

### CPCRI, RESEARCH CENTRE, KAHIKUCHI CELEBRATED GOLDEN JUBILEE

CPCRI Research Centre, Kahikuchi celebrated the Golden Jubilee of its inception during 5 - 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2010. The Centre was started in 1959 as Central Arecanut Research Station (CARS) and later in 1970, amalgamated with the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) as one of its research centres.

#### Kisan Mela at Kahikuchi

A Kisan Mela was organized on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of CPCRI, Research Centre, Kahikuchi on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010. His Excellency Shri J.B. Patnaik, Honourable Governor of Assam was the Chief Guest and Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Vice Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University was the Guest of Honour. The inaugural function was presided over by Dr. George V. Thomas, Director, CPCRI, Kasaragod.

In his inaugural address, the Honourable Governor appreciated the achievements of CPCRI in terms of technology generation and dissemination for major plantation crops for the NE region. Noting the vast potential for the plantation crops based cropping systems in the region, he urged the farmers to respond to the foremost need to achieve food security for the nation.

Improved technologies on arecanut, coconut, and other horticultural crops and developmental activities were presented in the interaction session in which about 600 farmers from Assam participated.

#### Brainstorming session on Technological Support to Horticulture Development in NE Region

A brainstorming session on "Technological Support to Horticulture Development in NE Region and Exhibition on Horticulture Technologies" was organized

at CPCRI, Research Centre, Kahikuchi on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Sri Lambor Rynjah, Principal Advisor, Agriculture, Planning Commission, Govt of India was the Chief Guest and Dr H.P.Singh, Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR, New Delhi Presided over the function. Other dignitaries present were Dr V.V.Sadamate, Advisor, Planning Commission (Agril.), Govt. of India; Dr Gorakh Singh, Horticulture Commissioner, Govt. of India, Dr H. Baruah, Director (Hort.), Govt. of Assam, Dr. S. Nachan, Director, ICAR RC for NEH Region, Barapani; Dr. George V Thomas, Director, CPCRI; Dr R.P.Medhi, Director, NRC for Orchids, Sikkim and Project Co-ordinators of Palm, Spices, and Sub-Tropical fruits (ICAR); Director of Research and Scientists from AAU, Jorhat and Kahikuchi. Experts from other universities and ICAR organizations, and more than 200 delegates attended the session.

An exhibition on "Horticultural Technologies for NE Region" was inaugurated by Sri L. Rynjah. Dr H.P. Singh, DDG (Hort.), in his presidential address emphasized the need for development of the farming community in NE region by timely adoption of improved technologies.

In the session that followed, the problems faced by the farmers were discussed and various technologies for the development of horticulture in the region were presented.



Shri J.B. Patnaik, His Excellency, the Governor of Assam releasing publications



Shri L. Rynjah, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission, Govt. of India, Dr. H.P. Singh, DDG (Hort.), Dr. Gorakh Singh, Hort. Commissioner, Dr. Sadamate, Advisor, Planning Commission visiting exhibition

## IMPORTANT MEETINGS / PROGRAMMES HELD

### Institute Research Committee meeting

The 38<sup>th</sup> Institute Research Committee meeting of CPCRI was held during 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at Kasaragod under the chairmanship of Dr. George V. Thomas, Director. Project leaders of all the ongoing projects have presented the progress of research. Decisions taken and recommendations emerged during the deliberations of the meeting were presented by the mega project leaders during the Plenary Session on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2010. The plenary session was chaired by Shri R. Hali, formerly the Director of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, in which members of IRC and officials from the various developmental departments as well as progressive farmers also participated and offered their suggestions.



Shri R. Hali releasing Research Highlights 2009-10 during the valedictory session of IRC Meeting

### Institute Management Committee meeting

Institute Management Committee meeting was held on 27-3-2010 at CPCRI, Kasaragod under the chairmanship

of Dr. George V. Thomas, Director. Dr. M. Gangadhar Nayak, Principal Scientist (Hort.), Project Directorate of Cashew, Puttur, Dr. P. Kalidas, Principal Scientist (Ento.), Project Directorate of Oil Palm, Pedavegi, A.P. (members) Shri GAM Muthu, AO I/c, CPCRI, Kasaragod (Member Secretary) and Shri P. Bala Brahmaiah, SFAO, CPCRI, Kasaragod (Special Invitee) were present.

### Bioinformatics Training

A training program on "Molecular marker discovery and validation" was conducted from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2010. Dr. M. Haridas, Professor, Kannur University was the chief guest for the inaugural function. Twenty participants drawn from ICAR institutes, universities and colleges attended the training. The training for the second batch was conducted during 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 in which 15 participants attended.



