

Awareness Programme on Eradication of Parthenium Weed

An awareness program on parthenium weed eradication was organized in Aerapalayam village in Sathy Block on August 16, 2024 and in Thondarankadu village, Gobichettipalayam Block on August 08, 2024. Farmers were educated on manual uprooting methods for weed eradication as well as compost-making techniques, weed management using predatory insects, and chemical control methods. A total of 72 farmers participated in the program. During the program, farmers and farm women actively participated in uprooting parthenium weeds from the fields and irrigation channels. They were also informed about the harmful effects of parthenium weed.



►► ICAR- KVK, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu

Golden Jubilee Torch Relay Celebration

ICAR-KVK Kattupakkam celebrated the Golden Jubilee Torch Relay on August 22-23, 2024, in Chengalpattu district, with 125 farmers, farm women, and entrepreneurs. The torch, received from KVK Tiruvallur, was displayed for local farmers. Dr. M. Siddharth, Professor and Head, welcomed attendees, while Dr. V. Appa Rao, Director of Extension Education at TANUVAS, highlighted the role of KVKs. Dr. S. Chitra, Assistant Director of the Government Poultry Farm, discussed poultry farming, and Dr. S. Gayathri Subbiah conducted training on cultivation practices and Parthenium awareness. Dr. N. Aparna provided insights on quail farming. The torch was passed to KVK Tiruvannamalai on August 24, 2024.



►► ICAR- KVK, Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu

Training on Production technology of biopesticides conducted by KVK, Kanyakumari

A training program was organized on the "Production Technology of Biopesticides" for local farmers and agricultural enthusiasts from August 19-21, 2024. The event focused on educating participants about the importance of biopesticides in sustainable agriculture and reducing chemical pesticide use. Experts provided hands-on training on the preparation and application of biopesticides, highlighting their effectiveness in pest control and environmental safety. Farmers were encouraged to adopt biopesticide production techniques to improve crop health and ensure eco-friendly farming practices. The training received positive feedback from 22 participants, who expressed interest in implementing the knowledge gained on their farms.



►► ICAR- KVK, Karur, Tamil Nadu

Demonstration of ICAR-NRCB liquid Banana sakthi application using drone

A demonstration of the ICAR-NRCB Liquid Banana Sakthi application using drones was conducted on August 29, 2024, in Valanthur village, Kulithalai block. Led by P. Kaviyarasu, SMS (Horticulture), the session highlighted the benefits of Banana Sakthi for enhancing banana crop growth and health. Farmers learned how drone technology streamlines the application of liquid fertilizer, making it more efficient and labor-saving. A total of 35 farmers participated, discovering how this method can improve nutrient distribution and boost yields on larger farms. The demonstration was well-received, with many farmers expressing interest in adopting this innovative agricultural technique to enhance productivity.



►► ICAR- KVK, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu

Kisan Mela and Tree planting Campaign

A Kisan Mela and Tree Planting Campaign was held on August 21, 2024, at the KVK Campus to promote tree plantation and crop diversification, resulting in the planting of 162 tree saplings. Subject Matter Specialists discussed soil health management, composting technologies, and cultivation techniques for ragi, mango, and amla. Additionally, 1,000 mango seedlings and 400 amla seedlings were distributed to 50 farmers, with each receiving 20 mango and 8 amla seedlings under the SCSP scheme. The Lead Bank Manager attended to provide information on financial assistance for farmers. The initiative successfully encouraged sustainable farming practices.



►► ICAR- KVK, Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Madurai KVK Assists Farmers in Sustaining Agricultural Practices

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, in collaboration with Directorate of Extension Education and ICAR-KVK Madurai, hosted an "Expert Consultation Meeting" on August 20, 2024, at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai. The goal was to develop strategies to boost farmers' net income by ₹1,00,000 per acre annually. Dr. P. P. Mahendran emphasized soil fertility, while discussions led by Mr. P. Subburaj and Dr. E. Subramanian focused on modern crop production techniques. 70 farmers and officials explored strategies in horticulture, value addition, farm machinery, animal husbandry, and more. The event saw active participation from officials across 13 blocks in Madurai district.



►► ICAR- KVK, Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu

Awareness Workshop for Farmers on PM-KUSUM - Agri PhotoVoltaics

A training program on the Government of India's PM-KUSUM Scheme (Component A) was held on August 21, 2024, sponsored by ASCI. Part of KVK's 100-day activities, the workshop aimed to educate farmers on boosting income and irrigation through solar energy, reducing diesel reliance, and promoting decentralized solar plants (10,000 MW). Dr. A. Gopalakannan, Programme Coordinator, welcomed participants, while Dr. K. Chandrasekar and Mr. K. Ragu organized the event. Success stories were shared to inspire involvement. A total of 40 farmers attended and learned about the benefits of solar energy in agriculture.



►► ICAR- KVK, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu

ASCI Skill Training on Mushroom Grower (Small Unit)

ASCI organized a skill training program on "Mushroom Grower (Small Unit)" from August 5 to September 4, 2024, for 25 youth, farmers, and farm women. Dr. K. Velmurugan, Professor and Head, inaugurated the program, covering large-scale mushroom production and composting. Dr. C. Sankar, Assistant Professor, conducted a pre-test and introduced mushroom production and marketing. The training included lectures on mushroom biology, production technologies, and tools. Participants visited a TNAU mushroom unit for insights on value addition, certification, and packaging. The program also covered spawn production, marketing, and post-harvest technologies, enhancing their skills in the mushroom industry.



►► ICAR- KVK, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu

Capacity building in organic hill vegetables production and group dynamics among bee keepers

A capacity-building program on organic hill vegetable production and group dynamics among beekeepers was held on August 8, 2024 in Gudalur Block, with 81 participants, including farmers, farm women, and entrepreneurs. The training focused on organic horticulture, Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM) for hill crops, and sustainable practices to improve productivity and environmental health. An interactive session with beekeepers assessed group dynamics and discussed strategies for enhancing cooperation and efficiency in honey management. The program provided practical knowledge on organic farming and teamwork, empowering participants to apply these skills effectively.



►► ICAR- KVK, Perambalur, Tamil Nadu

Parthenium Awareness Week (16-22nd August, 2024)

Parthenium Awareness Week, celebrated from August 16-22, 2024, highlighted the weed's harmful effects on human health, agriculture, and animal milk quality. Experts conducted demos, field visits, and awareness programs on biological control, composting, and chemical eradication. Over 85 farmers and rural youth participated, learning strategies to combat Parthenium. The week-long initiative promoted community involvement in controlling this invasive weed, protecting biodiversity and livelihoods. Since 2004, KVK's efforts have focused on eradicating Parthenium, ensuring a healthier environment and sustainable agricultural practices.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Pudukottai, Tamil Nadu

Parthenium Awareness Week: Community Engagement and Education at KVK Vamban

Parthenium Awareness Week was celebrated from August 16-22, 2024, to educate farmers and students about the harmful effects of Parthenium on health, biodiversity, and crops. Totally 58 farmers and farm women have participated. Activities included removal campaigns, awareness rallies, and expert discussions on management strategies. Dr. A. Yuvaraja inaugurated the event, coordinated by Dr. A. Alagesan. The initiative emphasized community involvement and collective action against this invasive weed. The successful program inspired participants to contribute to a Parthenium-free environment and promote sustainable agricultural practices



