

REPORTER

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District-Level Seminar on Technological Options in Arecanut Cultivation

The ICAR-KVK MYRADA, Erode District, in association with the Arecanut Growers Association, Gobichettipalayam, organized a District Level Seminar on “Technological Options in Production, Post-Harvest Management and Marketing of Arecanut Crops” on 30 September 2025 at Sri Muthumahal Thirumana Mandapam, Gobichettipalayam Block. Mr. A. U. Sakthivel, President of the Association,



welcomed the participating farmers, scientists and dignitaries, followed by Dr. P. Alagesan, Senior Scientist and Head, who explained the objectives and implementation process of the programme. Shri S.Kandasamy, IAS., District Collector, Erode, presided over the function, while Dr. Shaik N. Meera, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Hyderabad, delivered the Chief Guest address, and Shri Amer Ali Khan, Founder of The Siasanthub, Hyderabad, served as Guest of Honour. Technical sessions were led by experts including Dr. B. Augustine Jerard, ICAR-CPCRI, who elaborated on arecanut varieties and cultivation; Dr. N. Anandaraja, DoEE, TNAU, who addressed training perspectives; Dr.M.R.Manikantan, ICAR-CPCRI, who discussed post-harvest technologies and value addition; Dr. M. S. Saraswati, ICAR-NRCB, who highlighted tissue culture banana as an intercrop and border crop;



Dr.T. Senthilkumar, ICAR-CIAE, who explained mechanization options; and Dr. Balaji Rajkumar, ICAR-IISR, who presented on arecanut-based spice cropping systems. A booklet on arecanut cultivation was released during the event.

The seminar witnessed active participation from 650 farmers.

District Collector's Visit to KVK Erode

District Collector Shri S. Kandasamy, IAS., visited KVK Erode on 31 July 2025 to see the infrastructure facilities, laboratories and instructional farm units. He interacted with entrepreneurs promoted by KVK and distributed seed materials, planting materials, rooftop garden kits and financial assistance to three SHGs.



Innovative value-added products in banana and quail were released on this occasion. The officials from NABARD, Dept. of Agriculture participated in the Event. Total of 60 farmers and 26 entrepreneurs participated.

Land Donation: Felicitation of Farmer

The Annual Review Workshop for Zone X KVKS was held at VIT, Vellore, from 2 to 4 September 2025, organized by ICAR-ATARI and TNAU. Dr. Rajbir Singh, DDG (Extension), chaired the workshop and highlighted national priorities for agricultural extension. Dr.Shaik N. Meera, Director, ICAR ATARI Zone X, pre-



sented the progress of KVKS across the zone. A notable highlight was the felicitation of progressive farmer Mr.Palanivel from Gobichettipalayam for donated land to KVK Erode for seed production.



Cotton Stakeholders Meet



ICAR - CICR, Coimbatore organized Stakeholders Meeting under Technology Mission on Cotton at ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore on 11th July 2025. The Hon'ble Union Ministers Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and

Hon'ble Shri Giriraj Singh, Union Minister of Textiles, inaugurated the programme and interacted with farmers and scientists. They emphasized the need for mechanization, HDPS/ELS systems, soil health improvement and integrated pest management. A group of 20 farmers from Erode district benefitted from the meet.

NABARD CGM Visit – IoT Smart Farming Pilot

As part of the IoT-based Smart Farming project implemented with NABARD support, CGM Shri R. Anand visited the demonstration field at Perumugai on 11 September 2025. He reviewed the installed automation components including soil moisture sensors, irrigation controllers and weather



stations, and interacted with farmers regarding cost savings and improved efficiency. He stressed the importance of documenting the outcomes for future scalability.



PM-KISAN 20th Installment – Webcast Programme



KVK Erode organized the live webcast of the 20th installment of PM-KISAN at Vadugapatti, Modakurichi Block, on 2nd August 2025. Hon'ble MLA Tmt.C.Saraswathi delivered the chief guest address and explained the benefits of the scheme. Department officials briefed farmers on available subsidies and the importance of scheme enrolment. KVK scientists highlighted natural farming practices, soil health management and drone technology. The event witnessed participation from 425 farmers.

Demonstration of Sugarcane Variety CO 11015

KVK Erode, in partnership with ICAR-SBI, conducted a frontline demonstration of the sugarcane variety CO 11015 in Sanarpalayam village. The trial, implemented in five farmers' fields, included foliar booster applications to enhance productivity. The crop is currently in the tillering stage.



