## TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

**Dr. K.S. Subramanian, Ph.D**Director of Research

O/o. Directorate of Research Coimbatore – 641 003

No.DR/P7/Res.Station Inspection/FRS, Thovalai/2020, Dated:03.03.2020

# **PROCEEDINGS**

Proceedings of the Director of Research's visit made at Floricultural Research Station, Thovalai, Kanyakumari District.

# FLORICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, THOVALAI

The Director of Research visited the FRS, Thovalai on 18.02.2020 and the following scientific staff were present.

- 1. Dr.J.Prem Joshua, Professor and Head
- 2. Dr.G.Ashok Kumar, A.P (Horticulture)

The Director of Research after inspecting the farm and reviewing the development and ongoing research activities of FRS, Thovalai made the following remarks / suggestions for immediate action.

#### **GENERAL**

- A dedicated exhibition hall can be created within the available infrastructure to demonstrate activities and achievements to the visiting Students, Scientists and Farmers.
- A display board may be fixed in office explaining Research Stations mandate, activities, planting material availability, weather parameters etc.,
- Many of the research plots have been mulched with Black/white polyethylene mulch material to arrest weed growth. This activity is appreciable one.
  - The shadenet and polyhouses have to be utilized throughout the year and multiplication of planting materials have to be done.

## RESEARCH

 As propagation studies for Roses have already been standardized, the study on Propagation of Button Rose and Gladiator Roses may be withdrawn and instead URP on Management of Petal shedding and its scientific validation in Panneer Roses may be undertaken.

- Development of new varieties in Panneer roses and Nerium may be attempted through clonal selection.
- Germplasm have to be enriched in Nerium, Roses and Jasmine, Tuberose, Heliconia, Orchid and Ixora.
- The MLT/ART trials in Nerium have to be continued and results to be obtained.
- The activities involving farmers have to be documented through video, photography and farmers needs have to addressed through research. New URP's may be proposed based on farmers needs.
- All scientists should have a minimum of one URP each, publish atleast one research paper/year (NAAS > 6) and should get atleast one externally funded project.

### **ACTION PLAN**

- Technologies from propagation to post harvest technology in flower crops may be showcased to farmers through trainings / exhibitions/ field days.
- Under NADP, the post harvest pilot model Jasmine concrete extraction unit completion work have to be expedited and the model has to be put into use through demonstration. For this, FPO's & SHG's may be contacted and a linkage has to be created in order to get bulk quantities of flowers to be processed.
- Effects may be initiated to contact the Pollution Control Board to effectively reduce emission of smoke from the unit while processing.

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

To

The Professor and Head, FRS, Thovalai.
The TPO to Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore