

**TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY**  
**KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA, TINDIVANAM**  
**INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM-PLANNING WORKSHOP**  
**REPORT ON THE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME**

In Tamil Nadu, Villupuram District has been selected for the implementation of special programme on Integrated Farming System under District Saturation Model during the financial year 2013-14. The programme is slated for implementation by the developmental departments. A Conference on Integrated Farming System was conducted by the Department of Agriculture on 23.7.2013 at Villupuram. In this Conference, Shri. Sandeep Saxena, I.A.S., Agricultural Production Commissioner and Principal Secretary to the Government presented the Road Map for implementation of the programme. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District following it, organized a Planning Workshop and Capacity Building Programme for the Extension Functionaries of the Department of Agriculture, Villupuram District on 13.9.2013. The Department of Agriculture, Villupuram, Directorate of Crop Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District participated in the programme. Assistant Directors of Agriculture, Horticulture, from the 22 Blocks of the District besides, Agricultural Officers and Horticultural Officers attended the programme. The Director of Extension Education and Director of Crop Management provided the needed backstopping for the programme. The following Sessions were conducted in the One Day Workshop.

Inaugural Programme

Technical Session I– Technology Rollout-Initiatives

Technical Session II –Tasks and Consolidation

Technical Session III –Way Forward and Programmes Ahead

**Inaugural Session**

The gathering was welcomed by Dr. K. Natarajan, Assistant Professor (Seed Science and Technology), Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District. Dr. N. Sathiah, Professor and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District explained about the objectives and format of the Workshop. He mentioned that in the planning specific monitorable indicators have to be adopted to measure the progress and this necessitates systematic planning at microlevel for homogeneous groups. The Programme was inaugurated by Shri. R. Chakravarthi, Joint Director of Agriculture, Villupuram District. The Chief Guest informed the gathering that the Government had taken a positive view on the programme. He also mentioned that everyone connected to the programme felt

elated because the Government has observed that Villupuram District had the features and competence for such a robust programme. Dr. G. V. Ramasubramanian, Professor (Entomology), Oilseeds Research Station, Dr. P. Devasenapathy, Professor (Agronomy), Directorate of Crop Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Shri. H. Rajendran, Deputy Director of Agriculture (SS), Shri. A. Rethinasababathy, Deputy Director of Agriculture (FTC&GOI) felicitated the gathering. Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Central Farm, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University gave the introductory remarks and suggested that farmers priorities and resources are very vital in the programme planning. Th. K. Rajasekar, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Olakkur proposed the vote of thanks.

### **Technical Session I– Technology Rollout-Initiatives**

The Government had earlier given the Road Map for implementation of Programme in a comprehensive way. In this Technical Session, Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Expert on Integrated Farming System made a presentation elaborately on the Good Practices in Integrated Farming System which set the tone for the group exercises in the next session. Specific details were provided to the participants. In this session, Th. K.Rajasekar, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Olakkur and Shri. K.Dharmalingam, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kallakurichi presented the previous experience on Integrated Farming System in the District. The Officers opined that the farmers priorities are the foremost important and difficulties will arise in resource utilization when the farmers donot allocate resources properly. Shri. A. Rethinasababathy, Deputy Director of Agriculture (ATMA) vividly presented about the Government initiatives in agriculture and allied sectors and stressed the need for effective convergence to attain project efficiency. Followed by it there were interactions and the experts answered the queries. It was informed to the participants by the experts that IFS planning is based on the agroecosystem and microzonations and present market accessibility. Hence, a thorough blending of farmers priorities and feasibilities are essential for the success of workable models evolved.

### **Technical Session II –Tasks and Consolidation**

Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Crop Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, chaired the session and explained the stage setting, methodology and component suitability to different ecological situations with the available resources. Earlier in the week, the Professor and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra had given a proforma for collection of the Basic Data of the farmers with which only this session could be handled. The Officers had brought the relevant data for discussion. In

this technical session, four groups were formed based on the ecological situations and group exercises were given for block level officers with models for garden land, dry land and wetland situation that ranged from simple to complicated models. Being a large district with diversified cropping pattern and sequence there was ample scope for fit and flexible models generation. The Officers were provided computing facilities in this regard by the trainers. The criteria for model generations included agroecosystem analysis, operational holding, existing vulnerability with the farmers, soil fertility status and resource availability, ability to allocate resources, cropping intensity etc. Several models were generated and discussed by the groups headed by Shri. K.Raveendran, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Vallam, Shri. K. Dharmalingam, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kallakurichi, Shri. B. Devanathan, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Thirunavalur, Shri. Duraisamy, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Vanur . The experts Dr, C. Jeyanthi, Dr. P. Devasenapathy and Dr. P.M. Shanmugam facilitated this session with accuracy and gave suggestions on the respective models generated by the different groups.

