Dr. YSRHU EXCELLENCE IN SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. YSR Horticultural University, 2nd of its kind in the country is concentrating on transfer of technologies (extension activities through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Horticultural Research Stations (HRSS), Colleges of Horticulture and Horticultural Polytechnics) for the benefit of farmers, rural youth and women directly and through Rythu Bharosa Kendrams (RBKs), District Resource Centres (DRCs) and Department of Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Forty two institutes (KVKs, HRSs, COHs & HPs) under Dr.YSRHU are continuously involving in skill development programmes to farmers, rural youth and women through regular skill training programmes, village adoption under “Vice-Chancellor to Village” programme, Community Radio Station (Udyana Vani), Electronic wing, Dr.YSRHU, Udyana Varthalu and YouTube Channel etc.

Dr.YSRHU success stories in skill development includes Assured Income Generation Through Integrated Farming Systems for Livelihood of Tribal Folks, Management of cashew orchards for sustainable livelihood of tribal farmers, Improved vegetables cultivation in tribal areas of West Godavari District, Cultivation of Multiple Crops in Organic Farming, Demonstration and Growth Performance of Amur Common Carp, Apiculture - A successful skill based intervention, Millet processing as an income generating activity, Multiple Cropping Systems Management, Livelihood Improvement of Rubber Growers in Tribal Area of East Godavari District, A.P, Development of Cage Aqua Culture in Reservoirs of Tribal Folks and Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in Turmeric.

Dr.YSRHU has established Processing and Horticultural Skill Training Centre at KVK, Venkatarammangudem and skill training programmes to farmers, rural youth and women on Dry Flower Technology, Nursery Management in Horticultural Crops, Scientific Beekeeping, Mushroom Production Technology and Production of Bio-Control Agents are being carried out. Horti Business Incubation Centre (HBIC) was established at College of Horticulture, Venkatarammangudem for specific skill training programme on “Entrepreneurship development through low cost processing of fruits and vegetables”
The Events

National Horticulture Fair
All the constituent colleges, Research Stations and KVKs of Dr.YSRHU made a virtual visit to National Horticulture Fair organized by IIHR, Bengaluru on 12 February 2021 to the farmers and learnt about the new varieties of various fruit and vegetable crops developed at IIHR, Bengaluru. Dr B. Ramesh Babu, Senior Scientist (Horticulture), HRS, V.R.Gudem and Dr D.Srinivas Reddy, Senior Scientist (Entomolgy), CRS, Tirupati participated and exhibited the technologies of AICRP (Fruits) on Banana, Sapota, Jack and Citrus at National Horticultural fair at ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru held from 8 to 12 February 2021. On this occasion a webinar on “Energy conservation and energy efficiency” was conducted by Farmers Advisory Cell, Dr.YSRHU under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr T.Janakiram. Dr B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension coordinated the programme.

Education
Horti Business Incubation Centre (HBIC), CoH, Venkataramannagudem has conducted three days training programme on “Establishment of Commercial Nurseries” to the rural youth from 3 to 5 February 2021. The participants were trained in different propagation methods of fruits, vegetables and ornamental crops and also conducted visits to the commercial nurseries. Dr K.Uma Jyothi, Associate Dean, Dr R.V.Sujatha, Associate Professor (Agriculture Economics) and Dr V.Sudha Vani, Associate Professor (Horticulture) coordinated the programme.

Research
Bio-fertilizer Production Unit, HRS, Venkataramannagudem obtained license for production and sale of Potash mobilizing and zinc solubilising liquid biofertilizers. Bio-fertilizer Production Unit has produced 200 litres of liquid bio-fertilizer during the period under report.
Dr R. Nagaraju, Principal Scientist (Horticulture) & Head, HRS, Anantharajupeta visited various mango gardens during the month of February and observed moderate mango hopper incidence and lepidopteran pests on mango. Percent fruit set was good during the period under report with mustard stage to marble size fruits, on 15 February 2021.

**Diagnostic Visits**

Dr R.Nagaraju, Principal Scientist (Horticulture), & Head, HRS, Anantharajupeta along with Dr K.T.Venkata Ramana, Principal Scientist (Horticulture), Zonal Research Head, RSZ, DDH, Kadapa and other team members visited sweet orange gardens on 4 February 2021 in Pulivendula revenue division and offered solutions to the farmers on management strategies for delayed flowering with continuous rains prevailed during the months of November and December, dry root rot and flower drop etc.

