

KVK Times

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

VOL 3 | ISSUE 3 | SEPTEMBER 1-30, 2025

KVK ACTIVITIES & FIELD EXPERIENCE
TRAINING FOR ARS SCIENTISTS



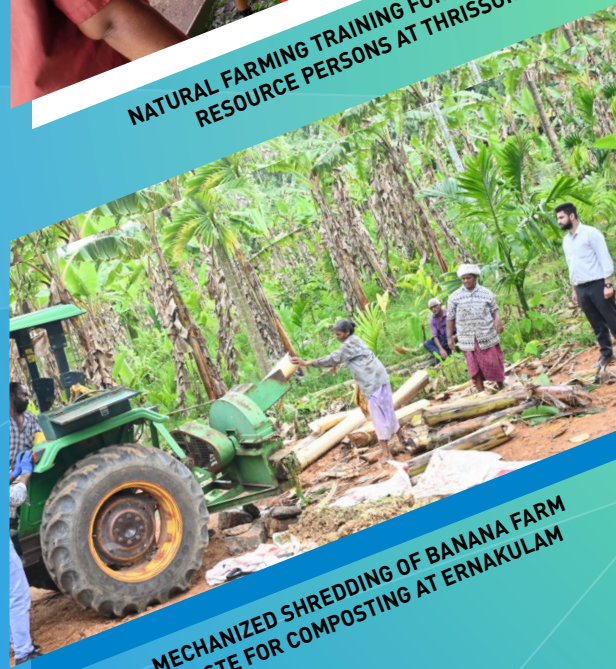
DR. V. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN, DIRECTOR, ICAR-ATARI,
BENGALURU INAUGURATING THE FRIDAY MARKET AT TRIVANDRUM



NATURAL FARMING TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY
RESOURCE PERSONS AT THRISSUR



ARS PROBATIONERS DOING PRA TECHNIQUES DURING
FIELD EXPERIENCE TRAINING AT ALAPPUZHA



MECHANIZED SHREDDING OF BANANA FARM
WASTE FOR COMPOSTING AT ERNAKULAM

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

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KVK Times is a Monthly e Publication that covers important activities of KVK's of Zone XI.

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डॉ।वी।वेंकटसुब्रमण्यन

Director


निदेशक



Krishi Vigyan Kendras are playing pivotal role in handholding of farmers through technological backstopping for enhancing the productivity of crops and enterprise keeping in mind profitability and sustainability. 'Believing through seeing' and 'Learning by doing' is most appropriate to the KVKs, as the Scientists and farmers are jointly involved in implementing KVK mandated activities to reach the mission of enhancing the farmers income. KVKs are expanding the horizon from elite extension to innovation, market linkage, FPOs, processing and value addition. 48 KVK's in Zone XI of ATARI placed in states of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep Union Territory has immensely contributed in enhancing agriculture productivity and farmer income thus ensuring sustainable social and livelihood security of farm families.

A first of its kind virtual platform, **KVK TIMES** which documents monthly activities of each of the 48 KVKs of Zone-XI is gaining a real momentum. The news items covered in issues made an impact that is long lasting. Most of the news items published in the TIMES has got the potential of cross learning among KVKs and worth reading. This should boost the morale of all of us and many such noteworthy efforts of our fraternity in the zone.

I am happy that KVK Ernakulam is bringing up the third issue of third volume of KVK TIMES covering the September month of 2025. I congratulate the KVK fraternity of Zone XI specially Dr. Shinoj Subramannian, Principal Scientist and Head and his team of KVK, Ernakulam for bringing out this unique edition of KVK Times.


(V Venkatasubramanian)

Bengaluru

11.10.2025

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Dr. Grinson George
Director



Message

It gives me great pleasure to note that KVK Ernakulam, functioning under the administrative control of ICAR–CMFRI, has taken the initiative in compiling and publishing this issue of *KVK Times* for the period from September 1–30, 2025.

KVK Times, the monthly publication of ICAR–ATARI, Bengaluru (Zone XI), serves as an important platform to highlight the diverse activities and achievements of the 48 Krishi Vigyan Kendras operating across Karnataka, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. KVKs, as the frontline extension arms of ICAR, play an exemplary role in strengthening Indian agriculture by taking science and technology directly to farmers' fields. Their mandate covers the entire spectrum of agricultural development—ranging from crops, livestock, and fisheries to horticulture, natural resource management, farm mechanization, and value addition. By providing location-specific technological interventions, conducting skill development and capacity-building programmes, and fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, KVKs contribute immensely to improving productivity, profitability, and sustainability in farming systems. This issue also documents the experiences of KVKs in providing Field Experiential Training for Agricultural Research Service (ARS) probationers, while showcasing the technologies disseminated, innovative programmes, and success stories that reflect their collective commitment to agricultural growth and rural development.

I would also like to place on record my appreciation for the initiative taken by Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director of ICAR–ATARI, Bengaluru, in conceptualizing and bringing out this innovative publication every month, which has now become a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and cross-learning among KVKs.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the KVK Ernakulam team for their dedication in bringing out this valuable edition of *KVK Times* and for their ongoing efforts to serve the farming community with passion and purpose.

I also convey my heartfelt best wishes to the Director, ICAR–ATARI, Bengaluru, and all the KVKs of Zone XI for their continued commitment and contributions towards ensuring livelihood security through technology for farmers and rural communities in the region. It is through such collaborative efforts that we can continue to make meaningful strides in transforming Indian agriculture and improving the well-being of our farming families.

Kochi
13.10.2025

(Grinson George)





ICAR-KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA (ERNAKULAM)

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Acknowledgement


With great pleasure, I present this issue of KVK Times, covering the period from September 1 to 30, 2025. As a monthly platform of ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, KVK Times brings together the voices of Krishi Vigyan Kendras across Zone XI, and has now become a notable publication appreciated by KVKs across the country and across all zones.

I place on record my sincere gratitude to **Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru**, for his visionary initiative in conceptualizing KVK Times and for his constant guidance, encouragement, and support in bringing out this publication every month. I am equally grateful to **Dr. Grinson George, Director, ICAR-CMFRI**, for his continued support and motivation, which inspire us to explore innovative avenues to better serve the farming community.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to all the **KVKs of Zone XI** for promptly sharing their activities and achievements, which have greatly enriched the content of this issue. I also wish to express my sincere thanks to **Dr. B. T. Rayudu, Nodal Officer** of KVK Ernakulam, for his valuable guidance and continuous support throughout the entire process.

A very special mention must be made of **Dr. Smita Sivadasan** and **Shri. Pushparaj Anjelo**, Subject Matter Specialists of our KVK, who have shouldered the responsibility of compiling and preparing this issue on my behalf. I also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and support of all other members of the **KVK Ernakulam team**, whose collective efforts made it possible to release this issue within the scheduled timeframe.

Narakkal
13.10.2025


(Shinoj Subramannian)

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KVK ALAPPUZHA

Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) programme organized for B Sc (Ag) students

RAWE programme for a month was organized for five B Sc (Ag) final year students of Theerthanker Mahaveer University, Uttar Pradesh from 8th August to 8th September 2025 on request. The students were oriented about the functions and mandatory activities of KVK, agricultural scenario of Kerala, plant propagation methods, Mushroom cultivation and spawn production, in situ compost preparation, vertical gardening, integrated farming system and poultry management. They were exposed to handling of land preparation machineries, landscaping activities and value addition of agricultural produces and processing machineries. They were prepared for conducting a training programme for farmers and was organized at Muhamma village in the presence of KVK resource persons. The students also visited the fields and interacted with the partner farmers of OFTs and FLDs conducted by the KVK in the operational village. They had exposure visits to the ongoing climate resilient technology demonstrations at NICRA village in Kuttanad and Onattukara Spices Farmer Producer Company, promoted by the KVK. The enthu-



siastic feedback received from the students revealed their satisfaction in fulfilling their objectives and excitements in experiencing the field realities and how the interventions are planned by the KVK for addressing the farm issues. Smt. G. Lekha, SMS coordinated the programme.

DAESI participants were awarded certificates

Second batch of the Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input dealers (DAESI) from the KVK (Fourth batch of Alappuzha district) passed out and received their Govt. of India certificate from MANAGE, Hyderabad. Thirty seven of the forty candidates enrolled during 2024-25 successfully completed the programme in July, 25 with all the essential requirements of attendance, marks, and other documentation activities. Commenced in July, 24, participants of the programme underwent 80 class room sessions, 8 days field visits and other academic exercises to complete the programme in one year. Smt. C. Ambili, Principal Agricultural Officer, Alappuzha



who was the chief guest of the valedictory function distributed certificates and mementos to the successful participants in a colorful function organized in the KVK on 24th September. Sri. K. Saji, Project Director i/c, ATMA, Dr. P. Anithakumari, Principal Scientist,

ICAR-CPCRI, RS, Kayamkulam, Sri. C. K. Venugopal, Facilitator, Dr. P. Muralidharan, Head, KVK & Course Director, Dr. T. Sivakumar, SMS and Course coordinator, and Dr. K. Sajnanath, SMS and Course coordinator also addressed the participants on the occasion.



KVK BAGALKOT



Shresta Krushika/Krishi Mahile Award Selection for Krishi Mela, UAS Dharwad

The KVK team along with department of agriculture and allied departments participated in the Shresta Krushika Award selection process during the Krishi Mela organized by UAS, Dharwad. The event aimed to identify and recognize outstanding farmers and innovative agricultural practices. KVK experts along with the team of directorate of research and extension evaluated entries, interacted with participants and shared insights on best practices to encourage sustainable farming and enhance productivity.



Nutri-Garden Programme

On 09-09-2025, KVK Bagalkot implemented the Nutri-Garden Programme at Algur village, Jamkhandi taluk. An off-campus training on kitchen gardening was conducted by Dr. Ramitha B E, SMS (Home Science) to promote better nutrition and health among rural households. A total of 20 beneficiaries participated and were provided with kitchen garden seed kits, vegetable saplings and six types of fruit saplings. The training emphasized the importance of growing diverse vegetables and fruits at home to ensure year-round availability of fresh and nutritious produce.



Participation in Krishi Mela, UAS Dharwad (13th–16th September 2025)

KVK Bagalkot actively participated in the Krishi Mela organized by the University of Agricultural

Sciences (UAS), Dharwad from 13th to 16th September 2025. A vibrant and informative KVK stall was set up, showcasing:

- District-specific traditional crop varieties
- Farmer-produced fruits and local produce

- Value-added products developed under KVK's technical guidance by Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and entrepreneurs

The exhibit drew wide attention from farmers and visitors for



promoting local innovations, nutrition-linked interventions, and value addition initiatives. KVK Bagalkot also demonstrated and marketed its value-added dicocum wheat rava, which received excellent appreciation for its nutritional and commercial potential. As part of the event, the Shresta Krushika Award selection process was undertaken to identify and recognize outstanding farmers. The best farmers and farm women from Bagalkote district were felicitated by the Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka for their exemplary contributions to agriculture and allied activities. In addition, food



and rangoli competitions were organized at the Krishi Mela platform to encourage rural creativity and participation. The winners were honoured during the valedictory function, adding a festive and motivational atmosphere to the event.



Participation in District-Level Poshan Abhiyan Programme

Dr. Ramitha B. E., SMS (Home Science), KVK Bagalkot, participated in the District-Level Poshan Abhiyan Programme held on 18th September 2025 at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Bhavan, Bagalkot. On this occasion, she delivered a lecture on the role of nutrition and prevention of anemia, emphasizing the importance of balanced diets, iron-rich foods, and healthy lifestyle practices for women and children. The programme was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot, in the presence of the Hon'ble District Judge and Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, and the Joint Director, Department of Women and Child Development, along with other

senior officials. Around 250 farm women and beneficiaries actively participated in the event, engaging in discussions on nutritional awareness and preventive health measures.

ing in discussions on nutritional awareness and preventive health measures.



Seemantha (baby shower) ceremony held for pregnant women during the Poshan Maah campaign in Bagalkot on Thursday. (By Photo)

'Awareness key to preventing malnutrition'

Poshan Maah Inaugurated; Officials stress effective implementation of welfare schemes

BAGALKOT, DHNS

Raising public awareness is essential to prevent malnutrition and health risks among pregnant women, new mothers, and young children, said Deputy Commissioner Sangappa.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the district and taluk-level Poshan Maah (Nutrition Month) and Swasthya Naari, Sahakita Kutumba (Healthy Woman, Empowered Family) campaign at Ambedkar Bhavan in Navanagar on Thursday. The event was organised by the district administration in association with various departments.

"The objective of Poshan Maah is to ensure that every newborn becomes a national asset by preventing risks during pregnancy and childbirth," Sangappa said. He highlighted that many maternal deaths occur due to iron deficiency during pregnancy. He emphasised the importance of regular blood tests and proper care for pregnant women to ensure a healthy childbirth.

Empowerment of Differently-abled and Senior Citizens Department Joint Director Naraj pointed out that anganwadis workers hold comprehensive data on each child from pregnancy until they turn six and begin schooling. "Many newborns and mothers are dying due to malnutrition. It is vital to implement nutrition-related schemes effectively," he said.

Krishna Vignar Kendra subject expert Ramitha B E provided detailed information on the importance of a balanced diet and nutritional food.

District Legal Services Authority member secretary Chandrashekhara Diddi interacted with anganwadis workers and emphasised the need to increase the quantity of food including a higher share of vegetables in their meals.

As part of the event, a traditional Seemantha (baby shower) ceremony was held for pregnant women, and the birthdays of three children were celebrated to promote maternal and child well-being.

Women and Child Development Department deputy director Prabhakar, Women and Child Development Officer Sumangala Hiremani, Child Development Project Officer Ramesh Soolikoti and others were present.

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4B ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ • ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್ 19, 2025

ಪ್ರಜಾಪೀಠವಾಣಿ

ಅಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕತೆ ತಡೆಗೆ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ

ಪೋಷಣ್ ಮಾಸಾಚರಣೆ, ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯರಿಗೆ ನೀಮಂತ; ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸಂಗಪ್ಪ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

ಮುಖ್ಯಾಂಶಗಳು

- ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಯೋಜನೆ ತಲುಪಿಸಿ
- 3ರಕಾರಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಗೆ ನೀಡಿ
- ನಿರ್ಮಿತವಾಗಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ತಪಾಸಣೆ ಮಾಡಿ

ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ: ಬಾಣಾಂತಿಕರರ ಮಕ್ಕಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಆಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ರಕ್ತಹೀನತೆ ತಡೆಯಲು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಮೂಡಿಸುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸಂಗಪ್ಪ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ನವನಗರದ ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ಭವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರುವಾರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಮಟ್ಟದ ಪೋಷಣ್ ಮಾಸಾಚರಣೆ, ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಸಕ್ರಮಣಿಸುವ ಅಭಿಯಾನ ಉದ್ಘಾಟನೆ ಆವರು ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಮಗು ದೇಶದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹೆರಿಗೆಯಲ್ಲಾಗುವ ಅಪಾಯ ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಷಣ್ ಮಾಸಾಚರಣೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಗರ್ಭಾವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಡಿಗಾಂಶ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ತಾಯಂದಿರು ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ರಕ್ತ ತಪಾಸಣೆ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಉತ್ತಮವಾಗಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡಾಗ ಆರೋಗ್ಯವಂತ ಮಗು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದರು.

ವಿಕಲಚೇತನ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ನಟರಾಜ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ತಾಯಿ, ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯಿಂದ ಕೂಡಲೇ ಮಗು ಜನಿಸಿ, ಆರು ವರ್ಷ ತುಂಬಿ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಹೋಗುವವರೆಗೆ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಮಗುವಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯರಿಗೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕತೆಯಿಂದ ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ ಮಕ್ಕಳು, ಬಾಣಾಂತಿಕತೆಯಿಂದ ಹೊಂದುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದನ್ನು ತಡೆಯುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಆಗಬೇಕು ಎಂದರು.

ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ವಿಷಯ ತಜ್ಞ ಡಾ.ರಮೀಶ್ ದಿ.ಈ, ಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕ ತಡಾರದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಿವರವಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟರು.

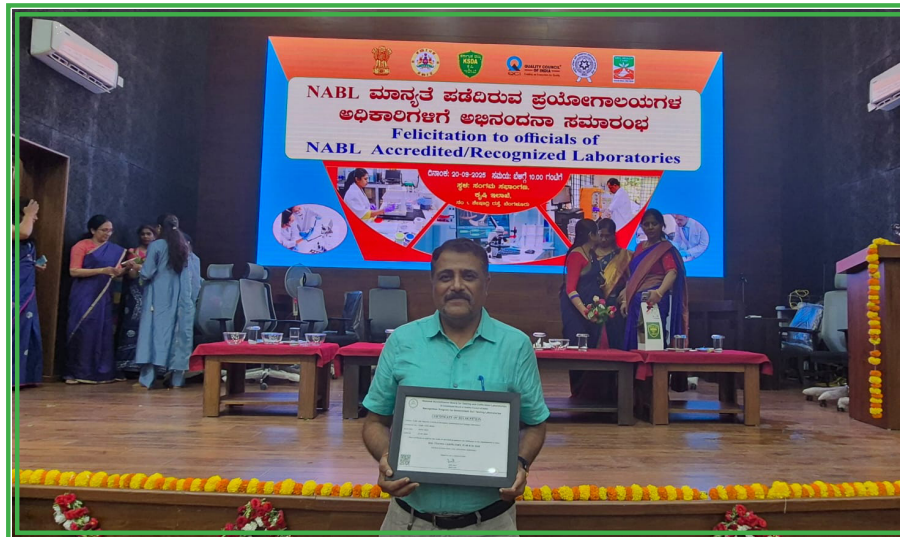
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕಾನೂನು ಸೇವಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಚಂದ್ರಶೇಖರ ದಿಡಿ, ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂವಾದ ನಡೆಸಿ, ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯರಿಗೆ ಕೊಡುವ ಅಹಾರದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯರಿಗೆ ನೀಮಂತ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಜನ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಜನ್ಮ ದಿನ ಆಚರಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಪ್ರಭಾಕರ, ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸುಮಂಗಲಾ ಹಿರೇಮನಿ, ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ರಮೇಶ್ ಸೂಲಿಕೇರಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಿರೂಪಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ಪರಸನ್ನವರ ಇದ್ದರು.

KVK Bagalkot Soil Science Laboratory Receives NABL Accreditation and Recognition

The Soil Science Laboratory of KVK Bagalkot has been accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) for maintaining high standards in analytical quality and reliability. In recognition of this achievement, officials from KVK Bagalkot were felicitated at a state-level programme held on 20th September 2025 at Bengaluru, organized by the Quality Council of India (QCI)



in collaboration with KSDA and UAS Bengaluru. The accreditation highlights the laboratory's commitment to delivering ac-

curate soil health analysis and supporting farmers through scientific soil management recommendations.

Inauguration of Certificate Course on Integrated Nutrient Management (CCINM)

A 15-day was inaugurated on September 26, 2025, at KVK,

Bagalkote. The event was inaugurated by Shri Danayya Hiremath, District Deputy Director, Registration Cooperative Society, and presided over by Dr. M. M. Jamadhar, Associate Director of Extension. The course aims to

promote sustainable agricultural practices, with key speakers urging participants, especially from Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies, to focus on soil health and Integrated Farming Systems.



Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs) and CFLD Activities Implemented During September 2025

During September 2025, KVK Bagalkot implemented several Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs) and Cluster Frontline Demonstrations (CFLDs) across the district to promote improved agricultural practices among farmers. An FLD on pomegranate wilt management was implemented at Kaladagi village of Bagalkot taluk, where training was also conducted to create awareness on integrated disease management and soil health practices. On 24th September 2025, inputs (Pulse Booster) were distributed to beneficiaries under the FLD on popularization of pulse booster in pigeon pea crop to enhance yield and productivity. Similarly, input distribution under the



CFLD on sunflower was carried out at Kandgal village of Ilkal taluk, focusing on improved cultivation and nutrient management practices. To promote integrated farming, 4000 fish fingerlings comprising common carp, catla, and rohu were released in a farm pond at Sangam Cross, Hungund taluk. A field visit to the FLD on acid lime wilt management was also conducted at Sukanadagi

village, where the KVK team provided technical guidance on integrated disease management, soil treatment, and preventive care measures. In addition, ICAR-KVK Bagalkot conducted a follow-up visit to the soybean fields under CFLD NMEO-Oilseeds at Hungund taluk, where crop growth was assessed and technical guidance was provided to farmers on pest and nutrient management.



KVK BALLARI



National Nutrition Week Celebrations in Godekote Village Kudligi Taluk Ballari District

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hagari, Ballari, organized a National Nutrition Week program at Gudekote village with the aim of raising awareness about the importance of nutrition and healthy dietary practices among rural communities. During the event, Smt. Rajeshwari R., Scientist (Home Science), addressed the gathering and emphasized the significance of incorporat-

ing vegetables, especially leafy greens, into daily meals to ensure a balanced and nutritious diet. She highlighted the role of nutrition education in improving the health and well-being of farm families and encouraged the participants to adopt healthy eating habits.

Dr. Ravi S., Soil Scientist, provided information on raising the vegetables and fruit crops in rural home backyards. It was provided with a view to limiting expenditure towards purchasing the family need vegetables from external sources and improving the



nutritional security of the family, especially women and children. Dr. Palaiah P., Senior Scientist and Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ballari, delivered a keynote address emphasizing the vital role of nutrition in achieving good health and sustainable livelihoods. He highlighted the importance of incorporating locally available, seasonal, and diverse foods into daily diets. Dr. Palaiah stressed that such dietary practices not only promote individual well-being but also support local agriculture, reduce environmental impact, and contribute to long-term food and nutrition security. Dr. Ravi S., Soil Scientist, provided expert guidance on the cultivation of vegetables and fruit crops in rural home backyards. His session emphasized the importance of minimizing household expenditure on vegetables by promoting self-reliant food production.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Naveen Kumar, P Scientist, Agricultural Extension. He expressed his sincere gratitude to all the participants, staff members, and the KVK Head for their active involvement, valuable insights and continuous encouragement.



Dream World International School Students Explore Modern Farming at ICAR-KVK, Ballari

On 13th September 2025, a group of sixty-five students from Dream World International School, Ballari, undertook an educational visit to the ICAR-Krishna Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hagari, Ballari as part of their Agriculture Experiential Learning Program. The primary objective of the visit was to provide students with

firsthand exposure to modern agricultural practices, including innovations in crop production, farm management, animal husbandry, and sustainable farming techniques. During the visit, KVK scientists conducted informative sessions covering topics such as the Integrated Farming System (IFS), natural farming, and organic agriculture. Students and teachers toured various facilities including the Soil and Water Testing Laboratory, vermicomposting units, and the Azolla demon-

stration unit, gaining practical insights into scientific farming and resource management. An interactive session was held where students enthusiastically engaged with the experts, asking questions related to career opportunities in agriculture and the future of farming. The visit allowed students to go beyond textbook knowledge, fostering a deeper respect for farmers and agricultural scientists, and inspiring a greater appreciation for the role of agriculture in society.



