



Queen's Road Calling

**“Agricultural Cooperatives:
Key to feeding the world”**



Dr. R. Dwarakinath inaugurated World Food Day 2012 at IAT Bangalore.
From Left to Right Sri. K.J. Devendrappa, Dr. D. Rajagopal,
Prof. V. Veerabhadraiah, Sri. G.K. Deshpande, Dr. K.V. Sarvesh,
Dr. R. Dwarakinath, Sri. Gundu Rao and Sri. B.A. Mahadevappa

The IAT, Bengaluru organized the **World Food Day-2012** in collaboration with the Karnataka State Department of Agriculture, UAS, Bengaluru and AME Foundation, Bengaluru on 18th October -2012, at Dr. H.R. Arakeri Auditorium, IAT, Bengaluru. This year's theme was - **“Agricultural Co-operatives: Key to feeding the world”**

Dr. R. Dwarakinath, Former VC, UASB & Chairman, AME Foundation, Bengaluru inaugurated the program and elaborated the role of co-operatives in Agricultural development as well as environmental protection. He further stressed the role of co-operatives with respect to food security and banking system in rural areas.

Special lectures were arranged to mark the occasion

Mr. B.A. Mahadevappa, KCS, Additional Registrar of Co-operatives and Secretary, Karnataka State Co-operative Apex Bank, Bengaluru spoke on **Role of Co-operatives in improving Food Security**.

Mr. Gundu Rao, Deputy General Manager (Retd), NABARD delivered a lecture on the **Role of the Co-operative Banks in improving the Food Security**.

ವಚನಾಮೃತ

ಕಳೆದೇಡ, ಕೊಲೆದೇಡ! ಹಸಿಯ ನುಡಿಯಲು ಹೇಡ
ತನ್ನ ಬಣ್ಣವೇಡ! ಇದುವ ಹಿಡಿಯಲು ಹೇಡ!
ಇದೇ ಅಂತರಂಗ ಕುದ್ಡ! ಇದೇ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಕುದ್ಡ!
ಇದೇ ನಮ್ಮ ಕೂಡಲಸಂಗನ ಒಲಿಸುವ ಪರಿ
- ಬಸವಣ್ಣ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಶ್ರೀಶೈಲವಾಸಿ

Dr. B.M. Shashidhara, Professor, Department of Agricultural Cooperation and Marketing, UASB spoke on **Agricultural Co-operatives: Key to feeding the world – past, present and future**.

Mr. G.K. Deshpande, Chief Executive Officer, Primary Agricultural Co-operative Society, Hirepadasalagi, Jamakhandi Taluk, Bagalkot District narrated the success of **Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Society of Hirepadasalagi in enhancing food production**. He highlighted various achievements of society by organizing different activities including the support for increasing food production in the rural areas.

Dr. K.V. Sarvesh, President, IAT presided over the function. Dr. D. Rajagopal, Chairman, Seminar & Endowment Sub-Committee introduced all the speakers to the audience. Mr. K.J. Devendrappa, Secretary, IAT welcomed the gathering. Dr. Niranjana Murthy, Professor of Plant Breeding, UASB proposed vote of thanks. About 160 IATians participated in the program.

MC Members on Eco-Bio-diversity tour



MC members at Rural Development Centre of the Ramakrishna Mission

As part of activities undertaken by the Sub-committee on Environment, Ecology and Pollution control, M.C.

members visited the Rural Development Centre of the Ramakrishna Mission at Shivanahally, Anekal Taluk. They planted saplings of fruit plants during the visit.

Swamy Vishnumayanand, Pontiff and Head of the Centre is an Botanist. The Centre is running a school for the benefit of about three hundred children from neighboring villages. The children are provided with free facilities.

The Centre has an area of around 100 acres, where indigenous plants, creepers, shrubs and trees have been developed on the principles of organic and natural farming.

