Dr. YSRHU e-Newsletter
Fortnightly e.Newsletter of Dr.Y.S.R.Horticultural University
Volume.VI, Issue–8  Dr.YSRHU e-Newsletter  16th to 31st May, 2020

Events
Research
Extension
General

Release of e-Prachuranalu of Dr.YSRHU
Sri Y.S.Jagan Mohan Reddy garu, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has released the e-Prachuranalu of Dr.YSRHU namely 1. ఉద్యాన పంటల సాగు-వనను మినమాయంది 2. ఉద్యాన పంటలలో విడుదల నూతన వంగడయలు 3. ఉద్యాన పంటలలో రియలిస్ట్స్ నెట్ నయరుకు పదధతి 4. జీడిమామిడి తోటలలో మొకకజొనన మరియు కంది 5. విశిష్ట రక్షిత సాగు కందరంలో కూరగాయలు మరియు పూల మొకకల ఩ంపకం 6. జీడిమామిడిలో అంటుకటు పదదతి 7. విశిష్ట రక్షిత సాగు కందరంలో ఆరిిడ్స్ పూల మొకకల ఩ంపకం 8. సమితులు ఉద్యాన పంటల సాగు 9. చిరుధయనయాలత్ో విలువ ఆధయరిత ఉత఩తులు 10. విశిష్ట రక్షిత సాగు కందరంలో కూరగాయలు 11. అసిల్ జాతి కోళ్ో ఩ంపకం ద్యారా గిరిజన కుటుంబాల 12. ఉద్యాన పంటల సాగు కందరంలో ఆరిిడ్స్ పూల మొకకల ఩ంపకం on the occasion of inauguration of Rythu Barosa Kendras on 30.05.2020 at Camp Office, Tadepalli.

World Bee Day

On 20.05.2020 KVK, Venkataramannagudem celebrated World Bee Day (WBD) under Integrated Beekeeping Development centre (IBDC) project sponsored by National Bee Board, New Delhi in online mode under the chairmanship of Dr.B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension. In this programme all the University officers graced the occasion and addressed the gathering online. In this programme a total of 100 participants (scientists, Farmers, Beekeepers & students) have participated. Farmers and Beekeepers interacted with scientists and shared their views and experiences on Beekeeping. Technical sessions were also conducted and created awareness about importance of bees in pollination, Uses of honey & beehive products, importance of honey in human health and Value addded beehive products. This programme was coordinated by Dr.E.Karuna Sree, Principal Scientist & Head and Sri G.Shali Raju, Scientist (Ento.), KVK, V.R.Gudem
Severe attack of ash weevils (*Myllocerus undecimpustulatus*) damaging foliage during peak summer was observed on sweet orange and in citrus nurseries. The absence of attack during previous months (before March) may be due to unavailability of food (new flush) or they hibernate during winter months in debris. Their reoccurrence was noticed in 13th standard week (1 adult weevil/shoot) and reached its peak in 23rd standard week (4-5 adult weevils/shoot). Similarly in Kadapa district, heavy damage of these weevils on foliage was recorded on papaya (>25-40 weevils/leaf-30% leaf damage) during the 1st fortnight of May further indicating that the adult ash weevils on fruit crops damage is mainly between March-May.

At HRS, Anantharajupeta AICRP (Fruits) project, under “Net house cultivation of papaya”, biometric it was found that along with highest plant height, stem girth no incidence of PRSV was noticed under insect proof net house when compared to open field condition of papaya cv. Red lady. No yellowing of lower leaves and flower drop was also observed which is the indication of congenial climate for the growth of papaya plants.

Recently high incidence of coffee spotted locust *Aularches miliiars* (both nymphs and adults) was observed in Kasimkota mandal of Visakhapatnam district and Pachipenta mandal of Vizianagaram district in cashew and other avenue plants in farmers fields along with high incidence of Calotropis grass hopper *Poekilocerus pictus* was observed in Rayadurgam, Ananthapuram district and Pitapuram village in East Godavari district on calotropis plants and was mistaken as desert locusts invasion. Joint field visits with department of Horticulture officials was carried out and correct identification was provided to local press media and farmers were enlightened about these local grasshopper population and their feeding behaviour.

