Events

Appointment of Vice-Chancellor to Dr. YSRHU

Government of Andhra Pradesh have appointed Dr. T. Janakiram garu, Asst. Director General (HS-I), ICAR as Vice-Chancellor to Dr. Y.S.R. Horticultural University, Venkataramannagudem through G.O. Ms.No. 63 dated: 08.06.2020 of Agriculture & Co-operation (Hort. & Seri.) Department, Government of A.P.

Online Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Council Meetings (ZREAC)

ZREAC meetings for the year 2020 were conducted online on 05th June, 2020 and 11th June 2020 for Rayalaseema and Coastal zones respectively under the chairmanship of Sri. Chiranjiv Choudhary, IFS, Vice-Chancellor & Commissioner of Horticulture, Govt. of A.P & Co-Chairmanship of Dr. B. Srinivasulu, Director of Extension and Dr. R.V.S.K. Reddy, Director of Research. Four Technical sessions i.e. presentation of Research highlights by the concerned heads of the research stations and KVKs in the Zone, discussions on problems faced by the farmers in different districts of the zone during the year, presentation of researchable issues and climatic conditions by the officers of Department of Horticulture including plenary session. The Zonal Research Heads presented action taken report of the last ZREAC meetings and the research and extension gaps to be addressed in various horticultural crops of the specific zones were enlisted for further action. All the university officers, scientists working in research stations and KVKs in the respective zones, DDHs, ADHs and Farmers from the 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh have participated.
Generally mango hoppers damage is noticed in January and continued till February on mango crop in Chittoor District after which these insect pests hide in cracks and crevices of the bark till next flowering season but an observation by Dr. D. Srinivas Reddy, Senior Scientist (Ento.), CRS, Tirupati was recorded where unseasonal occurrence of mango hoppers damage was noticed mainly in the mandals of Damalacheruvu, Punganuru, Somala and Sadum of Chittoor district where the flowering generally occurs in January but in 2020 season, the flowering was observed in Late February and very less trees in these orchards showed sparse flowering (20-30% flowering) and majority of trees have put forth heavy vegetative growth due to prevailing adverse weather conditions. The occurrence of intermittent rains in April (Somala mandal-70.9mm) and May (Somala mandal-32.4mm) have further made the trees to produce more vegetative flush with decrease in temperature of 4-5°C which might have made the weather conditions favourable for hoppers incidence (4-5 hoppers/panicle) that lead to indirect damage mainly affecting the fruit quality (10% damage).

Severe fruit fly and fruit borer incidence was observed both on mango and guava in YSR Kadapa and Chittoor districts of Rayalaseema Zone by Dr. R. Nagaraju, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Head, HRS, Anantharjupeta during the visit to farmers orchards after commencement of rains during the period under report.

In one of the research trial entitled “Influence of climate on growth flowering and yield parameters with different planting dates under Rayalaseem conditions”, papaya seedlings were planted at 15 days interval, starting from first fortnight of November. In the first treatment (First fortnight planting), plants have come to physiological maturity stage and observed that the percent flower and fruit retention was very good when compared to the other dates of planting, as the plants escaped from high temperature during flowering season and retention of flowers and fruits was found to be high.

Off season flowering in the mango Varieties Neelum, Royal Special and Allipasand was reported by the scientist of HRS, Anantharjupeta at Railway Kodur mandal, YSR Kadapa district.
Diagnostic Visits

On 06.06.2020, Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (Pl. Path.) and head, Ms. Y. Swarupa, Research Associate (Ento.) and Dr. P. Avani Research associate (Hort.), KVK, Periyavaram made a field visit to acid lime orchard, Busapaelm village, Venkatagiri mandal and identified incidence of mites and initial dry root rot affected plants. Suggested soil drenching with copper oxychloride @ 3g/l of water/sq.mt. area of the plant basin followed by soil incorporation of *Trichoderma* mixture [1kg *Trichoderma viride* talc based powder +10 kg neem cake +100 kg FYM] at 10 days interval for initial dry root rot affected plants and to spray propargite 57EC 1ml/l for mite attack.