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu

Expert Consultation Participation Workshop

A workshop on "Keeping Farmers in Farming" (KFF) was held on August 13, 2024, to strategize ways to increase farmers' incomes to ₹2.5 lakhs per hectare annually. Led by the Director of Extension Education from TNAU, the event included KVK staff and agricultural officials. Key strategies discussed included integrated farming, promoting millets through mechanization, supporting extra-long stable cotton cultivation, improving cotton procurement, enhancing marketing for chillies, raising credit limits for major crops, ensuring timely inputs, promoting inland fishing, boosting green fodder production, implementing wildlife damage mitigation schemes, and encouraging marketing through Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Salem, Tamil Nadu

KVK Golden Jubilee Torch Relay Programme

As part of KVK's Golden Jubilee celebrations, events were held on August 4-5, 2024. On August 4, 66 SC farmers shared experiences at Sundakapatti village, followed by a "Next Gen Farming" event at Danishpet Government Higher Secondary School, featuring a rally with the KVK Golden Jubilee Torch. On August 5, 34 Krishi Sakhi's participated in on-campus training on Out-scaling Natural Farming. A short video, "My Journey with KVKs," was documented. The torch was handed over to KVK Dindigul team on August 5, 2024.



►► ICAR- KVK, Sivagangai, Tamil Nadu

Training Programme on Organic Farming in Agricultural Crops for Livelihood Enhancement of farmers under ICAR - SCSP Scheme 2024-25

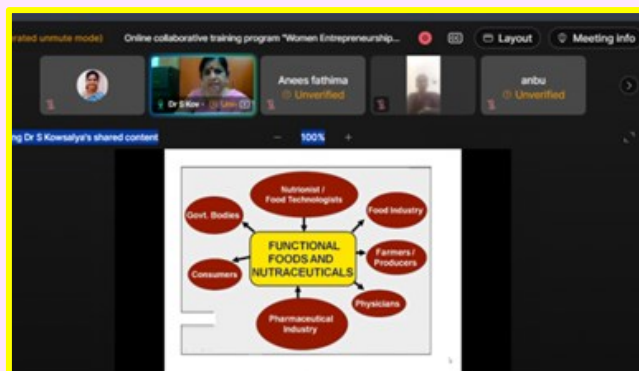
A training program on Organic Farming in Agricultural Crops was conducted under the SCSP scheme on August 29, 2024. Dr. S. Sendur Kumaran inaugurated the event, emphasizing organic farming's importance. Dr. L. Vimalendran explained organic practices, stubble management, and nutrient management using vermicomposting and bio-inoculants. 25 farmers and farm women participated, gaining hands-on experience and knowledge on soil health improvement and residue-free produce. The program also created awareness about departmental schemes like IFS and NLM. Participants received vermicompost and booklets, enhancing their livelihoods through sustainable agriculture practices.



►► ICAR- KVK, Theni, Tamil Nadu

Sponsored Training on Women Entrepreneurship

A three-day online training on "Women Entrepreneurship" with MANAGE, Hyderabad was organized from August 6 to 8, 2024 for 44 women which helped in gaining knowledge and skills to enhance their livelihoods. Expert speakers from various institutions covered functional food development, entrepreneurship, global market access, and digital marketing. The program promoted women's entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sectors, fostering economic independence. Dr. P. Patchaimal highlighted available incubation facilities for aspiring entrepreneurs during the valedictory address. The initiative supports rural women's empowerment and entrepreneurship development.



►► ICAR- KVK, Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu

Golden Jubilee Torch Relay event

A torch relay event, kicked off the Golden Jubilee celebration, promoting natural farming awareness on August 22, 2024. Dr. Shaik N. Meera, ATARI Director, inaugurated an exhibition showcasing innovations from various departments and private firms. The event featured addresses from esteemed dignitaries, emphasizing climate-resilient farming, mechanization, and effective marketing strategies. Booklets, newsletters, and pamphlets were released, and equipment distributed to farmers and women's self-help groups. The event drew a diverse audience, including farmers, scientists, and students, highlighting the importance of sustainable agriculture practices.



►► ICAR- KVK, Thiruvanamalai, Tamil Nadu

Technology Week Celebration

A Technology Week was celebrated from August 5-9, 2024, with 285 farmers participating. The event featured demonstrations on silkworm rearing, bio-input formulation, profitable dairy farming, and soil reclamation. An exhibition showcased KVK and farmers' cooperative products, highlighting natural farming, beekeeping, agroforestry, and value-added millet products. Training sessions and awareness programs focused on integrated organic farming, Agri-allied ventures, and agroforestry. Participants received 400 agroforestry saplings and 1,200 leaflets on improved technologies. The event empowered rural youth, college students, dairy farmers, and farm women by promoting sustainable agriculture and enhancing their livelihoods.



►► ICAR- KVK, Thiruvarur, Tamil Nadu

Awareness workshop on PM KUSUM

An awareness workshop on PM KUSUM (Component A) was conducted on August 19, 2024, in collaboration with ICAR-ATARI, Hyderabad, NSFI, and GIZ. Dr. D. Periyar Ramasamy welcomed participants, emphasizing the scheme's importance for the farming community, while GIZ representatives and trainer R.M. Subramaniam explained the objectives and components. The program aimed to educate farmers about the scheme's benefits. An interactive session gathered participant feedback. 40 farmers and FPO representatives attended, gaining insights into solar-powered irrigation and agricultural productivity enhancement. The workshop promoted sustainable agriculture practices and government initiative awareness.



►► ICAR- KVK, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

ICAR DDG (Horticulture) visit at SCAD Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, ICAR DDG (Horticulture), visited the KVK, on August 26, 2024. He distributed IIHR technological products to 50 farmers from Akkanayakanpatti village and released two training manuals on Nursery Management and Palmyra & its value addition. Principal Scientists Dr. R. Senthil Kumar and Dr. R. Sankar delivered lectures on IIHR technologies. The visit included a tour of KVK facilities, discussions on innovative horticulture practices, and interaction with staff and farmers. Dr. Singh praised the KVK team's efforts in serving local farmers.



►► ICAR- KVK, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu

State level awareness programme on nutrient management in Agriculture and Horticulture crops

An awareness program on Physiological Disorders in Agricultural and Horticultural Crops on August 7, 2024 was conducted to educate 700 farmers on integrated nutrient management and nutrient deficiency issues. Dignitaries emphasized the importance of micronutrients and crop boosters, which can increase yields by 20-25%. Demonstrations on sugarcane booster spray using drones and coconut tonic were conducted. The program included the release of KVK's newsletter and technical brochures, and an exhibition for technology transfer.



►► ICAR- KVK, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu

Vocational training programme on value addition of coconut shells

A five-day skill development program, held from August 5 to 9, 2024, focused on value addition of coconut shells. Esteemed speakers, including Mr. Arjun from Crazy Coconut, shared their expertise, while an exhibition showcased participants' handmade coconut shell products. The program, attended by 50 participants, covered various topics such as coconut shell crafting, safety precautions, design principles, and market research. It aimed to educate participants on creating valuable products like bowls, spoons, and decor items from coconut shells, enhancing livelihood opportunities for farmers in the district, where coconut is a major crop.



