

## TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Office of the Director of Research,  
TNAU, Coimbatore 641 003

28.05.2021

### PROCEEDINGS

The **Dr. K.S. Subramanian**, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore visited the Agricultural Research Station, Kovilpatti on **10.03.2021** along with Dr.M. Kannan, Professor(Hort.) of this office and reviewed the ongoing various research activities and action taken on the proceedings of the various CSMs, SWC, Research Council and Reviews of Vice Chancellor & Other Technical Directors. **Dr. K. Baskaran**, Professor and Head, Agricultural Research Station, Kovilpatti had made brief presentation about the action taken on the previous inspection proceedings of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and various schemes and research activities.

Overall, all the suggestions / remarks made by the **Vice Chancellor** in the review and cropping program presentations have been accomplished as indicated in the respective proceedings. The following are the key issues related to the farm is to be addressed. The Director of Research highlighted the current status of TNAU ranking in ICAR and the importance of high-quality research and publications for winning other merits and awards in the national level. The **Director of Research** also visited all field experiments laid out in the station. The following remarks/suggestions were given to scientists of the station for further improvement.

#### GENERAL

- All scientists should have URP / Externally Funded projects as per the mandate of the university and UGC regulations and publish at least one paper per scientist per year with **NAAS > 6**.
- Such effort will help further to get higher institutional ranking. The TNAU ranking improved from 33 (2019) to 8 in 2020 mainly due to the high impact factor publications besides receipt of more externally funded projects.
- The Professor & Head has initiated some efforts such as Digital display of major activities / agro-advisories, Farm advisory cell to guide the farmers / visitors, Exhibition Hall besides Display of activities & achievements to improve the visibility of Research Station.

- Video on the dryland technologies, crop cafeteria, research activities taken by DEE crew during Jan 2020 to be made available as YouTube at the earliest.
- Complete mechanization / Smart Farming proposal may be prepared and kept ready for funding under TANII / NADP.

## **Research**

### **Crop Improvement**

- Time line for release of new cotton variety to be fixed.
- Breeding of jassid resistant cotton variety integrating KC 3 for mechanized harvesting may be started with collaboration of Agricultural Engineering.
- Agri canon bird scaring machine may be purchased to protect the crops from birds' damage.
- Newly Released TNAU crop varieties in sorghum, cotton, millets etc may be displayed in Frontier Avenue of the farm.

### **Crop Management**

- Crop cafeteria/ Dry land Technology Park of black soil farm may be proposed as university research project by the Farm manager.
- Efforts may be taken to get five species of VAM from TERI, New Delhi to conduct drought management study in rainfed crop.
- Intercropping study with small onion in rainfed cotton may be taken up to increase farmers' income.
- Assistant Professor (Agricultural Meteorology) may fix appointment with the Professor & Head, Agro Climatic Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore to propose new research projects related to advance research such as smart agriculture, micro precipitation etc..
- Previous year Crop cafeteria recorded videos pertaining to Agricultural Research Station; Kovilpatti may be made available at the earliest.
- University research projects may be proposed to develop technological capsules for dryland crops.

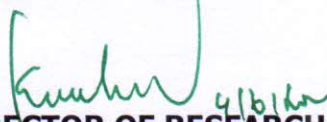
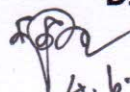
- Research proposal may be proposed regarding mulching with polythene sheet in sorghum, chillies and cotton under dryland conditions.
- Director of Research finally pointed that, an area of 10 - 20 acres may be earmarked for robotics based smart farming research in collaboration with Sona College of Technology, Salem as one of the centre under dryland condition.

### **Natural Resource Management**

- Nano zinc and IFFCO nano urea fertilizer products may be tested in rainfed cotton and sorghum crops by the Soil Scientist of ARS, Kovilpatti as one of the centres.
- Request may be given to the Professor & Head, Department of Remote sensing, TNAU, Coimbatore to include Agricultural Research Station, Kovilpatti as sub centre for conducting remote sensing research.

### **Crop Protection**

- Farmers Advisory Cell: Plant protection scientist may kindly be posted to solve the plant protection issues of dryland crops.
- A diagnostic team comprises of Entomologist, Pathologist, Soil Scientist and Plant Physiologist can make periodical field visits and report the field problems encountered and solution provided in the monthly reports.

  
**DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH**  
  
4.6.21..

Copy communicated to the Professor and Head, ARS, Kovilpatti