

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 42nd RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 02.03.2009

The 42nd meeting of the Research Council was held at Seminar Hall I of TNAU on 02.03.2009. The list of Research Council Members attended the meeting is given in Annexure.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, TNAU Chaired the meeting and inaugurated the 42nd Research Council Meeting.

The Director of Research, TNAU, CBE welcomed the scientists and presented the Agenda comprising the confirmation of the proceedings of the 41st Research Council meeting, research highlights for the year 2008-09 and the new activities carried out during the period under report. He emphasized the efforts taken by TNAU to conserve germplasm, irrigation and fertilizer management, development of resistant lines, quality seed production, research reorientation towards market demand and global competitiveness, nanotechnology and biotechnological approaches towards increasing the crop productivity.

Registrar and the Acting Vice Chancellor and the Chairman of the meeting while appreciating the efforts put forth by the scientists in getting collaborative projects at the national and international level, emphasized the need for the enhanced bioenergy production, more investment in biolabs, study on the effect of weather on pest and diseases, value addition of products, seed production with public - private partnership, food and nutritional security, electrically operated machineries, post harvest technology, medicinal plants, patentship and educating young scientists to plan for future farmer demand oriented programmes.

Dr.S.Jebaraj, Director (TRRI) while proposing vote of thanks appreciated the efforts taken by the scientists in releasing several varieties, management techniques to combat the problems of farmers. He also indicated the implementation of a multi-disciplinary mega project at TRRI in collaboration with IRRI for a period of three years, encompassing various processes from seed to straw and vowed to work for the benefit of the farming community.

The discussion was focused on the following points :

Crop improvement

1. Methods to extend the seed viability in groundnut may be suggested (**Action:** Special Officer, Seeds)
2. Development of high yielding early maturing hybrids in maize and composites suited for rainfed conditions may be intensified (**Action:** Director, CPBG)
3. Bt cotton hybrids suitable for problem soils may be suggested (**Action:** Director, CPBG)
4. The ART may be carried out in large areas so as to give a real picture of the elite cultures developed. The DEE is desired to do the ARTs in one acre fields by the KVK scientists of various districts. Hence proper guidance may be issued to the concerned scientists to conduct ARTs accordingly (**Action:** Director, CPBG / DEE)
5. Fine grain rice variety suitable for exports may be developed (**Action:** Director, CPBG / Director, TRRI, Aduthurai)

Crop management

1. Location specific contingent alternative crop plan to mitigate drought and flood may be developed for Cauvery Delta (**Action:** Director, SCMS / Director of Research / Director, TRRI, Aduthurai)
2. Recommended dosage of micronutrients for different crops may be suggested (**Action:** Director, SCMS)
3. Optimum dosage of water soluble fertilizers and its cost for different crops may be worked out (**Action:** Director, SCMS / Director, WTC)
4. Research undertaken on Response Farming may be extended to encompass the pest and disease forecast especially in banana and cassava (**Action:** Director, SCMS)
5. Solid waste studies has to be intensified. An integrated approach for production of organic manures using farm waste, green / leaf manures along with effective bio agents for conversion, besides utilizing the urban waste may be developed. Animal waste along with night soil can also be considered for enriching the organic manure in addition to their utilization for the energy production (biogas production). Massive plants for conversion of bio-wastes into useful products needs to be explored as

- done in the developed nations (**Action:** Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore / Director, SCMS / Director, CPMB)
6. Influence of climatic changes on the crop growth and pests & disease has to be studied (**Action:** Director, SCMS)
 7. There should not be any duplication in various crop boosters / tonics / mixtures developed by TNAU Vs such products already developed by various institutes / organizations (**Action:** Director, SCMS)

Water management

1. The research on fertigation schedule to the main and intercrop needs to be intensified under intercropping situations for higher efficiency. The drip irrigation system is found to be economically viable than sprinkler system. New methods may be proposed to study the cost effective drip irrigation system (**Action:** Director, WTC)
2. All water management research should be comprehended for making holistic, integrated recommendations for large scale adoption (**Action:** Director, WTC / Director, SCMS)
3. Sub-surface irrigation systems to be studied thoroughly (**Action:** Director, SCMS / Director, WTC)
4. Studies are to be strengthened for micro sprinkler systems (**Action:** Director, WTC / Director, SCMS)

Crop protection

1. Use of new promising-pesticides and combination pesticides may be suggested (**Action:** Director, CPPS)
2. Liquid formulation comprising consortia of microorganisms that promotes nitrogen and phosphorus availability and induce resistance may be developed and made available to farmers by obtaining registration from Central Insecticide Board (**Action:** Director, CPPS)
3. Pestigation studies have to be strengthened & appropriate crop & material(s) specific pestigation prescription is to be made (**Action:** Director, CPPS / Director, WTC / Director, SCMS)

Horticulture

1. Efforts may be taken to develop sweet tamarind variety for commercial venture. An alternate variety for the existing PKM 1 tamarind may be developed at HC&RI, Periyakulam as it is not true to type now. Further,

- the reason for low yield of tamarind PKM 1 may be assessed and the issues to be addressed (**Action:** Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam)
2. The HC&RI, Coimbatore produces quality bananas and cassava in a limited quantity for supplying to entrepreneurs who will be multiplying them at a larger scale for farmers. The entrepreneurs willing to commercialize tissue culture plants may be supplied with adequate, quality mother plants from HC&RI, Coimbatore (**Action:** Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore)