►► ICAR- KVK, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu

Training on Cultivation techniques for Commercially Important Tree Species

A collaborative training on "Cultivation Techniques for Commercially Important Tree Species" was organized on August 14, 2024, in partnership with ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore, for 31 farmers, NGOs, and tree growers. Experts from IFGTB and KVK shared insights on the cultivation techniques of Teak, Casuarina, Sandalwood, and Mahogany. The program featured an exhibition of tree seedlings and posters, interactive sessions, and farmer feedback. The event aimed to promote sustainable forestry practices and enhance livelihoods through commercial tree cultivation.



►► ICAR- KVK, Vellore, Tamil Nadu

Golden Jubilee KVK Torch Relay- Farmers Seminar and Farmer Scientist Interface Meeting

A joint program on the Golden Jubilee Torch Relay, Farmers Seminar, and Farmer-Scientist Interface Meeting was organized on August 28-29, 2024, in partnership with Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd. The event promoted sustainable agriculture and climate resilience through expert talks on crop varieties, integrated nutrient management, and value addition. 200 farmers from Vellore district attended, receiving valuable insights and inputs from both government departments and private companies. Dr. A. Thirumurugan inaugurated the event, highlighting the importance of sustainable agricultural practices.



►► ICAR- KVK, Villupuram 1, Tamil Nadu

Parthenium Awareness campaign

A Parthenium awareness campaign was organized on August 21 and 22, 2024, targeting students and progressive farmers in Villupuram district. The campaign, held at Pallicherry and Lingareddipalayam Primary Schools, educated students on the harmful effects of Parthenium weed and encouraged them to identify and remove it from their surroundings, with proper disposal by burning. Pamphlets detailing control measures were distributed to raise awareness. Progressive farmers also received training on the dangers of Parthenium and were given pamphlets to help spread awareness among the farming community. The campaign promoted effective strategies to control this invasive weed.



►► ICAR- KVK, Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu

Training programme on Seed production and livestock management at KVK, Virudhunagar

A coordinated training program on "Seed Production and Livestock Management" was organised on August 29, 2024 with the National Seed Corporation for 21 stakeholders. Targeting seed producers, dealers, and farmers, the event featured discussions on newly released crop varieties, integrated crop management practices, and seed certification procedures. Technical sessions covered managing biotic and abiotic stresses, post-harvest handling, and value addition techniques. Dr. V. Palanichamy provided insights into the National Livestock Mission's schemes. The program also included an exhibition of new seed varieties and a demonstration of tractor-drawn seed drill sowing for farmers.



►► ICAR- KVK, Villupuram 2, Tamil Nadu

Inauguration of KVK administrative and farmers hostel building

A notable inauguration ceremony for its new Administrative and Farmers' Hostel buildings, alongside various demonstration units on campus was held on August 16, 2024. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Udham Singh Gautam, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension) from ICAR, New Delhi, who officially opened the new facilities, including a natural farming demonstration unit. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Dr. K. N. Selvakumar, Vice Chancellor of TANUVAS, and Dr. Shaik N Meera, Director, ICAR ATARI - Zone X, Hyderabad. The event attracted 565 farmers and 145 extension officials, showcasing exhibition stalls featuring agricultural technologies and entrepreneurial initiatives from neighbouring KVKs. Informative booklets on organic agriculture and production technologies for black and green grams, along with a CD on traditional paddy cultivation were released. Key agricultural inputs, such as battery-operated sprayers and coconut saplings, were also distributed under the SCSP program. Additionally, new units for turkey, quail, and goats, releasing materials on organic farming and nursery management were inaugurated. Dignitaries also planted ornamental tree saplings to enhance the campus environment. Dr. V. Appa Rao from TANUVAS welcomed attendees, while Dr. M. Vimalarani, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Villupuram-II, expressed gratitude during the vote of thanks.



Andhra Pradesh

ICAR- KVK, Ananthapuram 1 (Reddipalli), Andhra Pradesh

Skill training programme on Backyard poultry rearing

A five-day skill development program on Backyard Poultry Rearing was held from August 5 to 9, 2024, for 25 SC farmers from Narpala Mandal, Anantapuramu district. The training covered key aspects such as breed selection, feeding, housing, and seasonal management, with hands-on practice in feed formulation, vaccination, and deworming. Emphasis was placed on Aseel birds, valued for their hardiness and adaptability. Each participant received 10 six-week-old Aseel birds (250 total) to establish small poultry units for supplemental income. The initiative aimed at promoting sustainable livelihoods for below-poverty-line farmers, who expressed satisfaction with the training and support provided.



ICAR- KVK, Ananthapuram 2 (Kalyandurg), Andhra Pradesh

Enhancing Yield and Profitability through Intercropping of Black Pepper and Betel Vine in Arecanut through Natural Farming interventions

The KVK has successfully implemented intercropping of black pepper and betel vine with arecanut in Sri Satya Sai district, where 6,000 hectares are monocropped with arecanut. In the 2023-2024 season, farmers adopted this method on 3,063 acres, yielding 80-100 quintals of arecanut, 125 kg of black pepper, and 13,500 betel vine leaves per acre, exceeding the 125 quintals per acre from monocropping. This approach generated Rs. 6,00,000 from arecanut, Rs. 1,25,000 from black pepper, and Rs. 13,500 from betel vine, compared to Rs. 5,60,000 from arecanut alone. The KVK has reached 6,800 farmers, providing training on natural farming and distributing beneficial microorganisms.



ICAR- KVK, Chittoor 1 (RASS), Andhra Pradesh

Golden Jubilee celebrations of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Golden Torch Relay Programme

The Golden Jubilee of KVKs was celebrated with a Torch Relay on August 15-16, 2024, marking 50 years of KVKs and RASS KVK's 32 years of service. Coinciding with India's 78th Independence Day, the event gathered local farmers and dignitaries like Dr. S. Venkataratnam and Dr. V. Sumathi. A Golden Torch rally through the KVK instructional farm highlighted cost-saving technologies and high-yield crop varieties. Dignitaries released KVK publications, distributed Vanaraja poultry chicks, and raised awareness on Parthenium control and Swachh Bharat. Around 200 farmers and agricultural students participated in this impactful event.



► ICAR- KVK, Chittoor 2 (kalikiri), Andhra Pradesh

Golden jubilee Torch relay Programme at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalikiri, Annamayya District

The Golden Jubilee of KVKs was celebrated on August 13 to 14, 2024, marking 50 years since the establishment of the first KVK. The event commenced with the arrival of the Golden Jubilee torch from KVK Periyavaram. On the first day, a Torch Relay took place at Murevandlapalli, where Dr. K. Manjula outlined KVK's activities, followed by Sri S. Somasekhar's talk on Good Agricultural Practices in Groundnut and Dr. A. Srinivasulu's focus on mango pruning. The second day highlighted KVK's achievements, with experts discussing livestock schemes and pest management, alongside demonstrations on drone usage, neem oil spraying, and biopesticide distribution. Around 135 farmers participated in this event.