Holistic approach required for Ag-tekki



From Left to Right Sri. N. Deshaiah, Sri. V. Balakrishnan, Dr. D. Rajagopal, Dr. N. Krishnamurthy

A lecture program was organized on 15th Sept, 2012 on “Holistic approach in development and management of leadership for the agricultural technologist” by Mr. Balakrishnan, V. He stressed the need for the target for proper planning, guidance and whole hearted effort for achieving the targets and one should know his strength, challenges and opportunities.

Dr. N. Krishnamurthy, Chairman, Knowledge Enhancement committee, IAT welcomed the gathering. The function was chaired by Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice president, IAT. Mr. Desaiah, a senior IATian proposed the vote of thanks.

Genetic Engineering helps enhanced production- Manjunath

A lecture program on “Agricultural Bio-technology; Opportunities and Challenges” was organized by the IAT on 10th October, 2012 at B.J. Nanjudappa Hall, IAT. Dr. T.M. Manjunath, Eminent Agricultural Entomologist & Consultant in Agri-biotechnology and IPM, and Former Director, Monsanto Research Centre, was the Speaker.

In his detailed lecture, Dr. Manjunath illustrated the salient features of biotechnology, advantages of genetic engineering in crop production, calendar of events in



From Left to Right
Dr. T.M. Manjunath, Dr. D. Rajagopal, Dr. N. Krishnamurthy.

adoption of the technology in the world, safety assessment and risk management measures accorded by the government regulatory authorities and product developers.

Dr. N. Krishnamurthy, Chairman, Knowledge Enhancement sub-committee, IAT welcomed the gathering while Mr.Channabasavaiah, M.C. member introduced the guest. Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice President, IAT presided over the function. Dr. Sharanappa, M.C. member proposed vote of thanks. Around hundred members participated in the program.

'God Damn' Particles @ IAT



From Left to Right : Smt. B.T. Lalita Naik, Sri. A.S. Nataraj, Sri. C.H. Gowda, Dr. N. Krishnamurthy

The lecture on “UNIVERSE IN THE GOD PARTICLES” by Mr. A.S. Nataraj, President, Akhila Karnataka Vicharavadi Sangha, Bengaluru at B.G. Nanjundappa Hall was organised on 9th November, 2012 received a thunderous applaud.

Mr. Nataraj made it clear that nucleus is made of Proton and Neutron, which information was reported as early as in 1926 by an Indian scientist but, the same was not published. However, this theory was supported by Mr. Peterson (1956) of England. Later Mr. Peterson named the particles as “Higgs Boson”. In 1993, Mr. Leonot Land (Noble prize winner) named these proton and

neutron as “God Damn particles” finally renamed it to “**Gods Particles**”.

Dr. N. Krishnamurthy, Chairman, Knowledge Enhancement Committee, IAT welcomed the gathering.

The program was presided over by Mr. C.H. Gouda of Chitradurga chapter. Ms. B.T. Lalitha Naik, Former Minister, GoK graced the occasion.

'Mango-Bee' at Padarahalli, Ramanagaram



From Left to Right Dr. Krishna, DDH (Second), Dr. D. Rajgopal, Vice President, IAT, K.Raju, MLA, Saleem Pasha, Chairman, Grama Panchayat and Muralidharan

A seminar cum workshop on Mango cultivation, rejuvenation and Beekeeping was organised in the Mango orchard of framer Borappa, Padarahalli village, Ramanagaram taluk & district on 26th September, 2012 in collaboration with IAT Bengaluru, Department of Horticulture, GoK and Zilla Panchayat, Ramanagaram district.

Mr. K. Raju, M.L.A, Ramanagaram inaugurated the program. Dr. Murali Mohan, Scientist, KVK, Ramanagaram briefly explained the package of practices of mango crop.

Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice-President, IAT Bengaluru briefed about various pests of Mango and their integrated management. He also lectured on Beekeeping and demonstrated various tools required for apiculture. Mr. Channabasavaiah, M.C. member, IAT stressed the need for organic farming for the production of quality products.