Dr. M. Haridas chairing the inaugural session of Bioinformatics training

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

### Coconut genetic resources

A distinct ecotype of coconut, 'Annur' from Kannur district of Kerala, was identified for *in situ* characterization and further studies. As per the farmers' perception, palms of this ecotype are semi tall, high yielding and the nuts exhibit thicker endosperm with more oil yield.



Annur tall ecotype of coconut

Analysis of six years yield performance in hybrid evaluation trial V, indicated the superior performance of the hybrid, MYD x Kenya Tall in terms of nut yield (132 nuts/palm/year) and copra yield (4.53 t/ha).



A high yielding coconut hybrid (MYD x Kenya Tall) identified

### Climate change effects on coconut

Impact of elevated temperature (+2°C) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (550 and 700 ppm) on the quality of coconut leaf wax has been studied. Fatty acid profile of leaf epicuticular wax in coconut under different treatments as delineated by gas chromatography indicated variation in the fatty acid profile between the varieties and treatments. Major variation observed was in area/ percentage of two fatty acids viz; C24 (lignoceric acid) and C12 (lauric acid).

### Occurrence of coconut slug caterpillar in Kasaragod district

The leaf eating slug caterpillar, *Conthyla rotunda* H. is a pest of sporadic occurrence. During outbreaks the larvae completely defoliate the leaves, resulting in drastic reduction in nut yield. Currently this pest is found to occur in Valiyaparambu Grama panchayat of Kasaragod district

from December 2009 onwards. This pest has already caused damage to around 4000 palms in this area.

The team from CPCRI along with officials from the Department of Agriculture has visited the affected gardens on 18.2.10. Thirty six farmers in the southern parts of the Valiyaparambu panchayat where there was severe infestation were provided with light traps consisting of 14 watts CFL light that was placed @ 1.5 feet above the water level placed in a basin. They were also trained on the use of light traps and identification of the adult moths. Light trap was operated from 7.00 to 11.00 pm in the night and the number of moths trapped were monitored by farmers themselves. The number of moths trapped from 16.3.10 to 22.3.10 ranged from 500 to 5000 moths/trap/week. The technology has been well received by the farmers and the management practice has helped to contain the pest build-up with appreciable reduction in larval population in the Valiyaparambu panchayat.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Research Articles

Naresh Kumar, S. and Kasturi Bai, K. V. 2009. Photosynthetic characters in different shapes of coconut canopy under irrigated and rainfed conditions. *Indian J. Plant Physiol.* 14: 215-223.

Sit, A.K., Arunachalam, V. and Acharya, G. C. 2008. Cultivar and nutrient levels influence the aerial roots and morphometric traits in arecanut palm (*Areca catechu* L). *Horticulture Journal*. 21: 121-124.

### Paper presented in seminars, symposia, conferences

Arunachalam, V., Zareena Banu, Saritha, S., Sreesmitha V., Nishad, K.P. 2010. CorPKdb- a database of coconut, oil palm and rice protein kinases. Poster presented at the International Symposium on Computational Biology, Structural Bioinformatics and Systems Biology (Bioinformatica Indica) during 11-13 January 2010 at Centre for Bioinformatics, University of Kerala, Trivandrum.

Manju, K.P. and Arunachalam, V. 2010. Genome wide analysis of simple sequence repeats in date palm. Poster presentation at the International Symposium on Computational Biology, Structural Bioinformatics and Systems Biology (Bioinformatica Indica) during 11-13 January 2010 at Centre for Bioinformatics, University of Kerala, Trivandrum.

Krishnakumar, V., Kalavathi, S., Regi Jacob Thomas and George V. Thomas. 2010. Diversification of cropping system through community based organizations for sustaining productivity and rural upliftment-Kerala experiences"

Proceedings of 97<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress held at Thiruvananthapuram from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

George V. Thomas, Nair, R.V. and Jerard, B.A. 2010. Production of quality planting materials of plantation crops. In: *Proceeding of National Conference on Production of Quality Seeds and Planting Material- Health Management in Horticultural Crops*". 11-14<sup>th</sup> March 2010, NASC, New Delhi.

Jacob, P. M., Thomas, R. J., Nair, R. V. and George V. Thomas. 2010. Strategy for production of quality planting materials in coconut for the root (wilt) disease prevalent tract of Kerala. In: *Proceeding of National Conference on Production of Quality Seeds and Planting Material-Health Management in Horticultural Crops*". 11-14<sup>th</sup> March 2010, NASC, New Delhi pp 228.

