



# TAMILNADU VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

## DIRECTORATE OF EXTENSION EDUCATION, CHENNAI

### ICAR-KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA, NAMAKKAL - 637 002

Vol. 4

NEWS LETTER

No. 1

JANUARY - MARCH 2019

#### Chief Editor

**Dr. D. Ramasamy,**  
Director of Extension Education

#### Editor

**Dr. N. Akila**  
Senior Scientist &  
Professor and Head

#### Associate Editor

**Dr. S. Sathya**  
Scientist / Assistant Professor  
(Soil Science & Agri. Chemistry)

#### Editorial Members

**Dr. C. Sharmila Bharathi**  
**Dr. P. Murugan**  
**Dr. K.R. Pushpanathan**  
**Dr. C. Kathirvelan**  
**Dr. S. Paulpandi**  
**Dr. M. Daisy**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal, is a centre for transfer of technologies from lab to various groups like Farming Community, Self Help Groups, Rural Youth, Extension Personnel etc., through organizing various events like Trainings, On Farm Testing, Front Line Demonstrations and Advisory services regularly. To impart the scientific skills and knowledge among the farm women, farmers & physically challenged people and to adopt the scientific technologies in their farms, KVK has conducted various training programmes, awareness campaigns, exhibitions, demonstrations, field days and camps during the period. The summary of the work done from January to March 2019 is presented hereunder.

#### Twelfth Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal has conducted its Twelfth Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting on 09.01.2019 at KVK campus. The meeting was chaired by the Honorable Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai. Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (Zone-X), Hyderabad, Dr. D. Ramasamy, Director of Extension Education, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai, Dr. H. Philip, Director of Extension Education, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Dr. B. Mohan, Dean, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal and Dr. N.K. Sudeep Kumar, Professor & Head, University Publication Division, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai and other officials from Agriculture, Horticulture, Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Sericulture, Agricultural Engineering, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, District Industries Centre, District Forest Officer, Lead Bank Manager, Assistant General Manager, Avin, Programme Executive, All India Radio, Trichy, big and small farmer representatives were participated in the meeting.



A new laboratory for basic analysis of livestock samples was inaugurated by the Honorable Vice Chancellor, TANUVAS on that day. An exhibition was arranged to show case the success of OFTs and FLDs implemented in 2017-18, 2018-19 and efforts of KVK in mushroom production and organic farming at Namakkal district. The exhibits were displayed in 12 stalls by 21 farmers and it was viewed by the SAC members and other farmers. Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Namakkal welcomed the SAC members and farmers for the Twelfth Scientific Advisory Committee and presented the action taken report of eleventh SAC meeting, work done for the period from 08.11.2017 to 31.12.2018. All the six Subject Matter Specialists presented their work done particulars for the year 2017-18 & 2018-19. Technical bulletin on successful FLDs





and OFTs from 2015-18 and CDs on Clean Milk Production and Farmers database were released by Honorable Vice Chancellor. Seven farmers were honored for their successful farming practices. Finally the Honorable Vice Chancellor and SAC members have given their recommendations for future growth and development of KVK, Namakkal.

### **Farm Radio school**

KVK, Namakkal in association with All India Radio, Trichy conducted Farm Radio School on “Climate Resilient Agriculture Practices” for the benefit of farmers, rural youth and entrepreneurs engaged in dry land agriculture and allied farming for a period of 14 weeks including contact class from November 2018 to January 2019.



The topics on “Effect of climate change in agriculture and allied sector, soil fertility management in drought condition, drought tolerant crops and its package of practices, introduction of vegetable and flower cultivation and role of automatic weather station and rain gauge in agriculture, water conservation practices under varying climate and insitu moisture conservation in cultivable land under drought condition, benefits of integrated farming system, livestock management practices under varying climatic conditions, experiences of success farmers in NICRA villages of climate change in agriculture and allied sector, climate changes and its impact in aquaculture, pest management, question & answers for climate resilience practices were recorded with the registered farmers at KVK, Namakkal. The broadcast started from 7th November 2018 @ 7.25pm on every Wednesday upto 30th January, 2019. One day contact class, farmers -scientist interaction meet and valedictory session of the Farm radio school programme with registered farmers was held at KVK Campus on 11.03.2019. Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head, explained the importance of conducting Farm Radio School with Climate resilient practice under prevailing situation. Dr. B. Mohan, Dean, VC&RI Namakkal



delivered presidential address and distributed the certificates to registered farmers. Th. K. Natarajan, Station Director, AIR, Trichy delivered special address and released the Farm Radio School booklet. Th. P. Chinnusamy, Programme Executive, AIR, Trichy recorded radio school topics and requested farmers to associate with radio programmes. A special lecture arranged on Emerging pest and diseases and disorder management in coconut and delivered by Dr. K. Rajamanickam, Professor from Coconut Research Station, TNAU, Aliyarnagar. Totally 102 farmers participated and received certificate cum booklets and learnt Climate Resilient agricultural practices.