► ICAR- KVK, East Godavari 1 (Kalavacharla), Andhra Pradesh

Skill Training of Rural Youth on Nursery Management "Grafting Techniques in Horticultural Crops"

A seven-day skill training on "Nursery Management and Grafting Techniques in Horticultural Crops" was held from August 7-13, 2024, in collaboration with ATMA-East Godavari, SAMETI (Guntur), and MANAGE (Hyderabad). The program trained 15 rural youth (9 men and 6 women) from Vemagiri, Murari, Kodavali, and Gadarada in nursery management, seedling production, potting mixture preparation, root-stock maintenance, and grafting techniques like veneer and air-layering. They also learned orchard rejuvenation and pest management. Certificates and tools such as secateurs and pro-trays were distributed by Dr. M. Sheshu Madhav, Dr. VSGR Naidu, and Dr. Y. Jyothirmayi.



► ICAR- KVK, East Godavari 2 (Pandirimamidi), Andhra Pradesh

World Tribal day Celebrations (Adivasi Dinotsavam)

In collaboration with ITDA Rampachodavaram, World Tribal Day was celebrated on August 9, 2024, to raise awareness and protect the rights of indigenous populations. KVK staff set up a stall showcasing developmental initiatives and engaged with farmers on KVK's role in tribal upliftment. Dignitaries included Smt. M. Sirisha, MLA, and Sri K. Simhachalam, IAS. Over 2,500 tribal members from the Alluri Sitaramaraju District, representing more than 20 ancient tribal communities, attended the event. The celebration included cultural performances, tribal dances, an exhibitions of indigenous herbs, domestic products, and traditional utensils. The event honored tribal communities as guardians of natural resources and traditions.



►► ICAR- KVK, Guntur (Lam), Andhra Pradesh

TMR and Area specific mineral distribution under impactful activities

A distribution of 5 tonnes of Total Mixed Ration (TMR) and 50 kg of area-specific mineral mixture, developed by SVVU, was conducted for 30 dairy farmers in Kattavaripalem village, Palnadu district on August 21, 2024. This initiative aims to address reproductive issues in dairy animals, such as anoestrus and repeat breeding, which threaten farmers' livelihoods. With rising concentrate feed costs and limited green fodder, many small-scale dairy farmers are downsizing or exiting the industry. The TMR features a balanced 60:40 roughage-to-concentrate ratio, enhancing reproductive health and productivity while promoting sustainable practices through the use of local crop residues.



►► ICAR- KVK, Kadapa 1 (Utukur), Andhra Pradesh

Golden jubilee celebrations of KVKs at KVK, Utukur

The Golden Jubilee of KVKs was celebrated on August 5-6, 2024, with engaging events centered around the KVK Golden Jubilee torch. The program included training sessions and live demonstrations aimed at empowering local farmers. Key topics covered the use of drones in agriculture, featuring a nutrient spraying demonstration on groundnut and jowar crops. Hands-on training enhanced farm machinery maintenance and operation skills for both men and women. The significance of solar energy was highlighted, showcasing solar-powered equipment and the PM KUSUM scheme, along with a practical demonstration of solar fencing to protect crops from wildlife. The event attracted 265 active participants.



►► ICAR- KVK, Kadapa 2 (Vonipenta), Andhra Pradesh

Golden jubilee celebrations at Dr. YSRHU KVK, Vonipenta

The Golden Jubilee of KVKs was celebrated at Dr. YSRHU – KVK, Vonipenta, on August 2, 2024, where the golden jubilee torch was received from Dr. Harini, SMS (Veterinary Science). The event included a discussion by Dr. E. Karuna Sree, Director of Extension, on the origins and activities of the KVK system. It also launched a two-day training program on chili cultivation, featuring experts from Dr. YSRHU – LAM Farm, Guntur, who shared insights on cultivation techniques and post-harvest management. Dr. M. Balakrishna, Senior Scientist, highlighted Integrated Nutrient Management practices, fostering valuable interaction among officials and farmers.



► ICAR- KVK, Krishna 1 (Garikapadu), Andhra Pradesh

Skill training for Rural Youth (STRY)

In collaboration with ATMA Krishna and SAMETI Hyderabad, the Skill Training for Rural Youth (STRY) program focused on "Value Addition of Fruits and Vegetables," engaging 80 participants. This initiative equipped rural youth with essential food processing and preservation skills, enhancing the marketability of local produce. Participants learned techniques such as jam-making, pickling, and drying, aimed at reducing waste and boosting farmers' incomes. The hands-on training provided valuable practical experience, fostering entrepreneurship and contributing to sustainable development and food security. KVK Garikapadu demonstrates its commitment to uplifting rural communities and promoting economic growth through this program.



► ICAR- KVK, Krishna 2 (Ghantasala), Andhra Pradesh

Parthenium Awareness week and Swachh Bharath activities

A week-long awareness campaign on Parthenium was organized from August 16 to 22, 2024, reaching 35 farmers. This initiative educated local communities about the invasive weed's detrimental effects on agriculture, health, and the environment through awareness sessions in Ghantasala, Ghantasalapalem, and other KVK-adopted villages. Additionally, the KVK conducted the Swachh Bharat program from August 16 to 31, benefiting 30 farmers in Ghantasala, Tadepalli, and Daliparru. This initiative promoted cleanliness and sanitation, highlighting the importance of a clean environment for public health and agricultural productivity. Both programs underscore KVK's commitment to sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship.



► ICAR- KVK, Kurnool 1 (Yagantipalle), Andhra Pradesh

Bridging Knowledge and Practice: Climate-Smart Agriculture Innovations with (C-SUCSeS) project

Dr. Kinjang, Regional Project Coordinator of C-SUCSeS, and Dr. JVNS Prasad, AICRPDA Coordinator, visited KVK project villages on August 20, 2024, to evaluate climate-smart agriculture practices. They observed intercropping systems combining redgram with foxtail millet, boosting production and climate resilience. During discussions with scientists and farmers, they addressed project progress and future expansion. Farmers expressed appreciation for the support and interest in larger-scale initiatives. Dr. Kinjang also toured KVK demonstration units, including the seed hub and vermicompost lab, and participated in backyard poultry training for rural women, distributing chicks to enhance sustainable agriculture and livelihoods.



► ICAR- KVK, Kurnool 2 (Banavasi), Andhra Pradesh

KVK, Banavasi - Kisan mela in collaboration with Krishi Jagran

The KVK has conducted the Kisan mela on August 20, 2024. Scientists explained pest and disease management in cotton and paddy crops, the introduction of new varieties, the nutritional benefits of millets, the importance of millets, and new rice varieties for early Rabi sowing. The session covered integrated pest and disease management techniques for cotton, redgram, and chilli crops, along with the application of drones in agriculture and facilities available at the KVK for the farmers. A total of 268 farmers and farm women participated in the event.



► ICAR- KVK, Nellore 1, Andhra Pradesh

Golden Jubilee Torch Relay Programme

As part of the Golden Jubilee Torch Relay program organized by ATARI Zone-X, a two-day event was held on August 7 and 8, 2024, to celebrate KVK Nellore's 25 years of service to the SPSR Nellore district. The event engaged the local farming community through various on-campus and off-campus activities. Distinguished guests from ANGRAU and officials from the state Department of Agriculture attended, emphasizing KVKs' role in agricultural development, knowledge dissemination, and enhancing collaboration among researchers, extension workers, and farmers. The program showcased significant achievements, reinforcing the commitment to supporting the agricultural community.



► ICAR- KVK, Nellore 2 (Periyavaram), Andhra Pradesh

Micro Enterprise Development Program on Moringa and Millet based Biscuits to SHG women funded by NABARD (15 Days MEDP programme)

The Dept. of Home Science hosted a Micro Enterprise Development Program from Aug 9-31, 2024, training 30 SHG women in Moringa and Millet-based biscuit production, funded by NABARD. Key speakers included Sri C. Sunil (AGM-NABARD), Dr. E. Karunasree (Director of Extension, YSRHU), and Dr. B. Govinda Rajulu (Principal Scientist, KVK Periyavaram). Hands-on sessions and exposure visits to RARS and LBI equipped participants with entrepreneurial skills and knowledge on millet processing. The program concluded with a valedictory event, participant feedback, and certificate distribution, empowering women with self-employment opportunities and nutritional expertise.



► ICAR- KVK, Prakasam 1 (Darsi), Andhra Pradesh

Organized Tree Plantation Programme

The 'EK PED MAA KE NAAM' plantation program was conducted on August 29, 2024, to promote environmental sustainability. Dr. G. Ramesh, the Programme Coordinator, highlighted the significance of tree plantation and the program's motto, underscoring its importance for the community. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from staff, farmers, and students from the KGBV School, all coming together to support environmental conservation efforts. This initiative aimed to instill a sense of responsibility towards nature and enhance community engagement in sustainable practices, reinforcing the critical role of trees in combating climate change and promoting ecological balance.



► ICAR- KVK, Prakasam 2 (Kandukur), Andhra Pradesh

Research-Extension-Farmer interface meeting

A Research-Extension-Farmer meeting was conducted on August 4, 2024, in Kalikivaya village, addressing key issues faced by local farmers. Discussions centered on diseases affecting chickpea, paddy, black gram, and mango, as well as fertilizer misuse and post-harvest processing challenges. Expert solutions were provided, and select farmers were chosen for demonstrations. A diagnostic visit to Pakala village identified additional concerns, including pests and diseases in brinjal and chili. To promote sustainable practices, bio-fortified millet seeds were distributed under the FLD program, accompanied by guidance on best agricultural practices, processing, and value addition to enhance crop yields.



► ICAR- KVK, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh

Skill Training Programme on Rural Youth at KVK, Amadalavalasa

A skill training programme for 20 rural youth farmers was organized at KVK, Amadalavalasa, focusing on the use, repair, and maintenance of farm machinery. The program took place from August 27, 2024 to September 2, 2024 and provided an in-depth understanding of various farming equipment. One of the key highlights of the training was a hands-on session on the operation of MSRI tray filling, where farmers received practical experience and guidance from experts. This interactive approach allowed participants to enhance their technical skills and build confidence in handling machinery independently. Participants expressed confidence and satisfaction with the knowledge acquired through the vocational training programme.



► ICAR- KVK, Visakhapatnam 1 (Haripuram), Andhra Pradesh

Parthenium Awareness Week

Parthenium Awareness Week, held from August 16 to 22, 2024, focused on the detrimental effects of this invasive weed on agriculture, health, and livestock, including skin allergies and respiratory problems. The campaign educated farmers and local communities about various control methods, such as chemical, biological, and composting techniques. Activities took place in several villages, culminating at BCT-KVK, where participants committed to eradicating Parthenium. The event engaged 116 participants, fostering collective action against the weed and promoting healthier communities through sustainable practices and greater awareness of environmental challenges.



► ICAR- KVK, Visakhapatnam 2 (Kondempudi), Andhra Pradesh

Organized the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' plantation event at the KVK Instructional Farm

The 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' plantation event was organized on August 29, 2024, at the KVK Instructional Farm to support a global campaign. This initiative aimed to promote environmental awareness and encourage tree planting, with participants planting various saplings across the farm. The event highlighted the crucial role of trees in combating climate change and enhancing biodiversity. Each tree was symbolically dedicated to mothers, reinforcing the campaign's message of nurturing both the environment and family values, fostering a sense of responsibility towards nature and community well-being.



► ICAR- KVK, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh

STRY training programme

A STRY training programme conducted for 20 women farmers on value addition to forest produce from August 12 to 18, 2024. Dr. S. Dhurua, Programme Coordinator explained the scope, importance, and value addition of forest produce in tribal areas to uplift the socio-economic status of tribal farmers. Smt. Y. Uma Jyothi, SMS Home Science demonstrated the value addition process for forest produce such as karonda, cassava, tamarind, and bamboo. The women farmers also gained hands-on experience during the training. On the final day, certificates were distributed, and participants expressed their enthusiasm to become entrepreneurs at the local level.



► ICAR- KVK, West Godavari 1 (Undi), Andhra Pradesh

Training programme on Poultry farming-Enterprise promotion

A training programme was conducted on Poultry Farming – Enterprise Promotion from August 6 to 7, 2024. The topics covered included poultry shed construction, suitable breeds for backyard poultry such as Vanaraja, Rajashree, Giriraja, Krishibro and Krishi layers, disease identification and management, government subsidy schemes for poultry enterprise promotion, post-harvest practices, value addition, vaccination schedules, and feed management. After the training, a trainer-trainee interaction session was held to further enhance understanding and address participants' queries.



► ICAR- KVK, West Godavari 2 (VR Gudem), Andhra Pradesh

Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam

A special plantation drive inspired by the initiative of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India was held at the KVK in Venkataramannagudem on August 31, 2024. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, inaugurated the event by planting a coconut sapling at the instructional farm. Faculty members joined in, planting coconut saplings in honor of mothers and pledging to protect them. A total of 210 saplings were planted both at the KVK and in local farmers' fields, reinforcing the commitment to environmental sustainability and community involvement in afforestation efforts.



Telangana

► ICAR- KVK, Adilabad, Telangana

Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, visits Adilabad KVK

Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, visited KVK to engage with KVK staff and ARS scientists, with a primary focus on advancing cotton farming practices. At the KVK instructional farm, innovative technologies in High-Density Planting System (HDPS) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) were demonstrated. Fourteen cotton hybrids were evaluated using three different sowing methods and two spacing techniques to assess their adaptability. Dr. Prasad praised the crop management efforts, recommending defoliation to improve boll weight, and emphasized the need for training to promote HDPS and closer spacing techniques for enhanced yields. The event was attended by 12 participants.



► ICAR- KVK, Khammam 1 (Wyra), Telangana

Awareness raising pilot workshop for farmers on KUSUM Component-

A workshop to raise awareness among farmers about renewable energy schemes was organized on August 28, 2024. The Programme Coordinator emphasized the importance of renewable energy for farmers and national energy security. Sri Shyam Bhanu, from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, discussed the scheme's objectives, focusing on agri-voltaic systems, cost economics, and income generation. Dr. Jessie Suneetha highlighted the importance of solar energy, while Dr. V. Chaitanya addressed the growing electricity demand and the need for resource conservation. Smt. P.S.M. Phanisri explained how solar pumps provide eco-friendly irrigation and boost farmers' income. The event concluded with an interactive session, attended by 56 farmers.



► ICAR- KVK, Khammam 2 (Bhadradi Kothagudem), Telangana

Awareness Programme on Parthenium Eradication Campaigning

An Awareness Programme on Parthenium Eradication at Chunchupally Thanda Village, Chunchupally Mandal, was organised on August 22, 2024, as part of Parthenium Awareness Week (August 16-22, 2024). Dr. V. Lakshmi Narayanamma, Programme Coordinator, discussed integrated weed management and stressed the importance of maintaining cleanliness around fields to reduce pest and disease inoculum, as parthenium serves as an alternate host for many diseases. Dr. S. Naveen Kumar, SMS (Extension), highlighted the harmful effects of the Parthenium weed on humans and crops. The event saw participation from 124 attendees, including students, teachers, Gram Panchayat officials, and farmers.