R. Manimekalai. 2010. Present status of Phytoplasma disease diagnostics of horticultural crops. In: *Proceeding of National Conference on Production of Quality Seeds and Planting Material-Health Management in Horticultural Crops*". 11-14<sup>th</sup> March 2010, NASC, New Delhi pp 228.

### Varietal Notification

Coconut variety Kalpa Pratibha. 2009. Notification of crop varieties and registration of germplasm. *Indian J. Genet.*, 69(2): 166.

Coconut variety Kalpa Mitra. 2009. Notification of crop varieties and registration of germplasm. *Indian J. Genet.*, 69(2): 166-167.

Coconut variety Kalpa Dhenu. 2009. Notification of crop varieties and registration of germplasm. *Indian J. Genet.*, 69(2): 167.

Coconut variety Kalparaksha. 2009. Notification of crop varieties and registration of germplasm. *Indian J. Genet.*, 69(2): 167-168.

#### Extension Folders

Cropping systems for management of root (wilt) disease

affected coconut gardens (Folder No. 196) compiled and edited by Dr. V. Krishnakumar.

#### Training Manual

Jaganathan, D., Jayasekhar, S. and Jose, C.T. 2010. Training Manual on Arecanut and Cocoa Production Technology. CPCRI, Kasaragod, 137 p.

## HRD / TRAININGS

Name of personnel	Title of Training Course	Place & duration
Dr. S. Kalavathi & Dr.V. Krishnakumar	Technology Commercialization	ASCI, Hyderabad 8 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> February, 2010
Dr. Regi Jacob Thomas	Hybrid purity assessment using molecular markers	DOR, Hyderabad 18-25 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
Dr. C.G.N. Nampoothiri	Technical and Administrative Support for Consortia based Research in Agriculture	NAARM, Hyderabad 22 <sup>nd</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2010
Shri K. Sajnanath	ICAR sponsored HRD Training on 'Participatory Research and Extension – Tools and Techniques'	KAU, Thrissur 16-20 February 2010

## AWARDS

D. Jaganathan, Scientist (Agricultural Extension) was awarded IARI Merit Medal for his outstanding academic and research in Ph.D. at IARI, New Delhi. He received the award and gold medal on 13-2-2010 from Her Excellency Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, President of India.



President of India awarding the medal and citation to Shri. D. Jaganathan

Mr. Anilkumar B., Senior Technical Assistant, CPCRI Kayamkulam has secured first position and was awarded the Gold Medal in M. Sc. (Agricultural Economics) by the Allahabad Agricultural Institute (Deemed University), Allahabad.



Dr. D. D. Lapang, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya awarding the gold medal to Shri. B. Anilkumar

## NEW PROJECTS SANCTIONED

A new project entitled "Field Demonstration of Integrated Disease Management Technology for Management of Coconut Leaf Rot Disease including Biocontrol agents" (with an outlay of Rs.13,68,759/- for a period of three years) was sanctioned by the Coconut Development Board, Kochi. Dr. N. Srinivasan, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), CPCRI Regional Station,

Kayamkulam is the Principal Investigator for the project. Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development (DCCD), Kochi has sanctioned Rs. 4.85 lakhs for conducting training on 'cocoa production technology'. Fifty farmers each from Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Goa will be trained at CPCRI, Regional Station, Vittal.



## TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

### KASARAGOD

#### Trainings

A training programme on 'Crop management technologies, lab techniques and management of experimental plots' was organised for the technical staff of CPCRI, Kasaragod during 01-03 February 2010, in which 20 participants attended.

A training programme on 'Value addition in coconut' for 26 farmers from Andaman & Nicobar Islands was organised during 09-24 March 2010 at CPCRI, Kasaragod. The training programme was sponsored by the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration under ATMA project.



Farmers from Andaman & Nicobar Islands who have attended the training programme on 'Value addition in coconut' at CPCRI, Kasaragod

An awareness-cum- training programme for farmers on soil and water conservation and water harvesting was organised on 29.01.2010 at Kuttyanam, Bedadka under the 'Farmer Participatory Action Research Programme (FPARP) on Soil and Water Conservation and Water Harvesting in the West Coast Region of Kerala' sponsored by Ministry of Water Resources, New Delhi.

#### Inauguration of water harvesting structures

Two check dams constructed at Kuttyanam, Bedadka under the FPARP project sponsored by Ministry of Water Resources was inaugurated by Mr. A.Ananthan, Member, Kasaragod District panchayat on 29-01-2010.