Agri. marketing

1. Price forecast for various agriculture produce is being successfully carried out by CARDS, TNAU. Forecast on banana may be disseminated to the NRCB (**Action:** Director, CARDS)

Home science

1. Value addition in tapioca are to be made other than the products already developed by CTCRI to avoid duplication (**Action:** Dean, HSC&RI, Madurai / Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore)

Extension

1. Prospects of using interactive multimedia (E-agriculture) in technology dissemination to farmers may be suggested (**Action:** DEE)

Policy

1. The activities to harvest water namely desilting tanks, water harvest at the dwellings are to be continued effectively to save the rain water and prevent soil erosion. The nutrient available in the desilted soil can be effectively utilized (**Action:** Dean, AEC&RI / Director, WTC / Director, SCMS)
2. Suitable suggestions are to be made to Govt. to have the programme of desilting of tanks in the state as a continuous basis (**Action:** Director, SCMS / Director, CARDS)
3. Suggestion to be given to Govt. for strict adherence of roof water harvesting (**Action:** Director, SCMS / Director, CARDS)
4. Policy decision is to be made to have multi-disciplinary, mission mode, crop mode approach in the research system (**Action:** All University Officers)

ANNEXURE

42nd RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 02.03.2009 AT SEMINAR HALL I, TNAU, COIMBATORE - 3

List of participants who attended the meeting

Sl.No.	Name	Designation
	University Officers	
1.	Dr.P.Santhanakrishnan	Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore
2.	Dr.B.Chandrasekaran	Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore
3.	Dr.T.S.Raveendran	Director, CPBG, TNAU, Coimbatore
4.	Dr.P.Balasubramanian	Director, CPMB, TNAU, Coimbatore
5.	Dr.E.Vadivel	Director of Extn. Education, TNAU, CBE
6.	Dr.R.Samiyappan	Director, CPPS, TNAU, Coimbatore
7.	Dr.M.V.Ranghaswami	Director, WTC, TNAU, Coimbatore
8.	Dr.M.Chandrasekaran	Director i/c, CARDS, CBE
9.	Dr.R.Chandrababu	Dean, SPGS, TNAU, Coimbatore
10.	Dr.P.Subbian	Director, ABD, TNAU, Coimbatore
11.	Dr.Veeraraghavathatham	Dean, HC&RI, Coimbatore
12.	Dr.A.Sampathrajan	Dean, AEC& RI, TNAU, Coimbatore
13.	Dr.R.Balasaraswathi	Director i/c, Planning & Monitoring
14.	Dr.S.Jeyaraman	Dean, ADAC&RI, Trichy
15.	Dr.K.Ramamoorthy	Dean, AC&RI, Madurai
16.	Dr.A.Andal	Dean, HSC&RI, Madurai
17.	Dr.A.S.Ponnuswamy	Special Officer (Seeds), TNAU, CBE
18.	Dr.S.Jebaraj	Director, TRRI, Aduthurai
19.	Dr.K.Rangasamy	Dean, AEC&RI, Kumulur, TNAU, CBE
20.	Dr.P.Vivekanandan	Dean, AC&RI, Killikulam
21.	Dr.S.Natarajan	Dean, HC&RI, Periyakulam

	Expert Members	
22.	Dr.B.N.Mohanty	Head, Bio-diversity, IFGTB
23.	Dr.P.P.Ramaswami	RC Member
24.	Dr.M.M.Mustaffa	Director, National Res. Centre for Banana
	State Dept. Official Members	
25.	Th.R.Amirthalingam	Joint Director of Horticulture, Chennai
26.	Dr.V.Sivaprakasam	Supt. Engineer (AE), Coimbatore
	Heads of Departments	
27.	Dr.V.M.Duraisamy	Prof. & Head, Dept. of AMRC, CBE
28.	Dr.B.Rajendran	Prof. & Head, SRS, Cuddalore
29.	Dr.N.Selvaraj	Prof. & Head, ICH, Ooty
30.	Dr.K.Sivasubramaniam	Prof. & Head, ARS, Vaigaidam
31.	Dr.T.N.Balamohan	Prof. & Head, Dept. of Fruits, CBE
32.	Dr.P.Jansirani	Professor (Hort.), Dept. of Veg. Crops, CBE
33.	Dr.K.Rajamani	Prof. & Head, Dept. of Spices & Plantation Crops, Coimbatore
34.	Dr.V.Krishnasamy	Prof. & Head, Dept. of Biotech., CBE
35.	Dr.M.Jawaharlal	Prof. & Head, Dept. of Floriculture & Landscaping, CBE
	Professors	
36.	Dr.N.Ajjan	Professor, DR Office, CBE
37.	Dr.N.Natarajan	Professor, DR office, CBE
38.	Dr.M.Bharathi	Professor, DR office, CBE
39.	Dr.N.Natarajan	Professor (Agrl. Ento.), Mettupalayam
40.	Dr.R.Venkitaswamy	Professor (Agron.), SCMS, CBE
41.	Dr.C.R.Chinnamuthu	Assoc. Professor, DR office, CBE