



KAU NEWS

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International Flower Fest- Pooppoli 2023

The International Flower Fest - Pooppoli 2023 was organised jointly by Regional Agricultural Research Station, KAU Ambalavayal and the Kerala State Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare during 01-15, January 2023. The event was inaugurated by Shri. A. K. Saseendran, the Hon'ble Minister for Forest and Wild Life, Govt. of Kerala. The flower fest was a platform for the convergence of activities of different actors in the agricultural and allied sectors. The total visitor turnout crossed 4.5 lakh.



Saphalam RARS-Farm Carnival 2023

A carnival named- 'SAPHALAM - RARS FARM CARNIVAL' was conducted from 20th February to 1st March 2023 at the Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS) Pilicode. The event was inaugurated by Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, on 20th February 2023. The Farm Show was one-of-a-kind event that offered visitors a chance to stroll around the farm and experience unique and diverse events which included not only agriculture but also multi-faced health aspects, marketing avenues, entertainment and hands on training programmes.



Dr. B. Ashok IAS

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of KAU
from 01.03.2023



Dr. K. Arya

Former Vice Chancellor of KAU
during 10.12.2022 to 28.02.2023



Smt. Ishita Roy IAS

Former Vice Chancellor of KAU
during 08.10.2022 to 09.12.2022



Dr. R. Chandrababu

Former Vice Chancellor of KAU
Retired on 07.10.2022

Western Sydney University delegates visit KAU

A team from Western Sydney University comprising of Prof. Deborah Sweeney (Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research), Prof. Linda Taylor (Pro Vice Chancellor, International), Prof. Graciela Metternicht (Dean, School of Science), Prof. Ian Anderson (Director, Hawkesbury Institute), Dr. Kamali (Dean, International), Dr. Nisha Rakesh (Senior Advisor-Research strategy and partner ships), Ms. Jodi Mckay (National chair Australia India Business Council, Vice Chancellor's fellow, WSU and Past Cabinet minister) and Ms Inu Rana (Senior Manager, Business Partnerships) visited College of Agriculture, KAU Vellayani on 29.03.2023.

The team discussed the scope of future research collaborations between the two Universities. An interactive session of KAU undergraduate and post-graduate students regarding dual degree, Master degree and Ph.D. programmes was also organized.



Onattukara sesame gets GI tag

Onattukara sesame received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in December 2022. The IPR cell of KAU and ORARS Kayamkulam facilitated the process of getting the GI tag for Onattukara sesame. Onattukara Vikasana Agency is the nodal agency. With the GI tag, the sesame farmers will get benefitted, as the product will become popular with enhanced scope for high market availability and better price.

ORARS Kayamkulam's Capacity building workshop on GI tag for Onattukara sesame - 'Thilam 2023' was held on 24th March 2023 with the funding from NABARD. The programme was inaugurated by Smt. P. Sashikala, Hon. Municipal Chairperson, Kayamkulam.

Prime Minister invites startups of KAU Agri-Business Incubator

Five startups incubated under the KAU Agri Business Incubator were invited by Hon. Prime Minister Sri. Narendra Modi for participating in Agri Start up Conclave & Kisan Sammelan, organised by RKVY-RAFTAAR Innovation Agri Entrepreneurship Cell, DA & FW, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare on October 17 & 18, 2022, at IARI Mela Ground, Pusa, New Delhi.



DDG (NRM), ICAR visits IFSRS, Karamana

Dr. S. K. Chaudhari, DDG (NRM), ICAR, visited IFSRS, Karamana, on 28th December 2022 to get acquainted with the different replicable IFS models and enterprises developed under the AICRP on integrated farming of KAU which are currently being scaled up in Kerala State.



Stations under KAU conducted demonstrations of UAV drone technology

Communication Centre, Mannuthy, Agricultural Research Station, Mannuthy and KVKs under KAU demonstrated UAV drone technology on a large-scale. Over 250 acres of paddy were sprayed with Sampoorna and *Pseudomonas* using drone technology by Communication Centre under various projects.