#### Training for rural youth

A training programme on 'Coconut climbing using mechanical device' was organised on 16-01-2010 in collaboration with Kudumbasree District Mission, Kasaragod. Twenty two rural youth including 13 women attended the training programme.

#### Cyber Extension Programmes

Scientist-Farmer interface programme on coconut farming facilitated through videoconferencing was conducted on 16.02.2010. Scientists at CPCRI, Kasaragod, and coconut farmers from Pollachi, Tamil Nadu assembled at SBI, Coimbatore participated in the interface programme.

#### Participation in extension programmes

Dr. C. Thamban, Sr. Scientist participated in the Research-Extension-Farmer interface programme held at Taliparamba, Kannur District on 14-03-2010 organised jointly by Syndicate Bank and Department of Agriculture, Kannur under ATMA project.

#### ATIC activities

A total of 1,804 visitors including farmers, extension personnel and students made use of ATIC facilities during this period. Technology inputs and products including planting materials, farm products, farm literature and CD ROMs worth Rs 75,180/- were sold through ATIC.

#### Radio programmes

Dr. C. Thamban, Sr. Scientist presented a radio discussion programme on 'Organising coconut growers into Community Based Organisations under NAIP project and experiences of implementing technical interventions', which was broadcast by All India Radio, Kannur on 23-03-2010.

### KAYAMKULAM

Dr. N. Srinivasan, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), CPCRI Regional Station, Kayamkulam handled a class on pests and diseases of coconut for the benefit of 49 farmers from Deviyar Sub-basin of Virudhunagar District of Tamil Nadu visiting CPCRI Regional Station, Kayamkulam in 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

Participated in the Karshika Mela 2010 on 19.1.2010 held at Thodupuzha organized by Gandhiji Study centre and delivered a lecture on Intercropping in Coconut.

### Training Programmes

One day training on recent advances in coconut cultivation, with special emphasis to plant protection operations in coconut was imparted to various groups of farmers under ATMA programme. These were Pallickal, Nemom Block – 38 farmers on 01-02-10, Kilikolloor, Kollam – 40 farmers on 11-02-10, Kattakkada Block, Thiruvananthapuram – 27 farmers on 11-02-10, Ranny Block – 28 farmers on 23-02-10, Sakthikulangara, Kollam - 42 farmers on 24-02-10, Pathanamthitta Block – 28 farmers on 12-03-10, Pattanakkad Block – 29 farmers on 16-03-10, Varkala Block – 36 farmers on 18-03-10 and Kazhakkootam Block, - 32 farmers on 23-03-10. Skills were imparted on plant protection techniques and coconut climbing.

One day trainings on Scientific Management of Coconut was given to 55 farmers brought under the exposure visit programme from Virudhunagar District of Tamil Nadu on 18-03-10 and 47 farmers from Villupuram on 24-03-2010.

Rat control campaigns arranged in Perumbalam and Panavally panchayats under the ATMA programme of the State Department of Agriculture under the supervision of CPCRI on 20-03-10.

A field demonstration of integrated management of Rhinoceros beetle involving the use of pheromone trap, field release of beetles inoculated with *Baculovirus*, treatment of manure pits with *Metarhizium* and leaf axil filling with sand and neem cake was arranged in Pallippuram panchayat on 29-03-10.

### Exhibitions

Jiva – 10 at Kottiyam organized by the Department of Animal Husbandry during 8 – 11 January, 2010.

All India Exhibition organized by the Y's Men's Club of Lake City at Cantonment Maidhan, Kollam during 1 – 8 February, 2010.

Exhibition organized by State Bank of Travancore at Charummood on 08-03-10.

Agricultural Technology Expo and Farmers Mela organized by CIFT, Kochi and ICAR at Rajendra Maidan, Kochi during 11-12 March. The CPCRI stall was adjudged as the best by the farmers and the award was presented by Shri. S. Sharma, Minister for Fisheries and Registration, Government of Kerala.

### VITTAL

#### Training programmes

Refresher training on Arecanut and Cocoa production technology was conducted at Vittal during 11 to 13-1-2010. Fourteen technical staff from CPCRI, RS, Vittal and five technical staff from CPCRI, RC, Kidu had attended the training.

#### Extension services

A total of 379 farmers visited the research station and had exposure to various research and extension activities. Seedlings of arecanut and grafts of cocoa were supplied to the farmers. Dr. Ravi Bhat and Dr. D. Jaganathan conducted farm advisory visit to Belthangady on 15-3-10.