### **International women's day**

International women's day was celebrated at KVK, Namakkal with 55 participants on 08.03.19 with the theme of “Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovative for change”. To realize their inherent spirit, five different competitions conducted and the best women were honoured. The participated women shared their views and principles on “Why I am special” and “my innovative way to change my life”. KVK farmers from age of 16 to 60 were invited and honoured for their involvement in Agriculture and income generation activities.



### **ASCI Sponsored Skill development training programme on Bee keeper**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal has conducted 200 hrs (28.11.18 – 11.1.2019) skill training on “Bee Keeper” under Sill Development Programme of Agriculture Skill Council of India for KVKs of ICAR-ATARI, Zone-X with 22 farmers. In this training programme, trainees were exposed to various hands on training viz., Types of bees & its behavior, Bee colonies, identification of bees, maintenance of bee hives, methods of bee hive operation, swarming, absconding and its management, honey extraction techniques, pest and disease management. Also three exposure visits made to commercial apiaries like Indian bee unit at Sivagiri, Erode district, Italian Bee unit at Pallapatti, Dindigul District and Dammer bee unit at Karur to acquire





knowledge on production and processing aspects of honey. Final assessment (Tab test, Practicals & viva-voce) of trainees was conducted by ASCI officials on 08.03.19 at KVK. Dr. C. Sharmila Bharathi, Asst. Prof. (Horticulture) and Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head coordinated the training programme.

#### **ASCI Sponsored Skill development training programme on “Mushroom Grower”**

KVK, Namakkal has conducted 200 hrs Skill development training programme on “Mushroom Grower” from 18.12.2018 to 20.02.2019 for a period of 25 days with 20 farmers at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal under the financial assistance of Agricultural Skill Council of India, Hyderabad. The theory and practical classes on Scope and Importance, history, types of mushroom, climate requirement, pest and disease management, harvesting, marketing and post harvest management, value addition. Also exposure visit was made to Oyster and Milky mushroom unit, Mushroom spawn production unit at Anniyapuram, Elachipalayam, Mohanur, Mavuretti and Pudhupatti of Namakkal District. Trainees were educated on mushroom cultivation, management, harvesting, processing and marketing and value added mushroom for generation of income. Dr. K.R. Pushpanathan, Asst. Prof. (Plant Protection) and Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head coordinated the training programme.



#### **ICAR- Farmers Field School on “Pesticide Residue Free Chilli production”**

KVK, Namakkal conducted a Farmers Field School on “Pesticide Residue Free Chilli production” for a period of five months with 25 farmers at DFI village- Ondikadai village, Namagiripettai Block, Namakkal district under the financial assistance of ICAR, New Delhi from 22.10.2018 to 22.02.2019. During the tenure, farmers were imparted about biological way of crop cultivation methods in chilli. Overall the trainees of Farm School were educated with Pesticide residue free chilli production farming technologies.



#### **MANAGE Hyderabad sponsored skill training of rural youth “Production of bio-control agents”**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, Namakkal district organized skill training of rural youth on “Production of Bio-Control



Agents” through SAMETI sponsored by MANAGE, Hyderabad on 28.01.2019 to 02.02.2019 (6 days) held at KVK Campus. A total of 28 rural youth who were involved in organic agriculture from Paramathy, Erumapatti, Namakkal, Namagiripettai and Mohanur blocks of Namakkal district were participated and benefited. Th. J. Sekar, Joint Director of Agriculture, Th. S. Varadharajan, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Namakkal inaugurated the training programme and interacted with participants.

Scope and Importance of bio control agents, Role of Bio-control agents in pest management, Mass production of *Trichoderma viride*, *Pseudomonas fluorescence*, Nuclear Polyhedrosis virus, green muscardine fungus (*Metarhizium anisopliae*) & White Muscardine fungus (*Beauveria bassiana*), white halo fungus (*Verticillium lecanii*), papaya mealy bug parasitoids (*Acerophagus papaya*) - Production, Quality & Application procedures, Use of different kind of traps in Pest management of crops, Quality control aspects in bio-control products and marketing were the topics covered in the training programme. Demonstration and hands on training on organic liquid bio-products were practiced. Apart from training, participants were taken to exposure visit to organic farm unit at Ondikadai village, Bio-control laboratory, Salem and Tapioca & Castor Research Station, TNAU, Yethapur, Salem district. A booklet on Production of Biocontrol Agents and Application methods and certificate were issued to the participants during valedictory function on 02.02.2019.