**Extension Activities**

**Scientific Advisory council (SAC) meeting**

On 5 February 2021, KVK, Venkataramannagudem has conducted Scientific Advisory council (SAC) meeting under the chairmanship of Dr B.Srinivasulu, Director of Extension. Dr J.V.Prasad, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone-X, experts from ICAR-IIOPR, Pedavegi, HRS, Ambajipeta, ATMA, Department of Horticulture, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries and progressive farmers have participated and offered valuable suggestions. Scientists of KVK, Venkataramannagudem have presented technical programmers of work. Dr E.Karuna Sree, Principal Scientist & Head coordinated the programme.

**Vice-Chancellor to Village Activities**

CoH, Anantharajupeta conducted awareness programme on mushroom cultivation and explained the procedure of production of mushrooms along with PG Plant Pathology 2020 admit batch students on 3 February 2021 in adopted village, Nagavarm. Dr Ch. Ruth, Professor (Plant Pathology) and Dr K. Sathyakala, Teaching Associate coordinated the programme.

CoH, Anantharajupeta established Mushroom unit at adopted village of Nagavaram on 7 February 2021. The rural women and others prepared mushroom bedding with milky mushroom spawn. Dr Ch. Ruth, Professor (Plant Pathology) coordinated the programme.
CoH, Venkataramannagudem conducted awareness programme on “Prospects of organic farming in vegetable crops” at adopted village, Prakasaraopalem on 9 February 2021. Dr M. Paratpara Rao, Assistant Professor and Dr K. Usha Kumari, Assistant Professor coordinated the programme.

CRS, Petlur conducted training program to women farmers on “Importance of Nutrition gardens for balanced diet and good health” in adopted village, Theerthampadu, Dakkili Mandal, SPSR Nellore Dist. as a part of “Vice-Chancellor to village” programme and distributed kitchen garden vegetable seed kits and PKM-1 drumstick seedlings on 15 February 2021. Dr C.Madhumathi, Principal Scientist (Horticulture) & Head and Dr M.Kavitha, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) coordinated the programme.

Scientists of CRS, Tirupati distributed Arka Mango Special to mango farmers of adopted village, Nadavaluru, Ramachandrapuram Mandal, Chittoor district on 12 February 2021 under VC to Village programme.

As a part of “Vice Chancellor to Village” program a training programme on “Grafting techniques in fruit crops” to the unemployed youth of adopted village, Jaggannapeta was organized on 15 February 2021 by HRS, V.R.Gudem. Scientists of HRS, V.R.Gudem explained the significance of grafting and practically showed the grafting methods viz., veneer grafting and budding. The participants were given hands on training on grafting techniques followed in mango and jack fruit.

On 4 February 2021, KVK, Periyavaram conducted follow-up visit to beneficiaries of C.C.Kandriga village of Venkatagiri mandal to observe the growth and adaptability of Rajasri poultry birds distributed under OFT and observed active birds with good growth. Dr P.Manjari, Scientist, Veterinary Science coordinated the programme.

**Dr.YSRHU Year of Coconut Activities**

On 4 February 2021, KVK, Periyavaram conducted Kisan Goshti on “Coconut cultivation practices” at adopted village C.C.Kandriga village of Venkatagiri mandal. Dr B.Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist & Head, KVK, Periyavaram acknowledged the farmers and youth regarding the advantages of growing coconut and advocated that each household should have at least one coconut tree in its backyard. Sri E.Anand, HO-Venkatagiri explained about cultivation practices of coconut. Pamphlets on “Kobbari saagu-sedya paddhatulu”, kobbarini ashinche purugulu mariyu tegulla yajamanyam” and “Kobbari poshakalato aarogyam” were released. As part of the event, coconut seedlings were distributed and planted in the backyard of the beneficiaries.
Training Programmes
Dr C. Madhumathi, Principal Scientist (Horticulture) & Head, CRS, Petlur participated as guest speaker on “Production technologies in high density guava cultivation” in online meeting to members of agricultureinformation.com on 9 February 2021.

AICRP on Fruits, CRS, Tirupati conducted one day training programme on “Production and Protection Technologies in Citrus (Sweet orange and Acid lime)” under SCSP programme of ICAR-AICRP on fruits and inputs like manures, fertilizers pesticides and disease free satdhudi sweet orange budlings were distributed to the growers of Chiyyedu village, Ananthapur district on 4 February 2021. Dr L. Mukunda Lakshmi, Senior Scientist (Horticulture), Dr D. Srinivas Reddy, Senior Scientist (Entomology), Dr T. Rajasekharan, Scientist (Plant Pathology) and V. Gopi, Technical Assistant coordinated the programme.