► ICAR- KVK, Karimnagar 1 (Jammikunta), Telangana

One Day workshop on PM-KUSUM

A one-day training program on PM-KUSUM for farmers, farm women, and FPO members was conducted on August 22, 2024. This government initiative aims to establish 10,000 MW of decentralized solar and renewable energy plants for farmers, cooperatives, panchayats, and farmer producer organizations. Benefits include enhanced energy security, a reduction of 1.38 billion liters in annual diesel consumption, and decreased petroleum imports. PM-KUSUM promotes renewable energy use, reduces farm pollution, and boosts farmer incomes through subsidies and loans for solar pumps, allowing surplus power sales to the government. The program saw participation from 54 attendees.



► ICAR- KVK, Karimnagar 2 (Ramagirikhilla), Telangana

PM-KUSUM (Component-A) awareness cum workshop for farmers

A one-day awareness workshop on PM-KUSUM (Component A) at the KVK training hall was organized on August 23, 2024. The chief guest, Dr. Sridhar Reddy, Principal of JNTU, spoke about solar energy as a renewable resource and its significance in electricity generation. Dr. A. Srinivas, PC&H, highlighted KVK activities and the importance of solar power in agriculture and electricity demand. Mahender Reddy, A.E., discussed the relevance of solar power in today's context. Lead speaker Sri Bhanu Shyam from NFSI elaborated on setting up 10,000 MW of decentralized ground-mounted solar plants, covering eligibility, investment costs, PPA duration, agri-voltaics, and suitable crops. The event saw participation from 45 farmers and scientific staff.



► ICAR- KVK, Mahabubnagar 1 (Madanapuram), Telangana

Vana Mahotsav 2024 Massive Plantation Activity at KVK Instructional Farm

A large tree plantation drive as part of Vana Mahotsav 2024 was organised on August 6, 2024. A. Dr. M. Malla Reddy, ADR, RARS, Palem, served as the chief guest and initiated the tree-planting program, highlighting the importance of tree planting on field bunds, agroforestry, and agri-horti cropping systems. KVK staff planted 110 saplings of fruit plants in the horticulture component (1500 m²) of the Integrated Farming System at KVK Farm. Dr. T. Prabhakar Reddy, PC, KVK Palem, along with Sri Kalashappa, MPDO, Bijinapally, and Smt. R. Rama Devi, District Ground Water Officer, participated in the event, which included a total of 42 members.



► ICAR- KVK, Mahabubnagar 2 (Palem), Telangana

Live Telecast on Launch of National Pest Surveillance System

A live telecast for the launch of the National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) officiated by the honorable Central Agriculture Minister was organized on August 15, 2024. Dr. V. Rajendra Kumar, Senior Scientist and Head, and Dr. G. Bhavani, SMS in Agricultural Extension, led the program. Dr. Kumar introduced NPSS as an innovative initiative by the Ministry of Agriculture for nationwide pest monitoring using AI, ML, and ICT for real-time surveillance and accurate forecasting. Dr. Bhavani demonstrated the NPSS mobile app, emphasizing its role in pest management and its alignment with government goals for food security and sustainable farming. The session attracted 43 participants.



► ICAR- KVK, Mancheril (Bellampalli), Telangana

Skill Development Training Programme on tailoring

A 5-day Skill Development Training Programme on tailoring was organized for rural tribal women at Narsapur village, Thandur mandal, Mancheril District, from August 21 to 25, 2024, under the Tribal Sub Plan. Dr. G. Priya Sugandhi (SMS, Home Science) conducted the training, with a qualified tailor serving as the resource person. Participants learned cutting and stitching techniques for saree petticoats, blouses, frocks, and more. Hands-on sessions included newspaper pattern cutting, hand stitching, and sewing machine use. The training encouraged women to pursue tailoring as an income-generating activity. Thirty women participated, along with KVK staff and public representatives.



► ICAR- KVK, Medak 1, Zaheerabad, Telangana

From Eggs to Enterprise: KVK's Incubator Facility for Enhancing Livelihoods and Nutrition

Under the leadership of Dr. Kailash Madne (SMS, Animal Husbandry), established a fully automated poultry incubator for hatching desi and improved backyard poultry breed eggs. This initiative, part of the SCSP schemes, aims to enhance nutritional security and support the livelihoods of local farmers, particularly those from the SC community. On July 31, 2024, a batch of eggs was placed in the incubator, leading to the successful hatching of chicks on August 21, 2024. The facility provides high-quality desi chicks, which can be sold for ₹25-30 each, offering farmers a reliable income source and diversifying their livelihoods.



► ICAR- KVK, Medak 2 (Tuniki), Telangana

Training cum Workshop on PM - KUSUM Scheme

A one-day awareness workshop on the PM KUSUM (Component A) scheme was organised on August 27, 2024, to educate farmers, farm women, FPO members, and rural youth about the benefits of solar power in agriculture. M. Sreekanth, SMS (Agri Ext), opened the session with an overview of the program. Er. M. Uday Kumar, SMS (Agri Engg), discussed solar-powered equipment applications, including solar water pumps and irrigation systems. Dr. R. Rama Devi, Chief Moderator (NSFI), emphasized renewable energy's cost savings and environmental benefits. Sri Bhanu Shyam, Lead Speaker (NSFI), elaborated on decentralized solar plants, while M. Srinivas and Dr. N. Pratap Reddy shared insights on solar power's role in horticulture and energy security. The workshop had 25 participants.



►► ICAR- KVK, Nalgonda 1 (Gaddipally), Telangana

Training Programme on Promotion of Direct Seeded Rice (DSR)

KVK organized a special training on Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) promotion on August 7, 2024, at Rythuvedika, Atmakur (S), Suryapet District. Chief guest Sri N. Satyanarayana, DDM NABARD, discussed schemes available for farmers. D. Naresh, Senior Scientist and Head (I/C), emphasized the benefits of DSR with drum seeder technology, highlighting its role in addressing labor shortages and reducing cultivation costs. A. Kiran, SMS-Soil Science, covered nutrient and water management, while D. Adarsh, SMS-Plant Protection, discussed pest and disease management in paddy. Sixty-two farmers attended the event.



►► ICAR- KVK, Nalgonda 2 (Kampasagar), Telangana

Parthenium Awareness Week

As part of Parthenium Awareness Week (August 16-22, 2024), KVK Kampasagar organized awareness programs focused on eradicating Parthenium. Activities included clearing the weed from adopted villages, high schools, primary health centers, and KVK premises. On the final day, Dr. T. Ramprakash and Dr. B. Padmaja, Principal Scientists of AICRP on Weed Management, highlighted the harmful effects of Parthenium on crops, livestock, and humans, causing allergies and reducing cattle milk yield. They emphasized early eradication and discussed cultural, mechanical, chemical, and biological control methods. Awareness programs also educated farmers on Parthenium's impacts and removal.