### **Technical Session III –Way Forward and Programmes Ahead**

Dr. P. Devasenapathy, Professor (Agronomy) chaired the session. The officers synthesized the desired models and put into detailed analysis against the backdrop of present day agricultural scenario. The experts felt that when homogenous models are developed, the farmers would experience limited difficulties in implementation. Dr. P. Devasenapathy, Professor (Agronomy) suggested that midterm correction can be incorporated after discussion with farmers for the models as and when implementing difficulties are faced. As the district is predominantly agrarian, the scope for integrating multiple enterprises tested, validated and implemented by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University is very much possible. Being the part of National Network on Farming System Approaches, the future needs on the technology backstopping could be effectively met. Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Crop Management informed the gathering that the IFS models generated by TNAU have been extensively tested and the enterprise integration have occurred in the most scientific manner among the participant farmers of the state, paying rich dividends. Shri. A. Rethinasababathy, Deputy Director of Agriculture (GOI) gave a summation of the whole day proceedings and expressed happiness that the workshop provided the needed impetus and the objectives have been met. During interaction the participants requested constant backstopping for technology integration. The workshop concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. N. Sathiah, Professor and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tindivanam. The workshop ended with National Anthem.

## PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

1.		<p>Exhibition organized at KV, Tindivanam on the eve of the Planning Workshop. District Officials and Scientists interacting in the Exhibition</p>
2.		<p>Welcome Address by Dr. K. Natarajan, Subject Matter Specialist, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District</p>
3.		<p>The format of the Workshop explained by Dr. N. Sathiah, Professor and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District</p>

4.		<p>Felicitations by Shri. A. Rethinasabababthy, Deputy Director of Agriculture (GOI), Villupuram</p>
5.		<p>Felicitations by Shri. H. Rajendran, Deputy Director of Agriculture (SS), Villupuram</p>
6.		<p>Felicitations by Dr. P. Devasenapathy, Professor (Agron), TNAU, Coimbatore</p>



7.		<p>Felicitations by Dr. G. V. Ramasubramanian, Professor (Entomology), Oilseeds Research Station, Tindivanam</p>
8.		<p>Introductory Remarks by Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Crop Management, TNAU, Coimbatore</p>
9.		<p>Inaugural Address by Shri. R. Chakravarthi, Joint Director of Agriculture, Villupuram District</p>

10.		<p>Formal Vote of thanks by Shri. K. Rajasekar, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Olakkur</p>
11.		<p>A view of the participants of the Planning Workshop</p>
12.		<p>Presentation on Good IFS Practices by Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Central Farm, TNAU, Coimbatore</p>

13.		Discussion with the Expert on governing principles of IFS
14.		Shri. K. Dharmalingam, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kallakurichi sharing previous experience on Integrated Farming System in the Block
15.		Shri. K. Rajasekar, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Olakkur sharing previous experience on Integrated Farming System in the Block



16.		<p>Joint discussion in the technical sessions. Shri. Raveendran, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Vallam sharing the filled in proforma</p>
17.		<p>Shri. Devanathan, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Thirunavalur presenting the baseline for documentation of Integrated Farming System</p>
18.		<p>Officers facilitated with a battery of laptops for the Session on Tasks and consolidation</p>

19.		Officers engaged in tasks in the technical session
20.		Officers engaged in tasks in the technical session
21.		Officers engaged in tasks in the technical session

22.		Experts guiding the participants on resource allocation and enterprise blending
23.		Experts focusing on microlevel issues in planning
24.		Shri. A. Rethinasabababthy, Deputy Director of Agriculture (GOI), Villupuram summing up the proceedings of the workshop

25.



Dr. N. Sathiah, Professor and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villupuram District proposing the Vote of thanks at conclusion of the Workshop