On 01.06.2020, Sri.G.Sandeep Naik, Scientist & Head, KVK, Vonipenta visited papaya field at Musalinayanapalli village of Mydukur mandal. Observed collar rot infestation in Papaya and suggested soil drenching with metalaxyl @ 3gm/l or blitox @ 3gm/l or ridomil MZ @ 2gm/l at collar region of the plant.

On 04.06.2020, Dr.V.Yugandhar, Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta visited banana fields for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Vonipenta village of Mydukur mandal. Observed Erwinia rot in Banana and suggested removal and destruction of infected plants followed by application of bleaching powder @ 25g/l or *Pseudomonas* @ 50 g/l for gap filling.

On 08.06.2020, Sri.G.Sandeep Naik, Scientist & Head and Srividya Rani.N, Scientist (Extension), KVK, Vonipenta had conducted diagnostic visit to Sweet orange field for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Nagasanipalli village of Khajipetamandal. Observed gummosis and leaf miner infestation in sweet orange and suggested the farmers for removal of infected bark with the help of knife and apply copper oxy chloride paste on the infected portion and profenophos @ 2ml/l spray for leaf miner infestation.

On 09.06.2020, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta conducted a diagnostic field visit in banana field at Thimmapalli village of Mydukur mandal. Identified iron and zinc deficiency in banana crop and suggested to spray ferrous sulphate @ 1 gm /l+ zinc sulphate @ 2g/l for correcting the nutrient deficiency.

On 10.06.2020, Dr. V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (SS&AC) and Dr.V.Yugandhar, Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta had conducted diagnostic field visit in Groundnut fields at Chinnakomerala village of Mylavaram mandal. Identified iron and zinc deficiency in the groundnut crop and suggested foliar application of ZnSO$_4$ @ 2 gm /l and Fe$_2$SO$_4$ @ 5 gm/l for correcting the nutrient deficiency.
On 06.06.2020, Dr. E. Karuna Sree, Principal Scientist and Head, Dr. K. Venkata Subbaiah, Scientist (Hort.), Dr. A. Devivaraprasad Reddy, Scientist (Fisheries Science) and Dr. U. Siva Kumar, Research Associate (SSAC), KVK, Venkataramanangudem went to Pandugudem, Kamayakunta, Lankapalli for monitoring PKVY cashew project fields and recommended cultural operations needed to be carried out for coming season for good yields. In this program we also visited Anganwadi schools in Pandugudem and K. Nagampalem for implementing kitchen garden for nutritional security in tribal children.

**Training Programmes**

KVK, Venkataramanangudem has conducted one day training program entitled on “Better Management Practices in Shrimp Farming” to the extension functionaries and farmers of West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh through online meeting on 08.06.2020. In this meeting, four resource persons explained about the shrimp farming during covid-19, criteria for seed selection, feed management, disease management, and biosecurity management. The program was co-ordinate by Dr. E.Karuna Sree, PS & Head and Dr. A. Devivaraprasad Reddy, Scientist (Fishery Science).

On 10.06.2020, KVK, Venkataramanagudem conducted an online training programme through Zoom App on “Use of Biofertilizers in soil fertility management for sustainable agriculture”. In this program Dr. U. Shiva Kumar, Research Associate (SSAC), delivered a lecture on importance of soil health card based fertilizer recommendations. Dr. B. Pedababu, Assistant Professor (SSAC, CoH, VR Gudem), Dr. V. Deepthi, Scientist (Agril. Extension) and Mr. G. ShaliRaju, Scientist (Plant Protection) delivered lectures on production and application of biofertilizers, importance of biofertilizers and role of microorganisms for sustainable Horticulture respectively. This program was coordinated by Dr. U. Shiva Kumar, Research Associate (SSAC). A total of 12 participants consisting of Village Horticulture Assistants, Village Agriculture Assistants and progressive farmers and other scientific staff of KVK, VR Gudem have participated.

