

Raitha Mithra Anniversary & Workshop

THE AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION CENTRE in collaboration with AICRP on Dryland Agriculture, GKVK organized the third Anniversary of the 'Raitha Mithra' question-and-answer column published in the 'Vijayavani' daily newspaper. This event, held on 9th September, 2024, also included a workshop entitled 'Catch the Rain', focusing on rainwater management for award-winning and progressive farmers. The program was inaugurated by Padmashree Dr. Vijaya Sankeshwara, Chairman of VRL Groups with Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor of UAS, Bangalore presiding over the proceedings. The event featured Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, Registrar & Dean (PGS) and Dr. H.S. Shivaramu, Director of Research as chief guests. During the event, the dignitaries unveiled a three-year compendium of the 'Raitha Mithra' column, which had been published every Monday in the Vijayavani daily, aimed at supporting the farming community. Following the inauguration, scientists conducted sessions on the significance of rainwater harvesting in dryland agriculture and various rainwater management technologies applicable to different soil types. More than 250 participants got benefitted from this initiative. The programme was coordinated by Dr. K. P. Raghuprasad, Professor & Head, ATIC along with Dr. Mudalagiriappa, Chief Scientist of AICRP on Dryland Agriculture, GKVK.



Dignitaries inaugurating the programme



Vice-Chancellor planting Jackfruit seedling

the guest of honour, underscoring HDFC Bank's commitment to environmental stewardship and education. All the Officers of the University were present. HDFC Bank Private Limited under CSR grant has sanctioned a project entitled 'Biodiversity Enrichment in GKVK campus through Afforestation' with a budget outlay of Rs.22.50 lakhs with Dr. Bhausaheb Tambat as Principal Investigator.

UAS-B Launches Extensive Plantation Initiative

UAS, BANGALORE in partnership with HDFC Bank Limited through its CSR initiative has launched an exquisite tree planting programme on the GKVK campus. The event commenced with the ceremonial planting of jackfruit seedlings by Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor of UAS-B at the picturesque tree arboretum adjacent to the playground on 24th September, 2024. In his inaugural address, he articulated the primary objective of the collaborative endeavor to enrich the green canopy and bolster biodiversity by introducing fruit-bearing trees throughout the campus with a goal of planting 5,000 seedlings within the GKVK campus. Mr. Muralidhar Hande, the State Head of Banking Operations, HDFC Ltd, Karnataka, graced the occasion as

Nutritional Week & Baking Technology Course

THE INSTITUTE OF BAKING TECHNOLOGY AND VALUE ADDITION organized the National Nutritional Week and a Certificate Distribution Ceremony for participants of the 73rd batch of the fourteen-week Baking Technology Course on 10th September, 2024. Inaugurating the programme, Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor addressed the attendees about the importance of nutrition in everyday diets, emphasizing issues such as food security, hunger index and the shared responsibility of all to improve global hunger statistics. Dr. Vaijayanthi Kanabur from Maharani Cluster University, Bengaluru, served as the lead speaker. Dr. K.P. Raghuprasad, Professor & Head, ATIC, GKVK was present. Dr. Savita S. Mangnavara managed the proceedings.



Vice-Chancellor distributing the certificate

Tuskegee University, US & AFU, Nepal Delegates Visit

A SCIENTIFIC DELEGATION from Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU), Nepal and Tuskegee University, USA visited UAS, Bangalore from 17th to 20th September, 2024 to explore potential collaboration in academic activities, research projects and outreach initiatives. The delegation included



Delegates at Tissue Culture Lab at GKVK

Dr. C. Prakash, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at Tuskegee University, Dr. Menaka Hamal, Local Lead for USAID and Dr. Olga U. Bolden-Tiller, Dean of the CoA, Environment and Nutrition Sciences (CAENS) at Tuskegee University, along with six faculty members from AFU, Nepal. The visit began with a power point presentation delivered by Dr. Nataraja Karaba, Professor & Head, Department of Crop Physiology, GKVK, followed by a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor and key Officers of UAS-B. The delegates engaged in a comprehensive discussion regarding the implementation of UGAM/PGAM software for the efficient online management of academic events. They reviewed the digitalization initiatives undertaken in the University Library. Additionally, the delegation visited various departments including Insect Taxonomy Niche Area and the Botanical Garden. They interacted with faculty members at CIDSAs, Tissue Culture Lab, Seed Processing Unit, Hydroponics Unit and other facilities at GKVK. On 19th September, 2024, the team visited CoA, Mandya and the Organic Farming Research Station, Naganahalli, Mysuru to gain insights into the cropping patterns and on-going research programmes related to agro-climatology.