KVK BELAGAVI - I



General view of FLD- Foxtail millet (HN-46) plot Field day Organised by ICAR BIRDS KVK Tukkanatti, Belagavi-1

Field day on Front Line Demonstration on Foxtail Millet (HN-46)

Field days help to learn successful farming technologies and techniques, and get practical information from agricultural Scientists and farmers see how farming techniques can be practically used and applied to improve yields and economic returns, as well as nutrition security and economic growth in a broader economic sense.

Field day on Foxtail millet was organized by ICAR BIRDS, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, (Belagavi-1) Tukkanatti of Belagavi district in Karnataka dated on 12-09-2025 as a part of Front Line Demonstration (FLD) was implemented during Kharif season- 2025 on the technology component of Varietal demonstration on Fox tail millet variety (HN-46).

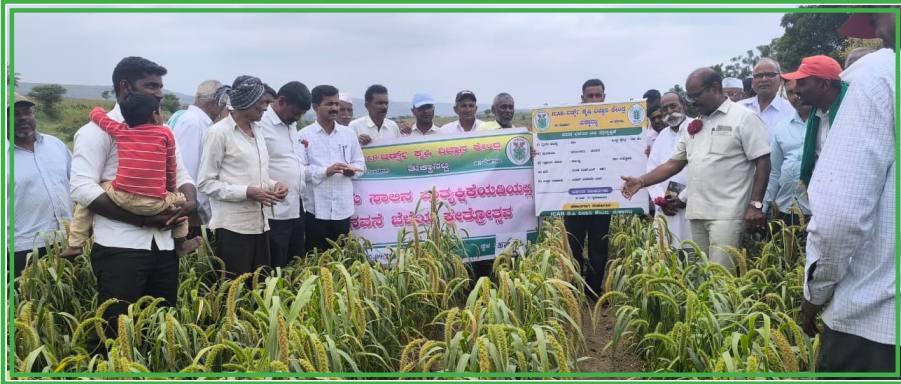
Shri.R. M Patil KVK Chairman presided over the function, Chief

Guests of the programme Shri. Santosh Jogule. TMC, Member-Bambalawad, Shri. Shivappa Chenannavar, Progressive farmers of Halatti village, Shri. Mallesh Limbigidad, Shri. Vithal Bannanavar, M.N. Malawadi Agronomist KVK Tukkanatti, Shri. Bhimashen Dundappa Arabhavi IFS farmers Umarani, Shri. Ningappa Vithal Baramannavar and Progressive farmer, Kallappa Arabhavi Progressive farmer, Shri Mallappa

Hanji Gram Panchayat member, Savayavkrishikaru Bambalawad-Chikkoditaluk and other progressive farmers were present as the chief guest along with the members of progressive farmers of nearby villages.

The Chief Guests of the programme Shri. Santosh Jogule. TMC, Member Bambalawad, delivered speech on importance of KVK in farming community for dissemination of modern technologies in Agricultural and other activities like value addition in minor millets we should know it and some interval we have to consume for our good health. Shri. M.N. Malawadi SMS Agronomy of ICAR BIRDS KVK Tukkanatti, addressed about FLD- Fox tail millet programme and appraised the gathering about various activities of KVK particularly details of Front Line Demonstrations and its importance in multiplication of seeds for next season, he also





FLD-Fox tail millet (HN-46) field day conducted by KVK Tukkanatti Belagavi-1 at Halattivillage of Chikkodi Tq. Belagavi, dist. Karnataka State.

explained about improved agronomic practices in Foxtail millet and other minor millet varieties and their special characters and its uses in different seasons. They had given information on minor millets about value addition

and importance of bio products in human health. Progressive farmer Shri. Bhimsen Dunadappa Arabhavi and Atharva Kulkarni programme beneficiaries shared their experience about Fox tail millet variety HN-46.

Shri.R. M Patil delivered on his presidential speech; he suggested to use new technologies and advised farmers to take care about soil and water conservation in their fields. They told about importance of minor millets in human health and you can grow minor millets in all types of soil. They suggested to farming community to take plantations in your fields at least one plant per person. Field Day Programme was closed with vote of thanks by Shri. Shri. Bhimasen D. Arabhavi progressive farmers of Bambalawad. (Contributors: Maruti N. Malawadi SMS(Agronomy), ICAR-BIRDS KVK Tukkanatti (Belagavi-1))

Seven Days Skill training on Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Trade “Traditional Malakar”

ICAR BIRDS Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Belagavi-1, Tukkanatti successfully organized a 7-day skill development training program under the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana on the Traditional Malakar (flower garland making) trade from 7th September to 13th September 2025. The training was designed to revive and promote the cultural craft of garland making among rural artisans, enhancing their skills and self-employment opportunities. The training program was effectively monitored and conducted by Shri Parashuram M Patil, Scientist (Horticulture) at KVK, Belagavi-1. The program structure



included two days of assessment, with Zero Day Assessment on 7th September 2025 to understand the baseline skills of participants, and Final Assessment on 13th September 2025 to evaluate learning outcomes and practical skills gained. The core training activities spanned over five days and covered different aspects of the Malakar craft:

- 8th September 2025: Hands-on training on flower garland making techniques using traditional and modern styles.
- 9th September 2025: Demonstration and practical work on beads hara (necklace) preparation, focusing on creativity and finishing.
- 10th September 2025: Introduction to paper crafting, including preparation of deco-



9 Sept 2025 4:44:56 pm
Gokak - Ghataprabha Road
Belagavi

9 Sept 2025 4:07:41 pm
Gokak - Ghataprabha Road
Belagavi
Belgaum Division
Karnataka

native flowers and items.

- 11th September 2025: Training on bouquet making, emphasizing design, colour combination, and wrapping styles.
- 12th September 2025: Revision, individual practice, and skill refinement.

A total of 14 participants enthusiastically took part in the training, contributing to the overall suc-

cess of the program. The inauguration program was graced by Shri R. M. Patil, Chairman, KVK, who presided over the event, and Dr. D. A. Mhetre, who delivered an inspiring address and motivated the participants towards skill development and entrepreneurship. At the end of the training program Skill certificates from MSDE, Govt. of India was distrib-

uted all the participants.

This training initiative has not only equipped the participants with valuable craft skills but also supported the vision of "Vishwakarma Ka Samman", enabling artisans to gain recognition, confidence, and livelihood support through traditional trades.

KVK BELAGAVI - II

Honored NABL Recognition to Soil and Water Testing Laboratory

The soil, water and tissue testing laboratory of the KVK has been conferred with recognition by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) which is an autonomous body under Government of India which provides accreditation to testing, Calibration and medical laboratories based on international standards to ensure their competence and reliability. Dr. Manjunath Chouraddi, Senior Scientist & Head received the certificate and honoured from

Shri Chaluvaryaswamy, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, GoK during the event held at Dept. of Agriculture, Bengaluru on 20.09.2025. It may recalled that the soil, water and testing laboratory of KVK has analyzed more than 20,000 soil and water samples and issued around 1,25,000 soil health cards to the farmers.



Rabi BeejaMela

KVK, Belagavi-II organized RabiBeejaMelaprogramme on 26.09.2025 at KVK Campus. The programme was inaugurated by Shri ShivaputrappaTatawati, Vice-President, KrishikaSama-ja, Bailhongal taluk emphasized that making availability of recently released varieties which are not available elsewhere in the district is made available at the BeejaMela. The programme was presided over by Dr. Manjunath Chouraddi, Senior Scientist & Head. During his presidential remarks, felt that the farmers are incurring financial loss due to low yield of local varieties. Hence, KVK has taken initiation in providing quality seed materials of high yielding varieties of Bengal gram (BGD-111-1), Rabi Jowar (SPV-2217) and Wheat (UAS-334) through seed production programme in farmers participatory mode. The main aim is to provide seed material on time to the farmers to facilitate them for purchase of seeds and also with a vision to enhance the productivity and income of the farmers. G.B. Vishwanath, Scientist (Agronomy) explained about rabi crop varieties, their characters, seed treatment, integrated nutrient, weed, water management practices and post harvest technologies and he addressed the farmers on looking into the potentiality of the varieties and also urged farmers to share the seeds for the next season with the fellow farmers for making



availability of improved varieties of seeds in the district. Before providing it to the fellow farmers ensure germination percentage either at the KVK or by sowing

100 seeds in their farm to ensure the germination. Praveen Yadahalli, Scientist (Horticulture) welcomed the farmers and guest and vote of thanks performed by Shankargouda Patil.



Tree Plantation Programme at KrishiVigyan Kendra under EkPede Ma KeNaamAbhiyan

Tree planting programme was organized on 18.09.2025 in collaboration with ICAR-KLE KrishiVigyan Kendra, Mattikoppa and LingayatMahilaSamaj, Belgaum on the premises of the center. Under the “EkPede Ma KeNaam” campaign, with the aim of protecting the environment and as part of the birthday of our beloved Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji, all the office bearers of the LingayatSamaj kept their mothers in mind and planted saplings in the name of 33 women and women who fought for freedom, which was witnessed by more than 100 office bearers. The programme was inaugurated by All India VeerashaivaLin-

gayatMahasabha President Mrs. Muktamba B., MahilaSamaj, Belgaum President Mrs. MadhumatiHiremth, Mrs. RatnaBellada, Mrs. Shailaja Binge. Then Mrs. MadhumatiHiremth spoke, the environment is being destroyed due to deforestation, and natural disasters are taking place in this backdrop. Therefore, it is very important to adopt measures to improve the ecosystem by planting forest saplings. Noting the performance of the KLE KrishiVigyan Kendra, the Lingayat women office bearers felicitated all the scientists and staff of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra. All India Veerashaiva Lingay at Mahasabha

President Mrs. Muktamba B. suggested that the KrishiVigyan Kendra should organize various training programs for agricultural women.

Dr.ManjunathChouraddi, Senior Scientist & Head of the KrishiVigyan Kendra, who presided over the program. He said that, the environment is being damaged due to deforestation in the country. A well-grown tree absorbs 31 kg of carbon dioxide from the air every year and purifies the environment. 33 percent of the forest area in the country is required to create a healthy environment, and now there is only 24 percent. In this context,





an awareness program is being organized across the country on tree planting, and everyone is urged to cooperate in the tree



planting movement by planting saplings in the fields and around the house. Dr. S. S. Hiremath, a scientist at the KrishiVigyan

Kendra, explained the activities of the KrishiVigyan Kendra, the importance of natural farming, organic farming practices and the demonstration units at the center. The Secretary of Lingayat-MahilaSamaj, Belgaum, Mrs. RakshaDedgal and Joint Secretary Mrs. SarojaNishandara, Mrs. RajeshwariKavatagimat, Mrs. Sambaragimat were present in the program.

Three-day training program on "Large and Small Livestock Entrepreneurship"

KVK, Belagavi-II has organized a three-day training program on "Large and Small Livestock Entrepreneurship" in collaboration with Centre of Excellence in Animal Husbandry (CEAH), Bengaluru from 10.09.2025 to 12.09.2025. The programme was



inaugurated by Dr. MallappaS-ajjan, Assistant Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services Department, Bailhongal as the chief guest and he explained about the importance of rabies vaccination in human and animal health. S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science), presided over the program and said that economic viability of small scale animal hus-

bandry is primary for livelihood of farmers. Dr. S. Balraj (Livestock Officer), CEAH, Bengaluru, explained the importance of this 3 days programme and asked farmers to take full utilisation of Livestock entrepreneurship training programmes. Dr. SudarshanGadad, Senior Veterinary Officer, Mattikopp explained about the milk breeds of cows and buffaloes, food and housing for livestock. Vinod Kochi, Technical Officer, welcomed the dignitaries and gave the introductory speech. Dr. Gururaj V. Koujalagi, Scientist (Animal Science) performed vote of thanks.





Participated in Mela

KVK, Belagavi-II participated in Kisan Mela organized on 22.09.2025 by Chidanand Basarabhu Kore Sahakari Sakkare Karkhane Niyamit, Chikodi on the occasion of annual General Body Meeting of Sugar Factory. Dr. Prabhakar Kore, Hon'ble Chariman, KLE Society, Belagavi inaugurated the exhibition stall and appreciated the activities carried out by the KVK Scientists and also he highlighted the new-

ly opened B.Sc (Hons) Agriculture College at Tenikolla.

KVK showcased the technologies on recently released varieties of soybean, paddy, black gram, bengal gram and sugarcane and vegetable crops. Dr.S.S. Hiremath, Scientist (Plant Protection) explained the new technologies and services available at KVK to the dignitaries and farmers during the event. Dr.GururajKoujalagi, Scientist (Animal Science), explained new, improved feeding strategies for dairy cattle



with several varieties of fodder crops to the dignitaries and farmers during the event.

Participated in UAS, Dharwad Krishi Mela

KVK, Belagavi-II actively participated in the prestigious KrishiMela held at the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad, from September 13 to 16, 2025. The four-day mega farm fair, with the theme "Food Nutrients, Soil, and Crop Varieties – Agricultural Processing," drew a record foot-





scientists in disseminating practical and farmer-centric technologies. The participation reflected KVK's continued commitment to support farming communities with sustainable and innovative agricultural practices.



fall of 23.74 lakh visitors. The event served as a major platform to showcase innovative solutions for farmers, focusing on challenges like crop damage due to excess rainfall and socio-economic concerns of farming communities. KVK, Belagavi-II exhibited technologies on improved crop varieties, organic farming

practices, and livestock-based interventions aimed at enhancing farmers' income. The stall also featured demonstrations on farm equipment, KVK- publications on natural farming, and value addition technologies. Our KVK stall was visited by dignitaries and progressive farmers, who appreciated the efforts of the



Field day on Edible Oil - Oil Seed (Soybean)

Field day was organized at Gudikatti village of Bailhongal taluk under National Mission on Edible Oil -oilseed (Soybean). In Gudikatti village cluster , 30 acres of Soybean demonstration was taken on integrated crop management practices. Farmers were provided with Soybean seeds variety DSb-34, seed treatment chemicals, bio-fertilizers, micronutrient for soil application, nutrient for foliar application and plant



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protection chemicals. During the programme Assistant Director of Agriculture Mr. BasavarajDala-wai explained the importance of bringing an area under oilseeds to meet the demand of edible oil in the country. In his speech, he addressed the farmers to give

the importance to produce edible oil on their own by cultivating different oil seed crops in their field to keep good health and self sufficiency in edible oil.Mrs. Vajreshwari Kulkarni, Assistant Director briefed about PMFME schemes to encourage domes-

tic oil extraction units for needy farmers. She encouraged the farm women to set up small units related to value added products in oil seed crops.Mr. Vidyadhar M. Hosur, Rtd. AAO gave information on culture preparations for practicing natural farming for production of oil seed crops. Scientist (Agronomy) addressed the farmers about post-harvest technologies like threshing, drying, stacking and storing operations to keep their own produced seed for next season to minimise the cost of production.Mr. ManjunathPatil, a young progressive farmer gave the feedback and appreciated the technologies provided by KVK.Mr. IraiahKhilledar, a practicing organic farmer & a writer delivering his presidential remarks, said farmers should get in touch with technology transferring agencies to update their knowledge to get a higher harvest index.The beneficiaries under cluster demonstration NMEO-OS were happy with the performance of the technologies demonstrated by KVK.



Fireless Cooking and Rangoli competition

On the eve of 'Krishi Mela-2025, UAS, Dharwad'. KVK, Belagavi-II conducted fire less cooking and Rangoli competition for the farmwomen at KVK campus on 03.09.2025. KVK Scientists Dr. BhaviniPatil, Scientist (Home Science), S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil





Science) and Praveen Yadahalli, Scientist (Horticulture) evaluated the recipes and Rangoli done by the participants. Totally 21 participants participated and the best three recipes and three rangoli designs were selected for the prize distribution.

Participated as a Resource Person

Dr. Manjunath Chouraddi, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK-Belagavi-II served as a Resource Person on 'Rootgrub Management in Sugarcane' on 03.09.2025, organized by Satish Sugars Ltd., Hunashyal PG and Department of Agriculture, Belagavi. The event aimed to enhance farmers' understanding of root grub pests, their identification, lifecycle, and effective management strategies. The training focused on empowering farmers with practical knowledge to identify early symptoms of root grub infestation, such as yellowing of leaves, wilting, and poor crop stand. Emphasis was placed on Integrated Pest Man-



agement (IPM) as a sustainable and eco-friendly control strategy.

Key components of the training included:

Cultural practices: Techniques such as deep summer plough-

ing and timely irrigation were highlighted for their effectiveness in disrupting the pest's lifecycle. Biological control: The use of entomopathogenic fungi like *Metarhiziumanisopliae* was demonstrated, showing





its effectiveness in managing root grub populations. Mechanical methods: Tools such as light traps were introduced to capture adult beetles and reduce the breeding population. The session concluded with interactive feedback from participants, distribution of educational/resource materials, and action planning

for field implementation. The programme was graced by Satish Sugars Ltd, Hunashyal PG and Shri H.D. Kolekar, Joint Director of Agriculture, Belagavi, along with officials from the Gokak Agriculture Department, and cane development staff from Satish Sugars Ltd. Approximately 300 sugarcane growers participated

in and benefitted from the training programme. A visit was conducted to assess the impact of recent floods on sugarcane fields. The crop showed significant damage, including lodging, yellowing, and signs of rot due to prolonged waterlogging. Soil conditions were poor, with silt deposition and foul odor indicating anaerobic conditions. Drainage systems were found to be inadequate, worsening the situation. Farmers reported heavy yield losses and damage to inputs like fertilizers and seedlings. Pest infestation was also noted in some areas. Many farmers expressed the need for immediate support for replanting and recovery. Recommendations include improving field drainage, applying fungicides, and using organic soil amendments. Ratooning may be possible in partially affected areas.

Field visits on NMEO-OS- CFLD Soybean

KVK, Belagavi-II has taken up NMEO-OS-Soybean Cluster Frontline Demonstration in an area of 120 ha involving 300 farmers. In this connection, Scientists visited CFLD fields at different villages of Bailhongal Taluk. Dr.S.S. Hiremath, Scientist (Plant Protection) explained about the management of stem fly, spodoptera, mealy bug and leaf spot. G.B. Vishwanath, Sci-





entist (Agronomy) briefed about measures for pod development, water let out from the main field, keeping own produced seed for subsequent season, post harvest technologies to the farmers. Currently demonstrated fields are in good condition compared to the other variety (JS-335)and farmers are happy with the performance of the technologies demonstrated by KVK.

Rabies Awareness Campaign

A Rabies Awareness Campaign was organised by the Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services Department, Bailhongal at KVK, Belagavi-II, on 10th September

2025. The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers about the importance of rabies vaccination in both human and animal health. Dr Mallappa S-ajjan, Assistant Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services Department, Bailhongal,

participated as the Chief Guest and highlighted the significance of timely vaccination and preventive measures. Dr S. Balraj, Livestock Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Centre of Excellence in Animal Husbandry, Bengaluru,





also addressed the gathering. On this occasion, Dr. Gururaj Koujalagi, Scientist (Animal Science), KVK, Belagavi-II, explained the role of vaccination in preventing rabies transmission and safeguarding livestock keepers. Dr. Sudarshan Gadad, Senior Veterinary Officer, Mattikopp, Dr

S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science), Shri Vinod Kochi (Technical officer), Shri Vinod Karadiguddi (Veterinary Assistant) KVK, Mattikopp, were also present and actively interacted with farmers. The campaign witnessed the participation of around 80 farmers along with KVK staff, making

it a successful awareness programme dedicated to protecting community health through rabies prevention.

Natural Farming Awareness Programme

Four awareness programmes on natural farming were organized at Budarakatti, Belawadi villages of Bailhongaltaluk, Hukkeri and Hirekumbi of Savadatti taluk.

During the training programme, S.M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science) opined that the chemical farming is unable to provide healthy soil, healthy food and enjoying health of the citizens. As a result of this, the people are spending more money on med-

ical treatment to get rid of the illness. Natural farming involves chemical free practices with the use of desi cow dung and urine. As desi cows are prerequisite for natural farming, farmers should conserve desi cows to support natural farming for sustainable



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production of healthy food for all. He explained the principles of natural farming such as Beejamruta, Jeevamruta, Mulching and Wapsa and the preparation of various concoctions from using desi cow dung and urine.

Swachhta hi Seva

Swachhta hi Seva an awareness drive on Cleanliness initiated by Central Government has been observed by KVK, Mattikopp during 17 September 2025 to 03 October

2025. During this fortnight, Senior Scientist & Head, Scientists and staff members of KVK took part in the cleanliness drive. So far, the KVK has conducted 14 events including pledge in office regarding the commitment of staff and

students towards maintenance of cleanliness, shramadaan in village street and public places, campaigns on waste management, distribution of PPE kits for swachhta karma charisunder the leadership of Shri Vinoda Kochi.



KVK BENGALURU RURAL



Field visit to FLD - Pomegranate field

Scientists from ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK), Bengaluru Rural District Dr. Eshwarappa (Apiculture) and Dr. Supriya S (Plant Protection) visited the pomegranate orchards of Mr. Muniraju, Yambarahalli and Mr. Ramesh, Hyadala villages in Devanahalli taluk, Bengaluru Rural district on 03.09.2025 for a diagnostic field assessment. The scientists emphasized the need to adopt eco-friendly, cost-effective methods such as Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management, combining bio-fertilizers, bio-control agents and need-based chemical inputs. They recommended AmbeBahar treatment (February-

March) with irrigation withheld for two months to induce stress, followed by medium pruning (10-15 cm) 40-45 days after stress and defoliation by spraying Ethrel 39 SL @ 2-2.5 ml/l. For promoting new flush, a spray of Mepiquat chloride @ 125 ppm along with 6-benzyladenine @ 5 ppm was advised. Nutrient management should include 15-20 kg enriched FYM, 2 kg vermin compost, and 2 kg neem cake



per plant, with a recommended dose of 400:250:800 g NPK per plant through fertigation for 2-5 year old orchards. For disease management, they stressed integrated measures against wilt complex: if 25 % of branches are wilted, uproot the plant and treat the soil with Formaldehyde 500 ml/10 litres of water per pit. This should be followed by (1) drenching with Propiconazole 25 EC @ 1.0 ml/litre + Chlorpyrifos 20 EC @ 4 ml/litre, (2) drenching after 15 days with *Aspergillus niger*, *Trichoderma harzianum*, and *Paecilomyces lilacinus* @ 25 g/plant each and (3) drenching after 30 days with Arbuscular Mycorrhiza (*Glomus musae*) @ 10 g/plant, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* @ 25 g/plant, and *T. harzianum* @ 25 g/plant. For blight management, three sprays of Actinoplus @ 10 ml/litre, Copper oxychloride 50 % WP @ 2.5 g/litre, or 1 % Bordeaux mixture were suggested. To manage thrips and mites, neem soap @ 5 g/litre was recommended. By adopting these practices-integrating bio-fertilizers such as *Azospirillum*, *Azotobacter*, and phosphate-solubilizing bacteria with bio-control agents like *Trichoderma harzianum*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, and *Beauveria bassiana*-farmers can lower production costs, safeguard soil and plant health, and produce chemical-residue-free pomegranates while ensuring long-term orchard productivity and environmental sustainability.

