

A Window to KVKs of ICAR-ATARI, Zone - XI

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KVK TIMES

A window to KVKs of ICAR-ATARI,
Zone - XI, Bengaluru

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Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos
Suffragan Metropolitan

President CARD & Chairman ICAR-KVK,
Pathanamthitta

SPECIAL MESSAGE

It is with great joy and pride that I extend my warm greetings to all the readers of this special edition of KVK Times, covering the period from December 1st to 15th, 2024. As we approach the end of the year, it is an ideal moment to reflect on the tremendous strides made by Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Zone XI in advancing agricultural knowledge and practices to benefit our farmers and the rural community at large.

The dedication and unwavering commitment of the KVK team, under the visionary leadership of Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, deserve the highest appreciation. Through their tireless efforts, the KVKs have not only promoted sustainable agricultural practices but also empowered farmers with the latest technologies to address the challenges faced by farming communities. The initiatives of KVKs across the country have consistently played a pivotal role in improving agricultural productivity, increasing farmer incomes, and fostering a stronger connection between innovation and tradition in Indian farming.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the valuable contributions of all KVKs in Zone XI, especially those collaborating with KVK Pathanamthitta. Your commitment to enhancing the livelihoods of farmers and promoting the ideals of responsible and efficient farming practices continues to create lasting change. I am confident that the activities and achievements highlighted in this edition of KVK Times will inspire further growth, collaboration, and development in the agricultural sector.

As we look forward to the coming year, let us renew our dedication to supporting and uplifting the farming community. Together, through knowledge sharing, innovation, and compassion, we can contribute to building a sustainable and prosperous agricultural landscape in India.

May this 35th edition of KVK Times (Vol. 2) provide insight, inspiration and hope for the future of Indian agriculture.

Thiruvalla
13 December 2024

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It gives me immense pleasure to extend my warm greetings to all the readers of this special edition of KVK Times, covering the period from 1st to 15th December 2024. This period has been remarkable in the field of agriculture and it is heartening to see the continuous efforts of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in zone XI to empower farmers, promote sustainable agricultural practices, and provide innovative solutions to the challenges of modern farming.

In previous editions of KVK Times, we have witnessed outstanding reports of progress, technology dissemination, and farmer-centric initiatives that have created tangible impact. The KVKs have been at the forefront, fostering a collaborative approach in transforming agriculture, not only by enhancing productivity but also by nurturing the socio-economic well-being of rural communities. The ongoing efforts in promoting climate-resilient agricultural practices, natural farming and digital literacy in agriculture continue to serve as pillars for growth.

The current edition, under the able leadership of Dr. C.P. Robert and his dedicated team at KVK Pathanamthitta is a testimony to the strong spirit of innovation, knowledge dissemination, and extension work that KVKs embody. I am certain that the content shared here will inspire others and strengthen the resolve to continue working towards making agriculture a sustainable and prosperous venture.

As we step into the new year, it is crucial for all of us to remain committed to the mission of improving livelihoods, ensuring food security, and empowering farmers with knowledge and technology. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire team of KVK Pathanamthitta for their continuous contributions and wish them success in all future endeavours.

May this 35th edition of KVK Times (Vol. 2) bring valuable insights, ideas, and collaborative pathways for a brighter future for Indian agriculture.

Bengaluru
13 December 2024


(V. Venkatasubramanian)

**KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY**

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**Dr. Jacob John**

Director of Extension

MESSAGE

I am honoured to present my greetings to the readers of this 35th edition of KVK Times (Vol. 2) , covering the period from December 1st to 15th, 2024. As the Director of Extension at Kerala Agricultural University, I have witnessed firsthand the significant role KVK Pathanamthitta has played in driving agricultural innovation and extension services for farmers in and around Pathanamthitta district in Kerala.

KVK Pathanamthitta's dedication to improving farmer productivity is highly commendable. The continuous support from Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR- ATARI, Bengaluru, has strengthened our collaboration and contributed to the success of various initiatives. His leadership has been pivotal in shaping the direction of KVK Pathanamthitta.

I would also like to recognize the exceptional leadership of His Grace Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Saffragan Metropolitan, Chairman , KVK Pathanamthitta. His vision and commitment to the advancement of agriculture have been instrumental in driving the success of KVK Pathanamthitta's programs.

Together, with the guidance of our esteemed leaders, I am confident that KVK Pathanamthitta will continue to make a profound impact on the agricultural sector, benefiting farmers and rural communities across Kerala. Congrats to team KVK Pathanamthitta.

(Jacob John)

Mannuthy
13 December 2024



Christian Agency for Rural Development

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(NGO Darpan Regn. ID No:- KL/2017/0181451, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India)

Rev. Moncy Varghese

Director, CARD

MESSAGE

It is with immense pride and joy that I extend my warm greetings to the readers of this special edition of KVK Times, covering the period from 1st to 15th December 2024. As the Director of CARD (Christian Agency for Rural Development), the host organization of KVK Pathanamthitta, I am honoured to see the continued success of KVKs across Zone XI in transforming the agricultural scenarios in the states under ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru.

KVKs across ICAR-ATARI Zone XI have made a remarkable impact by promoting agricultural technologies, providing farmers with the latest research-based innovations and enhancing their productivity and livelihoods. These achievements would not have been possible without the visionary leadership of Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, whose guidance and strategic insights have played an essential role in steering the direction of KVKs across the zone.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Saffragan Metropolitan, Chairman, KVK Pathanamthitta for his steadfast support and leadership. His dedication to the mission of KVK Pathanamthitta has been invaluable in ensuring that our work continues to benefit the farming community.


Together, with the continued support of our esteemed leaders, we are confident that KVK Pathanamthitta will continue to be a beacon of knowledge, innovation, and agricultural excellence in Kerala and beyond.

Thiruvalla
13 December 2024


(Rev. Moncy Varghese)

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am honoured to present this special edition of KVK Times, covering the period from 1st to 15th December 2024. This publication reflects the collective efforts and achievements of KVKs of Zone XI, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru in addressing the challenges faced by the farming community and advancing agricultural innovation and sustainability in our region.

I extend my sincere gratitude to Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru for his unwavering support, insightful guidance and constant encouragement. His leadership has been a driving force in the accomplishments of KVK Pathanamthitta and the successful documentation of this edition.

I express my heartfelt thanks to our Chairman, Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Suffragan Metropolitan for his blessings and steadfast support, which inspire us to continually strive for excellence. I also extend my appreciation to Rev. Moncy Varughese, Director, CARD, for his guidance and invaluable contributions in bringing out 35 edition of KVK times (Vol. 2).

Special acknowledgment goes to Dr. Jacob John, Director of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University for his expert advice and thoughtful insights, which have greatly enhanced the quality of this publication. I also thank Dr. K. Thimmappa, Principal Scientist, ICAR ATARI, Bengaluru for his consistent support and collaboration.

I am deeply grateful to the heads of all KVKs in Zone XI, along with their teams, for their valuable contributions to this 35th edition (Vol 2) . Their commitment and timely inputs have played a crucial role in shaping this publication.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of my entire team at KVK Pathanamthitta. Their passion, attention to detail, and tireless efforts have ensured the successful release of this 35th edition (Vol. 2) of KVK Times.

This edition stands as a testament to the collective spirit and collaborative efforts of the KVK system in Zone XI, and I hope it serves as a valuable resource for our readers. My heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in bringing this publication to life, and I look forward to continuing our journey of empowering farmers and transforming agriculture in India.

Kolabhagom
13 December 2024

(C.P. Robert)

KVK PATHANAMTHITTA HIGHLIGHTS



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ICAR-KVK-ALAPPUZHA



World Soil Day celebrated

World Soil Day was celebrated with farmers on 5th December, 2024 in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture at the Kanjikuzhy Panchayath Community Hall. Smt. Rajani Ravipalan, Standing Committee Chairperson, Kanjikuzhy Grama Panchayath inaugurated the programme and handed over soil health cards to partner farmers. Dr. K. Sajnanath, SMS (Soil Science), KVK addressed the participants highlighting the importance of the celebration with this year's theme 'Caring for soils: measure, monitor, manage'. He emphasized the importance of accurate soil data and information for understanding soil characteristics and informed decision making for sustainable soil management for food security and the responsibility of each citizen on preserving a healthy soil for future generations. Soil health cards were distributed to selected 25 farmers on the occasion, followed by an awareness programme on importance of plant nutrition for quality farm produce. About 30 persons including officials participated in the programme. Dr. P. Muralidharan, Head, KVK participated as a lead speaker in the National Seminar on "Soil Security: Challenges and Strategies" organized by College of Agriculture, Padannakkad, KAU on the 'World Soil Day' on 5th December, 24. He delivered a lead talk on the theme 'Climate change and soil security' and served as an evaluator for the oral and digital poster presentations made by about 30 scientists and scholars from all over the country in the seminar.



Promotion of millet consumption through value addition

KVK-Alappuzha has taken many initiatives from 2023 for the promotion of millets through interventions in cultivation and value addition. Since millet production is not a very viable proposition in the state of Kerala due to various factors like climate, labour cost etc, more emphasis was given on promotion of consumption by value addition. Many awareness and capacity building programmes were organized during the period involving other agencies and entrepreneurs. A hoarding on the importance and nutri-therapeutical advantages of millets in the daily diet was established in the campus for creating awareness among the visitors also.

A sensitization workshop in collaboration with NABARD was conducted in early 2023 to celebrate the "International year of Millets". Six on-campus capacity building programmes on 'Value added products from Millets' have been conducted since March, 2023 in which a total of 154 persons including 86 women participated. The latest programme was on 10.12.24 in which 22 participants from 6 districts of Kerala took part to learn the preparation of breakfast delicacies, snacks and geriatric cuisines from millets.



ICAR-KVK- BAGALKOT



On 3-12-2024, ICAR-KVK, Bagalkot team visited Anagawadi and Sunaga villages of Biligi taluka to carry out follow-up visit regarding Striga management in sugarcane

On 5th December, 2024 KVK Bagalkot involved in celebration of World Soil Day at Hireshellikeri village of Bagalkote taluk where 20 farmers and farm women participated. On the same day, celebration of World Soil Day at Navodaya school of Badami taluka in collaboration with Department of Agriculture where around 85 students witnessed the programme along with with 15 Krishi Sakhis.



On 6th December, visited Basarikatte village for the follow-up observations on suitable chickpea varieties for mechanical harvesting



KVK Bagalkot participated in Krishi Mela at Raichur Agricultural University from 7-12-2024 to 9-12-2024.



On 7-12-2024, KVK Bagalkot organized live telecast of Krishi Choupal program witnessed by 78 participants.



On 14th December, 2024 KVK Bagalkot involved in organizing Millet Mela at district level in collaboration with Dept. of Agriculture, Bagalkot



ICAR-KVK- BALLARI



Celebrating Millets: District-Level Recipe Competition Revives Tradition and Innovation

The Department of Agriculture, Vijayanagara, organized a successful District-Level Millet Recipe Competition on 13th December 2024, featuring 60 participants and 110 innovative millet-based recipes. This event highlighted the versatility of millets, celebrated traditional culinary practices, and promoted millet consumption for better nutrition and health.

Participants competed in three categories:

1. Sweet Recipes – Millet holige, halwas, and laddoos showcased their natural sweetness.
2. Spicy Recipes – Millet biryanis, curries, and savory snacks emphasized their adaptability.
3. Forgotten Traditional Recipes – Revived age-old, nutrient-rich dishes like ragi midiki etc.