#### **Field Day - Groundnut (CFLD)**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal organized a field day at Thipramahadevi village of Erumapatti block on 28.03.2019 where CFLD demonstrations in farmers field consisting of high yielding new groundnut variety TCGS-1073 and demonstration of integrated crop management showcased for the benefit of groundnut



growing farmers of Erumapatti block of Namakkal district. Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Namakkal emphasized the importance of cultivating drought tolerant groundnut crop under varying climate. She urged that large scale groundnut seed production can be taken up by farmers producers organization, which will give good profit to the farmers. Dr. P. Murugan, Assistant Professor (Agronomy) explained that characteristics of new groundnut variety (TCGS-1073), suitability and integrated crop management practices. About 52 groundnut farmers from Thipramahadevi village participated in the programme. Farmers-Scientists interaction was also conducted and discussed the points related to new groundnut variety. CFLD farmer, Th. Loganathan narrated his experience and he earned productivity (1793 kg/ha) and profitability (Rs.52350/ha), fetched higher market price (Rs.50/kg) due to bold kernel and obtained higher haulm yield (3955 kg/ha).



#### **Field Day- Small onion var.ety Co(on)5**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal organized a field day of small onion variety CO(on)5 along with NHRDF, Coimbatore on 21.02.2019 at NICRA cluster village Thipramahadevi.



Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist & Head emphasized the importance of seed propagated onion in drought prone areas. Dr. C. Sharmila Bharathi, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) explained about the post harvest practices of small onion. Tmt. C. Devi, Senior Technical Officer, Th. K. Saravanan, Technical Officer, NHRDF, CBE shared the experience on production and post harvest aspects of small onion and role of NHRDF in vegetables seed production. Totally 27 farmers participated & benefitted.

#### **Web casting programme on Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra has conducted live webcast on Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Inauguration programme on 24.02.2019 at KVK, Namakkal. Dr. N. Akila, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Namakkal welcomed the gathering. Honorable

Member of Parliament, Namakkal Th. P.R. Sundaram and MLA Th. K.P.P. Baskar presided over the function and distributed the certificates to the selected and approved small & marginal farmers from Mohanur block of Namakkal District. Dr. R. Kanchana, District Forest Officer, Namakkal Tmt. M. Bhuvaneswari, Assistant Director of Horticulture, Erumapatti Block Tmt. C. Kalaiselvi, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Mohanur Block and Dr. R. Kalimuthu, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Mohanur block of Namakkal District were participated & briefed the benefits of PM - Kisan Samman Nidhi. Programme on Man Ki Baat and inauguration of PM Kisan by the honorable Prime Minister of India were webcasted with Tamil translation. Briefing the scheme by the Director of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu was also telecasted to the farmers. Finally Dr.C.Sharmila Bharathi, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) delivered the vote of thanks. A total of 147 farmers participated and benefitted in the programme.



#### **Rain Gauge Distribution**

KVK Namakkal in association with Animal Feed Analytical and Quality Assurance Laboratory, Veterinary College & Research Institute, Namakkal, conducted the sensitisation meeting on application and uses of rain gauge to the selected KVK farmers for rain gauge distribution at the Agromet advisory services of VCRI Campus on 25.02.19. Followed by this, the honourable Vice Chancellor of TANUVAS distributed rain gauge sponsored by Rotary Club to 26 KVK farmers covering 15 blocks of Namakkal district on 01.03.19



#### **Awards**

Th. P. Saravanan from Ariyagoundampatti village, Namagiripettai block of Namakkal District, received the best farmer award from Honorable Vice chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore during Farm Machinery Mela-2019 held on 15.02.2019 for Adopting Farm Mechanization in his field. Also he





received IARI Farmer Award for 2019” from Honorable Director General, ICAR during the valedictory ceremony of the National Fair - Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela - 2019 held on 07.03.2019 for adopting Organic Cucurbitaceous vegetable cultivation.

### **Special training on desi chicken rearing**

KVK Namakkal has conducted training programme on desi chicken rearing under the sponsorship of the scheme on GOI-Dept. of Science & Technology, “Production of health promoting eggs from backyard poultry in Namakkal district” by the Department of Poultry Science. VCRI, Namakkal on 24.01.19, 27.02.19 & 13.03.19 for 147 participants. In this programme, hands on training, demonstration on feed preparation & vaccination conducted. Visit to hatchery unit and poultry farms of VC & RI, Namakkal was made.