ICM Practices in Cassava

An On-Farm Trial to evaluate cassava varieties Sree Reksha, YTP-2 and Mulluvadi was conducted on 31 July 2025 at Thinnakadu, Anthiyur Block. Dr.M. Muthuraj from CTCRI guided farmers on varietal performance and best management practices. Farmers were trained on land preparation, nutrient management, weed control, pest management and cutting preparation, and seed materials were distributed.



Kisan Gosthi – Integrated Crop Management in Cotton



A Kisan Gosthi on integrated cotton management was organized at Anthiyur Block on 11 August 2025. KVK experts explained HDPS and ELS cultivation practices and shared recommendations for effective pest and disease management. Farmers participating in ongoing cotton projects shared their field experiences, agriculture officials explained available schemes. 72 farmers attended the event.

Training on Quail Rearing

A one-day training programme on quail farming was conducted at KVK Erode. Participants were trained on feeding, housing, brooding management, behavioural issues and marketing of quail products. Twenty-five youth participated and gained knowledge on small-scale poultry entrepreneurship.



Mechanization in Turmeric Cultivation - Method Demo



KVK organized a method demonstration on the use of a turmeric seed planter at Perundurai village on 11 July 2025. Mr. John Prabakaran, (Agrl.Engg), explained the complete mechanization package including the turmeric seed planter, harvester, steam boiler and polisher. Farmers were sensitized to the advantages of improved planting efficiency and reduced labour dependency.

Training to Extension Functionaries

KVK conducted a training for extension personnel on 8 July 2025 at NDDB, Chithode, focusing on advanced livestock technologies including nutritional management, sex-sorted semen, SNP microarray testing and value addition in dairy and meat products. Participants also learned about fodder seed entrepreneurship and preparation of bankable project proposals under NLM schemes. A total of 25 beneficiaries attended.



Training on Vermicompost Production

A one-day training on vermicompost production was conducted at Kallipatti on 6 August 2025. Farmers received practical guidance on preparation, maintenance and harvesting of vermicompost beds. Successful entrepreneurs shared their experiences, and participants were provided with silpaulin sheets and earthworms to initiate vermicompost units. Twenty-five farmers and entrepreneurs took part.



Training on Beekeeping & Honey Value Addition

KVK Erode organized training programmes on 22 July and 19 August 2025 at Gobichettipalayam to promote beekeeping and honey-based enterprises. Participants learned about honeybee species, hive management, disease prevention and value-added honey products. A total of 32 farmers benefitted from these programmes.



TV Programme of KVK Intervention



From 16 to 21 September 2025, Doordarshan Pothagai documented KVK Erode's major initiatives and success stories for wider broadcast across Tamil Nadu. The team recorded 15 technical talks delivered by KVK scientists and captured 35 success stories from farmers and entrepreneurs supported by KVK.

Yuva Mitra Team Visit

A delegation from Yuva Mitra, Maharashtra, visited KVK Erode from 1 to 4 July 2025 to study its extension models, farmer-led initiatives, organic farming units, honey and millet enterprises and FPO development activities. The team interacted with Krishi Mitras, farmers and entrepreneurs to understand innovations adopted in the district.



Students Exposure Visit – Organic Farming

Students from Vivekanandha College of Technology visited KVK Erode on 7 August 2025 to learn about organic farming technologies. They received orientation on pest and disease management, soil sampling, biofertilizer application and visited demonstration units such as herbal gardens and honeybee units. A total of 102 students participated



Joint Diagnostic Field Visit – Groundnut ART Trial

A joint field inspection was conducted on 18 September 2025 at Arakkankottai, T. N. Palayam Block, under the Adaptive Research Trial for groundnut. Yield parameters were assessed across cultures and farmer feedback was collected to identify suitable varieties.



Visit by TIPS & Government School Students

Between 23 and 24 July 2025, 250 students from The Indian Public School, Erode, visited KVK, followed by 300 students from various government schools. The students were exposed to soil science, nutrition gardening, organic cultivation practices, honeybee rearing and water conservation models.



Students Visit – Kongu Arts & Science College

On 8 August 2025, 71 students from Kongu Arts and Science College visited KVK Erode. They explored instructional units such as nutrition gardens, fish ponds, herbal gardens and learned about KVK's mandated activities.