### MOHITNAGAR

A two-day training programme on plantation crops was organized for twenty members (women) of Joba activity cluster, Raiganj on 5th-6th February 2010. The programme was jointly sponsored by DRD Cell, Uttar Dinajpur Zilla Parishad, Raiganj and CPCRI, Mohitnagar. Field visit/ exposure visit of 90 farmers of different groups under sector FIAC-Malbazar, ATMA was also facilitate as a part of study tour to learn agriculture, on 22nd February 2010 along with ADO, Malbazar.

Dr. Gobinda Chandra Acharya Attended a brainstorming session on “Technological Support to horticulture development in NE Region and exhibition on horticulture technologies” at CPCRI, Research Centre, Kahikuchi on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

One day training programme on Scientific Cultivation Practices of Plantation Crops and Mixed farming system was conducted on 05.02.10 at this Centre. A total of 19 farmers (17 women of different SHP and 2 male farmers from N. Dinajpur District of WB) participated.

Dr. Arun Kumar Sit, Sr. Scientist (Hort.) has delivered a lecture on Organic Farming in Plantation Crops organized by ASHA, a missionary organization Jalpaiguri. A total of 50 farmers participated in this training programme.

Lecture was delivered on Crop Diversification in Plantation Crops with Spices and Horticulture Development in N. Dinajpur District of WB by Dr. Arun Kumar Sit and Dr. Gobinda Chandra Acharya. The training was organized by DRDC, N. Dinajpur Jilla

Parishad. A total of 75 womens of different SHG participated in this training programme.

**KVK, CPCRI, Kasaragod**

### Training programmes

A total of 26 training programmes were organised for the benefit of 439 (202 men and 237 women) participants. Out of these, 19 were on-campus and 7 were off-campus training programmes wherein 293 (85 men and 208 women) and 146 (117 men and 29 women) were trained, respectively. This includes nine training programmes of 5 – 10 days duration, sponsored by Manjeswar Block Panchayat under SGSY Programme for which Rs.2,72,000/- was remitted. An on job training programme of 5 days duration was organized for 51 vocational higher secondary school students of GVHSS, Karadka on topics viz., coconut processing, mushroom cultivation, vermicomposting, kitchen gardening, integrated pest management, soil analysis, plant tissue culture and vanilla cultivation.

### Front line demonstrations

Two FLDs were initiated during the period viz., Management of fruit flies of mango and Micronutrient management in banana using IIHR banana special. Besides, the FLD on Participatory management of Bud rot disease in coconut commenced during 2008-2009 is being continued.

### On Farm testing

Two OFT programmes were started during this period.

a. Effectiveness of cassava based bio-pesticides against banana pseudo stem weevil : This OFT is having four technology options viz., (1) Farmers practice – Placement of pieces of bar-soap in the lowest 2-3 leaf axils (2) Application of Chlorpyrifos (2.5ml/l) thrice at an interval of one month from fifth month of planting (3) Application of cassava based bio-pesticide at fortnightly interval from fifth month of planting and (4) Trapping of insects using *Beauveria bassiana* smeared banana log traps.

b. High density planting of banana: In this OFT, there are three technology options; 1. planting single plant per pit (farmers' practice), 2. planting two plants per pit and 3. planting three plants per pit. This programme is going on in an area of 0.2 ha belonging to 10 farmers of Neerchal village.



Trapping of insects using *Beauveria bassiana* smeared banana log traps



Demonstration of high density planting of banana to rural women

### Extension services

A one-day workshop on Organic vegetable cultivation and prospects of marketing was organized at KVK, in collaboration with District Co-operative Bank with the participation of 23 farmers. Faculty visited 29 plots of various farmers and extended consultancy services on

different aspects such as integrated nutrient, pest and disease management, soil and water conservation, post harvest technology etc to beneficiary farmers. Further, extended advisory services to 162 farmers who visited KVK and helpline services to 66 beneficiaries. Faculty attended six group meetings of farmers and interacted with 187 farmers (104 male and 83 female). A programme depicting the achievements made by KVK in the district was covered by the All India Radio, Kannur by recording interviews with 17 beneficiary farmers of KVK. Besides, two radio programmes were

presented by the SMSs and seven activities of KVK were covered in news papers/TV.

## Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Alleppey

### Training Programmes

KVK Alleppey has conducted a total of 60 trainings during this quarter; 10 on campus, 14 off campus, 33 sponsored and 3 vocational. A total of 491 male and 1031 female trainees participated in these programme.

Training	No.	Men	Women	Total
On Campus	10	31	207	238
Off Campus	14	122	166	288
Sponsored	33	332	620	952
Vocational	3	6	38	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1031</b>	<b>1522</b>

### External Funded Programmes

Field Day of FLD on 'Rationalizing chemical fertilizer and plant protection chemicals through soil testing methods and eco-friendly plant protection measures' funded by State Planning Board was conducted on 18-3-2010 at Kelamangalam, in which 44 farmers participated from various padasekharams.

