FRONTLINE DEMONSTRATIONS (FLDs)

Frontline demonstration is an important programme of KVK wherein perfected and time tested technologies are demonstrated in farmer’s fields for its popularization and percolation among farming community. This programme is based on the principle; seeing is believing. During the year 2011-12, KVK (Ernakulam) has done 12 FLDs.

Three demonstration units of Soviet Chinchilla rabbits were set up in farmers fields of Kumbalangi and Thevara. Soviet Chinchilla rabbits are known for its meat quality and growth rate. Another FLD was to demonstrate the production potential of Japanese quail, wherein 7 demonstration units each comprising of 50 birds were set up in farmers fields of Kumbalangi and Thevara. Frontline demonstration of revised deworming schedule in calves was conducted at 10 locations in Kumbalangi, Thevara and Vypin. Revised de-worming schedule is for effective management of Toxocarosis in calves, which affect its growth rate.

Popularization of new paddy variety- Sampada
KVK (Ernakulam) promotes rooftop vegetable cultivation with a view to promote self-sufficiency in safe vegetable production. Total of 10 demonstration units were set up in the villages of Kumbalangi, Chellanam and also in Edappalli block. Apart from this, total of 8 trainings on the rooftop vegetable cultivation were conducted.

There is huge demand for the seeds of Pearl spot, the state fish of Kerala. In addition to producing seeds in the hatcheries, KVK has also taken steps to collect seeds from wild. In this connection, an FLD on Demonstration of Pearl spot seed bank by mobilizing women groups was initiated in Vypeen island. Fishermen and women were educated on the importance of maintaining the seed bank and arrangements were made to stock the collected fingerlings at KVK. This successful method is promising as it provides additional income for the women groups in the area.

There are number of farmers in the Eastern parts of the district interested in fresh water fish culture, whereas availability of good quality fish seeds is a major constraint. With a view to solve the problem of seed scarcity, an FLD on Production of carp seeds using Portable carp hatchery was initiated in a farmer’s field at Kothamangalam. The portable hatchery has a capacity of producing 5 lakh seeds per season.

Upland paddy cultivation is getting wide popularity in the district in recent times. In this connection, KVK has introduced a new paddy variety Sampada, released from Kerala Agricultural University as part of one of the FLDs. The demonstrations recorded a productivity of 4.85 MT/ha.

Tender coconut has good demand, sale of which is one of the popular income generating activity among the farmers.
marginal farmers of the coastal districts. In order to improve their income through value addition of the tender nut, a programme on “Snowball tender coconut production and marketing” has been implemented by the KVK. Selected SHG group Dhanalakshmi, Narakkal was trained on production, label designing, packing and marketing of snow ball nuts.

Considerable amount of the labour cost in vegetable cultivation is accounted for weeding. In order to tackle this problem, demonstration of weed management using plastic mulching in vegetable was conducted at three locations in Thevara and Moorkkanoor.

The coconut production is getting reduced in Kerala. There is a need to introduce newer varieties having high production. In this regard, KVK has taken up an FLD on cultivation of high yielding coconut variety Kerasree at Kuzhippally, Ayyampally, Cherai and Edavanakad.

ON FARM TESTINGS (OFT)

On farm testing is meant for assessing the performance of lab tested technologies in farmers field and also to refine the technologies to suit specific locations. During the year 2011-12, KVK has done 9 No of OFTs. The extent of drudgery reduction using single cow milking machine was assessed in a farmer’s field at Muvattupuzha. The performance assessment of goat kids under supplementation with yeast and commercial probiotics was carried out at Edavanakad, Cherai and Moorkkanoor.

Farmers field trials on the performance of cabbage varieties NS- 163 and NS-183 were carried out at 8 locations in Moorkkanoor, Aluva and Kalamassery. It was
found that NS-183 was superior in yield and head size whereas NS-163 was better in terms of head compactness.

Cultivation of vegetables in rain shelter was conducted at 4 locations, viz Kangarappadi, Kumbalangi, Chellanam and Thevara. Growth of crops inside the protected structure was much better compared to the vegetables grown in open. This was because of the additive effect of UV stabilized poly sheet by harnessing more visible light and also due to protection from rain. The diffused light inside the rain shelter helped in producing more photosynthates.

On farm testing of Cage Culture of Fin fishes in Brackish water was done at Pallipuram. Pearl spot (Etroplus suratensis) was selected as the candidate for the test. Five hundred numbers of Pearl spot fingerlings of 5cm to 8cm size were stocked in each cage units. The OFT on Testing of Cage Culture of Fresh water fishes in unutilized fresh water system was done in a granite quarry at Kothamangalam. Here also Pearl spot was selected as candidate fish.