ICAR-ATARI Director honours Padmasree Cheruvayal Raman

Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR- ATARI, honoured Padmasree Mr. Cheruvayal Raman on 17.02.2023 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Wayanad. Mr. Cheruvayal Raman is known for his efforts in conserving over 55 indigenous rice varieties, different species of trees, herbs and spices in his three acres plot. He is popularly known as the *rice man of Kerala*. He has won many prestigious awards, including the National Plant Genome Saviour Award instituted by the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Authority in 2016.



KAU commemorates World Coconut Day 2022

Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS) Pilicode celebrated world coconut day and *Paithruka Vithulsavam* on 2nd September, 2022, which imparted a unique learning experience targeted at the new generation to instill interest in farming and to shape them for future agriculture. Honourable M.P. Sri. Rajmohan Unnithan, Kasaragode inaugurated the programme.

Coconut Research Station, KAU, Balaramapuram also commemorated the coconut day by organizing a series of hands-on trainings on value addition for the unemployed youth belonging to the scheduled tribe community in collaboration with the Kerala Forest Department.



OJT on Micro Irrigation Technician (MIT)

Department of Agricultural Engineering, College of Agriculture, Padannakkad, in association with Central Training Institute (CTI), Mannuthy, organised On-the-Job Trainings (OJT) on Micro Irrigation Technician (MIT) for the second-year students of Government Vocational Higher Secondary School, Karadka, Kasaragod.



New academic block and model honey processing unit at Ambalavayal inaugurated

Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmer’s Welfare, Sri. P. Prasad inaugurated a number of programmes and initiatives at RARS Ambalavayal on 27th November 2022. These include laying the foundation stone of the College of Agriculture, Ambalavayal, Academic block complex, the inauguration of ladies hostel, model honey processing unit and training complex under RKVY project, cold storage unit of farm produce, distribution of coconut seedlings and goats for tribal community farmers. Sri. I. C. Balakrishnan, Hon. MLA, Sulthan Bathery presided over the function.



Directorate of Students Welfare, KAU: Ever vibrant

- Three Campus Placement sessions were held and nine were placed through campus recruitment
- Student Counseling Centre was set up in all colleges and part-time student councilors were appointed
- For the benefit of the students, a fitness center cum pavilion was inaugurated on 07/10/2022 at Vellanikkara Main Campus
- KAU team participated in the South Zone Inter University Tournament 2021-22

Bank of Baroda Kisan Pakhwada-Mega Kisan Mela 2022

Bank of Baroda Kisan Pakhwada-Mega Kisan Mela 2022 was organized in collaboration with KVK, Thrissur on 25th of November 2022 at Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (KVASU), Mannuthy. The inaugural address was delivered by Padmashree Award Laureate Dr. Sosamma Iype. Lectures were handled by the eminent scientists of Kerala Agricultural University.



KAU and IPL Ltd. jointly organised Crop seminar

Regional Agricultural Research Station, KAU, Kumarakom and Indian Potash Limited jointly organized a Crop Seminar on 18th February 2023. Sri. P. S. Gahlaut, MD (Indian Potash Ltd., New Delhi) and dignitaries from Jordan Phosphate Mines Company graced the gathering. The technical deliberations were led by Dr. N. K. Sasidharan [Professor, (Retd., KAU)] and Dr. Sailaja Kumari M.S. (Associate Professor, KAU).



Two patents for KAU technologies

Two machines developed by KCAET Tavanur obtained patents under IPR protection. The first is the banana sucker uprooting machine (Patent No. 423015 dtd. 24.02.2023) while the second is the power-operated rotary coleus peeling machine (Patent No. 408853 dtd. 11.10.2022).

The banana sucker uprooting machine can be used to uproot banana suckers from the mother plant without any damage. It is driven by hydraulic power either directly or through appropriate linkages or joints from a suitable power source like a tractor hydraulic system or a similar sort. It can uproot 180 banana clumps per day.



The power-operated rotary coleus peeling machine is an attachment to the available wet grinder, which can be used for peeling coleus. The peeler consists of a peeling unit and a directing rod. The capacity of the peeler is 15 kg per hour.