### BTT meeting/ Kisan goshti

The subject matter specialists of KVK attended the district level farmer – scientist interface at Alappuzha in which 154 progressive farmers from 8 blocks and 47 extension officials participated.

### Exhibition

KVK Participated in the exhibitions organised by Jaycees Sasthamcotta at Kollam on February 3-8, 2010 and that organised by State Bank of Travancore at Charummood on 8-3-2010.

### Farmer Field School (FFS)

A total of five Farmer Field Schools (FFS) were conducted in various locations of the district during the period. They were (i) Drought management in coconut (Thekkekkara), (ii) Relevance of soil testing for improving nutrient use and soil health (Clappana), (iii) Management of stem bleeding in coconut (Devikulangara), (iv) Management of duckling mortality (Ambalapuzha) and (v) Coleopteran pest management in coconut (Krishnapuram).

### Entrepreneurship development training

An Entrepreneurship development training programme on 'Knowledge and skill upgradation training for gardeners for employability in horticultural farm/units' funded by State Horticultural Mission was conducted on 10-3-2010.

### Other Extension activities

During this period the Krishi Vigyan Kendra organised various extension activities.

Helpline Services	:	567 nos
Field Visits	:	25 nos
Seminars	:	2 nos
Film show	:	3 nos
Farmers visit to KVK	:	1101 nos
Agroclinic services	:	99 nos
Animal health campaign / vaccination	:	1 no
Diagnostic and scientific visits	:	99 nos

### Soil, Water and Plant Testing Laboratory

During the period 120 soil samples and three water samples were analyzed for the benefit of 46 farmers.

### Revolving fund scheme

Good quality vegetable seeds (2.5 kg), mushroom spawn (506 nos), earthworms (1200 nos), and ME traps (236 nos) were provided through KVK revolving fund activities.

### ATMA – activities

The KVK organised 6 training programmes for ATMA farmers from Trivandrum, Kollam, Alleppey and Pathanamthitta districts under the trainings within the state programme.

### 'Harithavruthantham' - Technical SMS service to stakeholders of KVK

Valuable information related to agricultural technology was disseminated through SMS to progressive farmers, line department and extension officials.



## SEMINARS / SYMPOSIA / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Name of Personnel and Designation	Name of the programme	Place & duration
Dr. George V. Thomas, Director, Dr. P.M. Jacob, Head, Dr.N. Srinivasan, Principal Scientists and Dr. R. Manimekalai, Sr. Scientist	“National Conference on Production of Quality Seeds and Planting Material – Health Management in Horticultural Crops”.	NASC, New Delhi 11 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> March, 2010
Dr. R. Manimekalai Scientist (SS)	Lead paper on Phytoplasma diseases of horticultural crops, development of diagnostics, uses and future thrusts. National Consultative meeting on Disease Diagnostics for Horticulture crops.	NRC for Banana, Thiruchirapalli 22-24, January 2010
Dr. V. Niral, Sr. Scientist	Meeting on “Network project proposal on Comprehensive Utilization of Natural Fibres: Production, Processing and By-product Utilisation”.	Pusa, New Delhi 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2010
Dr. T. Vidhan Singh, Dr. A.C. Mathew, Dr. B. Augustine Jerard, Sr. Scientists and Shri H. Muralikrishna, TIO	Zonal Technology Management & Business Planning and Development Meeting-cum-Workshop. Shri H. Muralikrishna presented the progress of ITMU activities.	CIFT, Kochi 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
Dr. R. Manimekalai Scientist (SS)	Lead paper on Diagnosis of phytoplasma in commercially important horticultural crops in the National Symposium on Conservation Horticulture organized by Indian Society of Horticultural Research and Development.	Dehradun, Uttarakhand 21-23 March, 2010
Dr. C. Thamban	National Ground Water Congress and World Water Day celebrations.	Pusa, New Delhi 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2010

## WOMEN'S CELL

### World Women's Day

World Women's Day was celebrated in a befitting manner on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at CPCRI, Kasaragod. Dr. George V. Thomas, Director chaired the meeting and conducted the proceedings. Dr. (Mrs.) Usha Menon, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Kasaragod Institute of Medical Sciences was the Chief Guest of the function. Dr. (Mrs.) Alka Gupta, Chair person, Women's Cell welcomed the gathering for the meeting. Dr. George V. Thomas in his Presidential address, outlined the importance of the day and women's participation and their excellence in various fields. The Chief Guest of the function Dr. (Mrs.) Usha Menon spoke at length on the topic “Women's rights and health care in women”.