On 08.06.2020, Sri. G.Sandeep Naik, Scientist & Head and Srividya Rani.N, Scientist (Extension), KVK, Vonipenta interacted with FPO farmers at Vonipenta village of Mydukur mandal. Discussed about the kharif preparedness, crops to be grown and marketability.
On 04.06.2020 KVK, Pandirimamidi has conducted an off campus training program on Nutri Gardening and Backyard Poultry under to SERP at V.R.Puram village. Sri Rohith, V.A, Wasan – NGO explained about Backyard poultry, its importance and nutritional status and Sri Murali, CC, Velugu explained about kitchen gardening, its importance and nutritional status and method of cultivation etc to tribal women. Sri Bhanu murthy K.C, Scientist (Hort.) coordinated the program. Forty SHG women, and APM and staff of Velugu – V.R.Puram have participated.

On 08.06.2020 KVK, Pandirimamidi conducted an off campus training program on ‘Nutri Gardening and Backyard Poultry’ under SERP at KVK, Pandirimamidi. Dr. Sai Krishna, Veterinary Doctor explained about Backyard poultry, its importance and nutritional status and Sri Bhanu Murthy K.C, Scientist (Hort.) explained about kitchen gardening, its importance and nutritional status and method of cultivation etc to tribal women. Dr. S. Adarsha coordinated the program. Forty SHG women, APM - Velugu, Addateegala and staff of Velugu – Rampachodavaram and Addateegala have participated.

On 06.06.2020, the technical team of KVK, Vonipenta had conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal techniques for adoption of Madirepalli village of Duvvuru mandal. In this programme the scientists had drawn resource map for identification of the resources availability in the village. Also collected the information regarding the field crops and horticultural crops grown, major pests and diseases, live-stock, households and other general information regarding the village.

On 10.06.2020, KVK, Vonipenta conducted On-campus training programme an on “Importance of Summer Ploughing”. Scientist explained the farmers regarding the benefits of summer ploughing, operations to be carried out before going to the new crop such as soil testing, its procedure and compost preparation with the agricultural waste. A pamphlet was released on “Importance of summer ploughing. Farmers from Adireddypalli and Vonipenta villages attended the training. Svidya Rani. N, Scientist (Extension) and Smt. Suneetha.R, Research Associate (Home Science) coordinated the training programme.

Pre-SLTP Meetings
On 02.06.2020, Online Pre-SLTP meeting of Plant Pathology was conducted under the chairmanship of Dr.B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension & University Head, Plant Pathology. All Plant Pathology scientists of Dr.YSRHU submitted their workdone report (2019-2020) and tentative technical programme (2020-2021) of Plan & Non plan.

On 02.06.2020, Online Pre-SLTP meeting of Entomology was conducted under the chairmanship of Dr.A.Sujatha, Dean of Student Affairs & University Head, Entomology. All Entomology scientists of Dr.YSRHU submitted their workdone report (2019-2020) and tentative technical programme (2020-2021) of Plan & Non plan.
Soil Samples Collection

On 01.06.2020 and 10.06.2020, Dr.V.Nagarjuna, Research Associate (SS&AC) and Dr.V.Yugandhar Research Associate (Hort.) form KVK, Vonipenta had collected soil samples in the farmer fields at Maddired-dypalli and Thorrivemula villages of B.Mattam and Mylavaram man-dals. The scientists explained the method of soil sample collection, quarterate method and importance of soil sample collection to the farmers.

Meetings

Dr.B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension conducted Online KVK'S review meeting through video con-
ference and discussed about the status of OFTs, FLDs, KVK farm and action plan to be taken up for
the year 2020-21 on 09.06.2020.