KAU Agri-Business Incubator equipped 41 budding startups through RKVY RAFTAAR programme

KAU Agri-business incubator equipped 41 idea-stage agripreneurs and early stage Agri startups through its two months RKVY RAFTAAR agripreneurship orientation and startup incubation programmes from 16.08.2022 to 15.10.2022.



KAU Agri-Business Incubator receives recognitions

Agri-Business Incubator received EKL Agro Awards in the category of Best Agri Incubator on Kisan Diwas Celebrations. Dr. K. P. Sudheer, Professor & Head KAU-ABI, received Junior Chamber International (JCI) sponsored Entrepreneurship Mentor Award from Hon'ble Justice Narayana Kurup on 22.12.2022.

KAU Agri-Business Incubator hits century in Entrepreneurship Development Programmes

KAU Agri-Business Incubator achieved its milestone of a century in Entrepreneurship Development Programmes. On 13th October 2022, Agri-Business Incubation Centre celebrated the training century by hosting the 100th training programme.



CRS Madakathara, awarded the best AICRP cashew centre at National level

Cashew Research Station, Madakathara, was identified at national level, as the best AICRP centre on cashew for the year 2022. The award was received by the team of scientists comprising of Dr. Jalaja S. Menon (Principal Investigator), Dr. Asna A. and Dr. Nasiya Beegum A. N. in the Annual Group Meeting held at Dr. Y.S.R. Horticultural University, Andhra Pradesh during January 2023.



Krishi Darshan - KAU bags the best pavilion award

Kerala Agricultural University received the best pavilion award in the Krishi Darshan exhibition conducted at Thiruvananthapuram from 24.01.2023 to 28.01.2023. Forty scientists of College of Agriculture Vellayani along with forty students participated in the scientific field visits to farmers fields.



Kerala Fish Fest 2022: Best exhibition stall award for KAU

Integrated Farming System Research Station (IFSRS), Karamana, represented KAU in the Kerala Fish Fest 2022, organised during 18-21 November 2022, by the Department of Fisheries, Government of Kerala, as part of World Fisheries Day celebrations. KAU received the Best Exhibition Stall award in the fest.

Individual Awards/Recognitions

Ms. Amirtha S. Kartha, (2020-11-013) II M.Sc. (Ag.) Plant Pathology student has secured **First Rank** SRF Plant Pathology (Physically Weaker section Category I under ICAR-SRF – 2022)



Dr. Sajeena A., Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology), IFSRS, Karamana, received the "Best Poster presentation award in the Platinum Jubilee Conference of organized by the Indian Phyto pathological Society and University of Mysore during 2-4 February 2023.

Ms. Chinnu Raju, Department of Agricultural Meteorology, COA, Vellanikkara, KAU, received the Prof. P.S.N. Sastry Award for Best M.Sc. Thesis in Agricultural Meteorology.



Dr. Anu Susan Sam, Asst. Professor (Agrl. Economics) received the best paper award for her article at the National Conference on "Transforming India - Risk to Resilience held at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi from 15-17 March 2023.

Dr. Heera G. (Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Vellayani) was nominated as the nodal person from KAU for technical support for mushroom training under SHM project "Comprehensive programme for the development of Mushroom Villages in Kerala" under RKVY 2022-23.



Smt. Sherin A. Salam (Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Vellayani) got honours from Radio Krishipadam-Njangalum Krishiyilekku 2022, organised by Radio Benzigar FM station 107.8.

Dr. Shanas S., Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology), IFSRS, Karamana, was felicitated by the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Sri. P. Prasad for his path-breaking research on the discovery of cavity-nesting honey bees (*Apis karinjodiyana*) from the Indian sub-continent after a long gap of 200 years.



Dr. Reji Rani O. P., Professor (Entomology), College of Agriculture, Vellayani won the "Best teacher in Biological Control" award instituted by the Society for Biological Control Advancement, ICAR-NBAIR.

Smt. Divya S. (Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Vellayani) won the best poster award in the delegate category under Agri. and food science section in the 35th Kerala Science Congress held during 12-14 February 2023.