Dr. Usha Menon addressing the gathering during World Women's Day

## CELEBRATIONS

### Republic day

Republic Day was celebrated in the headquarters, regional stations and research centers on 26-1-2010 in a befitting manner. Director in the headquarters and Heads/Scientist-in-charges in the Regional Stations/ Research Centres, respectively, hoisted the national flag and delivered speech.

### CPCRI, Recreation Club Activities, Kayamkulam

A music awareness programme was organized by the Recreation Club, CPCRI, Regional Station, Kayamkulam on January 22, 2010. In addition a magic programme was organized by the Club on February 19, 2010 in which the "Skills in Magic Presentation" was demonstrated by Kumari Ammu, Muthukulam.

## OTHER INFORMATION

### CPCRI won ICAR Zonal Sports Championship

CPCRI Sports contingent comprising of following 42 sports persons including 4 women participants has been participated in the South Zonal Sports Meet at CIFT, Kochi during 23 to 27th February, 2010. Shri A.O. Verghese, Shri Ancil Perira, Shri Arumuganathan, Shri B. Chandrasaha, Shri B. Sundara, Dr. C. Thamban, Dr. C.T. Jose, Shri CH Sulaiman, Shri David Babu, Shri Devakumar, Shri Gopalakrishnan VK., Shri Jacob Kurian, Dr. Jayabose, Shri K. Krishna Naik, Shri K. Krishnan Kunhi, Smt. K. Preethi, Shri K. Keshava, Shri K. Krishnan Nair, Shri KGN Swamy, Shri M. Shankara, Smt. Merin Babu, Shri M Arif, Shri Mukesh Kumar, Smt. N. Bhavani, Dr. Ravi Bhat, Shri Neil Vincer, Shri P. Murlidharan, Shri P. Narayanan Nair, Shri P. Ravindran, Shri Padmayya Gowda, Shri Panduranga, Shri Paulson Sam George, Shri PP Prabhakaran, Shri PV Kunhikannan, Kum. Radhika C., Shri Sadanandan, Shri Sanjeev Patali, Shri T. Vidhan Singh, Shri TE Janardhanan, Shri TK Gangadharan, Smt. K.S. Vishalakshy and Shri Udaykumar N. CPCRI bagged the Zonal Championship with a total of 89 points. Basket Ball was introduced to the ICAR sports for the first time and the First Zonal Champion was CPCRI. Smt. K. Preethi was the Individual Champion (Women) in the sports meet.

The various prize winner are as listed below:

100m race - Women	K. Preethi	I
200m race - Women	K. Preethi	I
Long Jump - Women	K. Preethi	I
High Jump - Women	K. Preethi	I
800 m Race – Men	Sanjeeva Pattali	I
1500 m Race - Men	Sanjeeva Pattali	I
200m Race – Men	Krishnan Nair	II
400m Race – Men	Krishnan Nair	III
4 X 100 m Relay – Men		II
Javelin Throw - Men	Krishnan Kunhi	III
Chess	T E Janardhanan	I
Kabaddi		I
Foot ball		I
Basket Ball		I
Volley ball		I
Babminton (Doubles) Women		II



CPCRI Sports Contingent along with the Chief Guest and Dr. Meena Kumari, Director, CIFT

## PERSONALIA

### OBITUARY

It is with sorrow and grief we inform the sudden demise of Dr. M. C. Nambiar, Former Director, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010. He joined as Jr. Research Assistant in Anatomy at Central Coconut Research Station, Kasaragod on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1951 and later served as Director on 11<sup>th</sup> August 1967 at CCRS, Kasaragod, and as Project Coordinator cum Breeder on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1971. He had served as Director, CPCRI, Kasaragod from 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1977 to

11<sup>th</sup> July 1977. Dr. M. C. Nambiar was President of Indian Society for Plantation Crops during 1977-1978 and as Executive Councilor during 1972 and 1976. He retired from the service on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1985. We pray to the Almighty that the departed soul may rest in peace.