Field visit to FLD on Eco-Friendly Management of Pests in Mulberry

Dr. G. Eswarappa Scientist – Apiculture, Dr. Supriya, S, Scientist - Plant Protection and Mr. N. Jagadish, Senior Technical Officer (Sericulture) recently conducted a diagnostic visit to the mulberry fields of Mr. Krishnapa, Ittasandra village and Mr. Sonnappa, Dalasagere village in Hoskote taluk, Bengaluru Rural district on 12.09.2025, where they observed severe loss in leaf yield due to leaf roller, mites and thrips, with the incidence of sucking pests reaching 35–45%. To promote sustainable sericulture, the team demonstrated eco-friendly pest management technologies recommended by NBAIR and UAS Bengaluru for ensuring high-quality leaf production. And the scientists



suggested to applying the recommended dose of fertilizers (RDF) of NPK at 350:140:140 kg/ha in five equal splits, enriching 20 t/ha of farmyard manure with *Trichoderma viride* at 1 kg per 50 kg FYM, and incorporating neem cake at 200 kg/acre to improve soil health and suppress soil-borne pests. For foliar nutrition, a Poshan spray at 7 ml/l is advised 25 days after pruning (DAP). To control leaf

roller, Chlorfenapyr 10 SC at 1.5 ml/litre is recommended 15–20 DAP, while for mites and thrips, Shatpada-All Rounder at 20 g/litre should be sprayed at 15–20 DAP and repeated three times at 5-day intervals. These integrated, eco-friendly measures help maintain healthy mulberry foliage, reduce chemical pesticide dependence, and support profitable, sustainable silkworm rearing.



Celebration of National Nutrition Month 2025

ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bengaluru Rural District in collaboration with Women and Child Development Department, Bengaluru Rural celebrated National Nutrition Month 2025 on 20.09.2025 with the theme of “Eat Right for a Better Life”. The programme graced with the presence of Honorable Justice Sri Kranthi Kiran, Chief Civil Court, Doddaballapura; in his remarks said that, creating awareness on law is necessary among Anganawadi teachers, SHG women and farmwomen. Dr. B.G. Hanumantharaya, Senior Scientist & Head, chaired the programme and explained the importance of enhancement of soil fertility through organic farming, application of bio-fertilizers, incorporation green manure crops and integrated nutrient management practices and thus nutrition in farm produce will be increased naturally. Dr. Usha Ravindra, Professor and head, Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition, UAS, Bangalore has participated as resource person and explained the importance of theme of National Nutrition Month 2025 is – ‘Eat right for a better life’ and focused on balanced diet in daily life for better health. Dr. Gopika, C. Muttagi, explained the history of celebration of National Nutrition Month and purpose of the celebration in her introductory speech and explained the impor-



tance of consumption of fresh vegetables and fruits in combating micro nutrient deficiencies. Mr. Nagaraj, A., Ex-President of Hadonahalli Gram panchayath briefed the role of Anganawadi Teachers and farm women in nutritional security. During the programme Mr. Arun Kumar, Assistant Child Development Project Officer explained the symptoms of malnutrition, anemia and

their management. During the programme Dr. G. Eswarappa, Scientist (Apiculture), Dr. Veeranagappa, P., Soil Scientist, Dr. G.K. Ningaraju, Scientist (Agronomy), Dr. Supriya, S., Scientist (Plant Protection) and officials of Department of Women and Child Welfare were participated. Totally, 70 Anganawadi workers were benefited from the programme.



Animal Health Camp:

ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bengaluru Rural District organized Animal Health Camp in collaboration with Credit Access India Foundation, Bengaluru, Intas Animal Health Ltd., Bengaluru and Milk Producers Co-operative Society, Hosahalli on 29.09.2025. Dr. Hanumantharaya B.G., Senior Scientist and Head of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, suggested farmers to regularly vaccination the animals to prevent the disease occurrence and also avoid losses to the farming community. Dr. Gopal Y.M., Scientist (Agril. Extension) briefed the importance of mineral mixture for milching animals particularly, in heifers improves calf growth, helps in absorption of nutrients in fodder, increases milk production and not only improves reproduc-



tive efficiency but also shortens the gestation period in heifers. Dr. Mohamed Jiulla, Block Veterinary officer from Karnataka Milk Federation, Doddaballapura highlighted that, the farmers are feeding low grading feeds to dairy cattle, which lead to infertility due to deficiency of important minerals and vitamins, hence a balanced diet should be

provided. More than 80 dairy animals were diagnosed and treated problems such as repeated breeding, skin infections, injuries, foot-and-mouth disease, lumpy skin disease, mastitis and worm infestation in cattles by the veterinary doctors viz., Dr. Mohamed Jiulla, Dr.B.M. Ravindranatha, Dr. Vaishnavi, Dr. Vikram in the animal health camp.

KVK CHAMARAJANAGARA



National Nutrition Month (Poshan Maah) Theme: Eat Right for a Better Life

On 26.09.2025, observed National nutrition month at ICAR KVK, Chamarajanagara by organizing a capacity building programme on balanced diet and its importance in human health management. A total of 53 Anganwadi workers and farm women participated in the programme and they were provided with the information on importance of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, fruits, milk & milk products and meat & meat products. An illustration model depicting composition and quantity of different ingredients in balanced diet was displayed through a small exhibit that included cereals, pulses, milk and milk products, fruits,

oil seeds and vegetables. Senior Scientist and Head, Dr. Naresh, N.T provided information on establishment and management of nutrition garden for meeting the nutritional requirements of farm families and to overcome hidden hunger, thereby enabling to address the common nutritional



disorders prevailing among rural community, particularly women and children. Scientist (Home Science) provided information on kinds and amounts of food to be eaten by an individual, a group or a population for achieving balanced nutrition. As a part of the programme, Anganwadi workers and farmers were prepared with the different value added products and displayed at ICAR-KVK, Chamarajanagara.

National nutrition month was celebrated at different places at Chamarajanagara district namely Kollegala and Heggavadi with an aim to create awareness among women & children regarding importance of fruits, vegetables and millets in human diet for overcoming the deleterious effects of imbalanced nutrition and to prevent degenerative diseases. Dr. Deepa, J., Scientist (Home Science) deliberated the participants on the nutritional aspects of fruits, vegetables, pulses, oilseeds, cereals and millets.

KVK CHIKKABALLAPURA



EDP training Programme on Value addition of millets to rural youth

National Nutrition Week -2025

As part of National Nutrition Week – 2025, ICAR-KVK Chikkaballapura organized series of programmes. An awareness programme on balanced and nutritious diet was organized at the A. Hoshalli village of Chintamani taluk for school children, anganwadi children and their parents. Dr. Soumya Hiregoudar, Scientist (Home Science) assessed childrens’ nutrition status and emphasized on the balanced nutritious diet, while Dr. Aruna G. R. Technical Officer engaged them through interactive activities. On campus Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme on Value Addition for Rural Youth was organized for 02 days with over 50 participants. Dr. M. Papireddy, Senior Scientist and Head, inaugurated the programme and highlight-

ed value addition as a promising entrepreneurial activity. Dr. Soumya Hiregoudar, Scientist (Home Science), delivered a lecture on nutrition and millet processing, demonstrated finger millet laddu and chocolates and trained participants on packaging, labeling and marketing. Dr. Tanweer Ahmed, Scientist (Agricultural Extension), guided on entrepreneurial opportunities, Smt. Ambhujakshi, an entrepre-

neur, shared her journey of popularizing millet-based products. On the second day, a Nutritious Food Recipe Competition was organized and best recipes were awarded. On campus training was held for DASEI students regarding balanced diet and healthy eating.



Nutritious Food recipe Competition



Assessment of Nutritional status at school



Training programme on Value addition

Entrepreneurship Development Programme on processing and value addition in Maize

Entrepreneurship Development Programme on processing and value addition in Maize was organized at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkaballapura from 22.9.2025 to 24.09.2025. Dr. Soumya Hiregoudar, Scientist (Home Science) explained about nutritive value of maize and its processing. Method demonstration on preparation of maize ribbon, maize rings, maize nachos,

maize halwa and maize chocolate was conducted involving 15 self help group members. Dr. Papireddy, Senior Scientist and Head highlighted about entrepreneurship development and

marketing opportunities for maize value added products. Dr. Aruna. G.R, Technical Officer emphasized about labeling and branding of maize based value added products.



Entrepreneurship Development Programme on processing and value addition in Maize

KVK CHIKKAMAGALURU



Regional conference for PACs & FPO, Co-operatives

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mudigere, Chikkamagaluru organized one day **“Regional conference for PACS and FPO Cooperatives”** On the occasion of **“International Year of Cooperatives, 2025”** on September 2, 2025 in collaboration with National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), Bengaluru.

The Programme was inaugurated by Dr. Tejaswini, D. S., K.C.S Deputy Registrar of Cooperative societies Chikkamagaluru, she said, national cooperative corporation is has been formulating and implementing the several programmes. Chief Guest Regional Director Smt. Tanisha Lal, NCDC Bengaluru, addressed the gathering, Shri. Dayanand, M.S. Assistant Registrar of cooperatives societies, Dr. Shivaprasad M.

Associate Director of Extension witnessed the programme, Mr. Hariprasad, G. Deputy Director, NCDC welcomed the gathering and introduced about the conference and delivered class on NCDC Schemes, Shri. Balakrishna, B.R. President, Taluk growers association addressed the gathering, he stated that, Primary Cooperative societies and FPOs must work effec-

tively to ensure the government grants reach the farmers in rural areas.

Dr. A.T. Krishna Murthy, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Chikkamagaluru presided over the programme and opined that FPOs and PACS are doing good work on behalf of farmers by providing the loans, inputs, crop insurances, and stated that both central and state governments are strongly encouraging cooperative institutions with substantial grants to help farmers.

120 participants of PCAS Directors, CEO, FPO directors from different districts were got benefited the conference

Organized the Technical sessions on Business opportunities and Financing options to FPO for Sustainability, Integrated farming system for sustainability, Honey bee farming, Value addition in jack fruit, banana and spice crops. Dr.Suresh Kumar, B Scientist KVK, Mudigere coordinated the programme and ended with vote of thanks.



KVK CHITRADURGA



10TH AYURVEDA DAY CELEBRATION and Training Programme on Medicinal plants cultivation - 26.09.2025

ICAR KVK Chitradurga in association with Karnataka Medicinal Plants Board, Bangalore organized 10th Ayurveda Day and one day Training programme on Medicinal Plants cultivation on 26-09-2025 with a tagline of Ayurveda for Health.

Dr.Mahantesh.P.S. Scientist (Horticulture) welcomed the gathering. Dr.M.J. Prabhu, Senior Consultant, KAMPA, explained about the Importance and Background of Ayurveda Day Celebration. Sri Dena Bhagath, President of sri sri sri Denabagath Seva Trust, Chitradurga inaugurated the programme and he said that there are so many plants surrounding

us which are having medicinal values which we need to explore and use it in an efficient way. He made the participants to take oath on regular usage of Medicinal plants and motivated the farmers to take up medicinal plants cultivation and to get the benefits out of it.



Dr. Sharanappa Jangandi, ADR, ZAHRS, Hiriyur mentioned that Oath taken must be adopted in life. The Reason behind healthy and long living of ancestors is their way of life and ayurvedic medicines used by them. In present day also it need to be adopted. Ayurvedic Doctor of Hiriyur Dr. Shivakumar.T addressed the gathering and he said that the our Health is in our Hand. Living Healthy is easy just by following healthy diet and lifestyle. Dr. Suresha D Ekabotte, Dean, College of Horticulture in his presidential remarks mentioned that this is an eye opening programme which is a need of the hour, each practices that was followed by our ancestors were having scientific reasoning.

Dr.Parashuram Chandravanshi, Senior Scientist and Head, Organized the programme. Dr. Onkarappa.S. delivered vote of thanks. Dr. Preethi compiled the programme. All the staff of the KVK were present. Totally 110 farmers participated in the programme and got the information.

Post-Inagural function, there were Technical session in which the resource persons delivered a lecture on Introduction to Medicinal Plants Cultivation practices, Medicinal Plants Harvesting and Post-Harvest Management, Marketing of Medicinal Plants and Organic Farming of Medicinal plants.



KVK Placement of RHWEP students of CoH, Mudigere

Final Year B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture students will be placed at Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) under Rural Horticultural Work Experience Programme (RHWEP), for practical fieldwork, exposing them to rural farming practices, technology transfer, and farmer-scientist interactions.

Totally 13 students from College of Horticulture, Mudigere were placed in KVK Hiriyyur for 13 days from 15.09.2025 to 27.09.2025. They were informed about the Genesis of KVK and growth in the country, Concepts of ATARI, Mandates and objectives of KVK, Problem identification for action plan, preparing action plan, Concept of OFT/FLD trainings (on/off campus), Other extension activities (spl.programmes), Concept of revolving funds, Farm management, Field activities of KVKs/ demonstration. Classes on Soil and Water testing was

taken along with Practicals of scientific collection of soil samples, demonstration of vermi-compost preparation, nursery management, Bakery products preparation, identification of Pests and Diseases in major agricultural



and horticultural crops, Meteorological Department, Weather Observatory, FMTTI, Bee Rearing, Video documentation. Field visit to nearby progressive farmers as well as documentation of all the classes has been done.





Swachatta Hi Seva Campaign

ICAR KVK Chitradurga conducted Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) Campaign 2025 by organizing organizing activities viz., eco-friendly, zero-waste celebrations and conducting cleanliness drives at institutions and rural areas. KVK created awareness on cleanliness and sanitization as well as the importance of cleanliness followed by the swachatta pledge at KVK as well as Kondalahalli village of Molkalmuru taluk. KVK Scientists educated the farmers about the importance of keeping their surrounding neat and clean as well as asked them to devote some time daily for maintaining cleanliness. Other activities conducted during this programme are took swachhata pledge at KVK and planted tree under "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam", Identification of black spots and initiated cleaning, Created awareness on parthenium weed management



to farmers and cleaned KVK Farm, Awareness on Importance of Hygeine for maintenance of Good Health among Children, Human Chain-Conduct, We also focused on sustainable practices,

for natural farming and promoting Reduce, Reuse and Recycle principles, Carrying out of cleaning activities in-Public transport and Free health checkup camp was organized at KVK for Safai Mitras, sanitation workers, and their dependents. Swachatta Hi seva campaign has been conducted by KVK Chitradurga from 17.09.2025 to till date. KVK Chitradurga participated in these activities to promote cleanliness, health, and environmental sustainability.



KVK DAKSHINA KANNADA



Scientific Backyard Poultry farming with special reference to Swarnadhara poultry

ICAR KrishiVigyan Kendra DK Mangaluru conducted a farmers Capacity Development Programme on Scientific Backyard Poultry farming with special reference to Swarnadhara poultry on 10.09.2025 under TSP programme at the poultry farm of Shri ShivaramNaik of Punacha Village, Bantwal taluk, who is successfully rearing day old Swarnadhara Poultry chicks that were procured from the Veterinary College,Hebbal,Bengaluru in his farm under the technical guid-

ance of KVK Dakshina Kannada. Dr.Shivakumar R. Scientist (Veterinary Science) explained about Scientific Backyard Poultry farming and briefed about the merits of Swarnadhara poultry over the other desi birds. Dr T J Ramesha, Senior Scientist and Head, Dr.

Harish Shenoy, Scientist (Agronomy), Shri SathishNaik, Technical Officer were present during the occasion. About 30 farmers of the surrounding villages were benefitted from this program. (Contributors: Dr Shivakumar R. and Dr. T. J Ramesha)





Two day training programme for Krishi Sakhis

The ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (ICAR-IIHR), Bengaluru, organized a two-day advanced horticulture training programme of Krishi-Sakhis from Sullia taluk under the RKVY scheme. Dr. TusarKantiBhehera, Director, ICAR-IIHR, said, "Arecanut is the commercial crop in Dakshina Kannada, but farmers continue to face challenges due to the prevalence of the yellow leaf disease."

He urged farmers to adopt improved technologies, resilient crop varieties, and sustainable practices developed by the institute to ensure produc-

tivity and income. The training session, led by Dr. V. Shankar, Principal Scientist (Vegetable Crops), Dr. H.P. Sumangala, Principal Scientist (Floriculture), and Dr. R. Senthil Kumar, Principal Scientist (Social Science and Training) covered advanced technologies for fruit, vegetable, and flower crops, and equipment and crop protection methods.

Experts provided insights into post-harvest management, incubation, marketing, mechanization, development of new food products and financial assistance. The sessions also featured modern approaches such as hydroponics and urban farming. The participants visited the Indo-American Hybrid Seeds PVT Ltd, where its Managing Director, Santosh Attavar, Joint MD Rashmi Attavar, and other experts briefed them on horticulture enterprises, market systems, and technologies.

Dr. T.J. Ramesha, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra, said "At a time when the farmers in Sullia are affected with diseases affecting arecanut, alternative crops are the need of the hour. The programme was aimed at enhancing the skills of KrishiSakhis, who have already been actively supporting the farming community in the region. (Contributors: Dr Shivakumar R. and Dr. T. J Ramesha)



Empowerment of tribal farmers through vermicomposting

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra DK Mangaluru conducted a CDP-cum-exposure visit on 10/09/2025 under TSP programme to the field of Shri Krishna Naik who is successfully practicing vermicompost in his farm at Punacha Village of Bantwal taluk using vermibag provided by KVK under TSP programme. Dr. Harish Shenoy Scientist (Agronomy) briefed about importance of vermicompost as a component of

organic farming and conducted method demonstration on separation of vermicompost from earthworms. Also demonstrated about method of installation and commissioning of vermibag to start the enterprise. Dr T J Ramesha, Senior Scientist and Head, Dr. Shivakumar R, Scientist (Vety. Science), Shri Sathish Naik,

Technical Officer and about 12 farmers of surrounding villages were present on the occasion. Five ST farmers who participated in the programme were provided with vermibags to promote organic farming.

(Contributors: Dr Harish Shenoy and Dr. T. J Ramesha)



CDP on Natural Farming for tribal farming communities

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra DK Mangaluru conducted a CDP-cum-exposure visit under TSP programme to the field of award winner farm woman Smt. Chandravathi W/o Shri Krishna Naik resident of Moodambail village of Bantwal Taluk on 10/09/2025 who is practicing Natural farming in Arecanut. Dr. Harish Shenoy Scientist (Agronomy) briefed about principles of natural farming and conducted method demonstration



on preparation of Jeevamrutha and mulching in Arecanut. Dr T J Ramesha, Sr. Scientist and Head, Dr. Shivakumar R, Scientist (Vety. Science), Shri Sathish Naik, Technical Officer and about 12

farmers of surrounding villages were benefitted from this programme.

(Contributors : Dr Harish Shenoy and Dr. T. J Ramesha)

TARALABALU KVK DAVANAGERE



Awareness Programme on Alternate Cropping Systems in Arecanut

ICAR-Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra in collaboration with ATMA, Department of Agriculture, Horticulture, Institute of Agricultural Technologists, Konkuduri FPO conducted Awareness campaign on Alternate Cropping Systems in Arecanut. Dr. Basavanagowda M.G., SMS (Horticulture) gave detailed information about the suitable intercrops like pepper, Cocoa, Nutmeg These are best suited in Arecanut and has to be grown in scientific way. Dr. Avinash T.G., SMS (Plant Protection) gave information about the management of pest and diseases in

Arecanut and other Horticulture crops.

Mr. Prabhushankar, Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture provided information about the schemes available in the department for the benefit of Farmers. FPO president Mr. Revanasiddappa, Vice President Mr. Ken-

chanagowda, Ex-Zilla Panchayat Member Sri. Manjunath, ATMA Deputy Project Director Mr. Chandrashekar, Mr. Renukumar and 150 Farmers participated on the programme.

(Contributors: Dr. Basavanagowda M.G., SMS (Horticulture))



Swachhta Hi Sewa : Demonstration on Conversion of Arecahusk to Manure

The Demonstration was conducted in Hosahalli Village of Channagiri Taluk, Gram Panchayath President Smt. Bharathi Bai Tharesh inaugurated the program. Dr. Devaraja T. N. Senior Scientist said that in one acre of Arecanut garden 7-8 quintal of areca husk will be generated, there is a good scope to convert this into manure using the compost culture. Many farmers in the taluk after areca dehusking they will dump the husk in public areas. This is creating many problems to citizens and keeping this in mind under Swachhta Hi Sewa program we are demonstrating the method of conversion of arecahusk to manure.

Dr. Basavanagowda M. G. SMS (Horticulture) said that there



mainly two methods in which farmers can convert their husk to manure. One is the Heap method and another is Vermicompost pit method based on the need and available resources farmers can choose their best method.

Dr. Avinash . T. G SMS (Plant Protection) demonstrated the conversion method. He explained that farmers can use ready ver-

micompost bag in which firstly spread thin layer of soil in the bottom, above this put 2 months dried husk for about 1.5 foot, apply 500 g of urea above this as a source of Nitrogen for Microbes, sprinkle 20 lit of cow dung slurry mixed with 1 kg of Compost culture, then cover the with soil repeat the same method for another two layers (total 3 layers) and each layer should not exceed more than 1.5 foot. After 3 layers are prepared, provide shade, sprinkle water twice in a week, mix the husk for monthly once for three months. After three months release one kg of earthworm and thereafter do not mix the husk. The manure will be ready in Eight months. In the program, compost culture was provided to farmers. Assistant Director of Agriculture, Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture of Channagiri Taluk and 82 Areca growing farmers participated in the program.



KVK DHARWAD

ICAR-KVK, Dharwad Stall at Krishi Mela - 2025

ICAR-KVK, Dharwad actively participated in the Krishi Mela-2025 organized by the UAS, Dharwad during 13-16 September, 2025. On this occasion, KVK Dharwad had set up a stall to showcase recent technologies and innovations in agriculture. The KVK

stall displayed a wide range of exhibits focusing on: Natural farming practices and their benefits, Climate-resilient agriculture technologies suitable for local conditions, Value-added products developed by farmers, FPOs and women entrepreneurs. In addition, live samples of different varieties of millets and fodder released by UAS, Dharwad,

as well as fruits and vegetables cultivated by progressive farmers of Dharwad district, were showcased. The stall also highlighted value-added products prepared by Farmer Producer Organizations and women self-help groups, creating awareness on entrepreneurship opportunities. The KVK stall attracted a large number of farmers, students and visitors, who gained practical knowledge and information on improved agricultural technologies, innovative practices and avenues for income generation.



Training Programme on Mushroom Cultivation

A one-day training programme on Mushroom Cultivation was organized on 09.08.2025 at DATC, Dharwad by Dr. Airadevi P. Angadi, Scientist (Horticulture), ICAR-KVK, Dharwad, in collaboration with the KSDA, Dharwad.



The programme was specially arranged for Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers with the objective of promoting income-generating activities through mushroom cultivation. During the training, participants were introduced to the importance of mushroom cultivation as an enterprise, its nutritional and economic benefits and the scope for livelihood enhancement. A total of 30 farmers and farm women actively



participated in the programme. The training not only enhanced their knowledge and skills but

also motivated them to take up mushroom cultivation as a supplementary source of income.