Judges, including Dr. Rajeswari R Scientist (Home Science) from ICAR KVK Hagari, evaluated recipes on creativity, nutrition, taste, and presentation. Prizes were awarded to top participants in each category.

Deputy Commissioner Mr. Diwakar emphasized millets' role in addressing lifestyle diseases and preserving heritage, while CEO Mr. Mohd Ali Akram Shah highlighted their potential for sustainable agriculture and rural entrepreneurship.

The Joint Director of Agriculture praised the event as a platform to preserve traditional knowledge, innovate with local ingredients, and support millet adoption for health and economic stability.

Aligning with the International Year of Millets, the competition showcased millets' potential in modern and traditional cuisines, inspiring attendees to embrace them for sustainability and rural empowerment. The event concluded with prize distribution, celebrating creativity and community-driven efforts.



ICAR-KVK- BENGALURU RURAL



Field day on Ragi

ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bengaluru Rural District and Raitha Samparka Kendra of Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli taluk jointly organized a Field day for the demonstration of 'Introduction of finger millet var. ML-322 for late Kharif season' on 06.12.2024 at Thindlu village, Devanahalli taluk. Dr. Venkate Gowda, J., Scientist (Agronomy) conducted the demonstration in the 10 farmers field of Thindlu village. The Scientist suggested to select the suitable Ragi varieties considering weather situations. ML-322 is a newly released Ragi variety by the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore suitable for late sowing in the month of August and resistant to blast disease. In the month of May – June farmers should sow the green manure crops like cowpea, diancha, and incorporate into soil in the flowering stage, it will increase the soil fertility status and reduce the cost of chemical fertilizers. The farmers opined that, the ML-322 var. is suitable to late sowing and short duration variety and it harvests in 110-110 days besides reduce the cost of fertilizer. The cultivation has increased the yield and fetched higher income.

During the programme Agriculture Officer Mr. Y. Sathyanarayana briefed about the facilities available in the Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. T.C. Chethan, Assistant Technical Manager, Kundana Hobli, Farmers from Thindlu and neighbouring village were attended and benefited from the programme.



Field day on Bio-fortified finger millet variety CFMV 1 Indravathi for value addition

ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bengaluru Rural District has conducted a field day on 'Demonstration of bio fortified finger millet variety CFMV 1 Indravathi for value addition' at Channapura village of Doddaballapura taluk on 12.12.2024. Mrs. Meghana, S.V., Scientist (Home Science) conducted the demonstration in 10 farmers field. The Scientist explained that, now-a-days 85% of the population is found to be deficient in Vitamin D, which leads to reduced calcium absorption in the body, resulting in calcium deficiency and children under 6 years of age are suffering from anemia due to lack of iron content in the diet. The bio-fortified Finger millet Var. CFMV-1 Indravathi is rich in calcium (428 mg / 100 g), iron (58 ppm) and zinc (44 ppm). Use of this bio-fortified finger millet variety helps in overcoming the micro nutrient deficiencies.

This variety can be grown in both Kharif and Rabi season, the crop will attain maturity by 110-115 days and yields 35-40 q. / ha. can be obtained.



ICAR-KVK- BELAGAVI-1



ICAR BIRDS KVK BELAGAVI-1 - PARTICIPATED AS AN EVALUATOR IN RECIPE COMPETITION AT BELAGAVI

ICAR BIRDS Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tukkanatti, Belagavi-1 participated as a recipe evaluator in the district level Millet recipe and traditional forgotten recipe competition organised by Joint Director of agriculture, Belagavi on 7th December 2024 at Belagavi. The event aimed to promote the use of traditional forgotten and millet-based dishes, highlighting the nutritional benefits and cultural significance of these foods. The competition was organized by JDA Belagavi, bringing together a diverse group of participants from various backgrounds, each showcasing their culinary skills on millet and traditional recipes. The focus was on preparing recipes using millet, a staple grain known for its high nutritional value and environmental sustainability. Participants were encouraged to present dishes that not only incorporated millets but also adhered to traditional cooking methods passed down through generations. Total 89 women participated and exhibited the wide array of recipes, from traditional millet-based snacks and main courses to desserts and beverages, offering a great variety of flavours. Out of 89 participants 3 winners from traditional forgotten and 3 winners from millet recipes were selected in competition.



ICAR-KVK- BELAGAVI-2



World Soil Day

World Soil Day 2024 celebrated at KVK-Belagavi-II, Campus on 05.12.2024. Dr. R.R. Patil, Former Director of Extension, UAS, Dharwad inaugurated the programme. Dr.S.S. Hiremath, Scientist (Plant Protection) presided over the function. S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science) delivered talk on 'Soil Health Management'. During the occasion Soil Health Cards distributed to the farmwomen. Shankargouda Patil delivered the opening remarks. Around 70 farmers and farmwomen participated in the programme

Valedictory programme of fifteen days CCINM

The Valedictory programme of fifteen days 'Certificate Course On Integrated Nutrient Management' (CCINM) was held on 13.12.2024. During the programme Shri B.R. Patil, Hon'ble Chairman, KVK-Belagavi II advised the trainees to take the technical guidance from KVK Scientists and strive hard to alleviate the problem of saline and alkaline soils being developed due to faulty irrigation methods. Dr. Manjunath Chouraddi, Senior Scientist stressed the need for giving the attention to soil test based application of fertilizers along with organic manures. S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science) called the attention of the participants to guide the farmers to apply the fertilizers on integrated mode. KVK Scientists Dr.S.S. Hiremath, G.B. Vishwanath Praveen Yadahalli and Shankargouda Patil present during the event.



Field Day on Bt. Cotton

KVK, Belagavi-II, organized Field Day on integrated Management of Pink Bollworm in cotton at Chikopp village, Ramdurg taluk. Dr.S.S. Hiremath, Scientist (Plant Protection) briefed about that, farmers rely on only chemical pesticides to control pest incidence, that adversely affect naturally occurring predators and parasitosis in cotton eco system and highlighted implementation of pheromone traps and SPLAT technologies. S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science) briefed about integrated management of reddening, square and boll dropping in Bt. Cotton.



ICAR-KVK- BIDAR



ICAR-KVK BIDAR HOSTS TRAINING ON "ICM IN GINGER" UNDER THE SPICE TECH BIDAR PROJECT

On 12th December 2024, ICAR-KVK Bidar organized a training on "Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in Ginger" under the Spice Tech Bidar project, sponsored by the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) through The Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut. The event aimed to enhance ginger farming practices in the region.

The training was attended by 32 ginger-growing farmers, with the project implemented on 20 farmers' fields, each covering one acre. It focused on sustainable farming techniques, including the transition from chemical-based farming to organic inputs, which improve soil health and reduce environmental impact. Organic inputs were distributed to enable farmers to adopt these practices.

In-depth sessions covered Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Disease Management (IDM), helping farmers tackle pest and disease issues with minimal chemicals. The program also provided practical insights on seed production, nutrient management, and post-harvest technologies to improve crop quality and shelf life. This initiative by ICAR-KVK Bidar empowers ginger farmers with modern, sustainable techniques, contributing to the development of a robust spice economy in Bidar.



CELEBRATING WORLD SOIL DAY 2024: EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS AND FARMERS

ICAR-KVK Bidar, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Department of Agriculture (KSDA), Bidar, celebrated World Soil Day on December 5, 2024, at Government High School, Malegaon, Taluka Bidar. The event brought together progressive farmers and eager students to highlight the vital importance of soil in sustainable agriculture and environmental conservation.

The program aimed to create awareness among students about the significance of soil health and conservation. Through interactive sessions and engaging demonstrations, students gained knowledge about different soil types, their roles in agricultural productivity, and techniques to protect this invaluable resource. The young participants left inspired, equipped with practical knowledge to contribute to sustainable practices.

A key highlight of the event was the felicitation of progressive farmers who have made remarkable strides in soil conservation and sustainable farming. Their achievements served as an inspiration for the attendees, showcasing the real-world impact of adopting innovative agricultural methods.

This collaborative effort by ICAR-KVK Bidar and KSDA underscores the importance of fostering awareness among the younger generation. By educating students about soil health and celebrating the contributions of farmers, the program successfully bridged the gap between scientific knowledge and grassroots agricultural practices.

As World Soil Day 2024 was marked by enthusiasm and learning, the event stood as a testament to the power of collaboration in nurturing both the land and the minds, shaping our future.



ICAR-KVK- CHAMARAJANAGARA



World Soil Day 2024

World soil day 2024 was conducted at Shindanapura village under the theme "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage". Chief guest of the program Mr. Shashidhar, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Gundlupete taluk in his inaugural speech insisted upon climate change, its effects and the need for adoption of soil & water conservation practices. He urged the farmers to emphasize strengthening of field bunds, conservation of plant biodiversity, minimising soil erosion and adoption of water harvesting measures based on the annual rainfall. This will prolong the water availability period in soil, helps in obtaining good growth and yield of crops. Gram Panchayat member Sri. Mahadevaswamy in his speech informed farmers to give more weightage for maintaining soil health through application of organic manures, thereby significantly decreasing the dependency on agrochemicals and this results in a better soil and crop environment. Progressive youth farmer Mr. Shashikumar shared his organic farming experience giving examples of increase in organic matter content of soil and decrease in plant diseases at his farm.

One more progressive organic farmer Sri. Lingappa shared his eight years of organic farming experience and highlighted the advantages derived through application of organic formulations made out of neem, karanja, cow urine, cow dung and pulse flour. Senior scientist and Head Dr. Yogesh, G.S., provided information on the background & significance of world soil day celebration, methods of soil & water conservation and insisted farmers to adopt crop rotation with pulses & green manure crops for improving soil properties. He also highlighted the advantages of soil testing & fertilizer recommendation and precision water management. Block technical manager, Department of Agriculture, Ms. Veena and KVK field investigator Mr. Manjunath organised and managed the programme. More than fifty participants including farmers and community resource persons of farm livelihood were present during the programme. A walkathon to create awareness among the people regarding importance of soil resource was organised from gram panchayat premises to programme venue holding placards related to soil.



Interstate farmers visit to ICAR KVK, Chamarajanagara by Meghalaya state Turmeric growers

Second batch of Turmeric growers (27 nos.) from Meghalaya state visited ICAR KVK, Chamarajanagara during 3rd to 5th December 2024 with an objective to study the organic farming practices in Turmeric crop. Farmers visited model organic turmeric plots of Sri. Manjunatha, Haradanahally village, Sri. Mahadevaswamy, Duggahatti village, Sri. Siddappa, Thaggaluru village, Sri. Raghavendra, Padaguru village and Sri. Guruswamy, Kotthalawadi village and learnt about the organic turmeric cultivation practices adopted by these progressive turmeric growers.

The preparation and application of different organic manures and liquid organics namely good quality farm yard manure, vermicompost, vermiwash, Jeevamrit, Beejamrit, panchagavya and use of cow dung slurry were witnessed and visitor farmers understood the importance of green manuring, applications of diluted cow urine and microbial consortia. Also, the farmers were given an exposure to organic turmeric cultivation practices at KVK demonstration plot and the detailed organic cultivation package was deliberated by Scientist (Horticulture). Further, they were given a demonstration of Turmeric processing activities at custom incubation centre.