An outbreak of non-regular minor pest, Citron bug, *Leptoglossus* sp. never observed before in the traditional crop grown areas in majority of the sweet orange gardens in Kadapa and Prakasam Districts during March, April and May, 2020. The pest (nymphs and adults) congregates in large numbers (8-12 bugs/fruit) on fruits sucking the juice leading to fruit drop (13-18%). The probable reason for this insect pest occurrence in 2020 summer crop might be the availability of matured ripen fruits on the trees. Similarly the same pest has been recorded during 2nd fortnight of April on pomegranate (<5% damage) and banana (1st week of May 3-5% damage) in Prakasam district and Railway Kodur region of Kadapa, respectively leading to fruit damage.

Among the 25 endophytes isolated and tested against dry root rot pathogen, two isolates were proved to be the best against dry root rot in lab studies and recorded the least growth of the pathogen (*Fusarium solani*) at CRS, Petlur.
Severe infestation of snow scales on acid lime was noticed in most of the farmers' orchards in Nellore and Kadapa districts and also in the CRS farm during peak summer (April and May) and it has been advised and adopted to rubbing the main stem with gunny bits followed by insecticides sprayed with buprofezin 25SC @ 2ml/l + petroleum/mineral spray oil @ 1% (10ml/l) to achieve maximum reduction in number and further spread to primary and secondary branches. (a word of caution also has been given not to use the mineral oils during mid afternoon).

**Diagnostic Visits**

Dr. K. Mamatha, Senior Scientist (Hort.) HRS, Kovvur conducted diagnostic visit to elephant foot yam fields on 18.05.2020 to Togummi village and observed severe boron toxicity and potassium deficiency and suggested control measures.

Dr. G. Ramanandam, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Head, Dr. A. Snehalatha Rani, Scientist (Pl. Path.), HRS, Kovvur conducted diagnostic survey for diseases of banana in chagallu and Pasivedala villages of West Godavari District on 29.05.2020. Observed rhizome rot disease and suggested control measures to the farmers.

On 19.05.2020, Dr. V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (SS&AC) and R. Suneetha, Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta conducted a diagnostic field visit in banana field at Adireddypalli and Musalinayapalli villages of Mydukur mandal. Identified iron and zinc deficiency in banana and suggested to spray Ferrous sulphate @ 1 gm + Zinc sulphate @ 2g/l for correcting the nutrient deficiency.

On 19.05.2020, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta visited banana fields for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Konarajupalli village of S.A.Kasinayana mandal. Observed erwinia rot infestation in banana and sigatoka leaf spot disease suggested for removal and destruction of infected plant followed by application of bleaching powder @ 25 g/l or Pseudomonas @ 50 g/l before planting new banana plant for gap filling and spray propiconazole @ 0.1% respectively.

On 29.05.2020, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta visited banana fields for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Konarajupalli village of S.A.Kasinayana 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 29.05.2020, Dr. B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (Pl. Path.) & Head and Ms.K.Sravani Research associate (Agri Extension), KVK, Periyavaram made a diagnostic visit to the villages of Maratapalli, Gollagunta, Mogalalguntu groundnut fields, distributed masks to the farmers and identified aphids as the major problem and suggested spraying acetamiprid@2g/l of water.

**Extension**

On 20.05.2020, Sri.G.Sandeep Naik, Scientist & Head and Srividya Rani.N, Scientist (Extension), KVK, Vonipenta visited banana fields at Sunkulugaripalli village of Mydukur mandal. Observed Erwinia rot infestation in banana and sigatoka leaf spot disease suggested for removal and destruction of infected plant followed by application of bleaching powder @ 25 g/l or Pseudomonas @ 50 g/l before planting new banana plant for gap filling and spray propiconazole @ 0.1% respectively.
Training Programmes

On 18\textsuperscript{th} May 2020, Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (Pl. Path.) & Head KVK, Periyavaram enlightened about identification of pest and diseases in sweet orange to the field staff of Srinivasa sewa trust, Venkatagiri.

On 20.05.2020 Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (Pl. Path.) & Head, KVK, Periyavaram advised the farmers of Venkatagiri regarding the package of practices of Sapota as they are interested to cultivate sapota during the Kharif season.