### **Paid training**

One day paid training on Importance of soil testing and soil fertility management for three days (22.01.19, 07.02.19 & 08.02.19) with 109 participants of Muthayammal College of Arts and Science was conducted. Importance of soil testing, hands on training of soil sampling procedures, pH, EC, OC, NPK estimation analytical procedures were taught.



In addition, one day training for six days (15.11.2018, 03.12.2018 & 22.01.2019, 25.01.2019, 11.02.2019, 22.03.2019) on scientific livestock & fish farming was conducted at KVK, Namakkal and imparted scientific feeding, nutrient management, disease and breeding management in livestock & fisheries.

### **On campus training programme**

From January 2018 to March 2019, thirteen on campus trainings were conducted at KVK, Namakkal with 251 farmers. Pulse production technology, Integrated Farming system,



Improved cultivation practices in Jasmine, Tuberose, Chrysanthemum and Marigold, integrated nutrient management in agriculture and horticulture crops, IPDM in tapioca and small onion, dairy farming, desi chicken rearing, composite fish culture, Seabass culture technology were the major areas covered in these training programmes.

### **Off campus training programme**

Based on the need of farmers, location specific six off campus trainings were conducted at farmer's field to propagate the technologies related to Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries sectors with 210 farmers.



### **Zonal workshop**

Monthly zonal workshop for agricultural department officials was conducted on 14.02.2019 at KVK, Namakkal to 55 extension officials. Scientist of KVK, Namakkal delivered the season specific technical lectures and major field problems in different blocks of Namakkal district were discussed and suggestions were recommended.



### **Soil & water analysis & issue of soil health cards**

Since January to March 2019, 259 soil samples & 100 water samples received and tested. Totally 259 soil health cards and 100 water health cards issued to farmers with soil test based integrated fertilizer recommendation.



### **Exposure visit**

A total of 403 participants (253 farmers, 45 students and 105 livestock inspectors) were received exposure visit to this Kendra and got technical and practical guidance about the technologies available in instructional and demo units.





### Outcome in Assessment carried out in 2018-19

S. No.	Title of OFTS	Village, No. of trails & Area	Outcome
1.	Assessment of paddy varieties suitable for Kolli hills region of Namakkal district	Vasalurpatti and Elangiyampatti 5 trails ( 2 ha)	Supriya paddy variety recorded more plant height (61.8 cm), more number of productive tillers per plant (14.2), less incidence of blast (2.5%) & leaf folder (1.5%) , no incidence of stem borer, higher grain yield (3332 kg/ha), higher paddy straw yield (4275 kg/ha) and higher farm net income (Rs. 27462 / ha) as compared to Anashwara and Wayanad - II paddy varieties
2.	Assessment of Castor hybrids suitable for Namakkal district as Pure crop	Kokkalai & Unjanai 5 trails ( 2 ha)	DCH-519 and YRCH-1 recorded more number of spikes per plant, more number of capsules per spike, very less incidence of pest and diseases and higher grain yield compared to DCH-177 under rainfed condition
3.	Assessing the performance of Ribbed gourd hybrids in Namakkal district	Ondikkadai 5 trails ( 2 ha)	COH1 recorded a maximum yield of 29.6t/ha than the Arka Vikram (27.2 t/ha) and private hybrids (26.3 t/ha)
4.	Assessment of suitable microbial consortium for waste decomposition	Moolakkadu Ganapathipalayam 10 trails ( 0.4 ha)	NCOF waste decomposer applied compost pit produced 678 kg of compost/ tonne of residues with in three months after incubation followed by UAS, Dharwad composting culture (654 kg) and TNAU biomineralizer (634 kg) applied compost pit
5.	Assessment of suitable infertility treatment in dairy animals of Namakkal district	Tholur 10 trails & 10 animals	Application of CIDR technology in dairy animals having repeat breeding problem produced calf within 12-14 months of interval
6.	Assessment of Ethno Veterinary treatment for control of Endo parasites in Small ruminant	Ondikkadai 10 trails & 10 animals	Practicing EVM in small ruminants resulted in less egg count (900) and more body weight gain (16 kg) than NIF dewormer (15 kg).

#### FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT

Senior Scientist &  
Professor and Head  
ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra  
Veterinary College and Research Institute Campus,  
Namakkal - 637 002

#### ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal

To  
Mr/Mrs \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
From \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Scientist & Professor and Head  
ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, VC&RI Campus, Namakkal - 637 002