►► ICAR- KVK, Nizamabad (Rudrur), Telangana

Training programme on Agri- Entrepreneurship and market linkages

A training program on agri-entrepreneurship and market linkages for turmeric farmers was held, focusing on value addition and marketing strategies. Dr. Rajkumar (SMS, Hort.) discussed entrepreneurship opportunities and the market potential for value-added products. Sri P. Vijay Kumar (SMS, PP) emphasized green label chemicals to reduce residues and integrated pest management. Sri Sundareshan, Deputy Director of the Spice Board, highlighted the export potential of Nizamabad turmeric, urging farmers to market high-quality produce. Sri Rajamanickam, Senior Field Officer, shared available schemes and subsidies for post-harvest machinery. The program had 35 farmer participants.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Rangareddy, Telangana

Kisan Mela and MFOI-Samridh Kisan Utsav

In collaboration with Krishi Jagran, sponsored by Mahindra Tractors and supported by Dhanuka Agritech and National Seed Corporation, organized the "Kisan Mela and MFOI-Samridh Kisan Utsav" on August 24, 2024, at Manchal Village in Ranga Reddy district, Telangana. Dr. Chandrakanth M.H., Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, welcomed guests and farmers to the event, celebrating progressive farmers at the district level. The program featured an exhibition by Mahindra Tractors showcasing advanced machinery, along with displays by Dhanuka Agritech and NSC, highlighting innovations in seed technology and plant protection. The event attracted 204 farmers and farm women, along with KVK scientists, staff, and industry representatives.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Warangal 1 (Malyal), Telangana

Parthenium awareness week

A series of awareness programs as part of "Parthenium Awareness Week" from August 16-22, 2024, was organised at various locations in Mahabubabad district, including KVK Farm, Malyal, Kambalapalli, Kalwala, Ameenapuram, Parvathagiri, and Jamandlapally. The programs highlighted the harmful effects of Congress grass on agriculture, horticultural crops, and human and animal health. Management strategies for Parthenium weed were discussed, including eradication techniques for farmland, public spaces, and uncultivable lands, as well as the preparation and use of Parthenium compost. Participants included KVK staff, professors from Agricultural College Warangal, local teachers, 59 farmers, 60 students from ZPHS Kalwala School, and 26 RAWEP students.



▶▶ ICAR- KVK, Warangal 2 (Mamnoor), Telangana

Training programme under High-density planting system in cotton under the Special Project on Cotton

A training session on the high-density planting system (HDPS) in cotton under the ICAR-CICR Special Project, "Targeting Technologies to Agro-Ecological Zones," as part of the NFSM 2024-25 initiative was conducted on August 29, 2024. The program aimed to educate farmers on HDPS techniques to enhance cotton productivity. Dr. N. Rajanna, PC, introduced the project, while Dr. U. Nagabhushanam explained canopy management in HDPS cotton. Dr. Ch. Sowmya discussed package practices and their economic benefits, and Dr. A. Raju addressed pest and disease management. The Regional Manager of Raasi Seeds presented suitable cotton varieties. The session concluded with a visit to the HDPS demo plot, with 170 farmers in attendance, gaining valuable insights into improving cotton yields through HDPS.



Puducherry

►► ICAR- KVK, Puducherry, Puducherry

District level farmers training cum demonstration on Organic / Natural Farming

A one-day district-level training and demonstration on organic and natural farming, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Puducherry, and the Regional Centre for Organic & Natural Farming (RCONF), Bengaluru, was held at the Farmers Training Centre, Puducherry. The event, inaugurated by Dr. S. Vasanthakumar, Director of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, featured Dr. V. Prabhu (SMS, Soil Science), who led a session on preparing organic inputs, including a demonstration on Panchagavya preparation. Dr. N. Manimekalai, Technical Officer, discussed the use of biofertilizers and bioagents for pest control. Bioproduct kits were distributed to 62 farmers and 19 officials.



►► ICAR- KVK, Karaikal, Puducherry

Skill training - Friends of Coconut Tree (Day 5/6)

A 6-day youth skill training, jointly organized with the Coconut Development Board Regional Office, Chennai, took place from August 26 to 31, 2024. On the 5th day, an exposure visit to PAJANCOA&RI was held, where Dr. M. S. Marisamy led a session on enhancing productivity in coconut, followed by a field visit. Master trainers demonstrated coconut tree climbing using the coconut climber. The training aimed to contribute to the "Viksit Bharat" vision by fostering skill development in coconut cultivation, with 13 participants attending.



KVK Spotlight-Monthly Summary of Noteworthy Initiatives (August)



Diagnostic field visit- leaf folder in paddy field
(KVK-Nellore, AP)



Diagnostic Field Visit in Cotton (HDPS): Growth Monitoring and Sucking Pest Observation
(KVK, Nalgonda 1, Gaddipally, TG)



Diagnostic Field Visit to Pongal Sugarcane: Growth Assessment and Monitoring of Pest and Disease Incidence (Pokka Boeng).
(KVK, Ariyalur, TN)



Field diagnostic visit- Micro nutrient deficiency in mulberry.
(KVK, Chittoor 1, Karakambadi, AP)



Diagnostic field visit- Sigatoka leaf spot in banana.
(KVK, Ariyalur, TN)



Diagnostic visit-bud rots in Areca nut.
(KVK, Villupuram II, TN)



Diagnostic field visit to entrepreneurial unit (KVK, Erode, TN)



Diagnostic field visit- affected by excess dose of Potassium in tapioca crop.
(KVK, Karur, TN)



Diagnostic field visit- Blossom blight in tuberose crop
(KVK, Dharmapuri, TN)



Training Programme on Best Management Practice in Fish Culture for rural youth under ICAR-SCSP.
(KVK, Warangal 2, Mamnoor, TG)



Celebrations of world Adivasi Divas.
(KVK, Prakasam 1, Darsi, AP)



Inauguration of KVK Sales counter
(KVK, Visakhapatnam 1, Haripuram, AP)



Addressing Child Labour and Enhancing Income Generation for SC and ST Women during Lean Periods (KVK-Guntur, AP)



Awareness programme cum Farmers scientist interaction (Release of 109 crop varieties by ICAR to the nation) (KVK, Ranga Reddy, TG)



Inauguration of Edible Tea cups manufacturing unit. (KVK, Karimnagar, Jammikunta, TG)



Seminar & Demonstration on "Application of Space Technologies in Fisheries" National Space Day 2024 (KVK, Srikakulam, AP)



Method demonstration on Tomato Varugu and Powder through Solar dryer (KVK, Vizianagaram, AP)



FLD on "Demonstration on TNAU Bio-repellent against wild boar in Rice" (KVK, Karaikal, TN)



Diagnostic field visit Rugose spiralling whitefly incidence in coconut crop (KVK, Erode, TN)



Tiranga Yatra as a Part Of Har Ghar Tiranga with NCC cadets of AP model School, Venkatagiri. (KVK, Nellore-2, Periyavaram, AP)



Diagnostic visit on red cotton bug and mealy bug in Surabi cotton hybrid (Cotton intercrop in Banana under wetland ecosystem) (KVK, Thiruchirapalli, TN)



Method demonstration on Azolla production (KVK, Erode, TN)



Nationwide Launch of National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) by Honourable Agriculture Minister (KVK, Tirunelveli, TN)



District Collector interacted with Progressive Farmer (KVK, Nalgonda 1, Gaddipally, TG)