AICRP on Fruits, CRS, Tirupati organized virtual meet with 30 SCSP farmers from Chiyyedu village, Ananthapur district for National Horticulture Fair-2021 at Citrus Research Station, Tirupati on 12 February 2021 and distributed Arka citrus special to sweet orange farmers under SCSP programme of ICAR-AICRP on fruits.

Scientists of HRS, Anantharajupeta organized a meeting on “Papaya cultivation practices” under SC-Sub plan on AICRP on Fruits at HRS, Anantharajupeta on 12 February 2021 to SC farmers of Y. Kota, B. Kammapalli, and Obanapalli villages. Dr B. Srinivasulu, Associate Dean, CoH, Anantharajupeta attended as a chief guest and Dr R. Nagaraju, Principal Scientist (Horticulture) & Head HRS, Anantharajupeta along with Dr D. Sreedhar, Scientist (Horticulture), Dr T. Naga Lakshmi, Scientist (Plant Pathology), Dr Y. Sharat Kumar Reddy, Scientist (Plant Physiology) distributed inputs required for the season.

On 11 February 2021, KVK, Venkataramannagudem conducted training program on “Aseel birds rearing as backyard poultry”. Explained about brooding management, feeding and health management, deworming, vaccination of poultry and then distributed aseel birds to farmers of SC category. In this program Dr E. Karunasree, Principal Scientist & Head and Dr A. Devivaraprasad Reddy, Scientist (Fishery Science) KVK, VR gudem have participated and Dr T. Vijaya Nirmala, Scientist (Veterinary Science) coordinated the programme.

On 6 February 2021, KVK, Periyavaram, conducted training programme on “Scientific management practices of Buffalo” at Ammapalem village of Venkatagiri mandal for farm women. In this programme, farm women were acknowledged about effective feeding of buffaloes, heat alleviation techniques and disease prevention techniques in buffaloes. Farmers were also thought about clean milk production techniques. Dr B. Govinda Rajulu, Principal Scientist and Head, told about various
activities of KVK, Periyavaram taken up for up-liftment of farm women. As part of FLD on demonstration of Urea Molasses Mineral blocks (UMMB) on production parameters of buffaloes, UMMB were distributed to the beneficiaries. The programme was coordinated by Dr. P. Manjari, Scientist-Veterinary Science.

On 12 February 2021, KVK, Venkataramannagudem organized one day awareness work shop on “Energy conservation and energy efficiency”. Dr T. Janakiram, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor attended as chief guest and explained the importance of energy conservation in horticulture sector. Dr B. Srinivasulu, Director of Extension and Dr. RVSK Reddy, Director of Research participated and interacted with the participants on energy conservation methods followed by technical sessions. More than 50 farmers have participated.

**Front Line Demonstrations**

On 2 and 3 February 2021, Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head, Dr V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture), Dr V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (Soil Science) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta visited Rajashree poultry breeds under FLD on “Assessment on performance of Rajashree poultry breeds as dual purpose backyard poultry” for follow up at Sunkulagaripalli village of Mydukur mandal and Gudipadu village of Duvvur mandal.

On 2 and 3 February 2021, Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head, Dr V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture), Dr V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (Soil Science) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta visited CFLD Oil seeds Sesame fields cultivated under NFSM – 2020 sponsored by ICAR-ATARI, Zone X, Hyderabad. Scientists observed incidence of sucking pest complex and suggested application of chlorpyriphos@ 0.25% or acephate @ 0.15%.

On 6 February 2021, Dr V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture), KVK, Vonipenta visited tomato fields for follow up under FLD at Sunkulagaripalli village of Mydukur mandal. Scientist explained about fertilizer management and disease management during the fruiting stage and observed the septoria leaf spot in tomato and suggested to spray mancozeb @ 0.2% to manage the disease.

**Method Demonstrations**

On 15 February 2020, Mrs. N. Srividya Rani, Scientist and Head, Dr V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (Soil Science) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta conducted the method demonstration on operation of Micro rain gun to the farmers at KVK, Vonipenta by Malaxmi Polymers Private limited. Scientist explained the method of Micro rain gun with 14, 12 and 10 inches valves at different pressure for full circle, half circle and quarter circle in different crops.
Diagnostic Visits
Dr Ch.Ruth, Professor (Plant Pathology), CoH, Anantharajupeta conducted diagnostic visit to muskmelon field on 3 February 2021 and observed stem blight and downy mildew diseases due to continuous rains at C.Kammapalli village along with PG & Ph.D. students.

