

## **Significant achievement for the month of Oct'2017 - KVK – CSRC - Ramnad Farmers advised to takeup newer methods in cultivation**

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and the State Department of Agriculture, Ramanathapuram conducted a Farmers - Scientists - Extension Functionaries Interaction meet at Mohamed Sathak Polytechnic College, Keelakarai on 27.10.2017. This interaction was sequel to the recent deliberations held by District Collector with the Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Dr. K. Ramasamy in Krishi Vigyan Kendra on 12.10.2017. Ramanathapuram district has huge acreage of direct sown paddy during the North East Monsoon with limited external inputs the crop is raised by the riots. Weeds, pests and diseases are the major menace. In recent years, coconut has been suffering heavily due to drought, nutritional disorders, pest and disease attacks. Hence, creating awareness among the growers was felt immediate necessity by the District Collector and the Vice Chancellor. Acting on this meet inputs, the Vice Chancellor has deputed a team of experts to participate in the interaction. In his opening remarks, the Dr. S. Natarajan District Collector urged the participants to improvise the agricultural practices in farmers holdings. The farmers have lost crops due to drought the need for improved crop varieties, water management techniques, effective pest and disease control strategies are now being increasingly felt by the farmers in recent years. Also district collector instructed to enroll the prime minister fasal bima yojana (PMFBY) premium to insure the crops for availing loss due to disaster. Also awareness programme conducted for prevention of dengue related issues to the farmers, District collector added.

Against this background coordinated strategies are needed for implementation he said. Dr. M. Maheshwaran, Director of Research, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, addressed the gathering and said that Tamil Nadu Agricultural University is seized of this matter and has introduced improved crop varieties tolerant to drought and pests and diseases in recent years in

paddy and coconut. Dr. K. Ramaraju, Director Centre for Plant Protection Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in his remarks said that coconut farmers and paddy farmers need active support and state level pest and disease forecasting and forewarning systems are in practice. Th. P. Sankaralingam, Director SAMETI, Kudimiyamalai spoke on this occasion and emphasized the role of extension system is taking technologies to the door steps of farmers. Ramanathapuram District has achieved the fixed targets he said. The meeting was attended by coconut farmers and paddy farmers of the district besides a team of scientists from the university and extension functionaries. Earlier the scientific Team visited the paddy fields and coconut gardens in Mandapam, Ramanathapuram and Thiruppullani blocks to assess crops scenario.

Sd/.., Programme Co-ordinator  
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