Off campus training cum awareness on Management of Fall army worm in Maize
(KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



FLD on Value addition to flowers
(KVK, Kadapa 1, Utukur, AP)



OFT on Pest & Disease Management in Mesta, addressing Foot & Stem Rot, Mealybug, and Semilooper
(KVK, Srikakulam, AP)



Skill training on Profitable Dairy farming - Importance of artificial insemination and symptoms of heat detection discussed
(KVK, Tirunelveli, TN)



Training on Production of Biofertilizers for Organic Hill Vegetable Production and Supply of Bio-inputs
(KVK, Nilgiris, TN)



Method Demonstration of Foliar application of Navsari Agril. University- Novel Plus using Knapsack Sprayer in Groundnut
(KVK, Pudukottai, TN)



National Honey Bee Day was celebrated at PKKVK under the Headship
(KVK, Puducherry, PY)



Demonstrated on use of COPRA Guard to farmers and coconut oil extracting entrepreneurs.
(KVK, Dindugal, TN)



Diagnostic field visit for Root rot management in Groundnut crop (FLD Programme)
(KVK, Erode, TN)



Field diagnostic visit to CO-51 rice field affected by algal growth
(KVK, Erode, TN)



Training programmes on "Flower Regulation in Acid lime for getting higher yields during summer"
(KVK, Nellore-2, Periyavaram, AP)



Radio talk given on season-based crop cultivation technologies for rainfed crops
(KVK, Ariyalur, TN)



FLD implementation on feeding probiotics for better production
(KVK, Guntur, AP)



FLD on PSB in Rice grown under high phosphorus soils
(KVK, Guntur, AP)



Awareness on fertilizer and insecticide use, along with soil health card distribution.
(KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



OFT on Assessment of Value-added products from underutilised tuber tapioca powder.
(KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) and KVK-ATMA Interface (2nd Batch)
(KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



Celebration of Sri Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu birth anniversary
(KVK, Anantapur 1, Reddipalli, AP)



Method demonstration on Pheromone trap their installation procedure
(KVK, Puducherry, PY)



MoU Signed Between PVNRTVU (KVK) & TAA IITKGP HC for Promoting Organic Farming, INM & Pest Management
(KVK, Warangal 2, Mamnoor, TG)



Inauguration of PVNRTVU -Information centre & release of Extension material.
(KVK, Warangal 2, Mamnoor, TG)



ASCI TRAINING - Nutrient deficiency symptoms identification in potted plants.
(KVK, Puducherry, PY)



OFT on "Assessment of probiotics in shrimp culture"
(KVK, Krishna, Ghantasala, AP)



Diagnostic Field visit to Tissue culture Banana field.
(KVK, Ariyalur, TN)



Field visit to FLD on Nandi Goatmin smart mineral mixture for goats (KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



Method demonstration on seed treatment with Trichoderma viride in Groundnut crop (KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



Training on Soil and Water conservation techniques (KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



Demonstration of Rice Reap through Drone technology (KVK, Puducherry, PY)



Group Discussion on Improving Agriculture with Mechanization and Water Conservation (KVK, Cuddalore, TN)



Method Demonstration on Drone Spray technology in Paddy (KVK, Pudukottai, TN)



Radio talk on Management of fall armyworm, IPM in tomato, wild boar control, Parthenium awareness, and horticultural practices (KVK, Cuddalore, TN)

Awards and Recognition



KVK Nalgonda-Gaddipally, TG

Dr. A. Kiran SMS-Soil Science received district level best employee appreciation award from **Sri. Tejas Nandlal Pawar, District Collector, Suryapet** on the occasion of 78th Independence Day, at the District Police Parade Ground



KVK Nalgonda-Gaddipally, TG

D. Naresh Senior Scientist and Head (I/C) received district level best employee appreciation award from **Sri. Tejas Nandlal Pawar, District Collector, Suryapet** on the occasion of 78th Independence Day at the District Police Parade Ground



KVK Nalgonda-Kampasagar, TG

Smt A Ramulamma received district level appreciation award from **Dist Collector Shri Narayana Reddy** at collectorate Nalgonda



KVK Nalgonda-Kampasagar, TG

Dr S Srinivasa Rao and Smt A Ramulamma received district level appreciation award from **Dist Collector Shri Narayana Reddy** at collectorate Nalgonda



KVK Krishnagiri, TN

Mr. M. Govindhasamy, KVK farmer from Kalvehalli village in Krishnagiri block, has received the Best Farmer Award from ICAR-NRCB, Trichy during Foundation Day, for his achievements in organic banana cultivation



KVK Kadapa-Vonipenta, AP

Received Best KVK award for exclusive banana demonstrations from NRCB, Trichy, from Dr. Trilochana Mahapatra, Director, PPVFRA, New Delhi, Dr. Shaik N Meera, Director, ATARI, Zone X, Dr. Selvarajan, Director, NRCB, and other Directors



KVK Chittoor-RASS, AP

Dr. A.B. Srilatha, SMS (Home science) received 'Certificate of Appreciations from Sri Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Endowment in the presence of Collector during 78th Independence Day celebrations at Tirupati



KVK Chittoor- RASS, AP

Dr. T. Ramu Kumar, SMS (Agril. Ext.) received 'Certificate of Appreciations from Sri Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Endowment in the presence of Collector during 78th Independence Day celebrations at Tirupati



KVK Sivaganga, TN

Dr. L. Vimalendran, Assistant Professor, received an award on Independence Day 2024 from Mrs. Asha Ajith, IAS, District Collector, Sivagangai, for developing more entrepreneurs in vermicompost production and skills in micro-irrigation in Sivagangai district



KVK Sivagangai, TN

Mr. Gogulavasan, KVK-promoted progressive farmer leader, received an award on Independence Day 2024 from Mrs. Asha Ajith, IAS, District Collector, Sivagangai, for being a role model farmer to implement precision farming in brinjal, cassava, and tuberoses in Sivagangai district



KVK Sivagangai, TN

Mrs. Balalavi Selvamani, KVK-promoted vermicompost entrepreneur under the ARYA project, received an award on Independence Day 2024 from Mrs. Asha Ajith, IAS, District Collector of Sivaganga, for operating a self-sustainable farming system with 12 traditional organic paddy varieties using vermicompost as an input source



KVK Sivagangai, TN

Dr. S. Sendur Kumaran, Professor and Head, received an award on Independence Day 2024 from Mrs. Asha Ajith, IAS, District Collector, Sivaganga, for promoting the precision farming system in Sivaganga district



KVK Warangal-Mamnoor, TG

Dr J.Saikiran SMS(LPM) of KVK Mamnoor has received a commendation certificate from Dr Satya Sharadadevi, Honb'le District Collector & Magistrate Warangal on the eve of 78th Independence Day



KVK Namakkal, TN

Awarded First price in oral presentation under the Session I Ethno Veterinary Practices for large animal diseases in International Conference on Global Approaches of Herbal Research in Livestock and Poultry for Green Animal Production, Health care and farmers livelihood at VCRI, Tirunelveli, TANUVAS



ICAR KVK, Erode promoted entrepreneur on banana fibre enterprise and received best entrepreneur award on ICAR NRCB foundation day



ICAR KVK, Erode

Kazhani FPO received Best FPO award at National Research Centre for Banana, Trichy

SPARK BULLETIN

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Celebration of 75th Independence Day