

## **Yield enhancement in Banana - IIHR Banana Special**

### **Rationale:**

Banana is being cultivated around 10480 ha.in Erode district with the productivity level of 38 ton/ha. The soil test reveals that, the micro nutrient status of soil shows below than the desirable level which ultimately leads to decrease fertility level of soil. Micro nutrient deficiency (Zinc, iron, Copper, Manganese) is severe in the banana cultivated areas of Erode district. To manage micro nutrient deficiency, KVK has adopted the IIHR Bangalore technology “Banana Special”, over the decade and support banana growers in and around the district.



Banana special is a crop specific micro nutrient formulation comprising of Zinc, iron, boron, Copper, Manganese, magnesium and molybdenum and made available to the plan by foliar application, which helps quicker absorption and results in higher yield and better quality. 6kg of Banana Special recommended for an acre as a foliar application recommended by IIHR. The beneficial effect is observed within 72 hours of spray to the crop

### **KVK Interventions:**

- KVK initiated production of banana special with the support of IIHR, Bangaluru for the benefit of farmers.
- KVK organized 57 training cum awareness programme and 34 method demonstrations on role and importance of Banana Special for improving productivity to farmers, FPO member's, extension functionaries, input dealers and entrepreneurs by involving 2462 farmers
- KVK promoted institution like CMRC, FPO & AESC supported farmers to avail this technology in grass root level.
- KVK developed IEC material on “Banana cultivation technology” for the benefit of farmers



### **Outcome and Impact**

- 14017 Kg of Banana special produced by covering 2336 acres and benefited by 2132 farmers
- By adoption of this technology 15-20% yield increased, with an additional income of Rs. 53,000 / ha.
- 52.86% of the technology was spread among the farmers through the farmers who reaped the maximum benefit by adoption of this technology. 27.14% of the technology was spread through the KVK extension programme like conducting capacity building, exhibits and demonstrations. 20% of the technology was spread among the farmers with the support of mass media like newspaper, magazines, mobile advisory services etc.
- The farmers from other districts like Salem, Namamkal, Krishnagiri, Theni, Madurai, Cuddalore and Palakad (Kerala state) are regularly availing the banana special technology from KVK.
- The success of the technology documented in print and electronic media.



\*\*\*