Dr K. Uma Jyoti, Associate Dean, Dr K Usha Kumari, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) and Dr E. Padma, Associate Professor (Horticulture), CoH, Venkataramannagudem and Miss Mercy Natural farming fellow visited Sri P. Venkata Ramana a certified organic farmers field at Chinatadepalli village on 15 February 2021, enquired about various crops cultivated organically. The farmer explained about preparation of panchagavya, fish amino acid and egg amino acid.

On 2 February 2021, Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head and technical team of KVK, Vonipenta visited vegetable nursery and Fodder grass-Super Napier at Erraballi village of Mydukur mandal. Observed Chilli, Cabbage, Brinjal and Cauliflower seedlings and suggested the farmer for seedling treatment before transplanting in the main field. Observed fodder grass and recommended fertilizer management and advantages in using Super Napier for the dairy animals.

On 3 February 2021, Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science) from KVK, Vonipenta had visited Sunflower and Banana fields for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Sunkulagaripalli village of Mydukur mandal. Observed root rot disease in Sunflower and suggested soil drenching with hexaconazole @ 0.2% to the disease infested and surrounding plants to control the spread of root rot disease. Observed potassium deficiency in banana and recommended application of 0.5 % Sulphate of potash for correcting the nutrient deficiency.

On 3 February 2021, Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta had visited Onion and turmeric fields for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Madirepalli village of Duvvur mandal. Observed thrips infestation in Onion and rhizome rot disease in turmeric. Suggested to spray dimethoate or fipronil @ 0.2% for control of thrips in onion and drenching with Ridomil @ 0.25% to the disease infested and surrounding plants to control the spread of rhizome rot disease in turmeric.

On 4 February 2021, Dr V.Nagarjuna, Research Associate (Soil Science), KVK, Vonipenta visited Onion fields for diagnosis of pest and diseases at Rajasaheb pet village of Porumamilla mandal. Observed thrips infestation and basal rot in Onion and suggested application of diafenthionure @ 1.5 g/litre and Chlorothalonil @ 2.5 g/litre for management of pest and diseases.
On 6 February 2021, Dr V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (Soil Science) and Mrs. R. Suneetha Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta visited groundnut fields for diagnosis of pest and diseases at Kesalingalapalli village of Mydukur mandal. Identified leaf spot in Groundnut and suggested to spray hexaconazole @ 2.0 ml/litre for disease management.

On 6 February 2021, Dr V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture), KVK, Vonipenta visited marigold field for diagnosis of pests and diseases at Sunkulugaripalli village of Mydukur mandal. Scientist demonstrated pinching operation in Marigold and explained about fertilizer management.

On 8 February 2021, Dr T. Vijaya Nirmala, Scientist (Veterinary Science) and Dr A. Devivaraprasad Reddy, Scientist (Fishery Science), KVK, Venkataramannagudem visited broiler poultry farm of a farmer from Venkataramannagudem village and observed symptoms such as huddling of chicks, leg paralysis, dull, depressed chicks, whitish diarrhea, mortality and post mortem lesions such as congestion in breast muscles and leg muscles and suggested treatment with Enrocin liquid – 20 ml, Famitone – 5 ml and Megadox powder – 5 g in 10 liters of water orally for 5 days.

**Exposure Visits**

On 11 February 2021, KVK, Venkataramannagudem conducted exposure visit to the Input dealers of West Godavari District under DAESI programme and explained about KVK activities and various demonstration units at KVK, V.R.Gudem. Sri G. ShaliRaju, Scientist (Entomology) coordinated the programme.

On 12 February 2021, KVK, V.R. Gudem conducted exposure visit to the tobacco farmers from Jangareddygudem division and explained about various alternate crops to tobacco and various demonstration units at KVK, V.R.Gudem and university campus. Sri. G. ShaliRaju, Scientist (Entomology) coordinated the programme.