Awareness Programmes

On 16.05.2020, Dr.B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (Pl. Path.) & Head and Dr.B.Vijyashree Research associate (Home science), KVK, Periyavaram participated in the awareness programme on immunity booster-Modi Kashyam during Covid-19, lockdown in Maratapalli village.

Soil Samples

On 20.05.2020 and 26.05.2020, Dr.V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (SS&AC) and Dr.V. Yugandhar Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta had collected the soil samples in farmer fields at Zoukupalli, Yeddulayapalli and Somireddypalli villages of B.Mattam mandal. Explained the method of soil sample collection, quarterate method and importance of soil sample collection and testing to the farmers.

On 29.05.2020, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Hort.), KVK, Vonipenta had collected initial soil samples for FLD on “Soil test based fertilizer application in banana” in farmer's field at K.N.Kottala village of S.A. Kasinayana mandal. Explained the importance of Soil analysis and also demonstrated the soil sample collection procedure.

Group Discussions

On 22.05.2020, Sri.G.Sandeep Naik, Scientist & Head and Srividya Rani.N, Scientist (Extension), KVK, Vonipenta conducted group discussion with the villagers regarding adoption of the village, crops to be grown during 	extit{kharif} and also discussed on the activities to be taken up before crop cultivation like summer ploughing and soil testing etc.
On 19.05.2020 Dr. B. Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (Pl. Path.) & Head KVK, Periyavaram participated in Covid -19 lockdown 4.0 precautions program and pest and diseases management in acid lime with resources of Dr.YSRHU KVK-Nellore district -Reliance foundation.

**Rythu Barosa Kendras**

On 30.05.2020 Dr. B. Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist (PP) & Head KVK, Periyavaram inaugurated Rythu Barosa Kendram (RBK) at Petlur village of Venkatagiri Mandal and enlightened the practicing farmers, farm women, Rural youth regarding activities of KVK and RBK. Dr. B. Vijayashree Research associate (Home Science) enlightened on nutrition education on value addition of different commodities for the farming community.

On 30.05.2020, Dr. P. Lailtha Kameswari, Senior Scientist & Head, Sri Bhanu murthy K.C, Scientist (Hort.), KVK, Pandirimamidi participated in inauguration of Raitu Barosa Kendram at Jagarampalli village of Rampachodavaram mandal and put up a stall and exhibited posters depicting successful technologies adopted by KVK, live specimens of cashew grafts, Annatto seedlings and dragon fruit cuttings.

Smt K. Dhana Lakshmi, MLA, Rampachodavaram and Sri Anathababu, chairman, DCCB of E.G. dist, line department officials and farmers have participated in this programme.

**Meetings**

Dr. B. Srinivasulu, Director of Extension and President (Central Zone), Indian Phytopathological society and Dr. K. Sesha Kiran, Councillor (Central Zone), IPS participated in the Mid-term Executive Council Virtual meeting on May 23rd, 2020. Key suggestions were made for strengthening the plant pathology in the Central zone and National level. Dr. P. K. Chakraborthy, ASRB, Member and President of Indian Phytopathological Society addressed the meeting on various issues along with suggestions for submitting the representation for stopping the proposal on the ban of 27 pesticides by the central government. Members of the Executive council belonging to different zones of India actively participated. Dr. Robin Gogoi, Secretary, IPS, New Delhi convened the session.

Dr. R. V. S. K. Reddy, Director of Research attended State Level “Mana Palana – Mee Suchana” video conference chaired by Hon’ble Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh on 26.05.2020 at camp office, Tadepalli, Guntur organised by Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. D. Srinivas Reddy, Senior Scientist (Ento.), CRS, Tirupati and Dr. N. B. V. Chalapathi Rao, Principal Scientist (Ento.), HRS, Ambajipeta attended 29th AICRP Bio-Control workshop at ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru that was held from 21st to 22nd May, 2020 through virtual webinar meeting.
Dr. L. Mukunda Lakshmi, Senior Scientist (Hort.) and Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy, Senior Scientist (Ento.), CRS, Tirupati attended a meeting on agriculture and allied activities on “Mana Paalana Mee Suchana” on 26.05.2020 at S V University, Tirupati organized by Department of Agriculture, Chittoor Division, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. B.V.K. Bhagavan, Principal Scientist (Hort.), HRS, Ambajipeta attended “Mana Paalana – Mee Suchana” Video conference of C.M. meeting at Collectorate office, Kakinada and interacted with farmers and Department officials on 26.05.2020.