Training Programme on Terrace Gardening

On campus training programme on Terrace Gardening was organized by ICAR-KVK, Dharwad on 24.09.2025 for the Self Help Group members of Sulaga village, Belgaum district. The objective of the programme was to create awareness among farm women about the importance of utilizing terrace space for cultivating vegetables and ornamental plants to ensure household nutritional security and income generation. Dr. Airadevi P. Angadi, Scientist (Horticulture) delivered lecture on the importance and techniques of terrace gardening, including selection of suitable containers, soil mixture preparation, crop selection, irrigation management, pest and disease control and nutrient management in terrace gardens. A hands-on training session on grafting techniques was



also conducted. The demonstration enabled the farm women to understand the procedure and importance of grafting in improving plant productivity and varietal performance. About 40 farm

women actively participated in the training programme and expressed keen interest in adopting terrace gardening practices in their households.

“Swachchotsav 2025”

ICAR-KVK, Dharwad as part of the “Swachhata Hi Seva” campaign, a “Swachchotsav” activity from 17.09.2025 to 02.10.2025 was successfully conducted to promote awareness about cleanliness and sanitation. The event included a range of activities such as taken swachhta pledge, Ek ped maa ke nam-tree plantation at KVK premises, cleanliness drives-office, KVK farm fields, nursery unit, honey bee unit, azolla unit, store room, vermi-compost unit, seed godown, formation of swachhta human chain for creating awareness, swachhata shramdhan, engaged students in slogans and essay writing on Swachhata activity, awareness programmes, and interactive sessions emphasizing

the importance of personal hygiene, waste management, and maintaining clean surroundings under leadership of Dr. Vijayalaxmi I Mundinamani, SMS (Animal Science). Staff, students, farmers and local community members actively participated, demon-

strating their commitment to building a cleaner and healthier environment. The initiative not only reinforced the message of “Clean India, Green India” but also inspired individuals to adopt responsible sanitation practices in their daily lives.



Celebration of Poshan Abhiyan

As part of the Poshan Abhiyaan celebration, ICAR-KVK, Dharwad organized an Awareness and Training Programme on “Nutritional Foods for a Healthy Life” at Government School, Yettingudda on 10.09.2025. The programme aimed to create awareness among school children about the importance of consuming balanced and nutritious foods for maintaining good health and overall well-being. During the programme, Smt. Vidya V. Sangannavar, SMS (Home Science) delivered lecture on the importance of balanced



diets, locally available nutritious foods and the role of fruits, vegetables and millets in daily meals. The students were educated on the nutritional value of traditional foods, healthy eating habits and the need to avoid junk and

processed foods. Around 50 students participated in the event and gained valuable knowledge on nutritional food habits and the importance of a balanced diet in leading a healthy and active life.



KVK ERNAKULAM



Turning waste to wealth under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: KVK Ernakulam promotes banana farm waste composting

As part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, ICAR-KVK, Ernakulam has initiated a sustainable programme to convert banana farm waste into organic manure, promoting clean farming practices and improving soil health. A field trial was conducted from 2nd to 8th September 2025 at a farmer's field to demonstrate this eco-friendly and cost-effective approach to on-farm waste management. The trial focused on the effective utilization of shredded banana pseudostems and leaves, which were treated with three different microbial consortia—Eksel Decomposer developed by the Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal; Bio-mineralizer from the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU);

and Inoculum developed by the Kerala Agricultural University (KAU). These materials were composted in separate bags to evaluate the efficiency of each microbial formulation in converting the residues into nutrient-rich compost.

The objective was not only to manage banana farm waste but also to produce high-quality organic manure that can be branded and marketed, providing an added source of income to farmers. The KVK also demon-

strated the use of a tractor-operated shredder to mechanize the shredding process, making it easier to incorporate the shredded residues back into the field for in situ microbial composting.

It is expected that within 60 to 75 days, the treated banana waste will be fully decomposed into stable compost with enhanced nutrient content, suitable for direct application in agricultural fields. This approach offers a practical solution to the problem of on-farm residue disposal while simultaneously supporting circular agriculture by enriching the soil's organic carbon and reducing the dependence on chemical fertilizers. KVK Ernakulam aims to popularize this eco-friendly, low-cost technology among banana growers across the region, integrating waste management with improved soil fertility. This initiative supports the broader goals of sustainable agriculture, soil rejuvenation, and clean farm practices under the national framework of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.



Entrepreneurship development programme on cut Pineapple production – The ODOP crop of Ernakulam

An Entrepreneurship development programme (EDP) on cut pineapple production was organized by KVK Ernakulam at Vazhakulam. The programme provided practical training on hygienic cutting, scientific packaging, and cold-chain-supported marketing of ready-to-eat pineapple.

Vazhakulam, popularly known as the *Pineapple City of Kerala* is contributing more than 60% of Kerala's pineapple production. The Vazhakulam Pineapple Market, Asia's largest, handles nearly 100 truckloads of fruit daily. With its Geographical Indication status, Vazhakulam pineapple is valued



for its unique aroma, sweetness, and low acidity.

Although consumers recognize its health benefits, many hesitate to buy whole pineapple due to the difficulty of peeling and the challenge of disposing of peels and leaves, which make up nearly half of the fruit. At the same time, consumer demand is steadily rising for ready-to-eat products, which are convenient,

hygienic, and instantly usable.

Against this backdrop, KVK's initiative seeks to build a reliable entrepreneurial value chain for cut pineapple, from farms and processed using first-grade fruit. The programme aims to create local farmer-entrepreneurs capable of producing and marketing branded, quality-assured cut pineapple in various pack sizes, targeting households, juice stalls, fruit shops, restaurants, supermarkets, and catering units. Refrigeration and appropriate packaging will also allow the product to be stored for different durations to meet diverse needs. The programme was led by Shri. Thirumoorthy P., Subject Matter Specialist (Home Science).

Empowering Punellu FPO: KVK sets up mini rice mill and provides technical guidance

KVK Ernakulam has successfully established a mini rice mill for Punellu Farmers Producer Company Ltd. (FPO), Thirumarady, to enhance local rice processing, improve milling efficiency, and promote value addition for locally produced rice. This marks the second instance of KVK providing hands-on support to an FPO through mini rice mill establishment, the first being for Periyar-valley Spices FPO, Kothamanga-



lam, reflecting KVK's continued efforts to strengthen farmer producer organizations and community-based agri-enterprises.

As part of the initiative, KVK conducted a technical demonstration and guidance session on

operating the mini rice mill. Recommendations were provided to optimize paddy feeding, regulate the sheller, and introduce a paddy separator and rice grader to minimize un-hulled grains and improve rice quality.

Technical guidance was also given on grain moisture monitoring using digital moisture meters, vacuum packaging for better storage, and maintaining optimal airflow during milling. Additionally, a mechanized turning device will be incorporated in the solar tunnel drier to ensure uniform drying of paddy, eliminating the need for manual entry into the hot tunnel and improving worker safety. Best practices for scientific parboiling and drying were also suggested to maintain rice quality.

The mini rice mill is expected to enhance the FPO's capacity



to process high-quality rice, improve product marketability, and serve as a model for similar initiatives in the district. Through this intervention, KVK Ernaku-

lam continues to empower local communities with technological support, capacity building, and practical solutions for sustainable agri-enterprises.

KVK Ernakulam participates in diagnostic field visit on Nutmeg dieback

KVK Ernakulam participated in a diagnostic field visit to nutmeg orchards affected by dieback in Angamaly Block on 26th September 2025. The visit, conducted in collaboration with experts from IISR and KAU, surveyed six orchards at different growth stages to assess the extent of leaf fall, nut drop, and branch dieback. Observations indicated that dieback caused by *Lasiodiplodia theobromae* was widespread, with symptoms including extensive branch dieback, yellowing leaves, and weak growth, pointing to deficiencies in key nutrients. In some severely affected orchards, a combination of root rot, shoot borer infestation, and blight had even led to complete plant mortality.



During the visit, Shri Robin Bilam, Subject Matter Specialist (Soil Science) from KVK Ernakulam, contributed practical recommendations to help restore plant health and prevent further losses. These included pruning and destroying affected branches, applying preventive fungicides, correcting nutrient imbalances through soil-test-based nutrient schedules, supplementing key micronutrients, and incorporating organic manures to improve soil health. In severely affected fields, pathogen-suppressive measures such as Trichoderma-enriched compost were suggested.

Through this participatory diagnostic visit, KVK Ernakulam supported farmers in identifying the causes of nutmeg dieback and provided science-based recommendations to improve plant vigor, enhance productivity, and promote sustainable orchard management.

ICAR-KVK GADAG



Cooking competition to Farm Women

On the eve of Krishi Mela, 2025 at UAS, Dharwad, ICAR-K.H.Patil Krishi Vigyan Kendra conducted cooking without fire sweet and khara and Rangoli competition. The event was organised on 14th August, 2025 at Nagavi village of Gadag block. Many dishes were exhibited by farm women mainly

salads, biscuit, cake, juices, ghee, avalakki, sprouted salads, sandwiches, etc. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Bheemaraddi Devaraddi, Ex-President, Taluk Panchayat, Gadag, Shri Kasimsab Nadaf, President, Grama Panchayat, Nagavi and Smt. Suma S. Talawar, Vice-President, Grama Panchayat, Nagavi participated as Guest. Dr.Savithri Kyadagee, Faculty, MGRDPR University par-

ticipated as judge and evaluated the food items. The information on healthy foods for healthy life and the foods that can be avoided, organic nutri-garden, healthy oils were dealt in detail by Dr.Sudha V. Mankani, Senior Scientist and Head. More than 50 farmers, farm women and Anganwadi teacheres participated in the programme.

(Contributors: Dr. Sudha V. Mankani (Senior Scientist & Head))



District level awareness programme on PMFME scheme

Department of Agriculture, Gadag in association with District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Gadag and KAPPEC Ltd., Bangalore organized One-day District Level Awareness Programme on PMFME scheme to aspiring food entrepreneurs and farmers of the District. Dr. Durgesh, Additional Commissioner, Gadag in-





augurated the programme and advised entrepreneurs to explore the opportunities to set up need based agro processing units by making proper use of PMFME scheme which provides up to 50 % subsidy for existing enterprises as well as for new start-ups. He also insisted on adopting latest technologies by consulting KVK

and Department of Agriculture to enhance the efficiency of establishments.

Mr. C.R.Mundaragi, Deputy Secretary of Zilla Panchayat, Gadag addressed the gathering and expressed that entrepreneurs may concentrate on value addition of existing crop produce of Gadag District which could fetch better

price for farmers. Dr. Vinayaka H. Niranjan, SMS (Ag. Engineering) gave a talk on "Opportunities for Processing and Value Addition Enterprises in Gadag District" in which he has thrown light on crop specific technologies for primary and secondary processing of pulses, oilseeds and horticulture produce of the District and also highlighted the suitable marketing strategies to enhance product visibility of locally processed products in the market. Successful food entrepreneurs of the District shared their experience and provided feedback on benefits of PMFME scheme. Various value added products were also displayed by the entrepreneurs. Event was concluded with interaction session between farmers, entrepreneurs, industry experts, Department officials and KVK scientists.

(Contributors: Dr. Vinayaka H Niranjan(SMS, Ag. Engineering))

Celebration of Field Day on Sunflower under CFLD programme

Field day on Sunflower crop was conducted in the field of Shri Devappa Dharani under CFLD on Oilseeds (NMEO-OS) programme-2025-26 at Jantli-Shirur village of Mundaragi Block in Gadag District on 03-09-2025. Progressive farmer Shri Allasab Nadaf expressed his gratitude to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadag for providing timely technical guidance and need based agricultur-





al inputs. Shri N. H. Bhandi, SMS (Soil Science), spoke about soil nutrient management in oilseeds crops and suggested for incorporation of green manures in the soil to maintain good soil health. Dr. Chethan Babu R.T, SMS (Agronomy), shared information on improved varieties of Sunflower released by various Institutes across India and highlighted their unique characteristics. He emphasized on the adoption of integrated crop management practices for achieving higher

yields. Dr. Vinayaka H. Niranjana, SMS (Ag. Engineering) highlighted the importance of farm mechanization in addressing labour issues. He also suggested for establishing custom hiring centre of agricultural equipment at the village level to enable small and marginal farmers' to access farm machinery. Shri Basavareddy Ramenahalli, Agriculture Officer of Dambal hobli, briefed the gathering on various schemes and facilities available to farmers from the Department of Agriculture.

Dr. K. V. Patil, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Extension), welcomed the gathering and proposed vote of thanks. As a part of the programme, a field visit was arranged to the demonstration plots for the farmers. More than 80 farmers of Jantli-Shirur and Ramenahalli villages participated in the programme and interacted with the scientists.

(Contributors: Shri N.H. Bhandi (SMS, Soil Science), Dr. Chethan Babu R.T (SMS, Agronomy) and Dr. Vinayaka H Niranjana(SMS, Ag. Engineering))

KVK HASSAN

Celebration of National Nutrition Week-2025

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kandali, Hassan organized National Nutrition Week-2025 awareness campaign at Yagachi High School, Kandali, Hassan. Speaking to the high school children who participated in the school, Dr. Shivashankar M., a scientist at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, created awareness about the history and importance of celebration of National Nutrition Week. Further he highlighted the importance of nutrients in our daily diet and suggested the students to include cereal grains, pulses, greens, vegetables, tubers, fruits and milk in a balanced manner for maintaining the nutritional requirement of the body. He also said that the current malnutrition rate among

children and women is high and eating fruits and vegetables can reduce malnutrition. He also said that every year in the first week of September, National Nutrition Week awareness programs are organized in schools, Anganwadi centers and in collaboration with women's associations to provide information about nutrition awareness, food and health. Horticultural scientist of KVK, Dr.

Pallavi N., spoke and emphasized on the importance of fruits and vegetables in our daily diet is increasing and among these, the vital nutrients and minerals are important and play a very important role in the human nutrition. Continuing her speech, she explained the cultivation practices of leafy vegetables, vegetables and fruits. Shri. Jayakrishna, the headmaster of Yagachi School, along with colleagues and school children participated.

(Contributors: Dr. Shivashankar M, Scientist (Home Science) & Dr. Pallavi N, Scientist (Crop Physiology))



KVK HAVERI



Off campus training programme on Silage making

ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra, Haveri (Hanumanamatti) and BAIF, organized off campus training programme on Silage making on 10.09.2025 at Hiremanakatti village of Shiggoan taluk. Dr.

Mahesh Kadagi, Scientist (Animal Science) explained different aspect of silage including harvesting stage of the crop, different silo pits and bags used for silage making, chopping, silo filling techniques, qualities of good silage and also explained importance of silage during lean period. Dr. Santosha H. M Scientist

(Horticulture) spoke to the gathering about the incorporation of crop residues into animal fodder. He advised farmers to use the residues as livestock feed rather than incorporating them directly into the soil. Maize is the primary crop grown in the district, but many farmers choose to till the residues back into the soil instead of utilizing them as fodder. He suggested that farmers could make silage using the maize residues.

Shri. G. S. Hegade, District Programme Co-Ordinator, BAIF, briefed about different departmental programmes on fodder development and also explained importance of silage in dairy farming. Totally 40 farmers were participated in the programme.



KVK IDUKKI



Participation of ICAR-KVK Idukki in Farm School Programmes of ATMA, Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Idukki actively collaborated with the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, in implementing farmer-oriented capacity building programmes. Farm School is one of the innovative extension models under ATMA aimed at promoting farmer-to-farmer extension through practical, season-long training in farmers'

fields. KVK Idukki played a significant role in strengthening Farm School activities across different villages by providing technical expertise, resource persons, and field-level demonstrations. KVK Idukki provided techni-

cal backstopping support to ATMA Farm Schools, ensured dissemination of latest agricultural technologies and practices at grassroots level, promoted farmer-to-farmer learning and experiential training, supported





capacity building of farmer facilitators and ATMA functionaries, strengthened convergence and linkages between KVK and line departments for holistic agricultural development.

KVK Idukki covered Different Villages like Mannamkandam, Munnar, Anavilasam, Chinnakanal, Bisonvalley, Kunjithanny, Nedumkandam and Senapathy Covered. Technical sessions were taken by KVK scientists on crop management, integrated pest and nutrient management, natural farming, and value addition. On-field demonstrations and practical classes were organized for Farm School participants. In-

teraction and problem-solving sessions with farmers were also arranged. Capacity building of farmer facilitators through training on documentation, group dynamics, and farmer-led exten-



sion approaches, Dissemination of KVK publications, advisory services, and mobile-based agro-advisories were also there.

Due to this KVK Idukki Strengthened convergence between KVK and ATMA for effective extension delivery, Enhanced knowledge and skills of farmers in scientific agricultural practices, Empowered farmer facilitators to serve as local extension agents, Increased adoption of improved technologies in vegetables, spices, and livestock enterprises in participating villages, Facilitated horizontal spread of innovations through farmer-to-farmer learning.

Participation of ICAR-KVK Idukki in ATMA Farm School programmes has proved highly beneficial in bridging the research-extension-farmer interface. By serving as resource persons and providing field-level technical support, KVK scientists have contributed to empowering farmers, promoting sustainable practices, and strengthening decentralized agricultural extension in Idukki district.

KVK KALABURAGI I

Swachhata Hi Seva 2025: Community Engagement and Awareness Activities at Kalaburagi

Under the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) programme, a series of awareness and community-driven activities were conducted to promote the message of cleanliness and environmental stewardship. On 17th September 2025, a pledge-taking ceremony was organized at Mandara Pushpa Public School, Kalaburagi, followed

by the “Maa Ke Naam Ek Pedh” plantation drive in association with the 3rd-year students of the College of Agriculture, Kalaburagi. Further, on 27th September, essay writing and painting competitions were held at Mandara Pushpa Public School to encourage creative expression among students on themes related to cleanliness and environmental responsibility. Prizes were distributed to the school children by Dr. Raju G. Teggelli in recognition of their enthusiastic partici-

pation and creativity. As part of the SHS campaign, a symbolic human chain was organized on 30th September 2025 to promote the message of cleanliness and collective responsibility towards a cleaner and greener environment. The event aimed to spread awareness about the importance of hygiene, waste segregation, and maintaining cleanliness in our surroundings. The entire series of activities was coordinated by Dr. Sanmathi Naik A. T. S., who guided and motivated the participants to actively contribute to the goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission.



Regular mandate

As part of frontline demonstrations input distribution of Bhima Shakti onion seeds, a thrips-tolerant variety, was carried out on 11th September to sensitize farmers about the benefits of cultivating pest-resistant varieties for minimizing yield loss by Dr. Sanmathi Naik A T S, Scientist (Horticulture).



KVK KALABURAGI-II

Two days district level training to Krishi Mitra of Jewargi and Yadrami Taluka

On September 19th to 20th 2025, ICAR-KVK, Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadgi) in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Jewargi taluka organized two days district level training to Krishi mithra of Jewargi and Yadrami Taluka of Kalaburagi district. Mr. Mallikarjun Madankar warmly welcomed the esteemed guests and participants to the event. Mr. Basavaraj Madankar (BTM, Jeawargi taluka) provided a con-

cise overview of aims and importance of Krishi mithra training at farmer's level and it was marked by the ceremonial lighting up the lamp.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Vasudev Naik, (Senior Scientist and Head), provided insights into the LRI cards, importance, contents and their interpretation. Later, Dr. Chandrakant (Scientist, Soil Science) explained the LRI based nutrient based recommendations and estimating fertilizers/ combinations to meet adjusted nutrients. Dr. Mallappa (Scientist, Agronomy) briefly explained the LRI based crop selection and

their integrated management approaches. Dr. Gnyandev Bulla (Scientist, Seed science and Technology) suggested the post-harvest management practices during high rainfall conditions.

On second day, Dr. Mallikarjun Reddy (Assistant professor, Soil and water engineering) explained LRI and Hydrology outputs and accessing data from portal and Mr. Lingraj S (Data scientist, MWAAS UAS Dharwad) explained in detail about Varuna Mitra applications in micro watershed level agro-met advisories and their importance and dissemination process. Mr. Ravikiran Powar, (Agriculture officer, Jewargi RSK), Mr. Basavaraj (Agriculture officer, Nelogi RSK) and Mr. Syed Layaq Ali (LRI Co-ordinator) were present the occasion.



CDP on improved production technologies in Chickpea under seed village programme

On September 26th, 2025, ICAR-KVK, Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadgi) in collaboration with Seed unit UAS Raichur organized an off campus capacity-building training cum awareness camp to farmers of Yaragola vilage, Chittapur taluka, as part of the seed village initiatives programme of seed unit, UAS Raichur. The session focused on addressing major activities to be carried out under seed village programme which was addressed by Dr. Umesh Hiremath (Assistant professor, seed unit UAS Raichur). Dr. Gnyandev Bulla (Scientist, Seed science and technology), presented a talk on enhanced production techniques for pulse crops such as Redgram and Chickpea cultivation. Dr. Chandrakant (Scientist, Soil Science) provided insights into integrated nutrient management in Pulse crops like Redgram and Chickpea. Later, Chickpea seeds (Variety-BGD-111-1, Source-UAS Raichur) were distributed to beneficiary farmers under seed village scheme. Ap-



proximately 65 farmers participated in this off-campus capacity-building program, gaining valuable knowledge and inputs to enhance their agricultural practices.



KVK KANNUR

Training programme for Community Resource Persons (CRPs) in Natural Farming and Various off campus training programme organized by KVK, Kannur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Kannur organized five day Training programme for Community Resource Persons (CRPs) in Natural Farming from September 25 to September 30, 2025.

The program was inaugurated by Mr. Surendran, Project Director ATMA and Mrs, Tulasi, DDA, Kannur. The session focused on concepts and principles of natural farming and soil fertility management in natural farming was handled by resource persons Dr. Jayaraj P(Professor) and Miss. Greena PG, Assistant Professor, KVK, Kannur.

The second day session were discussed about roles and responsibility of CRPs, Cropping systems and scope of integration livestock components in natural farming covered by Dr. Ma-



reeswaran P, Dr.Saniga N.S and Dr.Asma Idrees.

The third day session highly focused on value addition and food nutrition in natural farming handled by Dr.Suruthi P and visited nearest natural farming practiced farmer Mr. Haridasan (FMT) field at Kutiyatoor.

The fourth day session were discussed about biodiversity and Agro forestry in natural farming and handled by resource person Dr. T. Vanaja ADR, RARS, Pillicode and hands on training on the preparation of key bio-in-

puts trained by Experts Dr. Nisha Lakshmi, AP, RARS, Pillicode

The final day of the training programme presentation by participants (CRPs) were detailed discussion about the real problems and practical issues encountered during their field visit and perspective in natural farming discussion included an exchange of views and future outlooks regarding natural farming practices and collected post feedback from the CRPs regarding the training programme.

This comprehensive programme





was designed to equip CRPs with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills for promoting and implementing natural farming practices in their communities. The day concluded with the Valedictory function and Certificate distribution along with trainee memento kits seed, Saplings and Bio-inputs.

