



ICAR-KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA, IDUKKI

Bapooji Sevak Samaj

Pethotty P.O Santhanpara - 685619



Newsletter



Commemorating

17th year of Heavenly Abode

Sri. Kuttachen Kakkad

Founder Chairman, KVK



FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

The decade passed by has been a great teacher. It taught us the tough lessons of survival, cooperation, adaptation, and strengthened us to face the new challenges, the coming will bring. The climate change and disasters have left deep scars in our farming sector, but sincere efforts from scientists, extension personnel and farmers will ultimately sow seeds of change. This is clearly visible from the results of concerted efforts that the Team KVK, Idukki.

The district is famous for its plantation crops such as pepper, cardamom, coffee, tea, coconut, and rubber. Spearheading the broad objectives of farmer empowerment and profit optimisation, the KVK has conducted several OFT's, Front Line Demonstrations, trainings, field visits and diagnostic clinics as per the needs of the stakeholders.

What we have achieved and where we stand today would have been impossible without the genuine assistance and constructive advice of our officials, staff and farmer friends. Our sincere gratefulness goes to The Director, ATARI, Bengaluru and other staff of ATARI who have tirelessly and consistently guided us in achieving the mandates of KVK in Idukki district. We bow our heads before our farmer friends and other well-wishers who have helped us in connecting with the soul of this pristine land, thereby assisting us in disseminating the knowledge required for the farming community. "TEAM KVK IDUKKI" has showcased an exemplary model of service to the farmers and the Bapooji Sevak Samaj appreciate each and every member for the consistent efforts they have put in. Through this newsletter, we proudly unfold, our salient interventions and technology backstopping that has helped the farmers in leading a better life. Let us believe that, together we can make this decade a 'DECADE OF HOPE'

Reena Chacko

Chairperson, Bapooji Sevak Samaj

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IMPORTANT EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The XVIth Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting was held on 9th February 2023 at KVK Seminar Hall. Dr.B.T Rayudu, Principal Scientist (Agricultural Extension), ICAR- ATARI, Bengaluru, Dr. Jacob John, Director of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University, KAU, Thrissur, Reena Chacko, Bapooji Sevak Samaj, Representatives from ICRI, CRS, LDM, PAO, DIC, Fisheries, AIR, Kudumbashree, District social welfare department, VFPC, Dairy Department, Coffee Board, Spices Board, PD ATMA and various other officials from the line departments participated in the meeting.



ICAR-NBAIR SCSP SCHEME

The Scheme was implemented in Chinnakanal Panchayat in presence of Dr. V Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR – ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru, Dr. B T Rayudu, Principal Scientist (Agricultural Extension), ICAR – ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru, Ms. Reena Chacko, Chairperson, Bapooji Sevak Samaj, Dr. R S Remya, Scientist- Agricultural Entomology, ICAR- NBAIR, Bengaluru and Panchayat Officials. The inaugural session was followed by technical sessions on role of NBAIR technology of *Pseudomonas fluorescence* in agriculture, Beekeeping and BSF Larvae production for feed management in poultry. The Director ICAR – ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru distributed Inputs like Black Soldier Fly Larvae production unit, NBAIR- *Pseudomonas fluorescence*, Bee Box with stand and Knapsack Sprayers to 124 selected SC farmers



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KISAN SAMRIDDHI PRODUCTS IN BIOCONTROL EXPO-2023 @ ICAR-NBAIR, BENGALURU

ICAR– NBAIR, Bengaluru, organized its 31st Foundation Day and Biocontrol Expo-2023 on October 19, 2023 at ICAR -NBAIR, Yelahanka Campus, Bengaluru. The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi. ICAR KVK Idukki exhibited our 40 products in Kisan Samriddhi Brand and posters in the Stall at Yelahanka Campus, Bengaluru. Products like Kisan Samriddhi – Cardamom Oil, Clove Oil, Cinnamon Oil, Lemongrass Oil, Eucalyptus Oil, Green Cardamom Whole Spices, Black Pepper, All Spices, Bay Leaf, Black Stoner Flower and other 30 bio products were the exhibits.



FARMER PRODUCER GROUPS REGISTERED UNDER KISAN SAMRIDDHI BRAND ATARI ZONE XI, BENGALURU



Many farmer groups were mobilized and as a part mainly three organizations, viz., Highrange beekeeping society, Idukki, Harithasree Karshakasangham Vattappara and Global Karshika Vikasana Society Idukki were technically guided and supported by our Kendra. These societies were registered under the Kisan Samriddhi Brand of ATARI Zone XI, Bengaluru. The Programme was inaugurated by Honorable Director, ICAR- ATARI, Zone XI, Dr. V Venkatasubramanian. The programme was coordinated by Mr. Sudhakar. S, SMS Plant Protection, ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki

SAFFRON HARVESTING FESTIVAL

Saffron bloomed for the first time in Kerala. On farm trial of Saffron cultivation was successfully carried out by a farmer named Ramamurthy at Kanthalloor Perumala under the guidance of ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki as per approval received from Indian Council for Agricultural Research - ATARI—Bengaluru Mr. Ramamurthy during 2023-24 cultivated saffron in his 25 cents. 200 kg of tuber was planted in 12 cents and the rest in poly house. The Team Headed by Dr R Marimuthu, Project leader Mr. Sudhakar Soundarajan along with his coleaders conducted frequent field visits to the plot and monitored the crop regularly. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, Zone XI- ICAR- ATARI Bengaluru harvested the bloomed flowers. Three to five flowers are obtained depending on the size of the tuber. Mr. Mathew J Grace, Administrative Officer, ICAR- ATARI Bengaluru, Dr. R Marimuthu, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Idukki, Mr Sudhakar Soundarajan, SMS Plant Protection, Sri. P.T. Mohandas, Kanthalloor Panchayat President and Mr. Sathish, Agriculture Officer, Kanthalloor participated in the harvesting Festival.