Dr.B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension along with KVK Heads and Scientists participated Online TSP
Action Plan meeting of KVK’s for 2020-21 through video conference (Zoom Meeting) conducted by
ICAR-ATARI, Zone – X. Dr.Y.G.Prasad, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone – X acted as chairman and all
KVK’s of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu have presented their final action plans to be
carried out under TSP -2020-21 on 11.06.2020.

Dr.B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension along with KVK Heads and Scientists participated in Final
Action Plan meeting of KVK’s for 2020-21 through video conference (Zoom Meeting) conducted by
ICAR-ATARI, Zone – X. Dr.Y.G.Prasad, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone – X acted as chairman and all
KVK’s of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu have presented their final action plans to be
carried out during 2020-21 on 12.06.2020.

Dr.R.V.S.K.Reddy, Director of Research and Dr. B.V.K. Bhagavan, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Zonal
Research Head, participated in 20th AMG meeting ICAR – CTCRI (AICRPTC – AGM) through zoom
app. on 12.06.2020.

Dr.K.Mamatha, Senior scientist (Hort.), HRS, Kovvur and Dr. M. Janaki, Scientist (Hort.) & Head, HRS,
Peddapuram participated in the 20th Annual Group meeting of AICRP on Tuber crops through web
conference held from 10th to 12th June 2010 and presented the technical programme of work.

All the University officers along with scientists/SMS’s from all research stations and KVK’s under
Dr. YSRHU participated in AGRS meeting through zoom app on 12.06.2020. Dr. Kadiri Mohan, Scien-
tist (Extn), working at ANGRAU, Tirupati, explained in detail about “ANGRAU RESEARCH MANAGE-
MENT SYSTEMS” (ARMS) at ANGRAU. The meeting was conducted by Dr.R.V.S.K.Reddy, Director of
Research with an intention to collect views of participants in implemeting in Dr.YSRHU.

Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist & Head, KVK, Periyavaram as Subject expert participated in
the programme jointly organized by Reliance foundation through Stream yard, Browser-based live
studio on COVID-19, lockdown 5.0-precautionary measures-Kharif advisory-pest and disease man-
gement in acid lime for the farming community on 15.06.2020.
Visits
Fifteen Village Horticulture Assistants and Horticulture Officer, Peddapuram visited HRS, Peddapuram as part of ‘Polam badi programme’ on 06.06.2020. Dr. M. Janaki, Scientist (Hort.) & Head, HRS, Peddapuram explained about mini set technique, seed treatment and nursery raising in cassava.

World Environment Day
On 5th June 2020, on the occasion of World environment day, Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist and Head, KVK, Periyavaram and other Scientists of KVK planted Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*), mango and guava saplings in the premises of KVK. Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist and Head, highlighted about the importance of the day.

On 05.06.2020 Scientist & Head, and KVK staff has conducted World environment day in KVK, Vonipenta. On this occasion scientists had planted pongamia plants in the office premises. Scientist & Head explained about the importance of conservation of environment and to create awareness on the protection of the environment.

HRD
On 11.06.2020 Dr.P.Lalitha Kameswari, Senior Scientist & Head, Sri K.C.Bhanu murthy, Scientist (Hort.) and Dr. S. Adarsha, Scientist (Ento.) of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pandiririamidi have participated in online training on ‘Processing and Value addition of Seasonal fruits’ organised by ICAR-Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology, Thanjavur.

Distribution
Dr.C.Madhumathi, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Head, and Dr.M.Kavitha, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) distributed COVID-19 protection kits to Contract workers of CRS, Petlur on 10.06.2020.

Phone-in-Live Programmes
Dr.K.Dhanumjaya Rao, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Head, CRS, Bapatla has attended Phone-in-Live programme on ‘Cultivation of Cashew and Mango’ at Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada on 04.06.2020.

Dr.K.Mamatha, Senior scientist (Hort.), HRS, Kovvur has attended Phone-in-Live programme on ‘Dumpa pantala saagulo melakuvalu’ at Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada on 15.06.2020.

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