Dr. B. Krishna, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Ramanagaram narrated the various facilities available in his department and requested the farmers to make use of them.

An exhibition on various tools, instruments, material and plant protection equipments of different companies was organised for the benefit of farmers. A farmer-scientist interaction was organized as part of the program.

Mr. Saleem Pasha, Chairman, Harisandra Grampanchayat presided over the program. Mr. Chandru, President, Agriculture and Industries sub-committee, ZP, Ramanagaram, Mr. Govinda Reddy, M.C. member, IAT participated in the program. Dr. B. Krishna, DDH welcomed the farmers, Dr. Rudresh, Sr. ADH proposed vote of thanks. About 150 farmers participated in the program.

Seminar cum Workshop on Adoption of Modern Technology in Potato cultivation



From Left to Right on the Dais : Sri. M. Devarajappa, DDH, Dr. Amar Nanjundeswar, Dr. Indires, Dr. D. Rajagopal, Dr. S. Venkataramu

A Seminar cum **Workshop on Adopting Modern Technology in Potato cultivation** was organised on 29th Sept, 2012 at Rural Self Employment Training Institution, Canara Bank, Chadalapura gate, Chikkaballapur jointly by IAT Bengaluru, Department of Horticulture, GoK and Zilla Panchayat, Chikkaballapur.

Dr. S. Venkataramu, Joint Director of Agriculture, Chikkaballapur inaugurated the program. He appealed to the farmers to adopt the modern technologies for increasing yields in Potato.

Dr. Indires, Professor of Horticulture, PG College of Horticulture, GKVK explained the latest technology in Potato cultivation as well as getting the quality seeds from North India for planting during the winter season.

Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice-President, IAT Bengaluru and Senior Entomologist shared some interesting points on different Insects, pests of Potato, their management, and Post harvest technology in Potato storage. He also spoke on IAT activities and objectives of conducting such workshops for the benefit of farmers.

Dr. Amara Nanjundeswara, Asst. Professor of Horticulture, College of Horticulture, Kolar enlightened the audience on various diseases caused by fungi, bacteria, viruses & their management.

An exhibition with charts depicting the Potato cultivation technology was also arranged. Mr.M.Devarajappa, Deputy Director of Horticulture,

Chikkaballapura explained about various facilities/subsidies of Horticulture Department and requested the farmers to make use of these facilities.

M. Bhaskar Chakravarthy, Chief Manager, Canara Bank and S. Sundaresha, Manager, District Lead Bank, Chikkaballapur participated as Chief guests. Mr. Devarajappa, welcomed the farmers and Mr. Sreenivas, ADH, Bagepalli taluk proposed vote of thanks.

Around 150 farmers participated in both inaugural and also technical sessions of the program.

Seminar cum workshop on Mango cultivation, Rejuvenation and Beekeeping at Honnayakanahalli village



A sear on Seminar cum Workshop on Mango cultivation, rejuvenation and Beekeeping at Honnayakanahalli

A Seminar cum Workshop on Mango cultivation, rejuvenation and Beekeeping was organised on 12th October, 2012 in the Mango orchard of Ms. Jayamma at Honnayakanahalli village of Channapatna Taluk jointly by IAT Bengaluru, Department of Horticulture and Centrally sponsored ATMA project, Department of Agriculture, GoK.

Mr. Raghu kumar, ZP member, Bevoor of Channapatna taluk, after inaugurating the program, stressed on various issues relating to Mango cultivation in a scientific way as well as producing quality fruits.

Dr. B.G. Hanumantharaya, Subject Matter Specialist in Horticulture, KVK, Ramanagaram explained about Mango cultivation as well rejuvenation for getting higher yields as well as better quality fruits.

Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice-President, IAT Bengaluru and Senior Entomologist, emphasized on Integrated Plant Protection methods for the control of pests and diseases as well as to get better quality fruits. Further, appealed to farmers to practice Beekeeping to generate additional income.