ICAR-KVK- CHIKKABALLAPURA



World Soil Day programme

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkaballapura organized World soil Day programme on 05.12.2024 at Kutarajanahalli village of Chintamani taluk. Dr. Sandhya, Scientist (Soil Science) explained about importance of soil health management. Dr. Tanweer Ahmed, Scientist (Agril. Extension) highlighted about soil sampling and soil test. Dr. Swathi, Scientist (Plant protection) emphasized on soil borne disease management. Coconut and jamoon seedlings were planted and distributed for the farmers during the programme. 60 farmers participated in the programme

Skill training programme on Hi-tech horticulture sponsored by Skill Development Centre, UAS, Bangalore was organized at KVK, Chikkaballapura from 12.12.2024 to 14.12.2024. Dr. Papireddy, Senior Scientist and head along with Mr. Balakrishna, Assistant Director of Horticulture, Chintamani inaugurated the programme. Dr. Papireddy highlighted about scope of hi tech horticulture. Dr. Praveenakumar. R., Scientist (Horticulture) explained about advanced technologies in horticulture crops,



Dr. Srinivasappa, Professor, Dept. of Horticulture, GKVK, UAS, Bangalore delivered a lecture on precision horticulture, Dr. Nayan Deepak, Scientist (Fruit Science), IIHR-Chettihalli, Kodagu explained about propagation techniques in nursery, Mr. Sandeep, Assistant Horticulture Officer briefed about different schemes related to hi tech horticulture, Dr. Tanweer Ahmed, Scientist (Agril. Extension) emphasized on SWOT analysis and marketing strategies in Hi tech Horticulture and Dr. Suneetha C, Asst. Professor, delivered lecture on media preparation in nursery. Dr. Shivalingaiah Y.N., Director of Extension, UAS, Bangalore participated as chief guest in valedictory programme and addressed the trainees about entrepreneurship development in hi tech horticulture. Dr. Venkatavana, Dean (Seri.) expressed about importance of quality planting material in vegetable crops. Participants were taken to field visits to Hi tech horticulture farms in Kolar, Malur and Hosur. 25 participants benefitted from the programme



ICAR-KVK- CHIKKAMAGALURU



Field day celebration of Ragi variety KMR-630

The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mudigere organized 'Ragi Field Day' at Kanabagatte Village in Ajjampura Taluk of Chikkamagalur District. The event was aimed to provide training to approximately 20 farmers in cultivation of short-term ragi variety: KMR 630 suitable for mechanical harvesting. The 'Ragi Field Day' was organized to celebrate the successful harvest achieved by these farmers.

Dr. Yamuna, B. G., Scientist (Agronomy) of KVK, explained the important characteristics of KMR-630 variety of ragi and motivated the farmers to adopt this variety in their farm. She explained that this short-term variety matures within 95-100 days, making it suitable for late sowing in August after kharif crop harvesting. KMR-630 is tolerant to blast disease and stem borer, which yields 12-14 quintals in rain-fed areas and 18-20 quintals in irrigated lands. Further, emphasized that farmers can save time and labour as it is suitable for mechanical harvesting and also explained about the agronomic management practices followed to get higher yield under rainfed and irrigated conditions.

Dr. Prashantha G.M., Scientist (Soil Science), KVK, Mudigere addressed the farmers and insisted that required essential nutrients needs to be used in the right balance to achieve optimum yield while maintaining the soil fertility. Beneficiary farmer Mr. Shivakumar, Kanabagatte expressed his opinion that the ragi variety KMR-630 given is very good and he is expecting a yield of around 12-14 quintals per acre.

Mr. Shivaprasad, C. B., Agriculture Officer, RSK, Shivani, addressed the participants to share these technologies with other farmers and help them in increasing their production and by reducing the cost of production.

During this occasion Dr. Sneha Shigihalli, Scientist (Home science), ICAR-KVK, Mudigere,



Sridhar (Progressive farmer) and more than 35 farmers of Kanabagatte & surrounding areas were also present and benefited from the program.



ICAR-KVK- CHITRADURGA



World Soil Day

Dr. Kumara O., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Chitradurga participated as Chief Guest in World Soil day programme organized by Department of Agriculture, Chitradurga at IAT, Chitradurga on 05-12-2024. During his speech he briefed about the importance of soil Health management soil health management aspects that includes the adoption of organic and natural farming methods like application of organic manures, green manuring, mulching etc. which leads to enhancement of soil organic carbon that helps to maintain the soil microorganism population as well as improves the soil physical, chemical and biological properties.

KVK scientists have participated as resource persons in World soil day programme organized by Department of Agriculture, Chitradurga at different taluks and delivered guest lectures on Importance of Soil Health and its management.

Event report of Redgram field day

A Field day on Redgram variety BRG-2 was organized by KVK, Chitradurga in collaboration with Department of agriculture at Mykalurahally, Hiriyur taluk on 09-12-2024.

Dr. Kumara O, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK participated as chief guest during the programme. During his speech he briefed the special features of BRG-2 redgram variety. Which is a short duration variety high yielding and suitable for contingent crop planning. He also suggested the farmers to adopt the new variety for getting better income.

Mrs. Parvathamma, Agriculture Officer, Hiriyur presided over the programme and during her speech she briefed about the various schemes and programmes of Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Chithaiah, president, Babbur gram panchayath, inaugurated the programme and he suggested the farmers to grow more of BRG -2 redgram variety.



Event report on RPL- Skill training for organic cultivators

A Skill training programme for organic cultivators was organized at KVK, Chitradurga in collaboration with ASCI, India from 02-12-2024 to 03-12-2024.

Dr. M.J. Chandre Gowda, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, ASCI, training programme, ATARI, Bengaluru inaugurated the training programme and during his inaugural speech he briefed the importance of training programme. For doubling the income from farm activities farmers should take up agriculture as an entrepreneurial activity and think in profit making mode. This programme will certify the participants as organic growers. Farmers should adopt scientific organic farming practices to produce quality product and marketing should be done on demand basis, which in turn fetch better profits. He also suggested the participants to plan the farm activities based on soil and water test results.

Dr. Sharanappa Jangandi, Associate Director of Research, ZAHRS, Babbur farm participated as chief guest during the programme and briefed the importance of soil microorganisms and cattle rearing in organic farming. He also explained that the main aim of organic farming is to improve the soil organic carbon status. He also provided information about the successful organic farming farmers of Chitradurga district.

Dr. Kumara O, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Chitradurga presided over the programme and during his presidential address he briefed that the main aim of the training programme is to identify and promote the farmers promoting organic farming in Chitradurga district. He also briefed about the details of two days training programme. Dr. Onkarappa S, Scientist (Plant Protection), Dr. Ravi Kumar D, Scientist (Soil Science) were present in the programme. Dr. Mahantesh, Scientist (Horticulture), welcomed the guests, Dr. Saraswathi, Scientist (Home Science), extended the vote of thanks. Mrs. Geetha Kumari B N, Senior Technical Officer, hosted the programme.



ICAR-KVK- DAKSHINA KANNADA



World Soil Day

ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada, in collaboration with Dept. of Agriculture, Dakshina Kannada and also with JNV School, Mudipu has 'Celebrated World Soil Day-2024' on 05.12.2024 at KVK, D.K. and at JNV School Mudipu with distribution of soil health cards to the beneficiary farmers. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. S. R. Somashekhar, ADE, KVAFSU, Bidar, and advised to go for conservation of Soil and water through narrating the history of world soil day. Mrs. Kumuda DDA, Dept. of Agriculture, Dakshina Kannada participated as a chief guest and delivered introductory remarks of the day. Senior Scientist and Head Dr. T. J. Ramesha presided over the function and briefed about the importance of celebration of world soil day. Dr. Mallikarjuna L. Scientist (Soil Science) coordinated the programme and delivered a talk on theme - Caring for soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage. Scientists namely Dr. Ravindragowda Patil, Dr. Shivakumar, Dr. Rashmi and the staff of KVK and Dept. of Agriculture, Dakshina Kannada, 158 Farmers, Input dealers and students were participated in the programme.



Capacity Development Programme on coconut cultivation for SC Farmers

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada in collaboration with ICAR-Central Plantation Crop Research Institute, Kasargod organized Capacity Development Programme and Input distribution programmes on scientific cultivation practices of Coconut for SC Farmers under SCSP Programme of ICAR-CPCRI, Kasargod at KVK Office as well as at Grampanchayaths of Bantwal and Puttur Taluks.

The prime idea of extending support to SC Farmers through imparting training and providing input support was conceived by Dr. K. B. Hebbar, the Director, ICAR-CPCRI, Kasargod. Dr. Rajkumar, Scientist (Nematology) and Nodal Officer of SCSP programme took initiation to implement this innovative programme at grass root level to improve socio-economic status of SC farmers in the district. The programmes were coordinated by Taluk Level Programme Managers of KSRLPS (NRLM) from Mangalore (8.11.2024) Bantwal Taluk (2.12.2024) and Puttur Taluks (12.12.2024). Dr. Ravi Bhat, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-CPCRI, Kasargod, Dr. Rashmi R., Scientist (Horticulture) and Dr. T.J. Ramesha, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra participated as resource persons.

Programme was Inaugurated by Mr. Nagesh, panchayath Development Officer, Aryapu Village. Smti. Namitha, Taluk Level Supervisor, Smti. Sujatha, President, Sarovara Sanjeevini Federation, Krishi sakhis and SC Farmers were participated in the programme. A total of 1548 coconut saplings (Variety: West Coast Tall) procured from ICAR-CPCRI, Kidu were provided to 724 SC Farmers selected from 70 Grampanchayaths of the taluk.



ICAR-KVK- DAVANGERE



A Follow up field visit to FLD Bengal gram

ICAR- Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Davanagere conducted the Frontline demonstration on Integrated crop management in Bengal gram at Kalledevrapura, Jagalur taluk. Mr Mallikarjuna B.O., SMS (Agronomy) interacted with the farmers on the crop status and delivered a lecture on management of pod borer through installation of pheromone traps, and conducted the method demonstration. Provided the traps for the selected farmers and installed them in the field. Mr. M.G Basavanagowda SMS (Horticulture) attended the program and interacted with the farmers.

Drone Demonstration for TSP Farmers

Foliar application of Chickpea magic through Drone technology was demonstrated to TSP Beneficiaries at Kalledvarapura village of Jagalur taluk. 25 acres of area was covered in the village. Mr. Basavanagowda M.G., SMS (Horticulture) and Mr. Mallikarjuna B.O., SMS (Agronomy) took the lead in smooth conduct of the programme. Application of micronutrients during flowering stage enhances the flowering and productivity.



Celebration of Field day of AWD paddy

ICAR- Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Davanagere conducted the NICRA- Frontline demonstration on Alternative Wetting and Drying technology in Paddy Production at Halebathi, CHandranahalli and Belavanuru, Davanagere taluk. Celebration of the field day at Halebathi in collaboration with department of Agriculture, Davanagere. The program was inaugurated by Sri Sridahar murthy, ADA and expressed that farmers should go for mechanised transplanting along with AWD technology to save water and labour cost. Mr Mallikarjuna B.O SMS (Agronomy) expressed that farmers should go with new technology and instead of selling the produce, go for value addition in paddy and sell directly to customers. Field visit to the paddy fields and farmers interacted on the technology and yielded 24 q/acre. The Dr Avinsah T.G and H.M Sannagowduru SMSs attended the program.



ICAR-KVK- DHARWAD



World Soil Day

World Soil Day was celebrated by ICAR-KVK, Dharwad on 5th December in association with the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, UAS, Dharwad. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. P. L. Patil and Dr. P. A. Sarangmath, Former Dean (PGS) and Professor Soil Science have inaugurated the programme and distributed soil test reports to the farmers. Dr. P. A. Sarangmath addressed the gathering and underscored the importance of accurate soil data and information in understanding soil characteristics and supporting informed decision making in sustainable soil management for food security. Further, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. P. L. Patil highlighted the need to measure, monitor and manage the soil appropriately to ensure soil health and fertility. Nearly 250 participants including farmers, farmer's representatives and students were in the programme. Officials from the Directorate of Extension, Professors of Dept. of SS &AC, and Scientists from KVK, Dharwad graced the occasion.