This KVK has introduced maize for the first time in Kerala. In order to assess the performance of Maize in farmers field and to assess their response to this new crop, on farm testing of Maize variety Pratap was conducted at 4 locations viz., Karimnaloor, Mookannur, Kumbalangi and Chellanam. In order to promote organic coconut cultivation through in-situ production of manure, an on farm testing was conducted at 5 locations on production of organic manure in coconut garden. Assessment of effectiveness of neem cake and Ground Nut Cake (GNC) mixture in urban and urban fringe farm was done at thevara.
TRAINING PROGRAMMES

During the report period, KVK has organized 34 training programmes on various topics wherein 1300 farmers participated. In addition, a short course on Horticultural nursery management was organized exclusively for 2 Self help women groups. Exposure visits to KVK farm was promoted during 2011-12 wherein more than 500 farmers visited and interacted with the scientists.

Total of seven method demonstrations on Panchagavya preparation were conducted at different parts of the district during which 350 farmers got benefitted.

KVK COMMENCED RABBIT BREEDING UNIT AT THEVARA CAMPUS

A model Rabbit breeding unit was commenced at Thevara campus of KVK. Breeder animals were brought from Southern Regional Research Centre of Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (ICAR), Mannavanur, Kodaikanal. There are 6 female and 2 male breeder rabbits of Soviet Chinchilla Breed at the unit. It is envisaged to further multiply the pure breeds in farmer’s fields.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEMONSTRATION UNITS

In order to demonstrate the production potential and other advantages of Japanese Quail, a demonstration unit comprising of 50 birds was initiated at Thevara campus. In order to popularize cage rearing of Athulya breed poultry for egg purpose, a demonstration unit was set up at Thevara campus. Demonstration of Azolla, which is a good protein...
source for poultry as well as animals was also set up at Thevara campus.

ORGANIC SEED PRODUCTION CUM DEMONSTRATION FARM

An organic vegetable seed production cum demonstration farm was established at Thevara campus. The land which was marshy initially was converted into productive land by filling soil and constructing sufficient drainage channels. Scientifically managed organic vegetable demonstration farm attracted many farmers to the campus. Coriander, Palak, Cowpea, Brinjal, Tomato, Okra, Chilly, Maize, Baby corn, Sweet

VEGETABLE SEEDLING PRODUCTION

Seed germination percentage in farmer’s field is less due to poor management practices. In order to tackle this problem, KVK has initiated growing seedlings and supplying at transplanting stage. Protray method of seedling raising was followed where the pest and disease incidence is minimum. A green house and net house facilities were created for this purpose.
corn, Carrot, Raddish, Cluster bean, Capsicum, French bean, Cabbage, Cauliflower and Amaranthus were grown in organic mode. Crop diary is maintained for compiling the organic farming experiences. The wastes from animal and poultry units are used as manure in this farm.

Farmers Field School

A Farmer Field School of 7 weeks duration on Small Scale Cage Culture of Brackish Water Candidate Fishes was conducted at Pallipuram. Forty fish farmers from various places in Ernakulam district participated in this field school conducted during 24.01.2012 to 23.03.2012. The programme was inaugurated by Nayarabalam Grama Panchayath President Smt. Taji Roy. Scientists of KVK and CMFRI led the classes and practical sessions.

Another farmer's field school on Integrated crop management in banana was held at Kothamangalam with the participation of 47 progressive Banana farmers. The seven week long programme was inaugurated by Dr. Shinoj Subramaniam, Programme Coordinator/ Sr. Scientist of the KVK. The Standing committee chairperson
of Kothamangalam Municipality Shri. V.V. Kurien was the guest of honour. Scientists of KVK led theory and practical sessions on various topics of Banana cultivation right from land preparation to harvesting.

**KVK’s PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS**

A training for the students of Govt. Vocational Higher Secondary School, Narakkal was conducted wherein fifty four students were trained on the technology of making different value added products from fish. In addition, students were educated on the entrepreneurship opportunities in fishery value addition. In another programme a student participatory farming was done at FISAT Engineering college, Angamaly wherein cool season vegetables like Cabbage and Cauliflower were grown, harvested and marketed by the students. In order to inculcate interest towards agriculture among students and younger generation, exposure visits were also arranged exclusively for students to KVK farm. More than 150 students visited the farm during November 2011.

**KVK ESTABLISHED MARKET LINKAGES AND TEST MARKETED VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS:** In order to promote entrepreneurship among fish product manufacturing Self help groups (SHGs) in the district, KVK established forward linkages with various product marketing agencies and backward linkages with raw fish suppliers. SHGs were trained on Good manufacturing practices (GMP) and products were test marketed to improve their confidence level. In one of such novel attempts, fish pickle is being marketed by M/s Cochin Industries, Pallippuram at M/s Kannan Departmental Store, Coimbatore.