SPICES DRYING UNIT AND SCSP MACHINERY CELL

ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki established spices drying unit and SCSP machinery cell at KVK Idukki. The spices drying unit and SCSP machinery cell was inaugurated by Dr. V Venkatasubramanian, The Director, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Zone-XI, Bengaluru in presence of Dr. B T Rayudu, Principal Scientist (Agricultural Extension), ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Zone-XI, Bengaluru, and Ms. Reena Chacko, Chairperson, Bapooji Sevak Samaj. SCSP machinery cell contains Brush cutters, Multipurpose dryer and Pepper thresher for the benefit of SC farmers of Idukki district. Spices drying unit has been installed latest novel spices drying machinery set, where farmers can avail the service of drying their spices in a nominal rate.



BEST DISPLAY IN ZONAL WOMEN AGRIPRENEUR CONCLAVE 2024



KVK Idukki showcased technologies in Zonal Women Agripreneur Conclave 2024 scheduled at Central Auditorium, KAU from 20.01.24 to 21.01.24. Distinguished guests of Zonal Women Agripreneur Conclave 2024 were Sushri. Shobha Karadlaje, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare & Food Processing Industries, Adv. K. Rajan Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Housing, Member, Executive Committee, KAU, Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru, Prof. V. Palanimuthu, Director, NIFTEM, Smt. Indira Mohan, President, Madakkathara Grama Panchayat and Ms. Geetha Saleesh, Agripreneur. Smt. Rachel Skariakutty, Programme Assistant of KVK, Idukki along with a Team of women Mushroom Agripreneurs from Idukki exhibited various mushroom value added products prepared by the agripreneurs from Idukki district in the conclave. After the conclave, Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru Honored Smt. Rachel Skariakutty, Programme Assistant of KVK Idukki and her Team of women Agripreneurs from Idukki for organizing the Best Display in Zonal Women Agripreneur Conclave.

DRONE DEMONSTRATION IN CASSAVA FIELD

ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki in association with ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum organized an Agricultural Drone Demonstration at Adimaly Cluster Village. The Demonstration was showcased in different plots of Cassava field. Spraying of Micronol (Cassava micronutrient) solution in field was done under the guidance of Dr. V S Santhosh Mithra, Principal Scientist, ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum. Along with delegates from ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum, Dr. R Marimuthu, Senior Scientist and Head, Ms. Manju Jincy Varghese, SMS (Soil science) and Ms. Ashiba A, SMS (Agronomy), KVK Idukki participated in the programme.



ICAR-IIRR : TRIBAL SUB PLAN SCHEME

ICAR- IIRR, Hyderabad Tribal Sub Plan Scheme entitled “Ensuring Sustainable Livelihood Security of Scheduled Tribe Rice Farmers in Adimali Block of Idukki District” was jointly implemented by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki and Adimali Grama Panchayat at Adimali – Korangatti Panchayat Hall. The program was inaugurated by P Muthuraman, Principal Scientist and Head, TOT Division ICAR- IIRR, Hyderabad in presence of Dr. P Jeyakumar, (Principal Scientist, TOT Division, ICAR- IIRR, Hyderabad, Dr. Brajendra, (Principal Scientist, Soil Science Division), ICAR- IIRR, Hyderabad, Shri. Shitanshu Kumar, CAO, ICAR- IIRR, Hyderabad and Mrs. Sudha Nair, AAO, ICAR- IIRR, Hyderabad. After the inaugural session, technical products on management in paddy cultivation namely Lime, Pseudomonas, Azospirillum, Azolla, Phospho bacteria, IRRI- Leaf Color Chart, KAU Sampoorna Micronutrient Fertilizer, Dhaincha Seeds, Tricho Card and Knapsack Sprayers were distributed to the 100 ST farmers.



ICAR 95th ICAR FOUNDATION DAY AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK



95th ICAR Foundation Day, Technology Day, Technology Week with Exhibition was organized at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Idukki KVK Seminar Hall from 16th July to 18th July 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Shri T P Ravi, Former Rajakumari Grama Panchayat President on 16.07.2023. In these days Representatives from IFFCO, SPIC, UP, Rajshree Biosolutions, Tropical Agro Private Limited, Tata Ralis Limited, Syngenta Agrochemical Company, Sudarshan Chemical Industries Limited and Olympic Pharmaceuticals exhibited their Technologies and products in the event.

Mr. Sudhakar Soundarajan (Subject Matter Specialist (Plant Protection)) and Mrs. Manju Jincy Varghese, (Subject Matter Specialist (Soil Science), ICAR-KVK, Idukki handled sessions on Integrated Pest Disease Control Methods in Cardamom Cultivation and soil Health Management. In these days in about 460 farmers and officials participated in the programme

PLANT HEALTH CLINIC IN COLLABORATION WITH MSSRF

KVK Idukki conducted Plant Health Clinic in collaboration with M S Swaminathan Research Foundation at Thekkinkanam and Bison valley villages of Idukki district. The programme aimed a practical way of enabling plant health specialists to work closely with extension workers in offering farmers advice on how to manage all types of plant health problems. As part a total 18 fields of Small cardamom, Black Pepper, Nutmeg, Ginger and other spices were visited by KVK officials viz., Mrs. Manju Jincy Varghese, Subject Matter Specialist (Soil Science), and Ms. Preethu K Paul, SMS Agricultural Extension, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki, along with officials from M S Swaminathan Research Foundation viz., Mr. Sajeew, Scientist (Plant Breeding and Genetics), M S Swaminathan Research Foundation and Limcy, Field assistant. The specimens included the problems related with soil acidity, Nutrient deficiency in crops.



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