Scientists Visit to Farmers Field

Visit to farmer field for Front line demonstration in Ridge gourd and OFT on varietal assessment in garden peas at Amminabhavi village on 06-12-2021 by Dr. Airadevi Angadi, Scientist (Horticulture) and Vidya Sangannavar, SMS (Home Science), ICAR-KVK Dharwad.



Exposure visit of foreign students from College of Agriculture, Tennessee State University, United States on 10.12.2024 to ICAR-KVK, Dharwad visited Soil and water testing laboratory and hands on training about horticulture crop propagation especially grafting in mango and air layering in guava at KVK Horticulture Nursery and students were exposed to different KVK activities

Diagnostic field visit to Mango tip drying and mango flower drop at Narendra village was observed by Dr. Airadevi Angadi, scientist (Horticulture) and Vidya Sangannavar, SMS (Home Science), ICAR- KVK Dharwad on 12.12.2022, farmer was suggested with proper irrigation management measures and spraying with Arka Mango special @ 5g/l before flower initiation and repeat the same after mango fruit set at pea stage.



ICAR-KVK- ERNAKULAM



KVK participated in Neriamangalam Farm Fest 2024

KVK participated in the Neriamangalam Farm Fest 2024, organized by the Kerala Agriculture Department, from December 6 to 9, 2024, at Neriamangalam. The event served as a platform for farmers to learn about innovative agricultural practices and technological advancements to enhance productivity and sustainability.

A key event highlight was an expert lecture on Fish Farming delivered by Dr. P. A. Vikas, Subject Matter Specialist (Fisheries) of ICAR-KVK Ernakulam. The session provided valuable insights into sustainable fish farming techniques, attracting the participation of 50 farmers from various parts of the district.

On the concluding day, December 9, 2024, Shri Pushparaj Anjelo, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Extension), demonstrated drone technology for applying organic biocontrol agents to crops. The demonstration showcased how modern technology can be crucial in promoting organic farming, ensuring both efficiency and environmental safety.



ICAR-KVK-GADAG

Millet and International Organic Trade Fair

ICAR-K.H.Patil Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadag and Karnataka State Department of Agriculture, Gadag jointly organised District Level Millet and Forgotten Foods Culinary Competition, as part of the Millet and International Organic Trade Fair 2024-25 on 06-12-2024 at KVK Campus.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri Govinda Reddy, District Collector, Gadag. During his inaugural speech, he highlighted the health benefits of nutrient-rich millets, grown with minimal fertilizers and pesticides. He emphasized that regular millet consumption can help to manage lifestyle diseases like diabetes, hypertension and obesity. He also emphasized the inclusion of millets in daily diet can pave the way for a healthier life.

Fifty-nine women from Gadag district showcased a variety of creative dishes made with millets and forgotten traditional foods. Sweet dishes mainly payasa, laddus and kadubu, while savory options featured vadas, kichadi, dosas and more. Unique forgotten foods like Gulladaki Laddu, Jackfruit Leaf Idli and Colocassia root based dishes were showcased for their distinctive flavours and taste.

Smt. Annapurna Mudukammanavar, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gadag, participated as a judge and praised the participants, stating that all dishes were exceptional and deserved recognition. Dr. Sudha V. Mankani, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, Gadag and Smt. Spurthi G.S., Deputy Director, KSDA Gadag also served as judges. Three prizes were awarded in each of the three categories: sweet millet dishes, savory millet dishes and forgotten foods along with certificates of recognition. Winners of the first prize in each category were informed to compulsorily participate in the State-Level Millet Culinary Competition to be held on 25th January, 2025 at Bangalore. All participants were honoured with certificates of appreciation.

The event was organized under the guidance of Smt. Taramani G.H. Joint Director of Agriculture, Gadag. Key Officials and Staff from the Agriculture Department, ATMA and KVK, Gadag were also present during the programme.



ICAR-KVK- HASSAN



World Soil Day

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Hassan, Coromandel International Limited, and Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, celebrated World Soil Health Day on December 5, 2024, at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Hassan. The event was organized by Dr. Arunkumar B. R., soil scientist, KVK, Hassan who gave introductory remarks and explained that World Soil Day is celebrated annually on December 5 to honor the birthday of Bhumibol Adulyadej, the King of Thailand and a strong advocate of soil conservation. Further, he also administered the soil conservation oath to all the participants during the program.

The Deputy Director of the Agriculture Department, Mrs. Kokila, inaugurated the event and emphasized that farmers should focus on maintaining soil health by enriching the soil with minerals, nutrients, and moisture. Mrs. Kokila also highlighted the negative impact of excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides, which reduces soil fertility and crop yields, suggesting that soil testing should be used to guide fertilizer application and improve land health.



The Chief Guest, Mr. Chandrasekhar, Director of Clear In Institute, Hassan, spoke about the harmful effects of plastics used in farming, urging farmers to recycle plastic materials to prevent soil pollution. Mr. Manu, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Hassan, discussed the history of fertilizer use, explaining that while fertilizers were essential in the 1960s to boost food production, their excessive use today is harming soil health. He recommended using organic manure and green manure to maintain soil fertility.

Mr. Madhusudhan, Krishi Ranga, Aakashvani, Hassan participated as guest and explained that only 40% of India's soil is suitable for agriculture, while the remaining 60% is either acidic or alkaline, leading to reduced crop yields. He advocated for the adoption of organic farming practices to restore soil health. Further, Mr. Omkaramoorthy, Manager of Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Hassan emphasized that a balanced use of organic and chemical fertilizers is essential for maintaining soil health while ensuring high yields.

Finally, Dr. Sivashankar M, Scientist (Home Science), KVK, Hassan has chaired the programme and during his presidential remarks he urged farmers to monitor and manage their soil, recalling the saying, "Soil is better for humans, but in the end, it is the soil that carries the burden, not humans."



ICAR-KVK- HASSAN



World Soil Day

During the event, progressive and state level winning farmers were felicitated and soil health certificates were distributed to the selected farmers by the Department of Agriculture. A sapling planting program was also organized, where Dr. Sanket C.V. narrated the event and Dr. Pallavi N. expressed gratitude to all the participants. The program was attended by various dignitaries, including Dr. Nagaraja, Scientist, KVK, Hassan, Smt. Savitha, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Hassan, Shri Naveen Kumar, Agriculture Officer, Hassan, as well as staff from Coromandel International Limited, MCF Company and local farmers.



ICAR-KVK- HAVERI



World Soil Day

ICAR-KVK, Haveri (Hanumanamatti) in association with Department of Agriculture, Badagi organized "World Soil Day" program on 05.12.2024. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Veeranagowda Puttanagowda Policesagoudar, Hon'ble Board Member, UAS, Dharwad conveyed that soil and water are very important resources for all the living beings on this earth and informed the farmers to conserve them. Then Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, Haveri (Hanumanamatti) Dr. Guruprasada G. S., in his presidential address, narrated importance of soil fertility and their management in changing climate and need to maintain in future generation.

Dr. Rashmi C. M, Subject Matter Specialist (Soil Science) explained about background of World Soil Day on the recommendation of the International Union of Soil Scientists with an affiliate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. She explained celebration of current event with a theme "Caring for Soils: Measures, Monitor, Management" for better life of farming community.

Then Dr. Vijayakumar, Assistant Professor (Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry), CoA, Hanumanamatti explained about cultivation of crops with scientific way based on soil test.

In this program, all the scientists of the KVK, Haveri, Dr. Siddhagamma K. R, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy), Dr. Akshatha Ramannavara, Subject Matter Specialist (Home Science) and Staff Shri. Nagaraja Bannihatti, Agriculture Officer, RSK Byadgi, Sri Malatesh Shidganala and more than 100 farmer/farmer women participated and successfully celebrated World Soil Day. On this occasion, Soil Health Certificate was distributed to the farmers.



Field day on Integrated Crop Management in Transplanted Pigeonpea and Krishi Vigyanigala Nade Raitara Kade

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumanmatti, Haveri organized a "Field Day on Integrated Crop Management in Transplanted Pigeonpea" and Krishi Vigyanigala Nade Raitara Kade on December 10, 2024, at the farm of Sri Veerappa Virupakshappa Kalledhevara in Hosaritti village. The event was inaugurated by Sri Guddali Shivayogiswara Mahaswamigalu, who encouraged youths to pursue agriculture for better livelihoods and adopt scientific, environment-friendly practices. Dr. P. L. Patil, Vice-Chancellor of UAS, Dharwad, highlighted the importance of soil and water conservation, organic fertilizers, and multi-cropping systems for increased productivity. Dr. R. Basavarajappa discussed the benefits of intercropping pigeon pea with millets for climate-resilient agriculture. KVK specialists shared insights on pest management, pulse boosters, and nipping technology. Progressive farmers shared their success with transplanted pigeon pea technology. The event, attended by over 100 farmers, promoted sustainable farming practices and improved agricultural knowledge.



ICAR-KVK- IDUKKI

Empowering Farmers Through Soil Testing and Health Management: A Successful Campaign at KVK Idukki



Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Idukki hosted a successful Soil Testing Campaign to mark World Soil Day, with 129 participants attending. The event featured a comprehensive session on Soil Health Management led by Miss. Manju Jincy Varghese, the Subject Matter Specialist in Soil Science at KVK. During the session, Miss. Varghese provided valuable insights into sustainable soil management practices, including crop rotation, organic fertilization, and interpreting soil test results to enhance fertility and productivity. The Soil Testing Campaign, which offered free soil testing to local farmers, enabled participants to assess the nutrient levels of their soil and receive tailored recommendations for better crop yields. The campaign aimed to empower farmers with the knowledge and tools necessary for improving soil health and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

Participants actively engaged in a Q&A session, sharing their experiences and seeking advice on tackling soil-related challenges, underscoring the success of the event in spreading awareness and promoting actionable solutions for soil care. Different agro based companies participated in this event.



ICAR-KVK- KALABURAGI-1



Krishi Mela-2024, UAS, Raichur

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, hosted a three-day Krishi Mela from December 7-9, 2024, under the theme "Climate Resilient for Sustainable Agriculture." The event showcased various technologies, books, leaflets, and agricultural products like millets, biofertilizers, and solar-operated sprayers, along with seeds of millets, pulses, and cereals. Stalls from agricultural universities, departments, and private companies demonstrated farming innovations using charts, models, and live samples. The University stall, led by Dr. Raju G. Teggelli, won the Best Stall award. The Mela attracted over 4 lakh visitors, including dignitaries, faculty, students, farmers, and representatives from various sectors. The event was inaugurated by Karnataka's Agriculture Minister, Sri Chaluvanarayanawamy, who highlighted climate-resilient agriculture, and attended by Dr. Sharana Prakash Patil and other key officials. The university also recognized progressive farmers with 'Shresta Krishika' and 'Shresta Krishi Mahile' awards.



A diagnostic field visit conducted by ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalaburagi-I in collaboration with Department of Agriculture and Krishik Samaja, Kalaburagi to the Redgram affected fields of Afzalpur, Aland, Chincholi, Kalagi, Chincholi and Sedam talukas of Kalaburagi district on 04.12.2024. The dry root rots (*Macrophomina Fejiyolai*) and *Alternaria* leaf spot disease was observed in many redgram fields of the districts and remedy given to the farmers. In team, KVK, ZARS, Scientists and department officials ATMA staff and more than 200 farmers were presented.