MP Delegates visit UAS, Bangalore

A DELEGATION from the Department of Agriculture and Agricultural Universities of Madhya Pradesh visited UAS, Bangalore on 10th September, 2024. During their visit, they engaged in discussions with Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor to explore potential collaborations aimed at implementing the CIDSAs project in Madhya Pradesh. Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, Registrar, UAS-B provided an overview of the CIDSAs Pilot Project. The delegation was guided through the CIDSAs facilities by Dr. K.S. Jagadish, Professor and Scientific Officer to Director of Education. The team of delegates visited various facilities including the Smart Precision Agriculture facility, Automation Laboratory and Advanced Drone Technology Laboratory located at GKVK, Bengaluru.

District Level Seminar on Fodder Crops

THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, Kunigal, as part of the NABARD initiative entitled 'Popularization of High Yielding Fodder Crops among Dairy Farmers of Tumakuru District to Enhance Fodder and Milk Yield', hosted a District Level Seminar on Fodder Crops on 11th September, 2024. The event was graced by the presence of Smt. Keerthi Prabha, District Development Manager, NABARD, Tumakuru, who inaugurated the seminar.



Folder being unveiled during Seminar

In her opening address, she underscored the critical role of fodder crops within dairy and integrated farming systems, emphasizing the necessity for farmers to cultivate diverse varieties to elevate both the quantity and quality of milk production. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. N. Shivakumar, ADR, ZARS, Mandya who further elaborated on the significance of fodder crops and seed production. Experts including Dr. P. Mahadevu, Plant Breeder; Dr. Mahadevaiah, Professor and Dr. Dinesh, Scientist shared valuable insights about advanced production technologies for fodder crops. The seminar also featured Dr. Chandrashekar Kedanuri, Joint Director of Feed and Fodder of TUMUL, as the chief guest. A comprehensive leaflet detailing fodder crop production technologies was unveiled during the proceedings. The seminar was coordinated by Dr. K.R. Shreenivasa, Farm Superintendent of ARS, Kunigal.

SCSP Programme by AICRP on Agro-forestry

AICRP ON AGROFORESTRY, GKVK conducted a training and awareness programme focused on the vital role of Bund and Boundary plantation within Agroforestry systems at Dattahalli village of H.D. Kote taluk, Mysuru district on 17th September, 2024, under the Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) initiative. During this enlightening gathering, participants were provided with forestry and horticulture seedlings, along with essential agricultural implements and poultry birds to 100 beneficiaries. The programme was meticulously organized and led by Shri V. Bhaskar, Officer-In-Charge; Dr. D.C. Hanumanthappa, Professor of Agronomy and Dr. R.V. Lohith, Senior Research Fellow who collectively emphasized the significance of bund and boundary plantation. About, 100 Schedule Caste beneficiaries of Budanuru, Jakkahalli and Sogahalli villages participated in the programme.

Commercialization of Technologies

ICAR-PHET, GKVK, BENGALURU has developed four unique Ready-to-Cook (RTC) mixes featuring processed quinoa grains combined with dhal, dehydrated vegetables and spices. These mixes include a Savory Quinoa *Pongal* Mix, a Quinoa *Bisibele*



Bath Mix, a Quinoa *Khara Bath (Upma)* Mix and a Quinoa *Dhokla* Mix. They have been recognized for their superior nutritional profile, boasting higher levels of protein, dietary fiber, calcium, iron, zinc and antioxidants. On 30th August, 2024, UAS, Bangalore entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with two Bengaluru based companies, M/s. Sagi Foods and M/s. Miccro Graiin, to commercialize these innovative breakfast mixes.

A **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** was signed on 12th September, 2024 between UAS, Bangalore and Shri H.S. Harish Gowda of M/s. Shuchi Enterprises of the Common Incubation Centre at the College of Agriculture, Hassan. Additionally, a MoU was also signed with Shri Venkataramappa Girish from Girish Enterprises in Kolar, representing the CIC at KVK, Chikkaballapura. The document was executed by Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, Registrar of UAS-B, with the aim of producing a range of value-added products.



TEACHERS DAY was celebrated on the eve of the birth day of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, first Vice President and second President of India on 5th September, 2024 at GKVK. Shri L.N. Mukundaraju, President, Karnataka Sahitya Academy, GoK was the chief guest. Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor presided over the programme graced by the Officers of the University and President & Secretary of the Association of Teachers of UAS-B.

Quinquennial Review Team Meetings

QRT MEETING was convened to evaluate the research initiatives of the All India Network Project on Agricultural Acarology and Soil Arthropod Pests for the period from 2012-2013 to 2022-23 on 9th & 10th September, 2024 at GKVK under the chairmanship of Dr. N.K. Krishna Kumar, former Deputy Director General (Horticulture Science). The review meeting was inaugurated by Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor, who welcomed the QRT members and highlighted the significance of addressing the challenges faced by farmers. Dr. H.S. Shivaramu, the Director of Research was the guest of honour, alongside Dr. C.A. Viraktamath, former Professor and Head, Department of Entomology & other esteemed experts.