Mr. Channabasavaiah, M.C. member, IAT Bengaluru explained about organic farming and requested the farmers to practice organic farming which yields better quality fruits.

Mr. Gunavantha, Senior ADH, Channapatna demonstrated pesticide banding to the base as well as excavation of soil around the base which helps in control of pests as well as conserve moisture and nutrients.

Mr. Siddarju, Chairman, M.B.Halli, Gramapanchayat presided over the program. An interaction session between farmers with scientists was also held.

Ms. Jayamma, President, Taluk Panchayat, Channapatna, Ms. Savitha Channegowda, Vice-President, Taluk Panchayat, Mr. Nagaraju, Project Director, ATMA and Mr. H.V. Janardana, Deputy Project Director, ATMA, Ramanagaram, District participated as Chief guests in the program.

Mr. Gunavantha, Senior ADH welcomed the farmers, proposed vote of thanks as well as compeered the program.

Around 150 farmers participated in the program.

Scientists praise Kolar Farmers



A snap shot on seminar on Mango cultivation at Kolar

A seminar on Mango cultivation was organised on 27th Oct, 2012 in the seminar hall of College of Horticulture, Kolar jointly by IAT, Bengaluru, University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot and Department of Horticulture, GoK.

Dr. S.V. Hittalamani, Additional Director of Horticulture, GoK, Bengaluru inaugurated the program. He explained various projects that are implemented by Department of Horticulture in Kolar district and appreciated the efforts of Kolar farmers in cultivating different fruits crops as well as different vegetables in the district. He appealed to the farmers to make use of the facilities and subsidies given by Horticulture Department, National Horticulture Board and National Horticulture Mission of Government of India.

Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice-President, IAT and Senior Entomologist delivered lecture on different pests of Mango and Integrated Pests Management and appealed to the farmers to follow the measures in order to get higher yields as well as better quality fruits. He

appreciated the efforts and hard working nature of Kolar farmers in cultivating different fruits, vegetables, sericulture as well as adopting dairying in a big way in the district.

Further, Dr. Rajagopal explained about the activities of IAT with different programs being implemented in transfer of technology through its regional chapters in 10 districts for the benefit of farmers and appealed to technocrats to start regional chapter at Kolar.

Dr. R.D. Rawal, Principal Scientist (Rtd.), IIHR, Hesaraghatta, Bengaluru delivered a lecture on different diseases of Mango, their integrated control measures and shared his views on various precautionary measures to be taken by timely spraying with effective concentration of chemicals at various stages of Mango for protecting crop for getting higher yields as well as quality fruits.

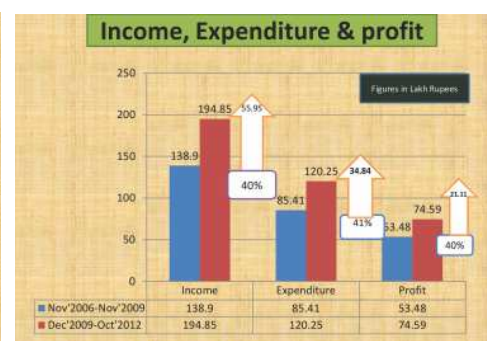
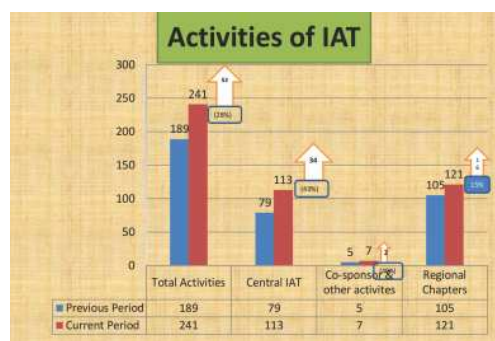
An interaction session between scientists with farmers was also held.