**Survey**

On 15 February 2021, Ms K. Sravani, Research associate (Agri. Extn.), KVK, Periyavaram made a visit to RYG palem, Cheekavolu, Chagnam Lingamudram villages of Sydapuram mandal for data collection using the questionnaire regarding Training need assessment of the farmers in agriculture and allied sectors in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh.
**On Farm Trials**

On 11 February 2021, as part of On Farm Trials (OFT) in the discipline of Home Science Dr B. Vijayasree, Research Associate (Home Science) conducted “Assessment of Moringa based Millet biscuits in improving the Nutritional status of vulnerable groups” (OFT) for SHG women of Mandarillu Anganwadi centre in Venkatagiri. In this programme three types of biscuits were prepared and assessed. The participants were explained about the nutritional importance of moringa leaf powder and millets. The biscuits evaluated on the organoleptic properties, Farmers feedback and shelf life of biscuits. In this programme pregnant and lactating mothers and Anganwadi teacher have participated.

On 3 February 2021, Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head, Dr. V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science), KVK, Vonipenta visited blackgram fields for follow up under OFT at Madirepalli village of Duvvur mandal. Scientists observed powdery mildew disease and suggested to spray myclobutanil @ 0.05% for disease management.

On 3 February 2021, Dr V. Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture) and Mrs. Srividya Rani, N, Scientist & Head, KVK, Vonipenta had visited onion fields for follow up under OFT at Madirepalli village of Duvvur mandal. Collected data and explained about fertilizer and disease management.

**Swachhta Pakwada**

On 11.02.2020, KVK, Vonipenta conducted cleanness drive under Swachhta Action plan at KVK, Vonipenta. Under this programme the scientist and other KVK staff removed the weeds in mango orchard and cleaned the office premises.

**Krishi Kalyan Abhiyaan-3**

On 2 February 2021, Mrs. N. Srividya Rani, Scientist and Head, Dr. V. Nagarjuna, Research Associate (Soil Science) and Smt. Suneetha Runjala, Research Associate (Home Science), from KVK, Vonipenta conducted Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan-3 with a theme of “Diversified farming systems” at Kolavali village of Peddamudium mandal. In this programme, RA (Soil Science) addressed the farmers on Pest and disease management, fertilizer management in cotton, groundnut and bengal gram. Scientist and Head (Extension) addressed the farmers on IFS models and RA (Home science) on value addition for minor millets for creation of employment for rural youth. MAO, Peddamudium, VAA, Kolavali and 30 farmers have participated.
General

Meetings
Staff of HRS, Kovvur participated in two days virtual training programme on “Management of Plant genetic resources in fruit crops” organized by Project Coordinator, ICAR - AICRP on Fruits, IIHR, Bengaluru in collaboration with ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi from 1 to 2 February 2021.

On 8 February 2021, Dr V.Yugandhar, Research Associate (Horticulture), KVK, Vonipenta attended DRC- ATMA-Kadapa Budget meeting at Utukur, Kadapa. In this meeting PD ATMA has explained about ATMA- 2021 budgets for conducting demonstrations and training programmes in agriculture and allied sectors.

Radio Programmes
Dr P. Rama Devi, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology), HRS, V.R.Gudem has given radio talk on “Tamalapakulo tegulla yajamanyam” at All India Radio, Vijayawada on 1 February 2021.

Dr P. Ashok, Senior Scientist (Horticulture), HRS, V.R.Gudem has given radio talk on “Pandla tho-tallo kalupu nivarana paddatulu” at All India Radio, Vijayawada on 9 February 2021.

Phone-in-Life Programmes
Dr M.Ravindra Babu, Senior Scientist, HRS, Venkataramannagudem attended Phone-in-Live Programme on “Summer Vegetable Cultivation” at Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada on 04 February 2021.

Dr N.B.V.Chalapathi Rao, Principal Scientist, HRS, Ambajipeta attended Phone-in-Life Programme on “Rugose Spiralling Whitefly Management in Coconut” at Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada on 15 February 2021.

Phone-in-Programmes under Farmers Advisory Cell of Dr YSRHU
Dr YSRHU-Farmers Advisory Cell organized the following Phone-in-Programs during the first fortnight of February (3-4 PM).

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>కొబ్బరి పంటలో కోత అనంతర పరిజ్ఞానం – యంత్రీకరణ</td>
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<td>Dr K.Venkata Subbaiah, Scientist, KVK, Venkataramannagudem</td>
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<td>Dr K.Ravindra Kumar, Scientist, HRS, Kovvur</td>
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<td>Dr M.Kavitha, Senior Scientist, CRS, Petlur</td>
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Publications