ICAR-KVK- KALABURAGI-2



World soil day

On December 5, 2024, ICAR, KVK, Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadgi) scientists and the Department of Agriculture jointly celebrated a World Soil Day celebration at the Ekalavya model school in Konachuru village, Chithapur Taluka. Ms. Kanchamaseni (Agriculture Officer, Chithapur) served as the emcee, extending a warm welcome to the distinguished guests and farmers. In his opening remarks, Mr. Samad Patel (Joint Director of Agriculture, Kalaburagi) emphasized the detrimental effects of indiscriminate chemical fertilizer and pesticide use on soil health, underscoring the need for soil protection and conservation for future generations. Dr. Mallappa (Scientist, Agronomy) highlighted the critical role of soil in national development, advocating for soil protection in alignment with the World Soil Day 2024 theme: "Measure, Monitor, and Manage." Mrs. Anusuya Hugar (Deputy Director of Agriculture, Kalaburagi) then provided a concise overview of the importance and utilization of soil health cards. Mr. Sanjeevkumar Mankare (Assistant Director of Agriculture, Chithapur) concluded by discussing fertilizer application based on soil testing. One hundred students and thirty-five farmers participated in this valuable off-campus professional development program.



ICAR nominated scientists visit to ICAR KVK Kalaburagi-II

On December 13, 2024, ICAR-nominated principal scientists Dr. Revanappa Biradar of the Indian Institute of Pulse Research, Regional Station Dharwad, and Dr. Gundappa B. of the National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bangalore, conducted a site visit to KVK, Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadgi). Accompanied by KVK staff, they reviewed the KVK exhibition hall, observing various technologies on display, including soil profile displays, soil and water testing laboratories, natural farming demonstration units, an azolla unit, a goat rearing and feeding unit, a vermicompost unit, a nursery, a seed processing unit, a fruit orchard, and chickpea nuclear seed production plots. A review of the KVK's activities over the past three years was conducted, followed by constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement from the scientists. This was concluded with a visit to the pomegranate field of Mr. Ogeppa Hosamani, a millionaire awardee farmer in Halagadla. Dr. Vasudev Naik (Senior Scientist and Head), other scientists, technical and non-technical staff, and 25 farmers were in attendance.



ICAR-KVK- KANNUR

Field Day: Precision Farming Bears Fruit

On December 13, 2024, KVK Kannur and Krishi Bhavan, Pappinissery celebrated the success of precision farming with the inaugural harvest of ridge gourd and okra from the farm of progressive farmer Sri. Damodaran. The event, held in the presence of farmers and officials, was inaugurated by Dr. Jayaraj P., Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Kannur, and Sri. M. N. Pradeepan, Principal Agricultural Officer, Kannur, with Sri. Pradeep Kumar, Vice President of Pappinissery Grama Panchayat, presiding.

Smt. Thulasi Chengattu welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of the initiative in inspiring farmers to adopt precision farming. Felicitations were given by Sri. K. K. Adarsh and Smt. Rajashree K. K., who commended Sri. Damodaran's efforts and the role of KVK Kannur in promoting sustainable practices. The event, attended by 20 farmers, showcased the successful results of precision farming, demonstrating its potential to increase productivity and sustainability.

Dr. Jayaraj P. emphasized precision farming's role in optimizing resources and improving crop yields. The event also saw technical input from Smt. Renisha J. M. and Dr. Parvathy A. of KVK Kannur. The program concluded with a vote of thanks, leaving farmers inspired to adopt innovative, high-yielding farming methods.



Nano Pheromone Traps for the management of the destructive Red Palms

Kannur: A groundbreaking step towards sustainable pest management in coconut cultivation was taken at Mayyil with the demonstration of Nano Pheromone Traps for the management of the destructive Red Palm Weevil. The programme was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Kannur in collaboration with Mayyil Rice Producers Company (FPO) and witnessed the participation of 66 enthusiastic farmers.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Jayaraj P., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Kannur, who elaborated on the Standard Operating Protocol (SOP) for effective coconut cultivation, emphasizing pest and disease management. He highlighted the significance of the Nano Pheromone Trap as an eco-friendly, cost-effective, and innovative solution to combat the Red Palm Weevil, a major pest affecting coconut plantations. The technical demonstration of the Nano Pheromone Trap was led by Dr. Manju K. P., Assistant Professor (Entomology), KVK Kannur, who explained its design, mechanism, and benefits. She provided step-by-step instructions for installing and maintaining the traps to ensure effective pest control. Dr. Manju K. P. also addressed the farmers' queries, emphasizing the importance of integrated pest management (IPM) practices to safeguard coconut yields.



ICAR-KVK- KASARAGOD



World Soil Day 2024

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kasaragod celebrated World Soil Day with an awareness program on natural farming at Aravath in Panayal village in Kasaragod district on December 5, 2024. The event was inaugurated by Sri. M. Kumaran, President, Pallikkara Grama Panchayath and was presided over by Smt. Geetha, Member, Kanhangad Block Panchayath. The programme aimed to create awareness about soil health, sustainable agricultural practices and the benefits of natural farming methods for the local farming community.

This initiative brought together farmers and agricultural experts to discuss and promote soil conservation, sustainable farming techniques, and the importance of organic practices for improving soil fertility and sustainable crop production. During the event, the chief guest emphasized the critical importance of soil fertility management by adopting various indigenous methods to conserve the precious land. He highlighted that soil is the fundamental source of staple food and its health directly impacts agricultural productivity and food security.

The chief guest also suggested farmers to adopt judicious nutrient management practices that not only help in achieving higher crop yields but also ensure the long-term conservation of the soil. Dr. Manoj kumar T.S, Head, KVK Kasaragod, emphasized the importance of adopting new machinery and advanced soil preparation tools to implement sustainable soil management practices. He highlighted that modern technologies could significantly enhance soil health and improve efficiency in land preparation. He also urged the farmers to follow and adopt the theme of world soil day 2024 i.e.; "Caring for soils: measure, monitor, manage"

Sri. K. Manikandan, STO, KVK took a class on Soil health management, where the importance of soil fertility and management practices for the sustainable of crop production was highlighted. Integrated nutrient management (INM) practices and the importance soil acidity management for different crops were also explained. The programme was attended by 30 farmers.

Sri. K. Manikandan, STO KVK welcomed the gathering and Shri. Ashokan a progressive farmer extended the vote of Thanks.



ICAR-KVK- KODAGU



World Soil Day

World Soil Day 2024 was celebrated at ICAR-KVK Gonikoppal, Kodagu on 5th December, 2024, with active participation from the Coffee Board, Arvathokalu, ATMA (State Agriculture Department), and Coromandel International Limited. The programme was inaugurated with manuring a plant, emphasizing the significance of soil health. Mr. Prabhakara, Head Incharge, KVK welcomed the participants and spoke about Integrated nutrient management, highlighting sustainable practices for maintaining soil fertility and productivity. The audience included participants from CIT, Ponnampet, and COA, Chamarajanagar, making the programme a collaborative and knowledge-sharing platform. Dr. Sridevi from Coffee Board, B N Somashekar from state agriculture department, Dr. Ganesh from CIT, Ponnampet and Kiran Kumar from Coromandel were the chief guests. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Mohankumar K.T., SMS (Soi Science). The event was witnessed by 54 enthusiastic participants from the district.



Vocational Training programme on Mushroom Cultivation and Value Addition at ICAR-KVK Kodagu

One day vocational training on "Mushroom Cultivation and Value Addition" was organised as part of the "Vocational Training for Women Group of Virajpet Liaison Zone," organized by the Coffee Board in collaboration with ICAR- KVK, Kodagu on 11th December 2024 at KVK. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Sridevi, Deputy Director Extension of the Coffee Board. The session was also graced by the presence of Sriraman, SLO of the Coffee Board. The session covered key topics on mushroom production techniques and highlighted methods to enhance shelf life of mushroom through value addition processes. The vibrant and enthusiastic group of women actively participated in the interactive session. The training programme aimed to empower the women to explore new opportunities in mushroom cultivation. Following the session, the group was taken on a field visit to the KVK farm, where they explored the pepper and arecanut nursery and animal unit. Notably, the training successfully motivated five women to begin mushroom cultivation on a small scale at home, with the support of Ready-to-Fruit mushroom bags from KVK, marking the start of their entrepreneurial journey. The success of the event was made possible through the contributions of Ms. Mahija, Assistant Extension Officer Coffee board who co-ordinated the vocational training, Dr. Mrunal Barbhai, SMS-KVK, and Veena, who conducted the technical session and programme assistance was provided by Mr. Benecio Fernandes, Programme Assistant.



ICAR-KVK- KOLAR



World Soil Day

World Soil Day 2024, with the theme "Caring for the Soil: Measure, Monitor, and Manage," was celebrated at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kolar, on 5th December 2024 at KVK, Kolar. The program was inaugurated by Smt. Suma, JDA, Kolar. The Chief Guests included DDH Kumarswamy, DDS Srinivas K.N., Retired DR, UHSB, Dr. V. Nache Gowda, DDA Smt. Bhavya Rani, Mr. Bharath, Area Manager, PPL Ltd., and Dr. Shivanand Hongal, Senior Scientist and Head who presided over the function.

On this occasion, 'Soil Health Cards' were distributed to beneficiary farmers, and a pledge was taken to promote soil health. During the technical session, Sri Sampath Kumar, a progressive organic farmer, and Dr. Anil Kumar S., Scientist (Soil Science), highlighted the importance of soil health management. KVK scientists Dr. Manjunath Reddy T.B. and Dr. Shashidhar K.R., ADA Kolar, ATMA Kolar staff, and around 75 farmers, women, and youth attended and benefited from the program.

Animal Health Camp



ICAR-KVK Kolar organized an Animal Health Camp and Training Program on "Disease Management in Animals" under the SCSP program at Thotli village of Kolar taluk on 06.12.2024.

Around 80 farmers with more than 500 animals, including cows, calves, buffaloes, sheep and goats participated and benefited from the program.

Dr. Srinivasa Gowda, Senior Veterinary Officer and Dr. Vishwanath, Senior Veterinary Officer led the treatment of animals and the training program. Scientists from KVK organised and coordinated the program.

NBAIR scientist visit to tomato fields

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kolar Horticulture scientist assisted the scientists team from NBAIR, Hebbal, Bengaluru in visiting tomato fields at Biglihosahalli, Ammerahalli & Muduvathi villages of Kolar taluk on 06.12.2024 for the initiation of the project entitled "Collection, Characterization and conservation of agriculturally important insects in agroecosystem".



FFS (Farmers field school session)

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kolar organized FFS session on "Plant protection measures & spray schedule in Mango" for the current season at lakshmisagara village of Srinivaspura taluk on 13.12.2024. Mr. Tulsiram, Associate professor, CoH Kolar was the resource person during the technical session.



ICAR-KVK- KOLLAM



Capacity Development Programmes for the Upliftment of Vulnerable sections

A one-day capacity development programme on 'Effective waste management through Microbial based recycling techniques' has been organised by KVK Kollam as part of the ICAR-SCSP Programme 2024-25 for the selected farmers of Melila and Vettikkavala panchayats on 26-09-2024. Wastes-both biodegradable and non-biodegradable, are emerging as a serious issue in the recent days. Unscientific waste management and lack of awareness has worsened the situation. To create an insight towards the scientific solutions on Waste management, KVK Kollam has organized the one-day programme to selected farmers. Smt. Neeraja C R, Assistant Professor, ICAR KVK Kollam has handled the sessions on The concept of wastes, annual waste generation from agricultural & non-agricultural sectors, concepts of waste management, conversion of waste to wealth through composting techniques including Vermicomposting, coir pith composting, Pipe composting, Azolla composting and kitchen waste management through KAU Bio-bins and Composting inoculums and Thumburmuzhi method of composting for urban waste management were also discussed.