**SOIL HEALTH CAMPS**

Five soil health camps were conducted at Mookannor, Kothamangalam, Pallipuram, Pampakuda and
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Nearly 200 farmers attended the programme. Soil health camps were conducted to make awareness among farmers regarding the importance of soil testing. Practical sessions were conducted on soil sampling procedure. The basic objective of soil health camp is to educate farmers on the economic use of fertilizers and better soil management practices for increasing the crop production.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

A documentary on Krishi Vigyan Kendra was broadcasted on 26-07-2011 by AIR, Kochi. A Radio talk on Horticulture demonstration farm at KVK-Thevara campus was broadcasted by AIR, Kochi on 09-08-2011. A Radio programme on High density planting of banana was broadcasted by AIR, Kochi on 06-10-2011 and 11-12-2011.

The Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting 2011-12 was conducted on 21st June, 2011 at CMFRI, Kochi.
Dr. S. Prabhukumar, Zonal Project Director (Zone VIII) inaugurated the meeting. Dr. G. Syda Rao, Director, CMFRI presided over. Fisheries and Urban Horticulture were identified as the flagship programmes of KVK (Ernakulam) during this meeting.

RECOGNITION/HONOURS

Dr. Shinoj Subramannian, Programme Co-ordinator has been nominated as member of the committee constituted by Govt. of Karnataka, Dept. of Horticulture to inspect and certify Palm oil mills in Karnataka.

TAKEN OVER CHARGE

Dr. Shinoj Subramannian Scientist, Directorate of Oil Palm Research (ICAR) Padavegi, Andhra Pradesh has taken over the charge of Programme Co-ordinator/Sr. Scientist w.e.f. May 2011.

NEWLY JOINED

Shri.Vikas P A joined as Subject Matter Specialist (Fisheries) on 7th December 2012.
कवक न्यूज़लेटर

2011 - 2012

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कवक न्यूज़लेटर
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നുമാൻ പ്രതിരോധ നിർവഹിക്കുന്നതിനു കുറഞ്ഞത് അന്റിമൗസിന്റെ വളർച്ചക്ക് പ്രതിരോധം ചെയ്യുന്നു. ശമനപ്പുര റോഡിലെ മുന്നുത്തരം രാജധാനി സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡന്റുടെ സജീവത വരുത്തുന്നു.

കോമന്ററി പരാമർശം

ക്കാനത്തെ വിതരണം നിറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ചുമതല നിയന്ത്രണത്തിന് സംശയം വരുത്താൻ സാധിക്കുന്നു. വിവിധ സംഘം പ്രതിരോധം നിർവഹിക്കുന്നു. പ്രമുഖ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ സംഘടനകൾ നിർവഹിക്കുന്നു. പ്രസിഡന്റുടെ സജീവത പ്രതിരോധം കേന്ദ്രീകരിക്കുന്നു.

പൊതുപ്രദർശനം പ്രദർശക്കുറിപ്പുകൾ വിവിധ സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. (NS-163, NS-183) തെളിയിച്ച വാചകങ്ങൾ പ്രതിരോധം നിർവഹിക്കുന്നു. പ്രസിഡന്റുടെ സജീവതയുടെ നിർവഹണം നിരവധി സംഘം പ്രതിരോധം കേന്ദ്രീകരിക്കുന്നു.

ഒരു സിനിമയുടെ സിനിമയിലെ പ്രവൃത്തികൾ പ്രതിരോധം നിർവഹിക്കുന്നു.

2011-2012 ക്ക് പ്രത്യേകിച്ച് പ്രതിരോധം നിർവഹിക്കുന്നു.
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Demonstration of quail rearing at Thevara campus

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2011-12 KVK Kollam Kollam Agro Science campus 34. Presented a seminar on 1300 MHz, Kollam Agro Science campus. An introduction to the campus. The campus is located in a serene location. The campus is accessible by bus and local transport. The campus has a well-equipped laboratory and computer laboratory. The campus also has a library with a collection of 350 books. The campus has a good infrastructure.
Portable Carp hatchery: Collection of carp eggs from breeding tanks
KVK News Letter

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2011-12 വയലേക്കുള്ള എണ്ണം 34 എണ്ണ അനുപ്പെട്ടു. പിന്നീടുള്ള ഇനങ്ങളിൽ സംസ്ഥാന പയനൂറികളിലും ചെറിയ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും പ്രതിഫലിപ്പിച്ചു. പിന്നീടുള്ള ഇനങ്ങളിലും സംസ്ഥാന പയനൂറികളിലും ചെറിയ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും പ്രതിഫലിപ്പിച്ചു.

2011-12 വയലേക്കുള്ള എണ്ണം 34 എണ്ണ അനുപ്പെട്ടു. പിന്നീടുള്ള ഇനങ്ങളിൽ സംസ്ഥാന പയനൂറികളിലും ചെറിയ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും പ്രതിഫലിപ്പിച്ചു. പിന്നീടുള്ള ഇനങ്ങളിലും സംസ്ഥാന പയനൂറികളിലും ചെറിയ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും പ്രതിഫലിപ്പിച്ചു.