Dr. V. Nachegowda, Dean, College of Horticulture, Kolar presided over the program. While appreciating the good response from the participants from different taluks, he urged the farmers to adopt latest technologies for getting higher yields as well as quality fruits. He also advised the farmers to use more hybrid varieties and adopt package of practices strictly to get higher production in Horticultural crops.

P. Hanumantha Reddy, progressive farmer and member, Extension Advisory Council, UHS, Bagalkot and Mr. C.H. Gowda, M.C member, IAT Bengaluru participated in the program as chief guests. Mr. Kadire Gowda, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Kolar welcomed the farmers and Dr. B. Anjaneya Reddy, Asst. Professor, Plant Pathology, College of Horticulture proposed vote of thanks. Dr. Shivanna, Associate Professor of Soil Science, College of Horticulture, Kolar anchored the entire program.

Around 120 farmers participated in the day long technical session of the program.

Present IAT Body's contribution in graphs



Management Committee

President :

Dr. K.V. Sarvesh

Vice Presidents :

Dr. V. Veerabhadraiah

Dr. D. Rajagopal

Secretary :

Mr. K.J. Devendrappa

Treasurer :

Mr. K. Krishnappa

Joint Secretary :

Mr. S.N. Lakshminarayana

Members :

Mr. C.H. Gowda

Mr. G. Manjunath

Mr. S.A. Govinda Reddy

Mr. T.V. Gurudevaiah

Mr. Channabasavaiah

Dr. N. Krishnamurthy

Dr. Sharanappa

Co-opted Members :

Dr. K.M. Harini Kumar

Mr. S. Narayana Swamy

Mr. K.P. Aiyappa

Mr. G. Gurusiddaiah

President, IAT Regional Chapter, Raichur

President, IAT Regional Chapter, Mandya

Newsletter & Publication Sub-committee :

Mr. S.N. Lakshminarayana - Chairman

Prof. K. Chandrashekar - Member

Dr. Sreedhar Adiga - Member

Mr. S. Narayana Swamy - Member

How to estimate Crop? B'Kot Chapter has the answer



Participants in the "Awareness programme on Crop Estimation Scheme and efficient use of water soluble fertilizers"

A training program on "Awareness program on Crop Estimation Scheme and efficient use of water soluble fertilizers" jointly organized by Department of agriculture and IAT Bagalkot chapter, Zuari Holding Limited, Goa on 2nd August, 2012 to farmers facilitators of Bagalkot Taluka at DATC Bagalkot

M.C. Meeting conducted

IAT Bagalkot conducted its management committee meeting on 28th August, 2012 at DATC Bagalkot. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Gurumurthy, JDA, Bagalkot, Dr. Chetana Patil, President, Dr. Sreeshail Diddimani, Joint Secretary, DDH, Bagalkot, Dr. Ansuya Hugar, Treasurer, Dr. H.K. Nyamagoudar, Secretary, Dr. Yadahalli, PC, KVK, Bagalkot participated in the program.

World Food Day celebrated



World Food Day was jointly organised by Department of Agriculture, Bagalkot, KVK Bagalkot and IAT Bagalkot Chapter on 16th October, 2012 at DATC Bagalkot. The program was inaugurated by Dr. Gurumurthy, JDA, Bagalkot. Dr. Chetana Patil, DDA, DATC & President IAT Bagalkot Chapter chaired the program. Smt. Pramillamma Basappagoudar, ADA (FW) DATC proposed vote of thanks.

Bijapur "Site Specific Nutrient Management in Sugarcane"



A field day on Site Specific Nutrient Management in Sugarcane was organized by the chapter in the field of Mr. Subhash H. Bidari at Arutagi Farm near Nandi Co-operative Sugar Factory, Galagali on 20th October, 2012. The program was inaugurated by Dr. A. R. Alagawadi, Dean (Agri), AC, Bijapur & President of the chapter. Dr. A. R. Alagawadi, and Chief Guests Dr. S.L. Madiwalar and Associate Director of Research, RARS, Bijapur and Dr. R. Gurumurthy, ADE RARS, Bijapur highlighted the importance of site specific nutrient management in sugarcane to tackle the deficiency secondary and micronutrients. A total of 350 farmers from nearby villages and the places where the trials were conducted attended the field day.