THE VIII QRT REVIEW MEETING of the AICRPDA and AICRPAM, Bengaluru centers were also held at GKVK on 23rd & 24th September, 2024. In addition to visiting trial plots of the scheme, the Chairman and Members of QRT organized a



stakeholder meeting in which line department officers, farmers, KVKs, NGOs and FPOs interacted. A visit to farm ponds supported by KSDA was arranged at Santhekallahalli, Chintamani taluk, Chikkaballapura district. Farmers were consulted by the QRT chairman and members regarding the effects of building farm ponds, crop diversity, yield and farmers' financial standing. During the Farmers-Scientists Interaction Meeting held at farmer's field on 24th September, 2024 at RIFS-OFR Kalenahalli village in Tumakuru district, QRT members extensively interacted with farmers regarding the efficient use of farm pond water for maintaining crops and enhancing productivity under dryland conditions. Nearly 200 farmers from Kalenahalli, Gidaganahalli and neighbouring villages of Urdigere Hobli, Kortagere taluk of Tumakuru District attended the programme.

NCC Students Excel

CDT. SANJANA PATEL, student of III B.Sc. (Hons.) Agri., from CoA, GKVK and **CSM HIMAJA, P.**, student of final year B.Tech. (Agri. Engg.) from CoAE, GKVK, proudly represented the Karnataka and Goa Directorate at the All India Thal Sainik Camp held at New Delhi, which took place from 2nd to 13th September, 2024. Cdt. Sanjana Patel achieved a Gold Medal in the H & H event, while CSM Himaja, P., earned a Bronze Medal in the JDFS event.

Engineers' Day Celebration

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING, GKVK commemorated Engineers' Day on 27th September, 2024. The event honoured the distinguished Engineers, Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Prof. Mason



Vice-Chancellor and Officers after garlanding Sir M.V. Portrait

Vaugh, recognized as the pioneers of Agricultural Engineering in India. A technology exhibition was held to present various Agricultural Engineering innovations to stakeholders, featuring approximately 20 different technologies. The ceremony was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. S.V. Suresha, who in his opening remarks, highlighted Sir M. Visvesvaraya's significant contributions in the field of engineering and agriculture.

RAWEP Activities

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION, CoA, GKVK in collaboration with the Veterinary College, the Department of AH&VS, Alumni Association of UAS-B, IAT-Bangalore, Credit Access India Pvt. Ltd. and the KARUNA Animal Welfare Association, successfully conducted 11 Animal Health Campaigns in the RAWEP villages. More than 390 animals were assessed for infertility issues and 197 animals received deworming treatment. Additionally, 108 group discussion meetings, 11 training sessions focused on bakery product preparation, 13 programs on biofuel, 10 mass tree planting initiatives, 28 skill development activities and others were held.



Farmer explaining the social capital resources map of Doddagarudanhalli RAWEP Village organised by CoA, Mandya

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Field Day and Residential Training by EEU

THE EXTENSION EDUCATION UNIT, Mysuru organized a Field Day on Ginger cultivation under the Front Line Demonstration initiative at Shanthipura village, Hunsur taluk on 20th September, 2024. Dr. Nagaraju, Sr. Assistant Director of Horticulture, Hunsur taluk, highlighted the scientific methods of ginger farming and the resources available through the Department of Horticulture, GoK. Dr. C. Ramachandra, Extension Leader advocated the use of organic fertilizers. Scientists of UAS-B discussed about the integrated pest and disease management strategies. The Unit also conducted a six-day residential training programme from 9th to 14th September, 2024 for rural youth in the Mysuru district, focusing on the 'Importance and Preparation of Organic Liquid Manures and Bio Pesticides in Organic Farming'.

Other Accomplishments

- AICRP on Women in Agriculture in collaboration with KVK, Chikkaballapura hosted a skill development initiative titled 'Entrepreneurship Development through Cocoon Bio-craft' from 10th to 17th September, 2024 at KVK premises
- AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems, GKVK in collaboration with Regional Centre on Natural Farming (RCONF), GKVK, Bengaluru organized a training programme on Natural Farming at Thummanahalli, Sidlaghatta taluk, Chikkaballapura district on 18th September, 2024
- ICAR-KVK, Ramanagara, exhibited Value-added products like virgin coconut oil, Neera products, biscuits, desiccated coconut powder, chutney pudi and crafts made from coconut shells during 'World Coconut Day' organized jointly by Coconut Development Board and State Department of Horticulture at Ramanagara on 18th September, 2024
- A training program entitled 'Fodder crop varieties and production technologies' was organised on 20th September, 2024 at Kolegowdanahalli Haadi of H.D. Kote taluk by the AICRP on forage crops and utilization in partnership with the Samantha Peoples Education for Development Society, an NGO
- ICAR-KVK, Mandya organised a field day focused on intercropping French beans within Arecanut gardens on 25th September, 2024 at Mallanayakanakatte on the farm of Shri Puneeth in whose farm Front Line Demonstration was organised

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