ICAR-KVK- KOPPAL

World soil day

World soil day is celebrated annually on 5 December. The theme for this year is "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage". It underscores the importance of quality assessed and standardised soil data and information in understanding soils properties and supporting informed decision-making on sustainable soil management for food security and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Or, in more general terms, it supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. ICAR KVK Koppal in association with KSDA and coromandel company organised world soil day on 5.12.2024 in KVK premises. The programme was inaugurated by Dr Vishwanath Special officer, CAO Gangavathi and explained about management of saline soil in the Tungabhadra irrigated areas. Dr Chandrakanth ADA, DATC Vdrahatti explained about importance of organic cultivation. Dr.Raghvendra Yaligar Senior scientist and Head ICAR KVK Koppal explained about importance of soil day. He also explained the importance soil and water test. More than 80 farmers and farm women were participated in contest.



District level millet and forgotten food recipe contest

On December 4, 2024, the Department of Agriculture and ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gangavathi Taluk, Koppal, jointly organized a district-level Millet and Forgotten Food Recipe Contest in Koppal. The event was inaugurated by Sri Ratanam Pandey, District Zilla Panchayat CEO, who emphasized the importance of millets in addressing climate change and encouraged women to incorporate millets into their daily diets and explore millet-based products as employment opportunities.

Sri Rudrappa, JDA, KSDA, Koppal, discussed various millet programs, while Dr. Kavitha Y. Ullikashi, Scientist (Home Science), highlighted the nutritional benefits and value addition of millets. Dr. Radha J, Scientist (Seed Science and Technology), spoke on new millet varieties, and Dr. Raghvendra Yaligar, Senior Scientist and Head of ICAR KVK Koppal, introduced the Kisan Samruddi brand for value-added agricultural products. Sri Siddesh, Additional JDA, explained the processing and marketing of millet products.

The contest featured 51 farm women who presented recipes made from finger millet, bajra, foxtail millet, jowar, brown top millets, safflower seeds, and horse gram. Over 200 farmers and farm women attended, celebrating the health benefits of millets and their potential for food security, nutrition, and income generation.



ICAR-KVK- KOTTAYAM



World soil day

World Soil Day 2024 was celebrated on December 5 in collaboration with SKM Higher Secondary School, embracing the theme "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage." The event featured engaging activities such as a quiz program and a poster-making competition, where students showcased their creativity and awareness about soil health and conservation. The program was expertly coordinated by Chris Joseph, Manuel Alex, and Asha V. Pillai, ensuring its smooth execution and meaningful outcomes. These activities emphasized the importance of monitoring and managing soils sustainably to protect this vital resource.

Scheduled Caste Sub Plan programmes

Under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan, a series of initiatives were organized to empower Scheduled Caste farmers. On December 10, 2024, poultry cages and egg-laying hens were distributed to farmers to promote sustainable livelihoods and enhance income generation. Following this, a three-day training program was conducted from December 11 to December 13, focusing on building farmers' capacity. The sessions covered essential topics such as value addition, mushroom cultivation, organic manure preparation, and nursery management. Expert trainers provided practical knowledge, and farm inputs were distributed to participants to support the application of these techniques.



ICAR-KVK- KOZHIKODE



World soil day

KVK celebrated World soil day with training sessions on Natural farming and Mushroom cultivation at KVK campus. The programme was coordinated by Dr.S. Shanmugavel, former SMS of KVK and Dr. K.M. Prakash, SMS (Agronomy). The programme was inaugurated by Dr. P. Ratha Krishnan, Head of KVK. A total of 15 farmers participated.

The celebration held at Maruthonkara Grama Panchayat included the planting of Melia and Asoka saplings, which was inaugurated by Smt. Reena, V.P., ward member. Soil health cards were also distributed to participating farmers. SC beneficiaries were also given stingless beehives and materials for initial nursery establishment such as polythene bags, rose cans, grow bags, polythene sheets, nylon rope, shade net etc. The programme was attended by ward members, farmers from the Pratheeksha farmers club.

The programme held at Naduvannur Grama Panchayat included distribution of soil health cards and seedlings, which was inaugurated by Sri. T.P. Damodaran Master, President, Naduvannur Grama Panchayat. The event was organized in association with the Nanma Farmers Group and Kavunthara Service Cooperative Bank. Thirty four soil health cards were also distributed to the members of the Nanma Farmers Group. The programme was attended by more than 100 participants. The event was presided over by Dr. P. Ratha Krishnan, Head of KVK with felicitations by Sri. Sajeevan Master, President of Kavunthara Service Cooperative Bank and Sri K.P. Sharath Lal, Secretary of the Nanma Farmers Group.

Visit of tribal farmers from Idukki district

A farmers' group of 18 members from tribal hamlet of Idukki visited KVK on 28.11.2024 in connection with a three day capacity building programme for tribal spice farmers of Kerala, organized by Spices Board at ICAR IISR. They were familiarised with the activities of KVK and visited different demonstration units at KVK.

On Job Training to students of VHSS , Meppayyur

A six days "On Job Training" to students of Government Vocational Higher Secondary School, Meppayur was conducted at KVK from 25.11.2024 to 4.12.2024 on the subject "Vegetable Grower". In addition to imparting training in recent advances in the production technology of vegetable crops, hands on training was also given to the students on PP aspects, IFS, vegetable processing, vegetable nursery etc. They were also taken for an exposure visit to District Agriculture Farm, Koothali and progressive farmer's field to have first-hand information on the subject. A total of 31 students attended the programme.



ICAR-KVK-LAKSHADWEEP



Baseline Survey of Seaweed Diversity at Minicoy Islands of Lakshadweep

Recognising the ecological and economic potential of seaweeds in the Lakshadweep archipelago, KVK-Lakshadweep, ICAR-CMFRI organised a comprehensive baseline survey on the diversity and distribution of seaweed assemblages along the coastline of Minicoy Island. This initiative aligns with the KVK's mandate to explore development interventions that can support sustainable practices and livelihoods for the island communities. Seaweeds, or macroalgae, play a critical role in coral reef ecosystems, contributing to reef calcification and enhancing marine biodiversity. Despite their importance, studies focusing on the seaweed flora in Lakshadweep's coral reef systems remain limited, particularly for islands like Minicoy. To address this gap, Mr. Sagar Vitthal Shinde, Subject Matter Specialist (Aquaculture) the newly joined SMS of KVK under the guidance of Dr. P.N. Ananth, Principal Scientist and Head and with the support of Dr. Abdul Gafoor, V.M., SMS (Animal Science) and Abdul Azeez P. Scientist (ICAR-CMFRI) conducted extensive field surveys across diverse marine habitats on Minicoy Island. The survey revealed a rich seaweed diversity, with prominent genera including *Porphyra*, *Halimeda*, *Chaetomorpha*, *Caulerpa*, *Sargassum*, and *Acanthophora* (as in photos).



These findings highlight the ecological significance of seaweed communities in maintaining reef health and provide a foundational understanding of their spatial distribution and abundance. The data gathered will contribute to the development of a comprehensive repository on seaweed resources in Lakshadweep, paving the way for future research and development initiatives. Development of seaweed culture in any location will be based on the data available on its feasibility related to environment and other socio-economic conditions of the stakeholders. This repository will serve as a guide for conservation strategies and community-driven interventions, particularly in exploring the potential of seaweed-based livelihoods. As a knowledge centre, the KVK should be equipped with such database for providing appropriate Extension Advisory Services (EAS). Through this effort, KVK-Lakshadweep underscores its commitment to preserving the unique coral reef ecosystems of Lakshadweep while supporting the sustainable development of island communities.



ICAR-KVK- MALAPPURAM

KVK Malappuram Conducts two off campus Training and Input Distribution for SC Farmers at Vallikkunnu and Parappanangadi Krishi bhavan



The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Malappuram organized a comprehensive training session on the scientific cultivation of banana and vegetables for Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers of the Parapanangadi Agricultural Block at Vallikkunnu and Parappanangadi Krishi bhavan. The program, held under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP), aimed to enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability within the community. Dr. Akhilraj, subject matter specialist in horticulture at KVK Malappuram, led the training, providing detailed insights into modern cultivation techniques, pest management, and best practices for maximizing yield. As part of the initiative, essential agricultural inputs were distributed to the farmers, empowering them to adopt the scientific methods discussed during the session. The program was well-received, with participants expressing enthusiasm for applying the knowledge to improve their farming practices.

Cereimonial Harvest at SAC farmer's field

KVK Malappuram team lead by Programme coordinator Dr. Priya G Nair attended the Mass harvest of vegetables at the field of SAC Farmer Sri Haridasan Anthamveetil at Mooniyoor. Sri Haridasan is an innovative farmer cultivating various crops on a larger scale since last twenty five years. His approach of planning various crops anticipating the seasonal demands and climatic variability makes him very successful farmer.

His approach of integrated farming, simultaneously planting Banana and various vegetables in the same field provides the opportunity of completing the early growth phase of banana crop without much expense and once the vegetables are harvested, his focus turns onto maximizing the yield of Banana, and this approach was mentioned as the usual practice for enhancing the returns.

More than twelve vegetable items were harvested on the day amounting more than two tons. Along with KVK Scientists, officers of Agriculture department were also there to witness the occasion. Regarding marketing, besides local market, he caters to major supermarkets in the region, and also exports to various middle-east and European countries. He was the recipient of Millionaire farmer award at National level during the year 2023.



ICAR-KVK- MALAPPURAM



Human Resource Development Programme for Agricultural Officers

A Human Resource Development Programme for Agricultural Officers was conducted at the Farmers Training Centre, Vengeri, Kozhikode, on 2nd December 2024. The event witnessed the participation of 40 Agricultural Officers, who attended sessions on topics relevant to post-harvest management and value addition in agriculture.

Dr. Akhilraj B.C., Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture), led an engaging session on "Post-Harvest Management of Fruits and Vegetables", emphasizing effective techniques to reduce post-harvest losses and maintain quality. Dr. Lilia Baby, Assistant Professor (Community Science), conducted an insightful session on "Value-Added Products from Fruits and Vegetables", focusing on innovative methods to enhance product value, marketability, and income generation for farmers.

Nutri Garden Programme 2024-25

The Nutri Garden Programme for 2024-25 was inaugurated at KVK Malappuram, with the active participation of 20 individuals. The programme aims to promote nutritional security by encouraging the cultivation of diverse vegetables, fruits, and medicinal plants at the household level.

Participants were supplied with quality seeds, seedlings, bio-inputs, and a comprehensive booklet on vegetable cultivation to support the establishment of nutri gardens.

Interactive and hands-on sessions were conducted as part of the programme. Dr. Lilia Baby (Assistant Professor - Community Science) highlighted the nutritional benefits and value addition of homegrown produce, stressing the importance of nutri gardens in combating malnutrition. Dr. Akhil Raj B.C. (Subject Matter Specialist - Horticulture) provided training on organic gardening techniques, including garden planning, seed selection, and pest management. Adarsh S. (Assistant Professor - Agronomy) shared insights on soil fertility management and water-efficient cultivation practices. The programme equipped participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to establish sustainable nutri gardens, contributing to improved household-level food security and nutrition.