Krushi Mahiti Andolana



Sri. S.K. Bellubbi, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Marketing and WAKF Board, GoK and District Minister, Bijapur inaugurated Krishi Mahiti Andolan 2012.

This programme was organized in collaboration with Dept of Agriculture and with IAT chapter, Bijapur chapter on 15th August, 2012. This programme was inaugurated by District Minister Sri .S.K.Bellubbi, APMC & Waqf Board, GOK. In his inaugural speech Bijapur district although rich in resources but fail to utilize. The irrigation project in the district will increase the food grain production and horticulture crops also.

Post Harvest Technology in Agriculture Produce

A District level workshop was organized on Post Harvest Technology in Agriculture Produce in collaboration with Dept of Agriculture, and KVK, Bijapur on 12th September, 2012. The JDA, Bijapur inaugurated the workshop. Dr. Ashok S. Sajjan Assoc. Professor of Seed Science and Technology & Secretary IAT Regional Chapter Bijapur delivered a talk on post harvest management in Agricultural produce. Mr. Manjunath Jambagi AO, Bijapur proposed vote of thanks.



Participants in Training Programme on cultivation of Banana and Onion cultivation

World Food Day at Chitradurga



Sri. K.M. Narayanaswamy, CEO, ZP inaugurating World Food Day

World food day was celebrated on 22nd October, 2012 to coincide with the 14th year of completion of IAT, Chitradurga Chapter in coordination with KVK & ARS Babbur at the IAT premises. The program was inaugurated by Mr. K.M. Narayanaswamy, CEO, ZP Chitradurga. Dr. R. Krishnamurthy, President Chitradurga chapter and also JDA of Chitradurga presided over the program. Mr. K. Gopalareddy A.R.C.S. Bengaluru delivered lecture on "Agriculture Co-operatives - Key to Feeding the World".

Dr. G. Sreekantan, Secretary, IAT Chitradurga, welcomed the gathering and Dr. B. Jagannath proposed the vote of thanks.

Training to farmers on Banana & Onion at Taluk level

A Taluk Level Training program to farmers on Banana and Onion crops was organized at PLD Bank Premises at Molakalmur in Co-ordination with, PLD Bank, Molakalmur, Dept. of Horticulture and HOPCOMS, Chitradurga on 1st August, 2012.

Mr. T. Revanna, President, PLD Bank Molakalmur presided over the Workshop. Mr. H.T. Naga Reddy, ZP Member & Director, DCC Bank Chitradurga inaugurated the program, Subject Matter Specialist

Dr. S. Onkarappa (Plant Protection), Dr. Prakash Kerur (Horticulture) were resource persons,

Dr. D. Chandrappa, Program Co-ordinator, KVK, IAT Vice President Dr. A. Thippeswamy, Secretary Dr. G. Sreekantan, Joint Secretary. Dr. B. Jagannath, President, HOPCOMS participated in the program

About 150 farmers were present in the workshop.

Training to technical officers conducted



Mr. Vipul Bunsul, Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga district inaugurating FM and FMS Training Programme

A District Level F M & FMS Training Program was jointly organized by FACT Fertilizers Company, Department of Agriculture, IAT, Chitradurga on 10th August, 2012. Mr. Vipul Bunsul, Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga district inaugurated the program. Dr. R. Krishnamurthy, JDA, presided over the program. Retail dealers of the district were given training in the program.

Independence Day celebrated

Independence Day was celebrated under the Presidentship of Dr. R. Krishnamurthy, President, IAT and JDA Chitradurga. M.C members and other members of the chapter attended meeting.