Dr. K.T.V. Ramana, Dr. L. Mukunda Lakshmi, Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy and Dr. T. Rajasekharam, CRS, Tirupati attended Webex meeting with Project Co-ordinator, ICAR-AICRP on Fruits, on 29.05.2020.

Dr. R. Nagaraju, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Head, HRS, Anantharajupeta, Dr. Y. Sharat Kumar Reddy, PI. Physiology, and Dr. D. Sreedhar, Scientist, HRS, Anantharajupeta, attended " Webex meeting on AICRP on fruits conducted by Project Co-ordinator, AICRP, Bengaluru on 29.05.2020.

Dr. R. Nagaraju, Principal Scientist (Hort.) & Head, HRS, Anantharajupeta attended Horttalk on ‘Impact Analysis and way forward – Floriculture’ by Dr. T. Janakiram, ADG (Hort.), ICAR, New Delhi on 31st May 2020 through facebook live organized by The members of Progressive Horticulture Journal.

Dr. R. Naga Lakshmi, Senior Scientist (Hort.), HRS, Kovvur participated in online training programme on Aeroponics and hydroponics technologies for precision agriculture from 25.04.2020 to 29.05.2020 under CAAST-CSAWM, MPKV, Rahuri.

Dr. K. Mamatha, Senior Scientist (Hort.) HRS, Kovvur, attended National Webinar on Transforming the Agricultural Knowledge Resource Centres to meet the post COVID-19 challenges from 26.05.2020 to 30.05.2020.

Dr. P. Rama Devi, Senior Scientist (PI. Path.) and Dr. D. Aparna, Scientist (Hort.), AICRP on MAP & Betelvine, HRS, V.R.Gudem participated in online web meeting (Zoom video conference) on “Ashwagandha stake holders meet opportunities and challenges in the wake of covid-19 pandemics in India” on 20.05.2020 organized by DMAPR, Anand. Dr. A.K.Singh, DDG (Hort. Scientist), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. J.L.N. Sastry, CEO, NMPB, New Delhi, Dr. T. Janakiram, ADG, (Hort. Scientist), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. P.K.Trivedi, Director, CSIR – CIMAP, Scientists from various AICRP centers, farmers, middlemen, & others participated in the webinar.

Dr. P. Rama Devi, Senior Scientist (PI. Path), HRS, Venkataramanangudem attended online guest lecture on "Nematode diseases and their management" by R.K.Walia, Former Project Coordinator, AICRP on Nematodes on 27.05.2020.

Visits

Dr. R.V.S.K. Reddy, Director of Research visited the newly constructed buildings at Integrated pack house unit and fruit and vegetable processing unit on 29.05.2020. Suggested to provide adequate drainage with proper diversion and layout of roads for
for intake and delivery of produce to the farmers after ripening.

Sri K. Srinivasa Rao, Entrepreneur from Tadepalligudem, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh visited PHTRS, V.R.Gudem on 26.05.2020. Mr. G.Rakesh, Research Associate, explaining about the functioning of fruit grading and sorting line unit, cold storage and ripening chambers at integrated pack house unit and fruit and vegetable processing unit.

**Phone-in-Live Programmes**

Dr.A.Devivaraprasad Reddy, Scientist (Fishery Science), KVK, Venkataramannagudem attended Phone-in-Live programme on ‘Chepalu mariyu royyalalo vache vyadhulu—nivarana’ at Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada on 28.05.2020.

**Publications**


*Visit our website at [www.drysrhu.edu.in](http://www.drysrhu.edu.in)*

*Published by: Sri. Chiranjiv Choudhary, IFS, Vice-Chancellor*

*Compiled & Edited by: Dr.B. Srinivasulu, Director of Extension*

*Dr.R.V.S.K.Reddy, Director of Research*

Dr.Y.S.R. Horticultural University
Administrative Office
Venkataramannagudem-534 101, W.G. Dist., A.P.