ICAR-KVK- MANDYA

ANIMAL HEALTH CAMP CONDUCTED BY KVK, MANDYA



Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Mandya organized an Animal Health Camp on December 4, 2024 at B. Hullukere, village in Mandya taluk in collaboration with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Mandya, Government of Karnataka.

The primary objective of the camp was to address the health needs of livestock in the village and provide essential veterinary care. The camp primarily focused managing and treating livestock affected by skin diseases, particularly Lumpy Skin Diseases (LSD) through vaccination. Other key treatments included artificial insemination, deworming, infertility treatments and PPR vaccination.

Mandya taluk, Kottatti Veterinary Hospital, Medical Officer Dr. Shatish A. along with his team comprising Veterinary inspectors Sri Chikkabasava, Sri, Dinesh, Sri Shivraju and PashuShaki Mrs. Suvarna and Mrs. Sukanya, played a crucial role in successfully conducting the camp. The team provided consultations, administered vaccinations and distributed medications to prevent and control the spread of such ailments.



KVK Soil Scientist Dr. Atheefa Munawery, Agronomy Scientist Dr. Rekha Badalingappanavar and Senior Technical Officer Dr. Mahesha H M and Other staff of KVK were present during the camp to extend their support and ensure the camp success. This program was conducted as part of the activities of KVK, Mandya and reflects its commitment to improving livestock health and supporting the agricultural community.



ICAR-KVK-MYSURU



WORLD SOIL DAY

On 5th December 2024, World Soil Day was celebrated at ICAR JSS Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttur in association with Regional Center for Organic and Natural Agriculture, Bangalore. With the program proposal words by Mr. Shamraj, Subject Matter Specialist, World Soil Day is celebrated every year with a motto. This year "Soil care; Monitoring, Management" is the motto. This means managing the soil essence with good care. He opined that soil is the source of life and if soil perishes it will be the end of mankind, he asserted.

Dr. Lakshmi pathi Gowda, Retired Deputy Director General of ICRISAT, Hyderabad who inaugurated the program. He said that soil is also a living substance. In India, soil is worshiped as a mother. It takes 1000 years to produce one inch of soil. Therefore, giving good soil to the next generation is our gift. He called for adopting organic farming without mixing more chemicals in the soil.

The staff members of KVK and 60 famers and farmwomen were participated in the programme.

21 days Organic farming residential training programme

21 days residential certificate course on organic farming and certification training programme has been organized at ICAR JSS Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttur in collaboration with Regional Center for Organic and Natural Agriculture, Bangalore during 15th November to 5th December 2024. 30 farmers and farm women participated in the from different districts of Karnataka and Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. Theory classes from renowned experts, Hands on practical sessions and field visits to government organic farms, farmers farms were arranged. On 5th December 2024 and concluding session has been organized by distributing the certification.



ICAR-KVK- PALAKKAD

WORLD SOIL DAY



On December 5th, 2024, Palakkad Krishi Vigyan Kendra organized various programs in NICRA village - Pattithara Grama Panchayat to celebrate World Soil Day. The main event, held at Arikkad Government LP School, was chaired by Panchayat Vice President Smt. Sebu Sadakathulla and inaugurated by Panchayat President Mr. P. Balan. Dr. Sumiya.KV, Programme Coordinator of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, delivered a presentation. A bio bin and inoculum were provided to the school for composting purposes. To educate children about the significance of Soil Day, painting and quiz competitions were organized, and prizes were awarded to the winners. Mr. Arun Thazhath, subject matter specialist (Agronomy), explained how to use the bio bin effectively. Other speakers at the event included Dr. Israel Thomas (Professor-Agricultural Extension), the school headmaster, ward members and SSG chairman. Additionally, a training on 'Enhancing organic farming with diverse composting methods' was conducted at the Aloor Youth Library to promote profitable organic farming. Library President Sri.Kunjappu and Secretary Sri.Jayaprakash also addressed the participants.

Convocation Programme of 23-24 DAESI Batch

The convocation ceremony for the 2023-24 Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) 4th Batch was held on 7th December 2024 in Palakkad, marking the successful completion of the course by 40 diploma holders. Dr. Sumiya K. V., Programme Coordinator at KVK Palakkad, welcomed attendees, while Mr. V. K. Sreekandan, Member of Parliament, Palakkad, inaugurated the event, praising the role of input dealers in advancing agricultural practices. Ms. K. Binu Mol, President of the Jilla Panchayat, presided over the ceremony and congratulated the graduates. Special awards were given to Mrs. Sajitha K (Gold), Mrs. Rajitha K (Silver), and Mr. Dinto Philip (Bronze). Mrs. Sheena P. A., Project Director of ATMA Palakkad, outlined the DAESI project, and other dignitaries, including Dr. A. M. Nazar, Mr. E. M. Babu, and Dr. Israel Thomas, offered inspiring messages. The ceremony concluded with a sense of accomplishment, as the graduates are now equipped to contribute to agricultural innovation and extension services.



ICAR-KVK-PATHANAMTHITTA



World Soil Day

ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta, celebrated World Soil Day 2024 along with the launch of the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) 2024-25 on 5th December 2024 at Kurumbammoozhy ward of Naranamoozhy Panchayat, Ranni block. The event, aimed to create awareness among the tribal community about the importance of soil health and sustainable agricultural practices. The program was inaugurated by Smt. Sonia Manoj, President of Naranamoozhy Grama Panchayat, and presided over by Shri Mathew Kanattu, Ranni Block Panchayat Member. Dr. C.P. Robert, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, detailed the significance of the Tribal Sub Plan and the role of soil health in enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability. As part of the TSP launch, beneficiaries were provided with essential agricultural inputs such as ginger rhizomes, bush pepper plants, vegetable saplings, seeds, potting mixture, organic fertilizers, biopesticides, and grow bags to promote sustainable farming practices. Soil Health Cards were also distributed to mark the occasion of World Soil Day, emphasizing the importance of soil testing in maintaining soil fertility and productivity.

The event included training sessions on homestead vegetable cultivation, ginger and pepper cultivation, and the role of soil health management. Resource persons, including Dr. Sindhu Sadanandan, Dr. Vinod Mathew, Smt. Ambily Varughese, and Smt. Gayatri S., provided practical knowledge on organic farming, nutrient management, and soil conservation techniques.



Enhancing Agricultural Extension Services: DAESI Programme For Input Dealers

A Diploma in Agricultural Extension Service for Input Dealers (DAESI) was launched at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathanamthitta, aimed at teaching sustainable farming practices to agricultural input traders. Developed by MANAGE, Hyderabad, under the Ministry of Agriculture, the course is implemented by SAMEITI, ATMA, and KVK. The event was inaugurated by Shri Beena Prabha, Vice President, District Panchayat, and presided over by Shri Jiji Mathew. Keynote speakers included Smt. Girija C, Project Director of ATMA, and Dr. C.P. Robert, Senior Scientist at KVK. The course includes 40 days of classroom sessions and 8 days of field visits, covering essential agricultural topics. This training will help input dealers provide better advisory services to farmers, promoting productivity and sustainability in agriculture.



ICAR-KVK- RAICHUR

Kisan Mela on High Density Planting System in Cotton



A Kisan Mela was held on 27/11/2024 at Purthipli village to showcase the benefits of High-Density Planting System (HDPS) technology in cotton cultivation. Dr. Hanumanthappa Shrihari, Senior Scientist and Head of ICAR-KVK, Raichur, welcomed participants and highlighted how HDPS increases yields, reduces input costs, and improves farmer profitability. Dr. Manivannan, State Nodal Officer for the HDPS Cotton Project, compared HDPS with traditional methods, emphasizing its role in enhancing cotton productivity and sustainability. Dr. J. M. Nidagundi provided an overview of the evolution of cotton cultivation in Raichur, while Dr. Ajay Kumar focused on balanced nutrient management, and Dr. Shreevani G. N. discussed integrated pest management (IPM).

Progressive farmer Mr. Chandershekar shared his positive experience with HDPS, motivating other farmers to adopt the technology. A live demonstration of a cotton shredder illustrated its effectiveness in managing crop residues and improving soil health. A crop yield estimation was also conducted, offering farmers practical insights into HDPS's yield potential. The event featured interactive sessions where farmers shared success stories, challenges, and solutions related to HDPS. Various informational charts, banners, live cotton samples, and leaflets on HDPS, cotton hybrids, and integrated management practices were distributed. Dr. Umesh Babu B. S. concluded the program with a vote of thanks, while Dr. Sangeetha ensured smooth coordination throughout the event.



ICAR-KVK- RAMANAGARA

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Ramanagara celebrated Women in Agriculture Day



ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Ramanagara celebrated "Women in Agriculture Day" at adopted village Hakkinalu, Magadi (T). Dr. Sowjanya, S., Scientist (Agril. Extension), highlighted the significance of the celebrating Women in Agriculture Day and gave elaborative deliberation on importance of women in agriculture, also said that more than 80% of the women in the village are engaged in agriculture, but they can earn more income by adopting scientific agriculture methods and stressed on the need for carrying out skill-based capacity building programmes for women farmers. Dr. Lata R. Kulkarni, Senior Scientist and Head briefed that farm women should take care of their own and family's health and cleanliness, also should intake healthy nutritious food. Horticulture scientist Dr. Deepa Pujar briefed about the support and coordination for different Agri-horticulture-based activities by women farmers in the area. In order to increase the enthusiasm of the farm women, competition was organized and prizes were distributed to the farm women for the best performed farm womens.



ICAR-KVK- SHIVAMOGGA

World Soil Day



World Soil Day 2024, celebrated under the theme "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage," was organized by ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga, on 05-12-2024. The program was inaugurated by Dr. P. K. Basavaraj, Honorable Member of the Board of Management, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga, who emphasized the importance of soil analysis in maintaining fertility and its role in agro-ecosystems and climate control. Dr. R. C. Jagadeesh, Vice Chancellor of the university, stressed the need for regular soil testing every two years to optimize fertilizer use, reduce costs, and increase yields.

Dr. B. Hemla Naik, Director of Education, suggested that farmers adopt integrated farming systems to improve soil health. Dr. K. T. Gurumurthy, Director of Extension, highlighted that Karnataka's soil is deficient in organic matter and encouraged organic farming and green manures. Dr. Kiran Kumar, Joint Director of Agriculture, advocated for fertilizers based on soil tests and crop rotation to enhance soil fertility.

A new "Soil Health Card" model was unveiled and distributed to farmers. Dr. C. Sunil, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, welcomed attendees, while Dr. Anjali M.C. provided an introductory speech. Dr. Nagaraj, R., Senior Technical Officer, narrated the event, and Dr. Manjunatha B. Kudari, Scientist, delivered the vote of thanks. The event was attended by 95 participants, including farmers, women farmers, and self-help group members.

Women in Agriculture Day-2024



ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga, celebrated 'Women in Agriculture Day' on 04-12-2024, inaugurated by Mrs. Asha Seshadri, a progressive farm woman from Kannangi village. In her speech, she highlighted agriculture as a profession without retirement, noting significant improvements in food security and income for women. She emphasized the importance of women participating in training programs on new agricultural technologies, floriculture, and allied activities like dairy farming, poultry, and beekeeping to become financially self-reliant.

The program was presided over by Dr. R. C. Jagadeesh, Vice Chancellor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, who underscored women's critical roles in agriculture and encouraged them to engage in various income-generating activities through university training programs.