Registration of the site

Dr. K.V. Sarvesh, President, IAT and five M.C. members visited the chapter on 15th October, 2012 in connection with the registration of the chapter's site.



Sri. S.R. Lakshmikantha Reddy and Sri. K.H. Seetharama Reddy were honoured by Regional Chapter Chitradurga on 15th October 2012.

The executive committee arranged an interaction meeting with the members of the chapter. Around 80 members participated in the meeting. Dr. K.V. Sarvesh, suggested some tips to garner resources so that the chapter can be financially self-reliant.

Dr. S.R. Lakshmikantha Reddy and Dr. K.H. Seetharama Reddy spoke on the occasion. Dr. V. Veerabhadrarajah, Dr. S.R. Lakshmikantha Reddy, Dr. K.H. Seetharama Reddy were felicitated for their services to the development of the chapter.

Sri. S.A. Govinda Reddy, Sri. Manjunath and Sri. K. Krishnappa from central IAT were present.

Dr. R. Krishnamurthy presided over the function. Dr. G. Sreekantan welcomed the gathering while Dr. B. Jagannath proposed vote of thanks.

Gandhi Jayanthi Celebrated

M.C. Members and other members of the chapter paid rich tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation, on his 144th birth anniversary.

Method demonstration on Biological Control of Root Grub in Sugarcane at D'gere



Method demonstration on Biological Control of Root grub in Sugarcane was conducted at Kolenahalli village of Davanagere Taluk. Dr. R.G. Gollar addressing the gathering.

Method demonstration on biological control of root grub in Sugarcane was organized at Kolenahalli village of

Davanagere Taluk in collaboration with Krishik Samaj, Davanagere, Agricultural Graduates Association, Davanagere and ATMA project of Agriculture Department under the Chairmanship of Mr. Ujjinappa, President, Krishik Samaj, Davanagere.

Dr. R.G. Gollar, JDA, Davanagere appreciated the efforts of farmer's facilitators and other officers of the Department in the control of Root grub. Mr. S. B. Rajashekarappa, ADA welcomed the farmers and proposed vote of thanks.

Training on organic farming for sustainable yields in Arecanut



Sri. Rudregowda, Taluk Panchayat inaugurating training programme

A training program on organic farming for sustainable Arecanut yields was organized at Hadadi and Kukkavada villages of Davanagere taluk as a part of Agriculture technology information dissemination week celebration jointly by IAT Davanagere, Krishivignana Kendra, Krishik Samaj and ATMA project of Agriculture Department, Davanagere.

Mr. Rudregowda, President, Social Justice sub-committee, Taluk Panchayat, Davanagere inaugurated the program and requested the farmers to make use of training program for getting higher yields.

Mr. Basanagowda and Prasannakumar of KVK, as resource persons explained about organic farming and its advantages in Arecanut Crop.

Dr. Devaraj, Program Co-ordinator, KVK briefed about the objectives of the program.

S.B. Rajasekharappa, ADA welcomed the farmers as well as proposed vote of thanks.

Better cultivation practices and Marketing in vegetables training

A training program on Better, safe cultivation practices and Marketing of vegetables was organized at Nyamathi village of Honnali taluk as a part of Agriculture technology information dissemination week jointly by IAT Davanagere and ATMA project of Agriculture department.



Participants in the programme

Mr. G. Hanumanthappa Kundur, President, Krishik Samaj, Davanagere inaugurated the program and appealed to farmers not to use chemical fertilizers unnecessarily.

Dr. Devaraj, Program Co-ordinator, KVK briefed about the objectives of the program. Mr. Basanagowda and Prasanna kumar of KVK, as resource persons explained about Better and safe cultivation practices and marketing of vegetables to the farmers.

Mr. H.G. Revanna Siddanagowda, ADA, Honnali welcomed the farmers as well as proposed vote of thanks.