The certificates were distributed by the following dignitaries Mr. Surendran, PDA, ATMA, Mrs. Sussha B, ADA and Dr. Meera Manjusha A.V, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Kannur.

The programme officially ended with the Vote of Thanks, Delivered by Dr. Suruthi P, Assistant Professor, KVK, Kannur.

The various off campus training programmes were organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kannur

The open precision farming for

vegetable crops on 18.09.2025 handled by KVK Scientists Dr. Saniga N.S and Miss. Greena PG, 30 farmers were attended at Mokeri

The off campus training organized by ATMA and Edakkad Krishi Bavan(Capacity building program) on 20.09.2025 regard value addition of mushroom trained by experts from KVK, Kannur Dr. Manju KP and Dr. Shruthi P

Off campus training regard Scientific cultivation of banana on 23.09.2025 for 25 farmers at Ayancheri, Krishibhavan, Vada-kara. The session covered by Dr. Saniga N.S

The off campus training on fruits and vegetable value addition at Azheekodekrishibavan on 24.09.2025, 20 farmers were attended the session trained by Dr.Suruthi P, Assistant Professor,

KVK, Kannur

The off campus training on value addition of Banana atMokeri on 25.09.2025, 25 farmers were attended the session trained by Dr. Suruthi P, Assistant Professor, KVK, Kannur

The off campus training on fruits and vegetable value addition at Panoorkrishibavan on 26.09.2025, 20 farmers were attended the session trained by Dr. Suruthi P, Assistant Professor, KVK, Kannur

The off campus training on Scientific cultivation of coconut, Trichoderma enriched cow during at Kolachery on 27.09.2025. the 40 framers were actively participated and interact with trainer regard scientific cultivation, trained by resource person Dr. Saniga N.S, Assistant Professor, KVK, Kannur

KVK KASARAGOD



Natural Farming Training for CRPs/Krishi Sakhis Organized at KVK Kasaragod

A five-day training programme on Natural Farming for Community Resource Persons (CRPs) and Krishi Sakhis of Kasaragod district was held from September 25 to 30, 2025. The programme was jointly organized by ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kasaragod, in collaboration with SAMETI, Kerala, and the Department of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare, Government of Kerala. A total of ten selected participants—two each from the five blocks of Kasaragod, Kanhangad, Parappa, Karadka, and Manjeshwar—attended the training. The programme provided a comprehensive orientation on the concepts and principles of

Natural Farming, along with practical exposure visits and hands-on demonstrations of bio-formulations. The sessions aimed to strengthen participants’ capacity to promote eco-friendly, low-input farming systems at the grassroots level. The training concluded with a feedback and experience-sharing session where participants reflected on

their learnings. Delivering the valedictory address, Dr. K. B. Hebbar, Hon. Director, ICAR–CP-CRI, Kasaragod, emphasized that Soil Health Management and Biodiversity Enhancement must remain the core focus of Natural Farming. He also encouraged participants to adopt resource recycling and biomass-based nutrient management practices to restore soil vitality. Participants had the opportunity to interact with Heads of Divisions and Principal Scientists of ICAR–CP-CRI, who shared their insights on sustainable farming practices. Technical sessions were handled by experts from ICAR–CPCRI and ICAR–KVK Kasaragod, including Dr. Jayasekhar S, Dr. Prathibha P. S., Dr. Surekha, Dr. Saritha Hegde, Dr. Benjamin Mathew, Smt. Jayashree M. P., and Mr. Dinesh Kumar Yadav. They were joined by external experts Mrs. Suma D. L., Deputy Director (NWD RPA), and Shri Shivaprasad, Farmer Master Trainer, who enriched the programme with field-level perspectives.





KVK Kasaragod Observes “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” at Central University of Kerala

As part of the Swachhta Hi Seva 2025 Campaign, ICAR-KVK Kasaragod organized the programme “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” at the Botanical Garden of the Central University of Kerala (CUK), Kasaragod, on September 25, 2025. KVK contributed 10 saplings of tree species to the Botanical Garden as part of the initiative. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Jayaprakash R, Hon. Registrar, CUK, who planted a guava sapling to mark the occasion. Other dignitaries present included Prof. K. Arunkumar, Director of the Botanical Garden and Head, Department of Plant Sciences; Dr. Jasmine Shah, Joint Director, Botanical Garden; Dr. Anbazhagi S, NSS Programme Coordinator and Nodal Officer, Swachhta Campaign, CUK; Dr. Geetha C. A., NSS Programme Officer; and Dr. Rajeev A. R., CUK. They, along with faculty and stu-

dents, participated in planting fruit and flowering trees. Planting material of Vetiver was also provided for soil conservation

along contour lines. As part of the event, two women labourers of the Botanical Garden were honored with ICAR-CPCRI value-added product kits in recognition of their contribution. Nearly 100 students formed a human chain, symbolizing their support for the Swachhta Hi Seva 2025 campaign.

Dr. Benjamin Mathew, Dr. Ramavath Pandu, Smt. Jayashree M. P., and Dr. Nilofar Illiaskutty, Subject Matter Specialists from KVK Kasaragod, addressed the gathering and highlighted various Swachhta Hi Seva activities undertaken by KVK across the district. The programme received wide coverage in local mass media.





Training Conducted on Good Agricultural Practices in Vegetable Cultivation

A one-day specialized training programme on “Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Vegetable Cultivation” for farmers from Kannur district, coordinated by ATMA Kannur, was successfully organized at ICAR-KVK, Kasaragod. The training was held on September 24, 2025, at the Seminar

Hall of KVK Kasaragod with the objective of imparting comprehensive knowledge on safe and sustainable vegetable farming techniques. A total of 45 progressive farmers from the Panoor block of Kannur district actively participated in the technical sessions followed by a field visit. Dr. Benjamin Mathew, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture), ICAR-KVK Kasaragod, served as the resource person, covering key topics such as soil health man-

agement, judicious use of organic inputs, and integrated pest management (IPM) strategies. An interactive session was held at the end, during which farmers’ queries were addressed and clarified. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Anju M, Agriculture Officer, Chokli, Kannur, along with Ms. Varsha P and Ms. Dijina P, Technology Managers, ATMA Panoor Block, Kannur district.

KVK KODAGU



Products, shared her inspiring journey of setting up a business and becoming self-reliant. Mrs. Chandini, District Manager, NRLM, Kodagu Zilla Panchayath, conveyed her best wishes for the success of the programme and emphasized the need for full attendance and active involvement in the learning modules. The programme was presided over by Dr. Murulidhara, Head (In-Charge), KVK Gonikoppal, and facilitated by Mr. Prabhakar, SMS (Horticulture), KVK Gonikoppal. A total of 34 Krishi Sakhis actively participated in the training.

Six day training programme on Ecological Farming System and Agriculture Livelihood for Krishi Sakhi at KVK Kodagu

A six-day training programme on Ecological Farming Systems and Agricultural Livelihood for Krishi Sakhis of Virajpet and Ponnampet was organized from 15th to 20th September 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Gonikoppal. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Sridevi, Deputy Director, Coffee Board (South Coorg). In her inaugural address, she highlighted the importance of such capacity-building programmes and encouraged participants to make the best use of this opportunity to gain knowledge and effectively transfer it at the grassroots level for livelihood development. The Chief Guest, Smt. Shobha Rani, entrepreneur and founder of Sanjeevani Nidhi Homemade



KVK KOLAR



Off Campus capacity building programme on “Integrated management of key pests of mulberry for quality leaf harvest”

KVK Kolar, in collaboration with REC Madivala & Department of Sericulture, Bangarpet jointly



organised an off campus training programme on “Integrated management of key pests of mulberry for quality leaf harvest” on the event of Mera Resham Mera Abhiman at Kallikuppa village, Bangarpet taluk on 01.09.2025. The programme was inaugurated Sri Anjaneya Reddy, C.R, Deputy Director of Sericulture, ZP, Kolar. Dr. Parameshwar Naik., Scientist ‘C’ REC Madivala briefed about sucking pests of mulberry and their management, Dr Shashidhar KR Scientist (Sericulture) explained Eco-friendly management practices of broad mites and leaf roller in mulberry, Dr Anil Kumar S, Scientist (Soil Science) further highlighted on pests management through natural techniques under mulberry. The event witnessed the active participation of around 80 sericulture farmers, who benefitted from the training programme.

Capacity building programme on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Groundnut under the NMEO-OS scheme

ICAR-KVK Kolar, in collaboration with KSDA Bangarpet and KOF Bengaluru, organized a series of training programmes on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Groundnut under the NMEO-OS scheme across villages of Kysambahalli Hobli, KGF Taluk. At





Latitude: 13.023637
Longitude: 78.436734
Elevation: 788.73534.1m
Accuracy: 2.766 m
Time: 14:30
Note: raitha samrudhi training program @ KVK Kolar



Puganahalli village on 2.09.2025, the programme was attended by Agricultural Officer Smt. Meghamalla and 70 farmers. After the training, participants visited groundnut fields, discussed field-level issues, and received suggestions on appropriate Integrated Crop Management (ICM) practices. At Kadariganakuppe village, where 65 farmers participated, the training highlighted the importance of natural farming, including the preparation of Astras and Jeevamrutha. Similarly, at Gandhodahalli village, with the participation of 65 farmers, the programme emphasized integrated farming systems and concluded with a Kisan Ghosti to address farmers' problems. . The programme was coordinated by Dr. Anil Kumar S., Soil Scientist, ICAR-KVK Kolar.



Animal Health Camp and Training Program on "Disease Management in Animals" under the SCSP

ICAR-KVK Kolar organized an Animal Health Camp and Training Programme on "Disease Management in Animals" under the SCSP 2025-26 scheme at Sethapana-





halli village, Vemagal Hobli, Kolar taluk, on 10.09.2025. The programme witnessed the participation of around 60 farmers, who brought more than 100 animals including cows, calves, buffaloes, sheep, and goats for treatment and health care. The camp and training sessions were led by Dr. Prem Kumar and Dr. Vishwanath, Senior Veterinary Officers, who provided treatment and guidance on animal disease management. The event was successfully organised and coordinated by Dr. Shivanand V. Hongal, Senior Scientist and Head along with Scientists Dr. Anil Kumar S., Scientist (SS&AC) and Dr. Shashidhar, Scientist (Sericulture) from KVK Kolar.

District-level Workshop on “Raw Silk Quality and Silk Samgra II” on the event of Mera Resham Mera Abhiman

KVK Kolar, in collaboration with the Central Silk Technological Research Institute, Bengaluru, and the Department of Sericulture, Kolar, jointly organised a District-level Workshop on “Raw Silk Quality and Silk Samgra II” on the event of Mera Resham Mera Abhiman event at the KVK Seminar Hall on 11.09.2025. The programme was presided over by Dr. Shivanand V. Hongal, Head, KVK Kolar, and Dr. K.N. Mahesh,





Scientist 'D', STSC Sidlagatta, briefed about the objectives of the programme. The event was graced by distinguished chief guests including Sri Rafeeq Rehman, Deputy Director, DIC, Kolar, Sri Anjaneya Reddy, DDS, ZP, Kolar, Sri Nagaraj M., DDS, Government Cocoon Market, Kolar; and Sri Satish, Member, Central Silk Board, Bengaluru. The workshop witnessed the active participation of around 60 silk reelers, 30 bivoltine sericulture farmers, and 20 department extension functionaries, who benefitted from the deliberations.

Poshan Maah Abhiyan 2025

ICAR-KVK Kolar, in collaboration with the Department of Women and Child Development, District Health Department, District AYUSH Department, and Zilla Panchayat, organized the Poshan Maah Abhiyan 2025 on 12th September 2025. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Praveen P. Bagewadi, I.A.S., Hon'ble CEO, Zilla Panchayat, Kolar. As part of the celebrations, a Seemantha



ceremony for pregnant women and an Annaprashana programme for infants below one year were conducted, and the Poshan Abhiyaan was launched along with the release of leaflets for the gender minority community. Dr. Anil Kumar S., Scientist (SS&AC), ICAR-KVK Kolar, participated as the Chief Guest. The event witnessed the participa-

tion of around 400 Anganwadi workers and health officials and was graced by Shri Natesh R., Hon'ble Senior Civil Judge and Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Kolar, along with Deputy Directors of the Department of Women and Child Development, District Health Officers, District AYUSH Officers, supervisors, and staff members.



KVK Scientists and Agriculture Department officials joint field visit to empower farmers

On 16.09.2025, a joint field visit was conducted in Mulabagal Taluk with officials from the Depart-



ment of Agriculture and ATMA staff, during which the team inspected crop conditions in farmers' fields, interacted with them on seasonal challenges and best practices, and also visited PM-

FME beneficiaries to review their enterprises and progress under the scheme, thereby strengthening field-level monitoring and ensuring effective implementation of agricultural programmes.

Capacity building program for the Board of Directors and CEOs of 15 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) of Kolar district

KVK Kolar, in association with Sehgal Foundation, organized a comprehensive capacity building program for the Board of Directors and CEOs of 15 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) of Kolar district on 16.09.2025 at KVK, Kolar. The program aimed at strength-



ening institutional governance, enhancing managerial skills, and building entrepreneurial capacity of FPO leaders to function as strong farmer collectives. As part of the initiative, a lecture was delivered on emerging business opportunities for FPOs in Kolar, with emphasis on value chain

development, market linkages, branding, and diversification into agri-based enterprises. The session provided valuable insights on how FPOs can leverage local resources, government schemes, and partnerships for sustainable growth and improved farmer incomes.

Training of Trainers (ToT) programme under the NMEO-OS scheme

ICAR-KVK Kolar, in collaboration with KSDA Kolar and KOF Bengaluru, organized a Training of Trainers (ToT) programme under the NMEO-OS scheme from 15th to 17th September 2025 at KVK, Kolar. The programme was presided over by Dr. Shivanand V. Hongal, Senior Scientist and Head,



ICAR-KVK Kolar, with Smt. Suma, Joint Director of Agriculture, Smt. Manjula, and Smt. Prathiba as the Chief Guests. The event was attended by Smt. Lakshmi, DPD-ATMA, along with Agricultural Officers (AOs), ATMs, BTMs, Surveyors, KOF staff, and selected FFS farmers, totaling 30 par-

ticipants. Technical sessions were delivered by Dr. Anil Kumar S., Scientist(SS&AC), Dr. Priyadharshini, Dr. Aswath Narayan Reddy, Mr. Akshay, and Smt. Swathi on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in groundnut, NMEO-OS scheme guidelines, use of Krishi Mapper, and K-Kissan.

District level workshops on Importance of Vermicomposting, its application and management in Organic farming

KVK Kolar and DHAN Foundation, Kolar jointly organised District level workshops on Importance of Vermicomposting, its application and management in Organic farming at KVK Seminar hall on 20.09.2025. During the programme Sri M Shankaraiah, Regional Coordinator, DHAN Foundation inaugurated the programme. Sri M Ramesh, Taluk Coordinator DHAN Foundation briefed about the programme. Sri Nagaraja C.L. Progressive Organic farmer from Chitnahalli, Kolar



shared his experience in Vermicompost production, application and marketing. Dr Shashidhar

K.R., Scientist (Sericulture) explained about Crop residue management in Agriculture and allied sectors, Dr Manjunatha Reddy T.B., Scientist (Plant Protection) briefed on Usage of bioagents in plant diseases management and safe use of pesticides. Around 80 organic farmers from Kolar district actively participated in the programme.

KVK KOLLAM

KAU Technology Day 2025

The KAU Technology Day 2025 was celebrated on Tuesday, 26th August 2025 (1201 Chingam 10, Atham) across all 11 blocks of Kollam district with the objective of popularising KAU technologies through BLAKCs. The district-level programme was organised at Chavara Block and inaugurated by Dr. Sujith Vijayan Pillai, MLA, Chavara, at the NeendakaraKrishibhavan Training Hall. The key technological interven-

tion of the event was the promotion of entomopathogenic fungus *Metarhizium* and opportunistic fungus *Trichoderma* for the management of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle and Coconut Bud Rot. The programme commenced at 11.00 am with a welcome address by Smt. Sonal Salim (Assistant Director of Agriculture) and was presided over by Shri. K. Rajeevan, President, NeendakaraGrama Panchayath. In his inaugural address, Dr. Sujith Vijayan Pillai, MLA, Chavara, commended the efforts of KVK scien-

tists, staff, and Krishi Bhavan officials for their significant role in disseminating improved technologies. Dr.Lekha M, Nodal Officer, BLAKC, Chavara, elaborated on the technology for the effective management of coconut pests and diseases, highlighting their





specific relevance to Chavara block based on farmer feedback and field experiences. She also created awareness about other KAU technologies. Dr. Parvathy S, who was in charge

of the Chathannoor block, conducted a seminar on 'Innovative Fodder Cultivation for a Sustainable Dairy Sector' and distributed fodder slips to farmers as an initiative to encourage the farm-

er participation. The programme at Anchal block was coordinated by Dr. Saroj Kumar V, who elaborated the effective use of Tricho cakes in managing the Coconut bud rot. Smt. Neeraja C. R, The Nodal Officer of Vettikkavala



block, illustrated the significance of popularising the fodder grass variety 'Susthira' among dairy farmers of Vettikkavala block. A

session on Biointensive IPM in banana in AEU-9 was organised by Dr. Manu C. R, Nodal Officer, Kottarakkara block. Detailed aware-

ness on the application of Sampoorna Micronutrient in yardlong bean was imparted by Dr. Bindu B at Pathanapuram block and Dr. Renjan B at Chittumalablock. Dr. Poornima Yadav P I, conducted a class on Management of secondary and micronutrient deficiencies in Banana using Ayar at Oachira block. The Nodal Officer of Chadayamangalam block, Dr. Anu Rajan S, shared the technology on Application of bioinoculants for integrated disease management in banana cultivation - specifically the use of PGPR Mix I, Trichoderma asperellum, Pseudomonas and PGPR mix II. Smt. Anisa N. A, Nodal Officer of Sasthamkotta block, addressed the micro nutrient deficiency in banana and advised the effective management to tackle the problem. Dr. Lekshmi S. L. enlightened the farmers of Eravipuram Block by explaining the Technologies for enhancing productivity of vegetables.

KVK KOPPAL (GANGAVATHI)



ICAR-KVK Koppal organised field day on “Demonstration of high yielding Foxtail millet variety HN-46 and value addition”

ICAR-KVK Koppal organised field day on “Demonstration of high yielding Foxtail millet variety HN-46 and value addition” at Kudurimoti village, Koppal district. The programme was inaugurated by Raghavendra Yaligar, Senior scientist and Head addressed the programme, farmers of Koppal need to expand the area of fox-tail millet and also involvement in processing and value-addition of millet’s gaining importance because of diabetic patients are preferring millet’s food. It is a climate-resilient crop well-suited to drought and poor soil, a nutrient-rich food source

high in protein, fiber and micro-nutrients, an option for resource-constrained farmers due to its low input requirements. This increase is also driven by government and research efforts to promote sustainable agriculture and food security, particularly in the face of climate change. Dr. Kavitha Ullikashi, Home Scientist, addressed the programme regarding importance of millet’s

and value addition and Fox-tail millet is important for its rich nutrient profile, including protein, fiber, iron and magnesium, which support gut health, heart health, and bone density. Its low glycemic index makes it beneficial for blood sugar management and diabetes, while its high fiber content aids in weight management. More than 40 farmers are participated in the programme.





ICAR-KVK Koppal organised off campus training programme on “Integrated crop management in papaya”

ICAR-KVK Koppal organised off campus training programme on “Integrated crop management in papaya” the programme was arranged in farmer’s field at Kanakagiri, Koppal district. Dr. Jyothi R explained the integrated crop management practices in papaya, Key practices include using pest-resistant varieties and virus-free seedlings, planting border crops like maize, implementing crop rotation, managing weeds through deep ploughing, and monitoring pest populations using traps and scouting. Nutrient management involves applying balanced fertilizers with organic manures and enrichment of FYM with Trichoderma and Pseudomonas beneficial



microorganisms based on soil test results. Revathi R M scientist (Plant Pathology) gave the lecture on integrated disease and pest management in papaya. Management of papaya leafcurl virus and Papaya Ring spot virus is very important while selecting seedlings. Precautionary step to take during planting to avoid occurrence of viral diseases. Use certified disease-free seedlings

from nurseries, and consider raising them under insect-proof nets to prevent vector transmission of viruses. Ensure proper drainage in the papaya garden, as waterlogged areas are unsuitable for planting. Importance green manuring crop for soil health management were explained, more than 40 papaya growing farmers were actively participated in the programme.

KVK KOZHIKODE



Skilling up youth

KVK Kozhikode conducted a series of skill development programmes for youth during the month of September 2025. These included a three days capacity building programme on "Repair, maintenance and usage of farm machineries" from 22nd to 24th September 2025. In this programme twelve SC women from Kozhikode participated and they gained hands on experience to operate, maintain and repair

equipments such as brush cutter, power tiller and garden tiller. The programme was organised with resource persons from Kerala Agricultural University and was coordinated by Mr. Jayakumar C. K., Computer programmer of KVK as part of IISR - SCSP.

Three BSc Agriculture students from College of Agriculture sciences, Teerthanker Mahaveer University Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh underwent their one month long Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) pro-

gramme from 5th August to 5th September 2025, in which the students gained confidence by exposure to institutes (IISR, CWRDM, DASD and KAU- Knowledge center of Kozhikode), Progressive farmers and developing models on water management and acquired on-farm problem solving abilities in Agriculture and allied sectors. The programme was coordinated by Dr. P. Ratha Krishnan, Principal Scientist and Head KVK.

Dr. Pradeep B, SMS Fisheries of



KVK organized one day capacity building programme on Ornamental fish culture on 16th September 2025 for eleven ST individuals under the TSP programme of ICAR- CMFRI, Kozhikode. These participants were shown breeding of different ornamental fishes, live feed culture, packing fishes, aquatic plants propagation, water quality analysis and disease management in freshwater ornamental fishes.



Krishi Bhavan Atholi sponsored capacity building programme on Bush pepper propagation for 22 individuals was conducted by Dr. P.S. Manoj, SMS Horticulture on 9th September 2025. In another programme on 10th September 2025, 101 students and 3 teachers from St. Joseph's higher secondary school, Chembonoda acquired skill in basic plant propagation techniques. Likewise, two inter district farmers training on Bush pepper and vegetable cultivation were organized for the farmers from Kannur by Dr P.S. Manoj and dr K.K. Aiswarya , SMS of this Kendra.

KVK LAKSHADWEEP



Promotion of Marigold in Lakshadweep: One-Day Training cum Workshop at Kavaratti

A one-day training-cum-workshop on the “Promotion of Marigold in Lakshadweep Islands” was successfully organized on 15 September 2025 at Kavaratti. The programme was jointly conducted by KVK-Lakshadweep, ICAR-CMFRI and ICAR-IIHR, Bangalore. The workshop aimed to promote marigold cultivation in the islands by highlighting its multiple uses-ranging from aesthetic beauty in home gardens and festive decorations to its role in organic pest control and its importance in cultural and religious practices. The programme began with an introductory session by Dr. Abhishek Das, SMS (Soil Science), KVK-Lakshadweep, who emphasized the relevance and potential of marigold cultivation in the Lakshadweep context. This was followed by a



detailed presentation from Dr. Ansul, SMS (Vegetable Science), who provided insights into marigold cultivation practices, along with its wide-ranging applications and benefits. Participants were also engaged in practical field demonstrations led by the KVK team, showcasing technique for preparation of seedbed. The hands-on training session that



followed received an enthusiastic response, with the 20 participants appreciating the opportunity to gain practical knowledge for possible implementation in their own fields.