Strengthening Market Linkages for FPOs

KVK Erode, functioning as the CBBO for Gobi Fodder Plus FPLC, participated in the national webinar on 3 July 2025 organized by DA&FW. The sessions highlighted the operational model of KissanSay startup and the importance of natural farming certification for organic marketing. A total of 112 participants benefitted from the webinar.



Skill Training on Mushroom Cultivation

EDP on mushroom cultivation conducted on 30 July, 28 August and 29 September 2025. Participants were oriented on nutritional significance, medicinal values and enterprise opportunities in mushroom production. A progressive mushroom entrepreneur mentored the trainees on oyster and milky mushroom cultivation, shed construction, disease management and post-harvest handling.



Practical demonstrations on bed preparation and spawn usage were conducted. Marketing prospects and linkages through the Agri-Entrepreneur Service Centre (AESC) were also discussed.

Seminar on Sugarcane Cultivation Technologies

ICAR–KVK MYRADA, Gobichettipalayam organized a seminar on sugarcane cultivation technologies on 18 July 2025 in association with IPL, Chennai.



Dr.P.Alagesan, Senior Scientist and Head, explained the significance of sugarcane promotion in Erode district.

Mrs. Tamilselvi, Joint Director of Agriculture, highlighted departmental support and cultivation practices. Experts from TNAU, ICAR–Sugarcane Breeding Institute and ICAR–CIAE addressed topics including soil health management, IPDM practices, mechanization modules and location-specific sugarcane varieties.



A total of 300 farmers participated and benefited from the seminar.

EDP Training on Post-Harvest Technology in Vegetable

Under the MYRADA–UDGAM project in Thiruvallur district, SHG members visited KVK for EDP training on 1 and 2 September 2025. Training sessions covered organic vegetable cultivation, post-harvest management, value addition and preparation of organic inputs. Exposure visits were arranged to CMRC, AESC and women-led enterprises on banana flower value addition. Demonstrations on solar drying techniques and digital marketing approaches were included to enhance enterprise skills.



EDP Training on Value Addition in Milk

KVK conducted an EDP training on value addition in milk on 26 September 2025 for youth empowerment. The programme focused on nutritional benefits of milk, hygiene and preservation techniques, enterprise potential and marketing strategies. Participants learned the preparation of flavoured milk, paneer, curd, ghee and milk-based sweets along with packaging technologies. A practical session on paneer and flavoured milk preparation was also conducted. Trainees visited the milk processing unit to understand equipment and operational requirements.



Training on ICM in Groundnut – NMEOP Scheme

KVK participated in a training programme on ICM in groundnut conducted by Dept. of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare at Olalakoil village. Mrs. Umamaheshwari, Agrl. Officer, briefed about seed treatment procedures and departmental schemes. Mr. D. John Prabakaran, (Agrl.Engg), provided technical inputs on groundnut cultivation practices, drought tolerance measures, mobile sprinkler irrigation systems and organic filtration units. He also emphasized the role of mechanization in improving groundnut production. A total of 45 farmers benefited.



Natural / Organic Farming for School Students

Students from various Government Higher Secondary Schools visited KVK between July to September 2025 to learn about natural and organic farming systems, innovative practices and Integrated Farming Systems (IFS). Demonstration units including beekeeping, soil and water conservation models,



herbal and ethno-veterinary gardens, fish culture units, goat rearing units, mechanization modules and natural farming blocks were showcased. A total of 550 students benefited from experiential learning during the

exposure visit.

Exposure Visit by TATA Energy Division

A team from TATA Energy Division (CSR Project), Thirunelveli, visited KVK on 8 September 2025 to study women-led micro-



enterprises promoted by KVK. The team interacted with entrepreneurs involved in desi bird rearing, goat farming, mushroom spawn production, honey value addition and quail farming. They also visited JLG groups and women entrepreneurs involved in banana-flower-based value addition and soap making. The visit provided insights into enterprise sustainability, economics and livelihood improvement.

Training & Demonstration on Banana Pseudostem Injector and Solar Dryer

A training-cum-demonstration programme on the banana pseudostem injector and mini hybrid solar dryer was organized at Gobichettipalayam on 14 August 2025 in collaboration with ICAR-



CIAE. Experts explained the role of mechanization in horticulture, demonstrated the pseudostem injector operation and showcased the functionality of the solar dryer. A total of 250 farmers participated.

Popular Articles Published

- ⇒ Green manure and green leaf manure for soil fertility management published on 19.07.2025 in Dinakaran Tamil Newspaper
- ⇒ Integrated Weed Management in Paddy cultivation published in Agrigate



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