Women achievers, including Mrs. Asharani (Namo Drone Didi), Mrs. Pratibha Trayambakarao (entrepreneur), and Smt. Aruna Devi M. S. (District Level Best Farm Woman Award winner), were felicitated for their contributions and shared their success stories.

The program was narrated by Dr. Anjali M.C., with Dr. N. Sudharani providing the introduction, Dr. Rudragowda introducing the achievers, and Dr. Manjunath B. Kudari delivering the vote of thanks.



ICAR-KVK-THRISSUR

Agri Business Expo



KVK Thrissur actively participated in the Agri Business Expo 2024 held in Chalakkudy from December 13 to December 15, which was organized by the Agronomic Research Station, Chalakkudy. The expo served as an excellent platform to showcase and promote advancements in the agricultural sector, particularly focusing on products and services that are vital for enhancing the productivity and sustainability of farming.

During the event, an exhibition and sale of various agricultural inputs such as seeds, planting materials, micronutrient mixtures, and bio-control agents were conducted by KVK Thrissur. KVK Thrissur also set up a dedicated Plant Health Clinic at the expo, offering agro-advisories to farmers. The clinic was staffed with agricultural experts who provided guidance on various issues affecting plant health, including pest management, disease control, soil fertility, and effective use of fertilizers. Furthermore, the expo provided an opportunity for entrepreneurs trained by KVK Thrissur. These entrepreneurs, who had undergone various training programs under KVK Thrissur's guidance, presented their products and services, contributing to the promotion of agri-based entrepreneurship in the region. Their participation in the expo highlighted the significant role that skill development and entrepreneurship play in advancing the agricultural economy.

One of the most impactful activities during the expo was the exposure visit for tribal farmers from Thavalakkuzhyppara, organized by KVK Thrissur as part of the Tribal Sub Plan project. On December 15, 2024, a group of tribal farmers was taken to the expo to expose them to modern agricultural practices, new technologies, and products that could enhance their farming activities. This exposure visit was a unique opportunity for these farmers to learn about the latest innovations in agriculture and gain insights that could be directly applied to their own farming systems. It also helped build their confidence in adopting new methods and techniques that could improve their agricultural output.



ICAR-KVK- THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Assessment of Manual-Drawn, Battery-Operated 5-Row Paddy Transplanter and 4-Row Walk-Behind Type Transplanter



The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) conducted an On-Farm Testing (OFT) to assess the performance of the manual-drawn, battery-operated 5-row paddy transplanter developed by KAU and the 4-row walk-behind transplanter from TNAU. The trial was conducted at Chemmaruthy Padashekham in Varkala, with participation from local farmers. The event was inaugurated by the Panchayat President, Smt. Priyanka Beril, with the attendance of Ward Members, Smt. Roshana (Agricultural Officer), and other farmers.

The 5-row transplanter was designed to reduce manual labor and improve transplanting precision. It is powered by a 12 V, 18 Ah battery and uses a 250 W DC motor that drives a chain and pulley system, ensuring the synchronization of seedling placement with the operator's walking speed. During the trial, the machine transplanted seedlings at 20 cm row-to-row spacing and 19 cm plant-to-plant, with a uniform planting depth of 3 cm."

The KUBOTA 4-row walk-behind transplanter, powered by a petrol engine, also performed well. During the trial, the machine transplanted seedlings at 20 cm row-to-row spacing and 19 cm plant-to-plant, with a uniform planting depth of 3 cm. It demonstrated efficient seedling placement and adaptability to various soil conditions, providing reliable performance with minimal fatigue.

The trial covered an area of 1 hectare, with five farmers providing feedback on both transplanters. Farmers noted the advantages of the battery-operated transplanter, including its lightweight design, lower cost, and ease of use, especially in clayey soils. The KUBOTA transplanter, while requiring more maintenance, offered faster operational speed and consistent results.

The media covered the event, with reports in Deshabhimani and telecasts on Doordarshan Kendra (DDK). Additionally, All India Radio broadcasted the findings, and social media highlighted the benefits of these advanced transplanting technologies.

The assessment demonstrated the significant role of mechanization in improving productivity and reducing labor in paddy farming, with both transplanters showing clear advantages.



ICAR-KVK- TUMAKUR-1



World soil day

ICAR-KVK, Tiptur, Tumkur-I in collaboration with KSDA, Tiptur, IFFCO Ltd. Tumkur, KRIBHCO Ltd. Tumkur and Paradeep phosphates Ltd. Tumkur celebrated World soil day at KVK. About 70 farmers and farm women were participated in the programme during this programme 20 health cards were distributed to farmers, Nano urea was also distributed and Method demonstration of soil sampling was done.

OFT on Ganoderma disease management



ICAR -KVK Tumkur Scientist (Plant protection) Mr. Manoj H demonstrated about trichoderma application to coconut trees and explained about control management.

Comprehensive training program on the management of mastitis in dairy animals



ICAR KVK Tiptur, Tumkur-I organized a comprehensive training program on the management of mastitis in dairy animals at Kalamanna Gudda, Tiptur, under the SCSP scheme. As part of the initiative, cow mats were distributed to the participating farmers to help improve the comfort and health of their dairy animals.



ICAR-KVK- TUMAKUR-2



Training on Arka-Jackolate at ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru

A hands-on training session on Arka Jackolate, a jackfruit seed-based chocolate wrap, was held on 13th December 2024 at the Post-Harvest Technology (PHT) Division, ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru. Dr. C.K. Narayana, Retired Principal Scientist at ICAR-IIHR, shared valuable insights on jackfruit seed powder-based businesses, including the process of making seed powder, the required machinery, production costs, and potential entrepreneurial opportunities.

Following the briefing, Dr. Narayana demonstrated the step-by-step procedure for preparing jackfruit seed powder and Arka Jackolate wrap. The training was coordinated by Dr. Ranjitha K, Senior Scientist at ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru.

Promoting Youth Empowerment in Andhra Pradesh Through Agricultural Innovation

Shri Vadde Sobhanadreeswara Rao, former Minister of Agriculture & Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, visited ICAR-IIHR KVK, Hirehalli, Tumakuru, to explore opportunities for promoting youth entrepreneurship in Andhra Pradesh's horticulture sector through farmers' organizations. During his visit, he toured key facilities including honey testing, soil and water testing, mushroom cultivation, seed production, and bio-pesticide units, which support sustainable farming practices and enhance productivity.

Shri Rao emphasized the importance of these state-of-the-art facilities in transforming agriculture and inspiring similar initiatives in Andhra Pradesh. He also visited the KVK's instructional farm, where live demonstrations of innovative farming techniques were showcased. Accompanied by Dr. B.T. Rayadu, Principal Scientist from ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, Shri Rao praised the KVK team for their dedication to agricultural innovation and sustainability. Dr. Loganandhan N., Principal Scientist and Head of KVK Hirehalli, presented an overview of the KVK's achievements. This visit highlighted the importance of collaboration in empowering farmers and promoting youth-driven agricultural entrepreneurship.



ICAR-KVK- UDUPI



World Soil Day

World Soil Day was celebrated on 05.12.2024 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Brahmavara, Udupi in collaboration with Zonal Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station, Brahmavara. Dr Jayaprakash S. M Scientist (Soil Science) welcomed and addressed the gathering. He spoke on caring for soil, measure, monitor, management of soil. He also spoke on the importance of soil test and encouraged farmers to apply fertilizers on the basis of soil test report. Chief guest Dr. Revanna Revannavar, Professor (Entomology), ZAHRS, Brahmavara, Dr. Chaithanya H. S Assistant Professor of Horticulture, ZAHRS, Brahmavara, Dr. Bhoomika H. R, Scientist (Horticulture), ICAR-KVK, Brahmavara and Dr. Naveen N. E, Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-KVK Brahmavara were present as guests. Dr. Vinod V. R, Associate Professor, (Agril. Engineering), ZAHRS, Brahmavara opined that human being destroy soil health as a part of developmental activities. He said soil is being deteriorated day by day in the name of civilization. Dr. Dhananjaya B, Senior Scientist & Head presided over the ceremony. In his presidential remarks he emphasized on the maintenance of micro organisms by using organic fertilizers. He emphasized that by applying organic fertilizer to soil numerous number of micro- organisms increase and improve soil health indirectly increasing soil fertility. Dr. Mohan Kumar rendered vote of thanks. The program was compered by Praveen K.M, Technical Officer, GKMS. Brahmavara.

On Farm Testing on Bivalve Culture

An On Farm Testing to evaluate various technologies of Bivalve culture, for *Perna viridis*, Green Mussel was implemented in the fishing village of Kodi-Kanyana, Sastana, Udupi Dist. *Perna viridis* popularly known as Pachile in local region, fetches high market demand as delicacy in star hotels and tourist locations. Goa is a huge market for Green Mussels grown at Udupi Dist. However, farmers currently practicing traditional methods of bed culture of Green Mussels on the estuarine area. This method suffers from low productivity and risks of losing crops due to flooding and poaching. Green Mussel culture technologies such as raft culture and rack culture methods are standardized and are readily available for adaption for better management of the crop. Hence these two technologies were initiated for testing at local estuarine area. Farmers were trained and critical inputs such as spat ropes with bivalve seeds were distributed to the farmers. The farmers were given demonstration on to how to prepare spat ropes and secure them in raft and racks for development of the crop.



ICAR-KVK- UTTARA KANNADA



World Soil Day

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Uttara Kannada, Sirsi, Karnataka celebrated "World Soil Day" on 5th December, 2024 at Siddapur, Bhatkal and Haliyal taluks of Uttara Kannada district with a theme of "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage".

ICAR-KVK Sirsi in collaboration with Gouswarga Research Foundation, Bhankuli Mutt, Siddapura and Sahara Foundation, Mumbai celebrated Soil Day with the concept of caring for soil and inaugurated the programme with a new tradition of addition of panchagavya, vermicompost, swargasara and dashasara to soil. During the programme importance of soil sampling and testing in arecanut crop to increase productivity was delivered by Shri B C Kolhar and Dr. Yashashwini Sharma briefed about leaf spot disease and its management in arecanut crop. Dr. Roopa S Patil addressed about activities of KVK for the benefit of farming community.

At Kuntavani village of Bhatkal Taluk Dr. Shwethakumari in association with Department of Agriculture celebrated the World Soil Day programme. She addressed the farmers by creating awareness on measuring soil fertility, monitoring nutrient balance & ensuring their health for future generations.

At Haliyal taluk in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, celebrated this programme at Joginakoppa village. Dr. Amith S Pujar delivered a lecture on agronomic practices to conserve the soil fertility and productivity. During this programme soil health cards were distributed to the progressive farmers. Total 121 farmer / farm women were participated in the events.



ICAR-KVK- VIJAYAPURA-1



Participatory Approach in Redgram varietal selection – KVK Vijayapura intervention

A pigeonpea is grown in an area of 5.31 lakh ha in Vijayapura district and 2nd largest area after Kalburagi. However yield levels are less compared to Kalburagi for various reasons. KVK Vijayapura had planted 20 varieties of pigeonpea in KVK seed farm in collaboration with RARS, Vijayapura and ICRISAT, Hyderabad. Farmers were invited to select varieties suitable for their nativity. There were varieties of short mid and long duration. Farmer's preferred mid duration, early maturity wilt tolerant, SMD tolerant varieties viz., GRG-152, TS-3R, ICRISAT GK 2132. Around 120 farmers of CFLD and pulse model village (Kaggoda, Hadagali, Mulvad & Hattarkihal) participated.





KVK TIMES

A Window to KVKs of ICAR-ATARI, Zone - XI