The workshop concluded with a shared vision of promoting sustainable floriculture in Lakshadweep. The entire programme was coordinated by Dr. Ansul SMS (Vegetable Science), Dr. Abhishek Das, SMS (Soil Science) Dr. Raju C.A., SMS (Home Science), and Mrs. Shajala Banu P. M. (MTS), KVK-Lakshadweep. Prior to this training cum workshop, Dr. Abhishek Das of KVK visited ICAR-IIHR, Bangalore and has detailed discussion with Dr. Senthil Kumar, Principal Scientist and Head (I/C) of Social Science Division, ICAR-IIHR, Bangalore.

KVK Promotes Nutri-Gardens through Door-to-Door Input provision and extension advisory Services

In an effort to promote nutrition security and healthy living, KVK-Lakshadweep, ICAR-CMFRI launched a door-to-door campaign for the distribution of inputs and promotion of nutri-gardens. This initiative was held from 8-10, September 2025.

As part of the campaign, the KVK team Dr. Ansul, SMS (Vegetable Science), Dr. Abhishek Das SMS (Soil Sciences), Dr. M.U. Sindhu, SMS (Agri. Extension) and Mrs. Shajala Banu P.M. (MTS) worked on this initiative. Farmers were sensitized towards selection of short-duration and nutrient-rich vegetable crops. The team also visited existing nutri-gardens, interacted with families, and provided hands-on advice on



plant protection, water-saving irrigation practices, and organic pest management. Farmers responded with enthusiasm and expressed their appreciation for the initiative. The initiative was particularly welcomed by women farmers and homemakers, who saw the nutri-garden concept as a sustainable way to improve the dietary diversity of their families. The team also identified the needs of farmers towards sus-

taining the nutri-garden. The programme was coordinated by Dr. P. N. Ananth, Principal Scientist and Head, KVK-Lakshadweep. With the positive response received, KVK plans to expand the nutri-garden campaign. The effort reflects KVK's continued commitment to promoting sustainable practices that directly benefit both the health of farm families and the community at large.

KVK MALAPPURAM



Empowering Cluster Resource Persons for Natural Farming Interventions: NMNF Training, Malappuram

A five-day training programme under the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) was organized at KVK Malappuram from 25th to 30th September 2025 for the Cluster Resource Persons (CRPs) of Malappuram district under the leadership of Dr. Sreena K.S, Nodal officer, NMNF. Five clusters were identified from the district and two CRPs from each cluster, making a total of ten participants. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Priya G. Nair, Programme Coordinator, KVK Malappuram, in the presence of Department officials Mrs. Mini, DD(NWDPR) and Mrs. Letha K.V., Deputy PD ATMA. The training schedule was designed to strengthen the conceptual and

practical understanding of CRPs in natural farming. Sessions were handled by subject experts including Dr. Sreena K. S., Dr. Jasna V. K., and Dr. Smijisha, who deliberated on natural farming principles, roles and responsibilities of CRPs, importance and preparation of key bio-inputs, integration of livestock components, and field demonstrations of natural farming practices.

As part of the programme, participants were given hands-on training in the preparation of bio-inputs such as Jeevamrut, Beejamrut, Ghan Jeevamrut, Neemastra, Agniastra, and Dashparni, and were exposed to cattle management practices suitable for natural farming. A field visit was also arranged to practising natural farming fields and the Organic Farming Association of India (OFAI) centre for practical insights. On the concluding day, Dr. Vishakh N. U. led a session on



pest management under natural farming practices, followed by feedback, valedictory and distribution of inputs. A farmer master trainer also contributed by sharing field-level experiences and innovations. The programme has enhanced the knowledge and skills of CRPs and is expected to strengthen natural farming interventions across the identified clusters in Malappuram district.





Promoting Cleanliness and Sustainability: Campus and Community Engagement for Swachhata by KVK Malappuram

As part of the nationwide “Swachhata Hi Sewa” fortnightly observance, the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Malappuram organized a series of cleanliness and awareness programmes from 17th September to 2nd October 2025 under the coordination of Dr. Sreena K. S. and the guidance of Dr. Priya G. Nair, Programme Coordinator. The campaign commenced with the Swachhata pledge at KVK, followed by cleaning drives within the campus and extended to public places, tourist spots, and Ponnani beach. Awareness activities included a human chain, display of banners, and the distribution of biobins for waste management at GVHSS Thavanur. Additionally, waste segregation bins were distributed to the NSS Unit of KCAET Campus for installation across the campus, and vegetable seedlings were provided to schools to encourage kitchen gardening. A



special cleaning drive was organized at identified blackspots, emphasizing collective action for environmental sustainability. To engage students in promoting cleanliness, painting and poster-making competitions were arranged, while campus beautification initiatives, including wall painting of KVK premises, enhanced the aesthetic environ-

ment. The campaign also promoted the principles of “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” through collaborative activities with the NSS unit. The fortnight-long observance concluded on Gandhi Jayanti, reinforcing the message of community participation, responsible waste management, and the commitment to a cleaner and greener environment.

SCSP Training programme on value addition of banana

An SCSP training programme on banana value addition for farmers of Prappanghadi block was conducted in coordination with ATMA, Malappuram on 25-26 September 2025. The programme was done under the leadership of Dr. Lilia Baby, Assistant Professor (Community Science), KVK Malappuram, and sessions were handled by Dr. Pushpa Latha, Retd. Prof, Dept. of Post harvest Technology, Kerala Agricultural University. The training aimed to promote income generation among participants by teaching practical methods for preparing various banana-based products such as banana jelly, jam,



cookies, and halwa. Dr. Pushpa Latha demonstrated step-by-step preparation techniques, emphasizing hygiene, quality control, and simple packaging methods suitable for small-scale enterprises. Participants actively engaged in hands-on sessions,

gaining confidence to produce and market value-added banana products locally. The programme received positive feedback for its practical relevance and was appreciated for encouraging entrepreneurship and skill development among rural participants.



Training programme on Scientific Cultivation of Rice

A training programme on Scientific Cultivation of Rice was organized on 27th September 2025 under the leadership of Dr. Sreena K. S., Assistant Professor (Agronomy), KVK Malappuram, and sessions were handled by Dr. P. S. John, Retd. Prof., Dept. of Agronomy, Kerala Agricultural University. The training focused on improving the knowledge and skills of farmers in adopting modern and sustainable rice cultivation practices. Dr. P. S. John delivered detailed sessions covering all aspects of rice farming, including seed selection, nursery management, planting techniques, nutrient management, irrigation scheduling, and weed control. He also provided practi-



cal insights into pest and disease identification, integrated pest management (IPM) strategies, and the use of resistant varieties suited to local conditions. Participants were educated on the importance of quality seeds, balanced fertilizer application, and eco-friendly management practices for enhancing yield and prof-

itability. The interactive sessions encouraged farmer participation, with field-based discussions and experience sharing. The programme was well-received, as it helped farmers gain a comprehensive understanding of scientific rice cultivation and adopt improved practices for sustainable productivity.



KVK MANDYA



Celebration of National Nutrition Month- Poshan mahe

Under the joint auspices of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.C. Farm, Mandya and Comprehensive Child Development Scheme, Dudda, Mandya District, has organized "Celebration of National Nutrition Month" on 18.09.2025. The programme was inaugurated by Special Officer, Dr. Harini Kumar, K. M., University of Agricultur-

al Sciences, Mandya. During his inaugural speech, praised the Anganwadi workers for their social services as mothers, their valuable services and they have the responsibility to create an awareness among the public about food and health. Shri Kumaraswamy M. K. was the chief guest in the function. He emphasized on the importance of Celebration of National Nutrition Month. Dr. Akarsha, Medical Officer, V.C. Farm, Mandya addressed

the house and gave information about food, health and effects in his chief guest remarks. The programme was presided over by Dr. Kamalabai Koodagi, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, V.C. Farm, Mandya highlighted and provided an information about food, nutrition and hygiene needs.

On the occasion poshan maa, an exhibition was organized on traditional nutri rich recipes made out of low cost locally available ingredients. Myplate concept was made aware to all the participants. The Programme Officer Smt. Asha, P.S., Supervisors Smt. Champa, Smt. Anusuya, Smt. Vasantha and Nutrition Coordinator Smt. Chetana, Women and Child Development Department, Mandya, have participated. Dr. Basavalingaiah, Scientist (Agronomy), K.V.K., V.C. Farm, Mandya welcomed the dignitaries and vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Divya,B., Horticulture Scientist. Dr. Mahesh, H.M., Senior Technical Officer, hosted the programme. Totally 65 Anganwadi workers participated and benefited from the programme.



KVK MYSURU

Celebration of World Coconut Day

World Coconut Day was observed at ICAR JSS Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttur, themed "Let's spread the power of coconut to the world,"

in partnership with Agricultural Technologists Mysore Unit, ICAR-National Agricultural Pest Resource Bureau, Bangalore, and Shobhitha Nanjegowda Farm, Kennalu on September 2, 2025. A program focusing on advanced

farming techniques for coconut cultivation and a farmer-scientist engagement initiative was conducted. The chief guests were retired Assistant Director of Agriculture, Dr. K.R. Ravindra, and Dr. V. Gundappa, Senior Scientists at NBAIR, Bangalore. The program was presided by Dr. B.N. Gnanesh, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR JSSKVK, Mysuru, he mentioned that in recent times, the number of farmers cultivating coconut crops has increased, but the problem of unavailability of quality seedlings is arising. In this regard, farmers were provided information about selection and growth of good seedlings and how we can comprehensively manage the plantation by utilizing the agricultural waste available in the coconut plantation. Dr. G.M. Vinay, SMS (Horticulture) lead the programme along with KVK staff members. More than 92 farmers and farmwomen attended the programme.



Soppu Mela (Greenleafy vegetables Mela)

A two-day Soppu Mela (Green leafy vegetables Mela) focused on enhancing the awareness of green leafy vegetables as healthy food while rekindling the rich diversity of traditional leafy vegetables took place at Nanjarajabaddur choultry, Mysuru on September 6-7, 2025, in partnership with Sahaja Seeds, Mysuru and Hulikaadu Farmers Producer Company. Over 100 types



of leafy green vegetables were presented. The program featured a cooking contest focused on leafy greens. 36 participants presented variety of dishes made from greens. In the drawing con-

test 35 children participated and portrayed the world of greens through colours. Over 2000 people from rural and urban areas participated in the mela. The programme was inaugurated by

Shri. M. Shivakumar, Azim Premji Foundation, Sri. Krishna Prasad, Sahaja seeds, Dr. B.N. Gnanesh, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR JSSKVK, Mysuru along with other dignitaries.

Project Advisory Committee meeting on Pulses Seed Hub Project

The 11th meeting of the Pulse Seed Hub Project Advisory Committee(PAC) took place at ICAR JSS Krishi Vigyan Kendra Suttur, Nanjangud Taluk, Mysuru, on 08.09.2025 at 11 AM, chaired by the Executive Secretary of JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru. Fourteen members took part in the meeting, gave suggestions for the enhancement of the project. Dr. B.N. Gnanesh, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR JSSKVK, Mysuru



welcomed the members of the committee and briefed about the project and its activities. Smt. H.V. Divya, Subject Matter

Specialist (Seed Technology) presented the progress of the project for the year 2024-25.

Pulses training and seed treatment demonstration

A seed treatment demonstration and training programme was organized on cowpea variety KBC 9 and green gram variety KKM3 in partnership with ITC and the Outreach Institute, Department of Agriculture & Department of Horticulture in Karanakuppe village, Hunsur taluk on 10.09.2025. Mrs. H.V. Divya emphasized the importance of seed treatment, pre-planting spraying of nursery beds, and incorporating potash, zinc, and boron with nitrogen and phosphorus at the early stage for optimal rice yield. She mentioned that organic fertilizers assist in stabilizing nitrogen and phosphorus, thereby reducing diseases. Panchayat President Papanna, Agriculture Department Officer Jayakumar, Horticulture Officer Ravi, Outreach Program Officer



Vishwajith, KVK Seedhub project technical officer Akshay, ATMA Officer Shashi kumar were in the programme. More than 65 farmers and female farmers took part in the program.

Value addition training programme

ICAR JSS KVK, Suttur Food Processing Unit, a demonstration on preparation of different value-added food items like ragi cookies, ragi mixture, ragi hap-

pal, and assorted dishes was conducted on 10.09.2025 in collaboration with M/s Chandramouleshwar Women Producers Association from Madapura H. D. Kote Taluk as part of the TSP programme. Dr. Deepak, Subject Matter Specialist (Home

Science) provided technical information to women farmers and self-help group members on the processing and value addition of a range of agricultural and horticultural crops. To create contemporary products like cookies, bread, buns, pasta, noodles, and assorted bakery items, alongside traditional foods like ragi happal, cereal malt, ragi lumps, ragi mixture, and sendige. He explained in detail on different programs offered by central and state administrations. Establishment of small food businesses under the Central Government's Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME). More than 38 farmwomen were participated in the programme.



National Nutrition Mission 2025 programme

In line with the National Nutrition Mission-2025, a seminar titled "Nutritious and Balanced

Food and Supplementary Food for Children" was held at Kuppavalli Anganwadi Center in partnership with ITC Pratham Sanshan, Nanjangud on 12.09.2025. Dr. Deepak, Subject Matter Spe-

cialist (Home Science) asserted that Rashtriya Poshan Mission is observed every year in India from September 1st to September 30th as part of the Government of India's Poshan Abhiyan initiative. The campaign aims to eliminate malnutrition, particularly in the general population, by promoting awareness of "Eat Right for a Better Life". In this way, the Krishi Vigyan Kendra is conducting multiple programs and offering technical support to schools and Anganwadi centers in numerous villages to develop nutritious home gardens and promote adherence to healthy diets. Over 30 women and children took part in the program.



Collaborative value addition training programme

In collaboration with JSS Jana Shikshan Sansthan, Mysuru, launched the two-month value addition vocational skills training program on 15.09.2025 in Someshwarapur village of Mysure taluk as part of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India. Dr. Deepak, Subject Matter Specialist (Home Science) stated that the vocational skills training focused on value addition for two months was highly beneficial for women farmers and self-help group members. He stated that



women ought to leverage this training to boost their earnings by creating and selling different value-added food items via their self-help groups. Mrs. Leela Shivakumar, Vice President and the

director Mr. Ramesh, and Program Coordinator Mrs. Saubhagya of JSS Jana Shiksha Sansthan, Mysuru were present over the programme. More than 42 farm women took part in the program.

Natural Farming training programme

A 5-day training program was arranged for the agricultural assistants known as Krishi Sakhisin collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Mysore, as part of

the National Mission on Natural Farming Scheme of the Government of India from 16.9.2025 to 20.9.2025. Dr. G.M. Vinay, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture) shared insights on the fundamentals of natural farming, its significance in modern agricul-

ture, the making of tools, appropriate crops for natural farming, intercropping, and horticultural plants. Dr. Gnanesh, Senior Scientist and Head, informed on the significance of soil and its management. Mr. Shamaraj SMS (Agronomy) delivered lecture on cropping systems, integrated farming systems, and the procedures to follow from sowing to harvesting in natural farming. Mrs. H.V. Divya, a SMS (Seed Technology) delivered lecture on the significance of seed and the production of seeds in natural farming practices. Shri Ravi, Assistant Director of Agriculture in Nanjangud Taluk, Mr. Satish, Nodal Officer for the NMNF Project, presided over the program. A total of 80 Krishi Sakhis took part in the program.



KVK PALAKKAD

Demonstration for Quick Wilt Management in Pepper under the TSP Programme

As part of the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) programme, Krishi Vigyan Kendra Palakkad distributed vital bio-inputs such as ARKA Microbial Consortia, Trichoderma viride and Vesicular Arbuscular Mycor-

rhizae (VAM) to the farmers of Poopara, Muthalamada Panchayat, Palakkad district, for the effective management of Quick Wilt disease in pepper. Dr. K.V. Sumiya, Programme Coordinator, KVK Palakkad, demonstrated and explained the methods of application and integration of these bio-inputs for disease control and soil health improve-

ment. Dr. Jiji Allen J. guided the farmers on scientific techniques for producing quality pepper plant propagules to ensure disease-free planting material. In total, approximately 600 kg of ARKA Microbial Consortia, 500 kg of Trichoderma viride, and 60 kg of VAM were distributed among the beneficiary farmers, marking a significant step toward sustainable and eco-friendly disease management in pepper cultivation.

(Contributors: Dr. Jiji Allen J., Assistant Professor, KVK Palakkad)



Field Visit to Government Orange and Vegetable Farm, Nelliampathy

A team of scientists from KVK Palakkad, including Dr. K.V. Sumiya (Programme Coordinator), Dr. Lakshmy P.S., Dr. Smijisha S., and Dr. Jiji Allen J., visited the Government Orange and Vegetable Farm, Nelliampathy to explore the feasibility of establishing a model plot for Natural Farming. The team assessed the field conditions, provided technical guidance to the farm officials, and collected soil samples for de-



tailed analysis. As requested by the farm authorities, Dr. Lakshmy P.S., Assistant Professor, KVK Palakkad, conducted a training session on Fruit and Vegetable Processing and Food Safety for the workers of the processing unit. The session focused on enhancing practical skills in hygienic handling and processing of farm produce. A

detailed discussion was also held to strengthen the existing processing facilities and to explore the development of new value-added products, aiming to improve farm income and promote sustainable agri-based enterprises in the region.

(Contributors- Dr. Lakshmy P.S, Assistant Professor, KVK Palakkad)

KVK Palakkad Hands Over Tiller to Farmers under NICRA Project

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Palakkad handed over a power tiller to the farmers of Pattithara village under the National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project's Custom Hiring Centre. The new tiller will facilitate timely ploughing and sowing, especially in fields that are inaccessible to larger tractors. Equipped with a trailer attachment, the tiller can also be used to transport farm inputs to the field and carry harvested produce such as paddy and other



crops back from the field. Farmers from various panchayats in the region will be able to rent the equipment at nominal rates, ensuring wider community benefit and promoting farm mechanization in small and fragmented holdings. The tiller was formally inaugurated by Sri. P. Balan, President of Pattithara Grama Panchayat, with Smt. K. Sasirekha, Chairperson of the Development Standing Committee, presiding over the function. The event was attended by panchayat officials, ward members, and officers from the KVK and the Department of Agriculture. (Contributors- Dr. Lakshmy P.S, Assistant Professor, KVK Palakkad)



KVK PATHANAMTHITTA

Entrepreneurship development programme on by-product development from Nutmeg rind under SCSP 2025-26

ICAR-KVK Pathanamthitta successfully conducted an Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) on “By-product Development from Nutmeg Rind” under the Scheduled

Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) 2025-26. The programme was held at the KVK campus from 10th to 19th September 2025 four days. The training was exclusively designed for Scheduled Caste members from Koipuram and Thottapuzhassery Panchayaths, with the aim of equipping them with entrepreneurial skills and technical know-how to make the best use of locally available resources. Nutmeg rind, which is usually



discarded as a waste material was introduced as a raw material with immense potential for value addition and income generation. During the sessions, participants were provided hands-on training and demonstrations on the preparation of innovative value-added products such as Candied nutmeg rind, squash, Ready-to-Serve (RTS) beverages, Sip Up and pickle. Alongside processing techniques, the programme also covered important aspects of food safety, quality standards, shelf-life enhancement, packaging, labelling and marketing strategies to help the trainees move towards entrepreneurship. The sessions were led by Dr. Shana Harshan, SMS (Home Science) The programme not only enhanced participants’ skills in processing and product diversification but also inspired them to explore new business opportunities in value addition, thereby contributing to livelihood security and economic empowerment of the Scheduled Caste community.



KVK RAMANAGARA



KVK Ramanagara celebrated Swachhata Hi Seva -2025 programme

Dr. Preethu, D.C., Dr. Swetha, B.S. and Dr. Sowjanya, S. Krishi Vigyan Kendra Ramanaga-

ra under the leadership of Dr. Preethu, D.C., is celebrating "Swachhata Hi Seva" programme in Bangalore South District from September 15 to October 2, 2025 as per the orders of the Government of India. Cleanli-

ness is essential for our health and society as it prevents the spread of diseases and paves the way for a better lifestyle. To raise awareness, on the first day, KVK staff took the Swachhata Seva Pledge and planted lem-





Kalya, Bangalore Division | 16 September 2025 at 4:13 pm



on saplings saying “Ek ped maa ke naam”. Similarly, for 15 days, scientists worked on cleanliness, sanitation, elimination of indoor

and open defecation, integrated waste management, zero waste, various methods of composting, preparation of vermicompost,

awareness about cleanliness among school children, nutritious hand gardens, elimination of plastic and parthenium, health check-up of civic workers and PPE kits were distributed. On this special occasion, Dr. Swetha, B.S., Senior Scientist and Head, said that every citizen to participate in the cleanliness campaign for healthy living & development of society. In this cleanliness program, scientists Dr. Rajendra Prasad, B.S., Dr. Anitha, S., Dr. Deepa Pujara, Dr. Pramod, G., Dr. Sowjanya, S., Chandana, R., Pavithra, G., Saikumar and the staff participated and made the program a successful.

KVK SHIVAMOGGA

Special Day Celebration - National Nutrition Week

As part of the National Nutrition Week, a one-day capacity development programme was organized for Anganwadi workers of Bhadravati Taluk on the theme "Nutri-Garden for Nutrition Security" at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Shivamogga on 3rd September 2025. The programme commenced with introductory remarks by Dr. N. Sudharani, Scientist (Home Science), who briefed the participants on the objectives and significance of observing National Nutrition Week. The event was inaugurated by Dr. G. K. Girijesh, Director of Extension, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. In his inaugural address, he emphasized that nutritional deficiencies can be effectively managed only through active community participation. He elaborated on the mission and goals of National Nutrition Week, focusing on combating malnutrition, anaemia, and other nutrient-related deficiencies across the country. He reiterated that achieving nutrition security requires the collective involvement and cooperation of the public. The programme was presided over by Dr. B. C. Hanumanthaswamy, Associate Director of Extension, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. During the programme,



Dr. Sunil C, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga and KVK scientists were present in the programme. As part of the programme, Nutri-Garden Seed Kits in the brand name of 'KisanSamridhi'- a national-level farmers' brand were distributed

to 60 extension functionaries. A demonstration session was also arranged to illustrate the method of planting vegetable seeds and fruit seedlings, enabling participants to gain hands-on experience in establishing Nutri-Gardens.



Workshop on “Improved cultivation practices in Arecanut”

A workshop on “Improved Cultivation Practices of Arecanut” was jointly organized by KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, ICAR–KVK, Shivamogga, in collaboration with the Arecanut Research Centre (ARC), Shivamogga and RAMP-COS, Bhadravati on 08-09-2025 at Bhadravathi.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. In his inaugural address, Dr. Jagadeesha emphasized that to achieve higher yield and income from arecanut cultivation, farmers should adopt integrated farming systems and intercropping practices. He highlighted the importance of improved cultural practices such as balanced fertilization, efficient irrigation, mulching, clean cultivation and application of organic manures to enhance soil health and productivity.

He further advised farmers to move away from monocropping towards intercropping systems,

as these help increase economic returns, improve soil fertility through nitrogen fixation and enhanced organic matter, promote biodiversity and provide shade during the initial growth years of arecanut palms. Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor also encouraged farmers to explore value addition opportunities and post-harvest handling practices to increase the market value and profitability of arecanut.

Dr. Sunil, C, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR–KVK, Shivamogga, addressed the gathering and emphasized the need for farmers to adopt innovative technologies disseminated through Universities and KVKs. He also informed that KVK, Shivamogga regularly

organizes training programmes, Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs), and On-Farm Trials (OFTs) to promote the adoption of new technologies among farmers.

The event was presided over by ShriShadakshari, President, RAMPCOS, Bhadravati. Dr. Nagrajappa Adivappar, Head, Arecanut Research Centre (ARC), Shivamogga and scientists from KVK and ARC, Shivamogga graced the occasion.

A total of 250 farmers and farm women, including RAMPCOS Directors and members, actively participated in the programme. The event also featured technical sessions on:

- Intercropping systems in arecanut gardens
- Pest and disease management
- Water and nutrient management practices

The programme served as an effective platform for knowledge exchange between scientists and farmers, focusing on sustainable arecanut production and profitability enhancement through scientific and integrated approaches.



Participation in UAS-Dharwad Krishimela

ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra, Shivamogga participated in the Agricultural Exhibition organized during Krishimela held at UAS, Dharwad. The exhibition aimed to showcase the latest technological innovations, improved crop varieties and successful interventions promoted by KSNU-AHS and KVK, Shivamogga for the benefit of the farming community.

The KVK exhibition stall displayed various technological models, posters and live demonstrations on topics such as integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management, soil health management, improved crop production practices, value addition and women empowerment initiatives. Information materials such as leaflets, brochures and technical bulletins were distributed to visitors.



The stall also featured displays on climate-resilient technologies, bio-fertilizers, vermicomposting, nutri-gardens, mushroom cultivation and livestock-based

integrated farming systems. Live samples of improved crop varieties, horticultural seedlings, bio-control agents attracted significant attention from farmers.

Mushroom cultivation - Skill development training programme

KVK, Shivamogga organized skill development training on "Mushroom Cultivation" from 24-09-2025 to 25-09-2025. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga and encouraged farmers





to adopt mushroom cultivation as a viable enterprise for income diversification and employment generation, especially for women and youth. Sri Kantharaj, Senior Assistant Director, Department of Horticulture, Shivamogga explained the departmental schemes available with respect to mushroom cultivation to take up as an enterprise. The programme focused on imparting practical knowledge and skills related to the produc-

tion of different types of mushrooms such as oyster and button mushrooms. Participants were trained on topics including substrate preparation, spawning, crop management, pest and disease control, harvesting and post-harvest handling. The training concluded with an interactive session where farmers clarified their doubts regarding spawn availability, marketing and low-cost production techniques. The participants expressed keen interest in starting mushroom cul-

tivation as an additional source of income and nutrition security for their families. During the programme, Dr. Sunil C, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Shivamogga, Organizer Dr. Manjunath B. Kudari, Scientist (Agril. Extension) and Dr. Nagaraja R., Senior Technical Officer and other scientists were present. Around 40 farmers and farm women from different parts of Shivamogga district participated in the training.

KVK THRISSUR



Empowering CRPs through Natural Farming Training at KVK Thrissur

A five-day training programme on Natural Farming was organized at KVK Thrissur from 25th September 2025 for ten Community Resource Persons (CRPs). The programme aimed to equip participants with practical knowledge and skills to promote sustainable and eco-friendly farming practices in their communities. The sessions covered key topics such as the concepts and principles of natural farming, biodiversity and cropping systems, soil fertility management, dis-



ease and pest control, livestock integration, and food and nutritional security. Participants also received hands-on training in the preparation of natural bio-in-

puts like Jeevamrut, Beejamrut, GhanJeevamrut, Neemastra, and Agniastra.

A highlight of the training was the field visit to practicing nat-



ural farmers in Thrissur district, where participants gained first-hand exposure to successful natural farming models. They interacted with farmers, observed on-farm preparation of bio-inputs, and learned about crop diversification, mulching, and integrated farming practices. The programme also included group discussions on challenges and opportunities in adopting natural farming, along with strategies for establishing bioresource input centres and value addition initiatives. The event concluded



with group presentations, feedback sessions, and certificate distribution. Participants appreciated the practical orientation of

the training and expressed their commitment to promoting natural farming in their localities.

KVK TRIVANDRUM



Friday Market - An Outlet for Technology Inputs to Urban and Peri-Urban Farmers in Thiruvananthapuram District

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Thiruvananthapuram, located at Vellanad (Latitude 8.506°N, Longitude 77.043°E), is about 22 km away from the city. Due to this distance, many farmers across the district find it challenging to regularly visit KVK for purchasing agricultural inputs or for receiving timely advisory services. Recognizing this gap, KVK initiated a Friday Market at Mitraniketan



City Centre, West Fort, Thiruvananthapuram, to bring technology inputs and farmer support services closer to the urban and peri-urban population.

The Friday Market functions every Friday from 2.00 to 6.00 p.m., a time that coincides with the peak hours of public movement, making it convenient for farmers



and the general public to access. The outlet makes available a wide range of products including vegetable seeds, bio-products, micro-irrigation kits, organic vegetables, and farmer-developed value-added products. Notable items on display were honey products, herbal Narunadi syrup, turmeric powder, honey-based face pack, pain balm, headache ointment, and portable sprinklers, all of which generated keen interest among visitors. Alongside these sales, on-the-spot farmer advisory services are also provided, creating a one-stop solution for both technology inputs and knowledge support. The Friday Market was formally launched on September 26, 2025, at Mitraniketan City Centre, West Fort, Thiruvananthapuram.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, who also made the first sale, symbolically marking the beginning of the initiative. Shri. Padmakumar P., Ward Councillor of Ward No. 84 (Perumthanni), Thiruvananthapuram Corporation, and Dr. Reghu Rama Das, Vice Chairman, Mitraniketan, added significance to the event with their presence and support. During the programme, Er. Chithra G, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Engineering), explained the aims and vision of the Friday Market, emphasizing its role in technology dissemination and farmer empowerment. KVK subject experts and all staff members actively participated in organizing and conducting the

programme, ensuring its success. This initiative has opened up a fantastic platform for urban and peri-urban farmers to easily access technology-based inputs, organic produce, and expert advisory under one roof. Beyond being a sales outlet, the Friday Market serves as a hub for technology dissemination, farmer-scientist interaction, and promotion of sustainable agricultural practices. By bridging the gap between farmers and scientific solutions, KVK Thiruvananthapuram's Friday Market demonstrates a farmer-centric approach, ensuring that agricultural technologies and services reach those who need them most, right at the heart of the city.



Capacity Development Programme on Integrated Farming and Allied Enterprises Conducted by ICAR-KVK Thiruvananthapuram in Collaboration with ATMA

In September, ICAR-KVK Thiruvananthapuram, in collaboration with ATMA, organized a series of capacity development programmes across the panchayaths of Vellarada, Azhoor, Malayankeezhu, and Vellanad with the active participation of approximately 150 farmers, including women, self-help group (SHG) members, and rural youth. The training sessions were tailored to promote sustainable and diversified farm-based livelihoods through practical, hands-on modules in mushroom cultivation, value addition of mushroom products, production of biocontrol agents like Trichoderma cakes

for the management of fungal diseases in coconut, and apiculture. Demonstrations were held on mushroom bed preparation, spawn inoculation, mushroom drying and powdering techniques, hygienic packaging practices to enhance market value



and recycling of mushroom spent waste. Participants were also trained in the preparation and field application of Trichoderma cakes, an eco-friendly alternative to chemical fungicides, particularly effective in managing common fungal infections in coconut plantations. Additionally, apiculture sessions covered bee biology, hive management and the economic potential of beekeeping as a complementary farm enterprise. Expert resource persons from KVK led the sessions, providing technical guidance, training manuals, and starter kits wherever applicable. The programmes not only improved participants' technical competencies but also fostered interest in integrated farming systems, value addition, and bio-based pest and disease management, laying the foundation for entrepreneurship and sustainable income generation at the grassroots level.

KVK TUMAKURU I

National Nutrition Week-2025



ICAR-KVK, Tiptur, in collaboration with the Women and Child Development Department-Tiptur, organized National Nutrition Week-2025 on 04/09/2025, featuring stalls on 'No Oil, No Boil,' a session on nutrition across the life cycle, and demonstrations on coconut value addition. Baby shower for pregnant women, distribution of immune-boosting kits to SAM and MAM children, and active participation of 120 beneficiaries marked the event.



Celebration of world coconut day

ICAR-KVK, Tiptur conducted a world coconut day celebration with the association of parachute oil foundation at Gopal-

apura village of Tiptur taluk on 06/09/2025. Dr. Shankar, M.H., senior scientist and Head delivered a talk on Scope and importance of coconut farming and Role of KVK to the farming community and Dr. Keerthishankar,

K., Scientist (Horticulture) talked about Integrated crop management, inter-cropping, Nutrient and water management and pest and disease management in coconut.

Animal health camp

Dr. Shivappa Nayak, H.B., Scientist (Animal Science) ICAR-KVK, Tiptur, Tumkur-1 participated in Animal health camp on 08/09/2025. It was organized by RAWEP students, GKVK, Bangalore along with Dept. of Animal Husbandry at Thavarekere, Huliurdurga hobli, Kunigal taluk. Nearly 110 animals were dewormed, 30 animals were treated for various gynaecological problems.



Village adoption

Dr. Darshan, M.E., Scientist (Agriculture Extension) ICAR-KVK, Tiptur, Tumkur-1 visited the ragi plots in the adopted village on 19/09/2025 and identified stem borer caterpillar infestation. During the field visit, the scientist advised farmers on suitable management practices, for effective control of the pest

FLD Follow-up visit

Dr. Keerthishankar, Scientist (Horticulture), ICAR-KVK, Tiptur, Tumkur-1 made follow up visit to FLD on Demonstration of Grafting technology in Brinjal for higher yield and disease resistance at bidregudi on 25/09/2025. Gave the valuable suggestion to farmers for increasing yield and quality.



Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan

ICAR-KVK, Tiptur, Tumkur-I celebrated Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan at Animal Husbandry Polytechnic College, Konehalli. On this occasion, to create awareness on the importance of cleanliness, an essay competition on the theme 'ಶಿವಶಿವ ಶಿವಶಿವ ಶಿವಶಿವ ಶಿವಶಿವ' was organized, and three best essays were felicitated. Further, a human chain was formed by students and staff to symbolize unity and collective responsibility towards maintaining cleanliness.



Organic farming training for Ex-Servicemen

ICAR-KVK Tiptur, Tumkur-I organized a two-day (28/09/2025 and 29/09/2025) training programme on Organic Farming exclusively for Ex-Servicemen. On the first day, sessions were conducted on the importance and principles of organic farming, soil health management, and the role and application of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides in sustainable agriculture. During 2nd day conducted a method demonstration on the preparation and application of organic inputs such as Beejamrutha, Jeevamrutha, Panchagavya, and Ghana Jeevamrutha for Ex-Servicemen farmers. The session highlighted



their role in enhancing soil fertility, crop health, and promoting sustainable farming practices. Participants received hands-on training to learn the preparation techniques and practical methods of field application. A total of 30 ex-servicemen farmers registered and actively participated in the programme.

KVK TUMAKURU II



Training programme on Natural Farming

The ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hirehalli, Tumakuru, organized a five-day training programme on Natural Farming under the Krishi SAKHI / Community Resource Persons (CRPs) initiative of the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) from 22nd to 26th September 2025. The programme aimed to empower rural women through capacity building in eco-friendly and sustainable agricultural practices, promoting self-reliance and entrepreneurship among farming communities. The training programme commenced with an inaugural session graced by Dr. N. Loganandhan, Head, ICAR-KVK, Hirehalli, who inaugurated the event. In his inaugural address, Dr. Loganandhan highlighted the growing importance of natural farming in

enhancing soil health, conserving biodiversity, and reducing dependency on chemical inputs. He emphasized that natural farming not only ensures better economic returns but also strengthens ecological balance and food safety. He reiterated KVK's commitment to supporting rural women through scientific guidance, hands-on demonstrations, and continuous extension support.

Sri Ravish, Master Trainer from Tumakuru, led the initial technical session, sharing detailed insights into the principles and methodologies of natural farming. He elaborated on the preparation and application of indigenous bio-formulations such as Jeevamrutha, Beejamrutha, Panchagavya, and Ghana Jeevamrutha, stressing their role in improving soil microbial activity and crop resilience. Participants took part in hands-on demonstrations on bio-input

preparation, nutrient management, and natural pest control methods.

A field visit was organized to Sri Ravish's and Sri Anand's Natural Farming Model Farms, where participants observed integrated farming systems combining horticultural crops, livestock components, and crop diversification. The visit provided practical exposure to sustainable farm resource recycling and ecosystem-based management.

The technical sessions were handled by Subject Matter Specialists of ICAR-KVK, Hirehalli, and invited experts, covering diverse topics related to natural farming and allied sectors:

- Sri Ramesh P. R., SMS (Soil Science), delivered sessions on the concepts and principles of natural farming, emphasizing locally available resource utilization and biological soil enrichment. He also explained the importance of soil health management, focusing on maintaining soil biological activity and organic carbon for long-term sustainability.
- Sri Prasanth J. M., SMS (Horticulture), handled sessions on horticultural crop management and multi-cropping systems, illustrating how crop diversity enhances ecosystem resilience and provides nutritional and economic benefits to farming households.
- Sri Jagadish K. N., SMS (Agricultural Extension), elaborated on extension activities for the successful implementation of natural farming at the grassroots level. He discussed the signifi-

cance of method demonstrations, result demonstrations, and participatory field trials as key approaches to showcase the impact of natural farming. He also emphasized the role of Krishi Melas, farmer fairs, field days, and exhibitions as platforms for technology dissemination. Stressing the importance of a “Reach the Unreached” approach, he highlighted the need to target small, marginal, and women farmers through farmer field schools, village-level campaigns, and collaborative outreach programmes. He concluded by stating that an integrated extension approach—linking training, demonstrations, and advisory services—is essential for widespread adoption of natural farming in Tumakuru district.

- Smt. Radha R. Banakar, SMS (Home Science), conducted a session on value addition, health, and nutrition, focusing on how women can process, package, and market natural farm produce to generate additional income while promoting healthy food habits.
- Dr. Somashekar, SMS (Plant Breeding), delivered a session on seed technology, emphasizing the importance of indigenous seed varieties, seed treatment techniques, and on-farm seed conservation for sustainable natural farming systems.
- Sri Prasanna, a practitioner and promoter of natural farming from Tumakuru, engaged par-



ticipants in a full-day interactive class, focusing on practical field-level strategies, farmer innovations, and farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchange.

- Dr. Sanjay M. T., Professor and Head, AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems, UAS-GKVK, Bengaluru, addressed the participants on weed management, crop diversification, and ongoing research initiatives in natural farming, stressing the scientific validation of traditional practices.
- Dr. Srinivas Gowda, from a recognized Organic Certification Agency, interacted with participants on the importance of certification in natural and organic farming, explaining how certification enhances market value and profitability of farm produce.

The entire programme was coordinated by Sri Ramesh P. R. and Sri Prasanth J. M., who meticulously designed and implemented the sessions, ensuring a balanced blend of theoretical concepts, practical learning, and field-based demonstrations.

During the training, participants gained comprehensive knowledge on soil health management, composting techniques, mulching, intercropping, crop rotation, and pest management using bio-

control agents. The sessions also addressed the economic viability, market linkage, and entrepreneurship potential of natural farming systems, inspiring participants to adopt sustainable models in their own villages.

The valedictory session, held on the concluding day, was graced by Sri G. S. Basavaraju, Former Member of Parliament, Tumakuru, who commended ICAR-KVK, Hirehalli, for its consistent efforts in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and empowering women through scientific training programmes. He encouraged the participants to act as “Krishi SAKHIs”—ambassadors of natural farming—by spreading awareness and motivating other farmers to adopt eco-friendly farming techniques.

On this occasion, Sri G. S. Basavaraju distributed certificates to all participants, appreciating their active involvement and commitment throughout the training. The participants expressed heartfelt gratitude to ICAR-KVK, Hirehalli, for organizing such a comprehensive and practical training programme that enhanced their skills, confidence, and understanding of natural farming systems.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by the organizing team, reaffirming the commitment of ICAR-KVK, Hirehalli, to continue its mission of promoting natural, resilient, and sustainable farming systems across Tumakuru district through capacity building, on-field demonstrations, and participatory learning approaches.

KVK UDUPI



Use of Drone Technology in Agriculture

ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra, Brahmavar, Udupi in collaboration with KeladiShivappaNayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Iruvakk, Shi-

vamoggaand Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, organized a Farmer-Scientist Interaction and Demonstration Programme on the use of drone technology in agriculture at SidalakshmiSabhavhana, Shirralu village, KarkalaTaluk, Udupi dis-

trict, on 8 September 2025. The programme was presided over by Smt. BharathiDevadiga, President, GramaPanchayath, Shirralu. The chief guests included Dr. Dhananjaya B., Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KVK Brahmavar & Associate Director of Research, ZAHRS Brahmavar; Dr. Ramasubramanian, Principal Scientist, MANAGE; ShriGunapalKadamba, Retd. Principal; and ShriSiddappa, Retd. AAO, Karkala. Dr. Naveen N. E., Scientist (Agronomy) & Principal Investigator of the Drone Project, ICAR-KVK, Brahmavar, delivered an informative session on the principles and applications of drone technology in agriculture. Following the lecture, he conducted a live demonstration of drone-assisted spraying in nearby fields. A total of 46 farmers, farm women, and rural youth actively participated and benefitted from the programme.





Agricultural Drone Demonstration

ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK), Brahmavar, Udupi, in collaboration with KeladiShivappaNayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences (KSNUAHS), Iruvacki, Shivamogga, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, and the De-

partment of Agriculture, ByndoorTaluk, Udupi, organized a Farmer-Scientist Interaction and Large-Scale Demonstration Programme on Drone Technology in Agriculture at UtkrustaSabhabhavana, Hoskote village, Byndoor-Taluk, Udupi district, on 16 September 2025. The programme was presided over by Smt. Channamma, President, GramaPancha-

yat, Bijooru, and inaugurated by ShriVenkateshHoskote, President, KrishikaSamaja, ByndoorTaluk. The event was graced by several distinguished guests, including ShriRanjithPoojary, Vice President, GramaPanchayat, Bijooru; Smt. Gayathri, Agricultural Officer, ByndoorTaluk; and Shri Rajesh D. P., Deputy Programme Director (ATMA), Udupi, among others. Dr. Naveen N. E., Scientist (Agronomy) and Principal Investigator of the Drone Project, ICAR-KVK, Brahmavar, delivered an insightful lecture on the principles and applications of drone technology in agriculture. Following the session, a live demonstration of drone spraying was carried out across 20 acres of paddy fields. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation, with 49 farmers, farm women, and rural youth taking part and benefitting from the exposure to this cutting-edge technology.



KVK UTTARA KANNADA

Poshan Maah Campaign

ICAR–KrishiVigyan Kendra, Uttara Kannada, Sirsi, in collaboration with the Women and Child Development Department, Sirsi, organized a training programme under the “PoshanMaah Campaign” ON 4TH October 2025. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 87 Anganwadi teachers and supervisors.

Conducted under the theme “PoshanBhi, PadhaiBhi”, the training sessions focused on key topics such as balanced diet for pre-school children, menu planning and discussions on the causes, signs, diagnosis, complications and management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) among children.

The programme was graced by the presence of the Deputy Director and the Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Women and Child Development Department, Uttara Kannada, Sirsi.



KVK VIJAYAPURA I

IPM in Grapes

On grape IPM production technology a programme was organized on 18.9.2025 at Karjol Village where grape has been affected

by heavy rains. The programme was inaugurated by Associate Director of Extension Zone-III, AEEC Vijayapura Dr.M.M.Jamadar speaking on the occasion he expressed on good cultivation prac-

tices in grape and asked farmer to go for organic grape production. Dr.Kushal N. spoke on fertigation, pruning and bud management and resin making and how sulphur is affecting resin quality. Dr.S.M.Vastrad spoke on pest and disease management in grape. Seminar was attended by more than 100 farmers.



KVK VIJAYAPURA-II

Empowering SC Women Farmers through SCSP Training Programme at ICAR, KVK, Indi

Odala Dwani Okkuta, a dedicated group of 40 Scheduled Caste (SC) women farmers, successfully completed a comprehensive training program under the Scheduled Caste (SCSP) in Indi, Karnataka. The training focused on **packaging, labelling, branding, and marketing**, equipping the group with essential skills to enhance the marketability of their groundnut, lime, and mil-

let-based products.

The program included a hands-on demonstration of a vacuum packing machine, procured through SCSP funding, which ensures the freshness and quality of their products. The group showcased an impressive range of value-added items, including **ShengaHolige (Groundnut sweet flatbread), Sajje Roti (Bajra Roti), Jolad Roti (Jowar Roti), Shenga Hindi/Chutney (Groundnut Chutney), Agasi Hindi/Chutney (Flax Seed Chutney), and Gurellu Hindi/Chutney (Niger Seed Chutney).**

Dr. Veena Chandawari led the training, providing expert guidance on effective packaging, appealing labeling, strategic branding, and market outreach. Technical support was offered by **Dr. Prakash (Agronomy)** and **Dr. Balaji N (Soil Science)**, who emphasized sustainable agricultural practices and product quality. **Dr. Shivashankarmurthy**, Senior Scientist and Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Indi, praised the initiative, highlighting the high market potential and nutritional value of the group's products.

The program has been widely recognized for its impact on empowering SC women farmers. The **Chief Minister of Karnataka** lauded the group's efforts, and they were felicitated by the **Hon'ble MLA of Indi** for their outstanding contribution to sustainable agriculture and entrepreneurship.

This initiative under the SCSP program marks a significant step toward economic empowerment and market-driven agricultural innovation for the women of Odala Dwani Okkuta, setting a model for community-driven development.

(Compiled by : Dr. Veena C SMS (Home Science) and Dr. Shivashankarmurthy M SS & H, ICAR KVK Indi.)



KVK WAYANAD

Demonstration of drone technology at NICRA Village

KVK Wayanad conducted demonstration of drone technology was from 16th September, 2025 onwards in rice in NICRA village at Kolavally Padashekharam, Mulankolly. The micronutrient mix Sampoorna is sprayed through

drone at 100 acres of padasekhararam. Dr. Raneesh K.Y, Assistant Professor led the demonstration. Sumi P (SRF-NICRA), KVK Wayanad and Athul, Drone pilot assisted the demonstration. Mr. Swami, President of the NICRA farmer group and Mr. Jomin, Entrepreneur Manager of the NICRA CHC welcomed the demonstration.



