

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Zonal Coordinating Unit VIII of Transfer of Technology Projects was established in September 1979 as a Cess Fund Scheme at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore to monitor the activities of **Lab to Land Programme**. Subsequently, the unit was transferred to Southern Regional Station of National Dairy Research Institute Campus, Bangalore in September 1981. Since 1987, this unit was given the additional responsibility to monitor all the ICAR supported TOT Projects located in the zone.

The mandates of the Zonal Coordinating Unit are as follows:

- To formulate, implement, monitor and evaluate the Transfer of Technology Projects especially Krishi Vigyan Kendras.
- To coordinate the work relating to Transfer of Technology Projects of various agencies such as State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), ICAR Institutes, Voluntary Agencies and Development Departments.
- To coordinate with State/Central Government Agencies, credit institutions and any other organization for successful implementation of programmes.
- To serve as feedback mechanism from the projects to research and extension systems.
- To help in implementation of other projects on oilseeds, pulses, popularising improved implements and cotton etc. assigned by ICAR headquarters.
- To have a very close liaison with ICAR headquarters particularly with Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension) and his staff and prepare reports/write-up for their use.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras of the Zone

At present the Zonal Coordinating Unit monitors activities of 67 KVKs in four states namely Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa and two Union Territories namely Pondicherry and Lakshadweep.

State wise Status of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

Name of the State	No. of Districts	Details of KVK				TOTAL
		SAU	NGO	ICAR	Others (State Dept of Agriculture and Deemed University)	
Karnataka	27	18	04	01	-	23
Kerala	14	07	03	04	-	14
Tamil Nadu	30	15	11	-	-	26
Pondicherry	04	-	-	-	02	02
Goa	02	-	-	01	-	01
Lakshadweep	01	-	-	-	01	01
Total	78	40	18	06	03	67

ICAR – Indian Council of Agricultural Research

SAU – State Agricultural University

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

Activities of KVK

KVKs plan their activities based on the current problems in the major crops/enterprises of the operational area. Normally, a group/block of villages are covered in each taluk of the district by working intensively on the prioritized problems treated as thrust areas for KVKs. Problem identification and prioritization of thrust areas is the fundamental activity of KVKs. Based on the thrust areas the KVKs of Zone VIII performed their interventions namely skill training of farmers, vocational training to rural youth, in-service training of extension personnel, organizing frontline demonstrations to establish production potentials on farmers' fields and provide feedback, on-farm testing, organizing extension activities, production and supply of quality seed and plant materials and analysis of soil, water and plant samples.

Farmers' Training

A total of 5362 training courses benefiting 159246 farmers and farm women were organized in various aspects of crop production, horticulture, plant protection, livestock production and management, home science, agricultural extension, agricultural engineering, fisheries, agro forestry, apiculture, soil fertility and management, sericulture, seed technology, mushroom cultivation, organic farming, vermiculture and beekeeping.

Vocational Training for Rural Youth

The training courses for rural youth were organized in agricultural extension, agricultural engineering, agro forestry, livestock production and management, apiculture, crop production, fisheries, home science, horticulture, apiculture, mushroom production, plant protection, soil fertility and management, sericulture, seed technology, organic farming and vermiculture. As many as 1727 vocational and skill-oriented training courses were organised for 40613 rural youth.

Training for In-service Personnel

A total of 692 training programmes were conducted covering 18103 participants. The training was imparted through participatory training methodologies, field visits and other interactive methods.

Frontline Demonstrations

The Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs) were conducted to demonstrate the production potential of the newly released production technologies in a given farming system. The training and field days were organized for extension workers and farmers for dissemination of technologies.

Oilseeds: During the year, 1402 demonstrations were conducted covering 700.40.1 ha area on major oilseed crops including Groundnut, Sesame, Soybean, Castor, Sunflower and Safflower. The percentage increase in yield varied from 24.00 in kharif groundnut to 79.00 in Rabi groundnut.

Pulses: The demonstrations were conducted on Bengalgram, Redgram, Blackgram and Greengram. A total of 365.6 ha area were covered with 748 farmers. The percentage of increase in yield varied from 22.9 in greengram to 33.3 in redgram.

Other crops: The KVKs organized FLDs on cereals, fodder and horticultural crops covering 362.2 ha area benefiting 837 farmers. Among the cereals, large numbers of demonstrations were conducted in Finger millet (169) and Paddy (116). The percentage increase in yield was highest in Jawar (181.50 %) followed by chilli (125.89 %).

On-Farm Testing

Technologies (60) were identified for on-farm testing by the KVKs to evaluate and assess its impact on location-specific basis in different farming systems.

At KVK Belgaum technology of Integrated nutrient management in Sericulture and watermelon was refined to produce 26.8 and 538 quintals/ha with a BC ratio of 6.99 and 6.06 respectively.

Chickmagalur KVK evaluated different hybrids of sunflower and reported 19.6 quintals/ha with KBSH-1 and reported 3.3 BC ratio.

At KVK Udupi use of herbicides in sprouted paddy was tested and reported yield of 32.4 quintals/ ha with alachlor and sofit 30EC @ 12/ha along with BC ratio of 3.4.

Integrated nutrient management in banana was tested at KVK Cuddalore and reported yield of 483 quintals/ha with a BC ratio of 3.26.

Kvk Tanjavur tested the modified technology to control the yellow mosaic in blackgram and reported yield of 12.8 quintals per hectare with a BC ratio of 3.51.

Bud worm in Jasmine was controlled effectively at KVK Trichy with a yield of 51.9 quintals/ha and reported 15.98 BC ratio.

Pathanamthitta KVK evaluated different control measures for leaf spot disease in amaranthus and recorded yield of 250.3 quintals per hectare with soil solarisation along with 2.21 BC ratio.

Extension activities

The KVKs organised 5099 extension activities to accelerate the process of dissemination of technologies. These included advisory services (3825), exhibitions (177), ex-trainees sammelans (99), field days (158), and film shows (294). The extension activities organised by KVKs could reach 3.98 lakh farmers and 9321 officials.

Production and supply of quality seed and planting material

The KVKs produced 4419.76 qtl. of seeds of cereal crops, 1750.46 quintals of oilseeds, 325.83 quintals of pulses and 11.82 quintals of vegetables. About 72.69 quintals of seeds of other crops were also produced by the KVKs. In addition, 154519 fruit saplings, 8316 vegetable seedlings, 225871 spices seedlings, 56197 seedlings of forest species, 4128 seedlings of ornamental crops, 74294 seedlings of plantation crops and 60,000 seedlings of other crops comprising of mainly the fodder species were produced. Value of these seeds and planting materials were worth Rs.13.97 lakhs and Rs. 56.25 lakhs respectively.

Monitoring Mechanism

The Zonal Coordinating Unit monitors activities of the KVKs by organizing and participating in Workshops, Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting and visits. During the year 48 KVKs have conducted scientific advisory committee meetings. Two Zonal Workshops were organized with the participation of the head of each KVK to review the work done during the year and formulation of action plan for the next year. To upgrade the knowledge and skills of KVK staff one orientation training cum workshop was organized for animal scientists. Similarly, training programme on participatory impact and monitoring and assessment of KVK activities was conducted for KVKs of Zone VIII.

[BACK](#)