Dr. M. C. Nambiar

APPOINTMENT			
Name of staff	Post appointed	Place	Date
Dr. P.M. Jacob	Head	CPCRI, RS, Kayamkulam	19-02-2010
Dr. P. Muralidharan	Prog. Co-ordinator	KVK Alleppey	01-02-2010
Kum Prathibha P.S.	Scientist (Agri. Ent.)	Kasaragod	15-3-2010
PROMOTION			
Name of staff	From (designation)	To (designation)	Date (w.e.f.)
Shri Sebastian George	T6 Technical Officer	T-7-8 Technical Officer	1-1-2008
Shri T.K. Gangadharan	SSS	LDC, CPCRI, Kasaragod	1-3-2010
Shri P. Ravindran	T5 Technical Officer	T6 Technical Officer	1-1-2008
Dr. H. Moosa	T6 Technical Officer	T-7-8 Technical Officer	1-7-2008
Smt. Saritha Hegde	T7 SMS	T9 SMS	7-4-2008
TRANSFER			
Name of staff	Designation	From (Place)	To (Place)
Dr. G.C. Acharya	Senior Sci. (Hort.)	CPCRI, RC, Mohitnagar	CPCRI, RC, Kahikuchi
Shri T.N. Vidyadharan	Assistant	IVRI, RS, Kolkata	CPCRI, Kasaragod
RETIREMENT			
Name of staff	Designation	From (Place)	On account of
Dr. K.V. Kasturi Bai	Head, PB & PHT	Kasaragod	Superannuation on 31-3-2010
Dr. A.K. Ray	Principal Scientist	CPCRI, RC, Kahikuchi	Superannuation on 31-3-2010
Shri Raghavan M.	Driver (T 1-3)	Kasaragod	Superannuation on 28-2-2010
Shri S. Ramanujam	Senior AO	Kasaragod	Superannuation on 31-1-2010
Shri M. Kumaran	SSS	Kasaragod	Superannuation on 31-1-2010
Smt. P.V. Sarojini	SSS	CPCRI (RS) Kayamkulam	Superannuation on 31-3-2010

## SUCCESS STORIES

### Fortune favours the enterprising: A new entrepreneur in broiler farming

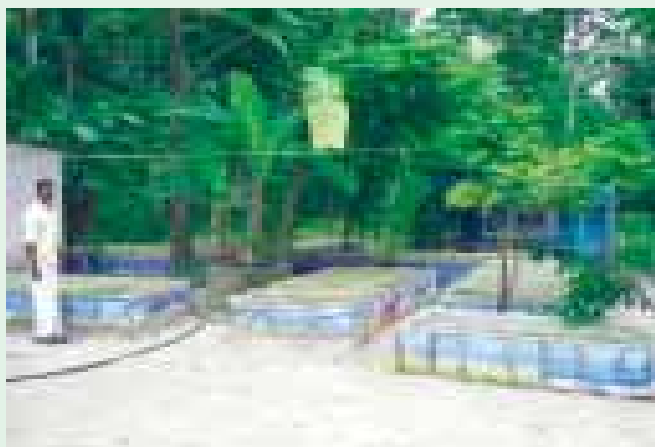
Mr. Manesh, M.L. Bhavan, Cherukara (PO), hailing from the picturesque village of Kavalam in Alapuzha, known for the legendary boat races, is a 23-year old enthusiastic and enterprising youth, who was fortunate enough to attend the vocational training programme on Broiler farming at KVK, Alapuzha during 21 August – 11 November 2008. Enthused by the training, he started a small-scale broiler farm unit with 100 broiler chicks and reared in all-in all-out system. For the next one year (from December 2008 - September 2009), he reared and disposed-off six batches of birds. Inspired by the initial success, he slowly increased the number of birds up to 300 chicks in one batch and thereby he could earn Rs. 1000 – 2000 per batch depending on the season. Now he has scaled-up the enterprise by expanding his farm size to 1000 numbers capacity with the facility to rear the chicks in multiple batch system with capacity to intake 200 chicks per week.



Broiler farm of Shri Manesh in Alappuzha

### Homestead fish farming: A profitable enterprise for coastal district of Alappuzha

Sree Krishna Radio and Arts club, Thiruvizha, Cherthala has 150 members, all in the age group of 20 – 40. During a field visit, the KVK faculty noticed that each house has a homestead pond attached to it and the fish culturing was done in the most unscientific way. They were given the training for 10 days on fish culture by KVK, Alapuzha under the NFDB funded training programme. They were also provided with fingerlings, training manual and pH kit after the training programme. Now, 50 motivated members in that club have formed a group christened as “Mathsya Gramam” and now all of them are pursuing fresh water fish culture and even ventured into ornamental fish culture. Five of the more enterprising youth have diversified their enterprise by starting business in aquarium/ setting up low-cost fish tanks and advisory services. These model entrepreneurs are earning an average monthly income of Rs. 5000 – 6000/- exclusively from this initiative.



A successful fish culturing unit at Chertala

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