

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

O/o the Registrar
TNAU, Coimbatore

No. TNAU /VC-Review/ TCRS, Yethapur /2020-21/No.88 - II / 2020 dt. 30.11.2020

PROCEEDINGS

Sub: TNAU - Vice-Chancellor's review on 26.11.20 at TCRS, Yethapur- Proceedings – issuance– regarding

Ref: This office earlier proceedings No. 88 and 88-I dt. 08.11.2019 & 30.04.2020 respectively.

Honourable Vice-Chancellor of TNAU reviewed the activities of Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur on 26.11.2020 and made the following suggestions which requires further action from the concerned scientists.

A. Research

1. Tapioca

- Wild Manihot sp. sourced from Yercaud hills may be utilized for crossing programme in tapioca during the flowering season.
- True cassava materials may be evaluated for biotic and abiotic stress tolerance through multidisciplinary approach. A new sub project may be submitted. If possible one M.Sc (Hort.) student may be allotted for intensive evaluations.
- Breeding of tapioca may be focused for development of new variety on following two aspects
 - short duration, edible purpose
 - High yield and high starch content (> 30 %)
- The new Agronomy-University Research Project proposed on weed management in Tapioca should be followed for getting approval by the RPAC **before the end of December 2020**.
- For weed management trial, the time of planting of tapioca may be fixed in consultation with the Department of Agronomy, TNAU considering the window of planting during Dec-Jan by majority of farmers and weed dynamics.
- Production of planting materials of tapioca variety YTP 2 may be taken up in farmers field and State Horticulture Farm at Karumandurai and Mulluvadi for its spread. Follow up with the farmers growing YTP 2 may be done to assess the feedback.
- Cassava booster may be demonstrated on large scale in tapioca growing districts through TNAU centres and State Horticulture Department officials. Its sale may be promoted through TNAU centres /KVKs /TANUVAS and Pvt. KVKs by getting approval from TNAU sale price committee.
- OFT on Cassava using "Triveni Bio mix" may be done at farmers field in saline water problem areas.
- Efforts should be intensified for identification of new strains of parasitoids for the control of cassava mealy bug (*Phenacoccus manihoti*).

2. Castor

- Grafting of perennial castor with hybrid castor YRCH 1 may be attempted to maintain the plant as perennial crop.
- Trial on chemical nipping on castor may be critically evaluated and treatments may be further refined with the combination of chemicals like etherel and paclobutrazol.
- Success story of the hybrid castor YRCH1 is to be published in Valarum velanmai for wider publicity.
- Castor germplasm and promising breeding lines may be critically evaluated for leaf hopper, whitefly and *Botrytis* resistance with respect to stem colour and bloom.
- The earlier attempts made to popularize castor in non-traditional growing areas be consolidated and analyzed for its prospective follow up.

B. General

- Construction and painting of remaining portion of vehicle shed may be done by utilizing the revolving fund available at TCRS, Yethapur.
- Fencing on the eastern side of TCRS, Yethapur may be strengthened.
- Proposal may be submitted for getting 25 acres from State Horticultural Farm, Mulluvadi for maintenance of cassava germplasm lines multiplication of new varieties.
- All the non-recurring purchase proposal should be submitted before 31st December 2020 for getting the University Sanction Order.
- The motorized sett cutter available at TCRS, Yethapur may be further refined and improved with respect to safety measures in consultation with Dean, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore.
- Efforts may be taken to get external agency funded projects by the scientists.
- Large scale demonstration of newly released varieties may be carried out for area spread in Tapioca and Castor.
- The impact analysis made for spread of the new varieties may be finalized in discussion with Director, CARDS.

Action taken may be reported regularly.

(By order of the Vice-Chancellor)


Registrar
30/11/2020

To The Professor and Head, Tapioca and Castor Research Station, Yethapur

CC: The Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore /Director (CARDS)/ Dean, AEC&RI, TNAU,
Coimbatore
The TPO to VC for necessary follow up