Farmer-Scientist-Student Interface organized by the KVK Wayanad

A “Farmer-Scientist-Student Interface” organized by the KVK Wayanad was inaugurated on 19th September, 2025 at 10 AM by Dr. Yamini Varma, A.D.R. & Dean, College of Agriculture, Ambalavayal. She opined that the unique, pure honey of Wayanad, which is a source of bio-diversity, should be made a part of the diet and honey value-added products should be made a habit to ensure a comfortable human life. Program Coordinator of the KVK, Dr. V. P. Rajan, announced that steps have been taken to launch various value-added products of honey with the approval of the Agricultural University. More than 100 people, including graduate students who received skill development training in beekeeping at the College of Agriculture, farmers and scientists who



are experts in beekeeping, participated in the program. Dr. Stephen Devaneshan, former head of the Bee Pollination Research Center of Vellayani Agricultural College and former dean of the university, led classes on beekeeping and value-added products and cleared the doubts of farmers and students. An exhibition of products designed by the students such as Ragi Honey Laddu, Honey Peanut-Oat Bar, Honey Kadalmithai, Honey Ellunda, Honey Laddu, Mixed Millet Honey Laddu, Honey Gulab Jamun was also organized.

Field Experience Training for ARS probationers at KVKs

KVK ALAPPUZHA

ARS Scientist probationers from ICAR-NAARM completed Field Experience Training

Six ARS scientist probationers from the 114th FOCARS of ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad underwent the Field Experience Training (FET) for one month at KVK-Alappuzha from 11th August to 12th September, 2025. Orientation was given and they were introduced to some key informants of the Vallikunnam village to carry on with their data/information collection on the first day itself. They visited the Agrl. Officer, VFPC market and interacted with many farmers in the initial days with the facilitation of the key informants including the Directors of Vallikunnam Agrl. Improvement Co-op

Society (VAICoS). In the days followed, they visited and interacted with many farmers, entrepreneurs, peoples' representatives, Govt. officials, input dealers etc. for data/information collection pertaining to different PRA tools and documented the same. Along with the coordinators from the KVK, they visited the Onattukara Regional Agricultural Research Station (ORARS) under KAU for exposure and interactions. Scientists of the station explained the activities of the station to the visitors and took them around to different units. They also narrated the process and success of obtaining GI status to sesamum in Onattukara region. They also visited the Onattukara Spices Farmer producer Company (OSF-PC) promoted by the KVK and in-

teracted with the director board members. They got opportunity to visit some of the shareholder farmers' plots and interact with them on the activities of the company and the benefits they derive. The trainee scientists were taken to Edathua, the NICRA project village of the KVK, to expose them to the climate resilient technology interventions demonstrated in the Kuttanad region.

To complete the one month programme, they presented the data and information collected from the village and their observations on the agriculture and allied sector scenario in the village seminar conducted on 09.09.25 at the VFPC hall and in the institute seminar conducted on 10.09.25 in the conference hall of CPCRI, RS. Dr. Gopal Lal, Director, ICAR-NAARM was the chief guest for the institute seminar. The scientist trainees were felicitated by the Vallikunnam Grama Panchayath members and were given a warm farewell by the Team-KVK on completion of the programme. They presented the report in ICAR-NAARM on 17th September and were appreciated by the faculty for the good work and documentation. Dr. P. Muralidharan, Principal Scientist and Head and Dr. T. Sivakumar, SMS coordinated the programme in the KVK.



KVK IDUKKI



ICAR-KVK Idukki as an Field Experience Training (FET) Centre for ARS Probationers as Part of the 114th FOCARS Training, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad

Duration: 11th August 2025 to 12th September 2025 (31 Days)

Host Institution: ICAR-KVK Idukki, Kerala

Local FET coordinators:

1. Ms. Preethu K Paul, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Extension), KVK Idukki

2. Dr. R Marimuthu, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Idukki

No. of Probationers: Six ARS Probationers deputed from ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad

Name of ARS Probationers:

1. Elizabeth Thomas (Dairy Technology)
2. Harish Kumar H R (Agricultural Economics)
3. Nisha Bisht (Veterinary Parasitology)
4. James M (Genetics & Plant Breeding)
5. Aman Mahore (Farm Machinery and Power)

6. Ananya Khatei (Fish Genetics & Breeding)

The Field Experience Training (FET) is an integral component of the Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS), organized by ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad. As part of the 114th FOCARS programme, Six ARS probationers were deputed to ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki, Kerala, for a 31 Days FET programme. The training was aimed at providing first-hand exposure to the probationers on grassroots level extension, technology assessment, refinement, and transfer of technology activities carried by our KVK in Idukki district.

Objectives of FET were, to acquaint ARS probationers with the functioning of KVKs, to expose probationers to frontline extension methodologies and farmer participatory approaches, to provide practical orientation in technology assessment and demonstration under varied agro-ecological conditions, to sensitize probationers to the needs, aspirations, and constraints of farming communities, especially resource-poor and marginalized groups to develop skills in documentation, communication, and participatory learning.

Activities Undertaken were, During the FET programme, probationers were actively engaged in the following activities: Orientation on KVK System – Briefing





sessions on mandate, activities, and achievements of ICAR-KVK Idukki. Village attachment was mandatory in completion of FET training. The selected village was Kanthippara in Senapthy Panchayat, Nedumkandam Block Idukki district which is 28 km from FET centre.

ARS team visited Kanthippara Village and conducted Reconnaissance survey. Had Meetings with primary stakeholders (Agricultural Officer, Village Officer, Key Informants, Veterinary Surgeon, local officials, panchayat leaders and briefed them the purpose and objectives of FET. Started with PERA in the village the team Collected village basic information for developing agro-ecosystem map;

Bio diversity of village, Documented their 'Farming System Seasonal Calendars' along-with gender perspectives of small, Large and Medium farmers., prepared Time Line; Time Trend, Mobility Map, Livelihood analysis and Bio-resource flow diagram, Technology Map, consequence Diagram and Recorded the ITKs of the village, done problem analysis and ranking, Collected information for Problem tree and causal diagram for the top most researchable problem identified by the farmers, Organized a Transect Walk across the village, Interacted with farmers, Matrix Ranking, prepared PRA tools of Daily Routine Diagram (DRD), Daily Activity Profile (DAP) for young and middle aged

men and women representatives from large, medium and small farmers, prepared Social Mapping and Venn Diagram. Rather the Probationers participated in On-Farm Trials & Front-line Demonstrations, in ongoing OFTs/FLDs on crops, livestock, and natural resource management, Farmer Interaction Meetings – Direct interaction with progressive farmers, SHGs, and SC/ST farming communities, Training and Capacity Building Programmes – Observation and facilitation in farmer training sessions on natural farming, climate-resilient agriculture, and value addition. Meanwhile Exposure Visits were arranged to Field visits to Key informants field, model farms, demon-



stration units', ICAR-Indian Cardamom Research Institute (ICRI) Myladumpara, Utopia Sustainable Society, Swargamedu an NGO focused on creating self-sustaining, nature-friendly communities, Green mount cooperative society at Cumbemettu, Kerala Livestock Development Board, Mattupetty and other agri-entrepreneurship ventures. After Documentation & Report Writing – Preparation of case studies, field reports, and experience sharing Institute and village seminar of FET presentations were done during the valedictory sessions. Presentations during the final period at KVK Idukki and Kan-

thippara Village was chaired by Dr. Gopal Lal, Director ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad along with Dr. Sivaramane N, ICAR-NAARM, Monitoring coordinator of FET Training. Special Focus were given for participation in activities related to empowering SC farmers through natural farming, aligning with KVK's thematic programmes. Learning Outcomes were: Enhanced understanding of farmer participatory research and extension approaches, Practical exposure to technology dissemination under hill farming conditions of Kerala, Insights into socio-economic and gender issues

influencing technology adoption, Familiarity with KVK's role in convergence with line departments and schemes, Improved skills in communication, training design, and documentation. The FET programme at ICAR-KVK Idukki provided valuable grass-roots level exposure to the ARS probationers. The experience has strengthened their understanding of the extension system, farmer interaction, and technology dissemination, which will significantly contribute to their future roles as agricultural scientists under ICAR.

KVK KALABURAGI I



From PRA to Practice: ARS Scientists' Field Experience Training at KVK Kalaburagi

ARS probationary scientists from ICAR-NAARM actively engaged with farmers and stakeholders during their field training at KVK Kalaburagi (UAS, Raichur). On 8th September 2025, they conduct-

ed a village seminar where they displayed the village map and used Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools to study local resources, constraints and opportunities with farmers actively participating in discussions that emphasized the importance of agriculture crop production. The following day, on 9th September 2025, the probationary scientists presented their

Institute Seminar at KVK Kalaburagi in the presence of Dr. Umesh, Coordinator, ICAR-NAARM, along with scientists of KVK, where they highlighted their PRA studies and field learnings, which were highly appreciated for effectively linking scientific approaches with farmers' needs.



KVK KOLAR



114th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service

Name of the Trainees: Dr.Sunilkumar V.P, Dr. Ashwini B.C, Dr. Vaishali, C., Dr. Vishaka Uttam, Dr. Sonam and Dr. Ravindra Sontakke
Co-ordinators: Dr. Shivanand V Hongal, SS & H, Dr.Manjuntha Reddy T.B, Scientist (PP) & Dr. Shashidhar K.R, Scientist (Sericulture)

The Field Experience Training (FET) is an integral component of the Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS), organized by ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad. It provides probationary scientists with an opportunity to gain first-hand exposure to rural settings, understand farming systems, and develop participatory research-extension skills. The FET programme aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice by immersing young scientists

in village realities. Through the use of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools, the training facilitates direct interaction with farmers, helps in identifying local problems, and encourages collaborative solution-building. In the 114th FOCARS batch, Kotigana-halli village in Kolar district, Karnataka, was selected as the study site. The village, known for tomato and ragi cultivation, presents

both opportunities and challenges for sustainable agriculture. This report documents the systematic application of PRA tools, analysis of village farming systems, identification of key problems, and preparation of action plans for holistic development. The objectives of the Field Experience Training (FET) were to orient probationary scientists with the rural socio-economic and





agro-ecological settings, enabling them to understand farming systems in a holistic manner. The training focused on participatory learning by applying PRA tools for data collection and analysis, documenting indigenous technical knowledge (ITKs), and assessing crop-livestock integration, bio-resource flows, and livelihood patterns. It also aimed at identifying and prioritizing the major problems faced by farmers in agriculture and allied sectors, preparing problem-solution trees and action plans in consultation with stakeholders, and enhancing team-

work, communication, and participatory research-extension skills among the probationers.

The methodology followed during the FET was rooted in the principles of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), which emphasizes active involvement of farmers, triangulation of information, and the use of visual tools to capture local knowledge. The PRA tools were applied through group exercises with key informants and farmers, ensuring inclusivity of women, smallholders, and marginal groups. These tools were effectively used in Kotiganahalli

to facilitate collective analysis of resources, constraints, and opportunities, thereby ensuring that the training remained practical, farmer-centred, and solution-oriented.

Village Seminar-KVK, Kolar

FET Kolar team successfully conducted the Village Seminar on 8th September 2025 at Kotiganahalli. During the programme, farmers were given insights on PRA techniques, Sustainable Agriculture, Integrated farming system(IFS), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and Integrated Disease Management (IDM).

Chief guests of the function Dr. Shivanand V Hongal(Senior Scientist &Head, KVK Kolar) gave the introductory remarks, Dr.Ganeshayya (Retired Dean PG, GKVK, Bangalore) spoke about the importance of education, especially women's empowerment, Dr.Be-lavadi (Retired ADR, GKVK, Bangalore) and Dr. Ashwath Narayana Reddy (AP, Hogalagere) explained the safe use of pesticides and residue management. Dr. Manjunath Reddy (Scientist, Plant Protection) discussed the benefits of IPM, and Dr. Vishwanath (SO, Seeds,GKVK, Bangalore) highlighted the role of scientists in agriculture, Progressive farmer Prakash shared his views on tomato marketing, Dr. Srikanth briefed about the purpose of the training and NAARM support. Dr. Shashidhar K.R., Scientist (Sericulture) (KVK Kolar), Nagraj (PDO, Harate Grama Panchayat), and village panchayath members Manjula Prakash, Junjappa, Narayanappa also participated.

The event ended with a farmer-scientist interaction, where farmers gained awareness on resource identification, eco-friendly farming, and cost-effective practices. Along with this we offered dinner and distributed Drumstick seedlings to the farmers.

In this regard on behalf of FET team Kolar, I am extremely thankful to KVK-Kolar, NAARM-Hyderabad and ATARI, Bengaluru for their support to successful completion of our Village seminar.

Institute seminar of FET Group at KVK, Kolar

As part of Three months NAARM training programme, one month Field Experience Training were given at KVK, Kolar for six scientist probationers of 114th FOCARS batch. With guidance of head, KVK they have identified Kotiganahalli village. On 10.09.2025 they have successfully delivered institute seminar at KVK, Kolar. They were given insights on various PRA techniques and information about that village. The event was graced

by the esteemed presence of Dr. Shivanand V Hongal, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK-Kolar, FET coordinators from KVK, Kolar Dr. Manjunath Reddy T.B, Scientist(PP) and Dr. Shashidhar K.R, Scientist(-Sericulture) along with that our monitoring faculty from NAARM Dr. Srikanth. On the day of the institute seminar, we are happy to have Assistant professors of college of horticulture, Kolar. Also, other scientific faculty are joined in this institute seminar. A panel comprising all scientific staff shared their valuable remarks and insights. We feel truly honoured to be part of this wonderful occasion and have taken valuable suggestions for further refinement and work upon that. The seminar ended with Planting of Rosewood at KVK, Kolar on behalf of our FET programme with presence all scientific faculties. Planted rosewood tree at KVK, Kolar after our institute seminar. Visited the seed bank conserved by Beeja Maate Papamma at Kurubarahalli and collected information on how she collects and stores traditional varieties of seeds. Visited the farm of progressive farmer Arivu Prabhakar at Thondahalli village and observed how he is practicing sustainable agriculture on his land through natural farming. FET draft Report Finalization after incorporating changes as suggested during institute seminar. Obtaining Distance and all other prescribed Certificate(s), Certification of various bills and receipts required to settle FET advance, and Relieving formalities and Departure.



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02/09/2025 11:38 AM GMT +05:30

KVK SHIVAMOGGA



Report on Field Experience Training

The ICAR-KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK), Shivamogga, was allotted six probationary research scientists of the 114th FOCARS batch to undergo a one-month Field Experience Training (FET) programme from 8th August to 9th September 2025.

The FET team comprised the following ARS probationers:

- Dr. SharanappaChinnappaHalikeri - Agricultural Entomology
- Dr. SayantaniKarmakar - Agricultural Statistics
- Dr. ArulkumarSelvaraj - Animal Nutrition
- Dr. Sonu S. Nair - Veterinary Microbiology
- Dr. BasanagoudaGonal - Genet-

ics and Plant Breeding

- Dr. Jess Maria Wilson - Aquaculture

The activities were carried out under the guidance of Dr. Sunil, C, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga, along with Dr. Rudragouda F. C. and Dr. N. Sudharani, who served as the FET Centre Coordinators.

The Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) was conducted in Bullapura village, under Bedarahosahalli Gram Panchayat, Shivamogga district. The FET group initiated their activities on 12th August 2025 by visiting the KVKadopted village to introduce themselves, explain the objectives of the FET programme and familiarize farmers with the purpose of their visit. Preliminary information was collected during these initial interactions.





In the following days, the team systematically gathered and documented detailed data on human, animal, farm and non-farm resources using various PRA tools. The collected information was analyzed, interpreted and compiled into a comprehensive village profile.

A village seminar was organized on 9th September 2025, where the probationary scientists presented the collected data along with strategies and recommendations aimed at improving the livelihood status of the farming community.

An institute-level seminar was

conducted on 10th September 2025 at ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga, under the supervision of Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, who served as the monitoring faculty for the FET programme. The session was also attended by the Senior Scientist & Head, FET Coordinators, and all the scientists of KVK, Shivamogga.

The one-month Field Experience Training proved to be a fruitful and enriching experience for the probationary scientists. It provided them with an opportunity to interact closely with farmers, the ultimate stakeholders of agricul-

tural research and extension and to understand the ground realities of rural life and farming systems. The team gained valuable insights into the socio-economic, cultural and cropping diversity of Bullapuravillage. They also explored and learned from the resources and expertise available at KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, as well as through interactions with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Agri-entrepreneurs, industries and progressive farmers and farm women.

This programme enabled the probationers to bridge the gap between research and field-level practices, strengthening their understanding of the farming ecosystem. The knowledge and experiences gained through this exposure will remain invaluable throughout their ARS careers.

The KVK, Shivamogga expresses its sincere gratitude to ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru and NAARM, Hyderabad for providing this valuable opportunity to explore and understand the real-world agricultural practices through these young minds. The team also extends heartfelt thanks to ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga for their constant guidance, support and hospitality throughout the programme.

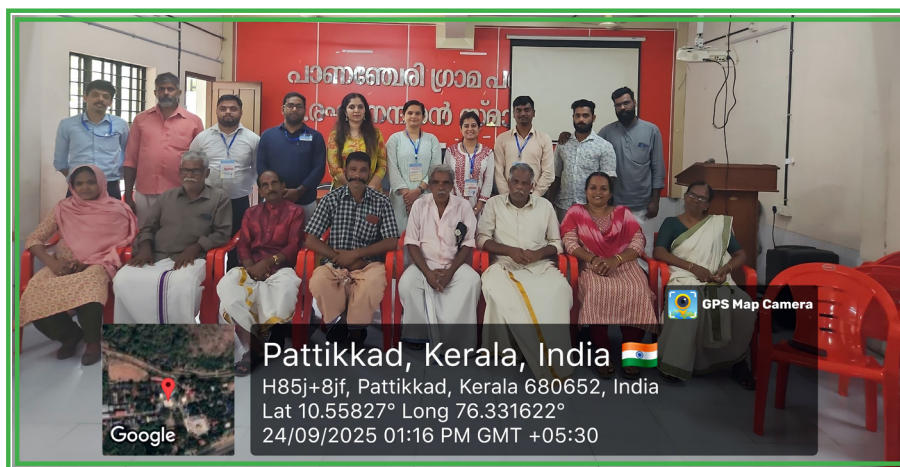
KVK THRISSUR

Field Experience Training (FET) of ARS Scientist Probationers at KVK Thrissur

Field Experience Training (FET) for ARS Scientist Probationers commenced at Pananchery Panchayath, Thrissur on 16th September 2025. As part of this programme, a multi-disciplinary team of six ARS Scientist Probationers has been deputed to KVK Thrissur for a 31-day training period. The programme aims to provide the probationers with practical exposure and hands-on experience in field-level extension and participatory approaches.

The programme was implemented in Ward 12 (Mailattumpara) of Peechi village in Pananchery Panchayat. The probationers engaged in various field activities such as Participatory Rural Appraisal

(PRA), data collection, identification of agricultural and livelihood problems, and preparation of an action plan. Participatory Rural Appraisal was conducted on 24th September 2025 at Mylattumpara





ra. The ARS Scientist Probationers, with the facilitation of KVK Thrissur, employed tools such as the Problem-Solution Tree and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), which proved highly effective in identify-

ing and prioritizing the key issues of the ward. As part of the exposure component, the team visited Keerti Nirmal Rice Industries, Kalady, FPO ,Kothamangalamand various research stations under

Kerala Agricultural University, including the Cashew Research Station, Cocoa Research Station, and Banana Research Station, to gain practical insights into ongoing research and technologies.

KVK UDUPI

Report on Field Experience Training (FET) of Agricultural Research Scientist Trainees at FET Centre, KVK Udupi

Six Agricultural Research Scientist Trainees, namely Dr. Chethan Patil N. D., Dr. Jagadhesan B., Dr. Ankit, Dr. Catherine Skyongzin Paul, Dr. Sanitha Saseendran, and Dr. Tridiv Gosh, from ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, underwent their Field Experience Training (FET) from 11th August to 12th September 2025. As part of their program, Shirlal village, situated in Karkala Taluk, Udupi District of Karnataka, was allotted for their fieldwork.

Activities Conducted in Shirlal Village:

During the training period, the scientist trainees actively engaged with the village community and conducted around 20 Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools. These PRA exercises helped them to understand the socio-economic status, resource availability, farm-



In picture (from left): Dr. Chethan Patil N. D., Dr. Catherine Skyongzin Paul, Dr. Jagadhesan B, Dr. N. E. Naveen (FET Coordinator) Dr. Ankit, and Dr. Tridiv Gosh, and Dr. Sanitha Saseendran

ing systems, and major challenges faced by the villagers.

The trainees observed the major agricultural crop: Paddy, along with horticultural crops such as arecanut, coconut, black pepper, and seasonal vegetables. Through their observations and interactions, they identified key issues and constraints in crop production, resource utilization, and livelihood opportunities.

Village seminar:

A Village Seminar was organized on 8th September 2025 with the participation of farmers and villagers. In this seminar, the trainees presented their findings, discussed the problems identified in the community, and suggested action plans. A key recommendation put forward was the establishment of a Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) to strengthen





Conducted PRA tools to draw the village map





collective marketing, input supply, and value addition in agricultural produce.

Institute Seminar at ICAR-KVK, Brahmavar:

Following the village-level activities, the trainees conducted an Institute Seminar on 9th September 2025 at ICAR-KVK, Brahmavar, Udupi. The seminar was chaired

by Dr. Dhananjaya, Head, KVK, and coordinated by Dr. Naveen, Local Coordinator, and Dr. Ramasubramiyam, Monitoring Faculty, ICAR-NAARM, in the presence of other scientists from KVK and Zonal Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station, Brahmavar. The trainees presented their field experiences, findings from PRA tools, identified issues, and

proposed action plans. The seminar served as a platform for critical discussions and expert suggestions.

Exposure Visits to Line Departments

As part of the FET program, the scientist trainees also visited various line departments including Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal



Husbandry, and Fisheries to understand government programs and extension activities at the grassroots level.

Exposure Visits Farmers Producers organisation and Company

They also gained practical exposure by visiting established

FPOs such as Vidhathri, Benegal Tarakaari Belegarara Souhardha Society, and Raithasya, where they learned about collective farming, marketing strategies, and governance mechanisms of producer organizations.

Exposure Visits to Industries

Industrial visits to a cashew unit,

fish meal and oil plant, and KMF dairy, plus interactions with the Kota Cooperative Society and Koraga tribe, enriched knowledge of agro-processing, cooperatives, and rural socio-cultural diversity.





OFF - CAMPUS TRAINING PROGRAM ON INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT IN PAPAYA AT KANAKAGIRI, KOPPAL



AGRICULTURAL DRONE DEMONSTRATION AT HOSKOTE, UDUPI

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