Training on Plant Protection Methods



A view of the participants

A training program on Systematic plant protection methods was organized at Hulikatte village of Harapanahalli taluk as a part of Agricultural technology information dissemination week celebration jointly by IAT Davanagere, KVK, Krishik Samaj, ATMA project of Agricultural Department of Davanagere.

Mr. Ningappa, President, Krishik Samaj inaugurated the program and appealed to farmers to adopt environment friendly and safe plant protection methods.

Dr. R.G. Gollar, JDA, Davanagere explained about safe user methods in the plant protection and appreciated the efforts of farmers facilitators Mr..Sannakotrappa and Sadyojatha.

Mr. Basanagowda and Prasanna kumar of KVK, explained about systematic plant protection methods.

Dr. Devaraj, Program Coordinator, KVK briefed about the objectives of the program.

A Bike Rally, Biodigester demonstration and Groundnut and Maize Bhoochetana demonstration and a Jatha was organized as a part of the program. Ms. Anni Umlibai, ZP member inaugurated the Jatha. R.Thippeswamy, ADA welcomed the farmers as well as proposed vote of thanks.

Seminar on BT Cotton whether required or not ?



Participants on the Seminar on BT Cotton

A workshop on BT cotton whether required or not? was organized at Gowdagondanahalli village of Jagalur as a part of Agriculture Technology information dissemination celebration week jointly by IAT Davanagere, KVK, Krishik Samaj and ATMA project of Agriculture Department.

Dr. R.G. Gollar advised to use BT cotton only under irrigated condition. Mr. Prasanna kumar, KVK as a resource person explained about systematic plant protection measures.

Dr. Devaraj, Program Coordinator, KVK briefed about the objectives of the program. Mr. S. Maruti, ADA welcomed the farmers as well as proposed vote of thanks.

Field day on Mixed cropping of Maize with Beans



Field day on Mixed cropping of Maize with Beans

A field day on mixed cropping of Hybrid Maize with Beans was organized at Halavarthi village of

Davanagere taluk in collaboration with IAT Davanagere, Agriculture Department and Mr. Basaveswara Raitha Shakthi group.

Dr. R.G. Gollar, JDA, Davanagere explained the advantages of growing mixed cropping compared to single crop. Mr. S.B. Rajasekharappa, ADA, Davanagere explained the new technologies to be adopted in Maize cultivation.

The farmer who has adopted mixed cropping shared the information that he got about Rs.4000/- additional income by growing Beans as mixed crop as well as both Maize and Tur are also in good condition and he is expecting good yields from Maize & Tur also.

Mr. Rudresh, Vice President, Grama Panchayat, Halavarthi Presided over the program and appreciated the additional income by growing Beans and appealed to all farmers to practice the same in their fields also.

Mr. Renukumar welcomed the farmers as well as proposed vote of thanks.

Musical Recital by Srikant Bakale at Dharwad

A music program was organized in UASD, campus on 31st August, 2012 on the occasion of GB meeting of Dharwad chapter. Noted Hindusthani vocalist Mr. Srikant Bakale of Hubli presented a recital on various aspects of Music.

Mr S M Gadad, JDA Dharwad, presided over the program and Mr. Manjunath, Chairman was the chief guest. About 50 IATians and PG students enjoyed the melodious program.

Memorandum for site



MC Members Dharwad presented a Memorandum to Sri. Umesh Katti, Minister of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka

A Memorandum was submitted to Mr Umesh Katti, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, GOK on 4th September, 2012 during his visit to Dharwad for a site to IAT building. President of the chapter Mr. S M Gadad and other office bearers briefed the activities of IAT to the Minister and the Minister assured them positively.

Trg to Bhoochetana facilitators



Training to Bhoochetana facilitators was conducted at DATC, Dharwad

An exhaustive training was conducted to farmers facilitators of Dharwad district under Bhoochetana scheme at DATC Dharwad on 4-10-12. Dr P L Patil soil scientist of UAS Dharwad imparted Training regarding importance of soil in agriculture, use of organic manures, integrated nutrient management & need to improve soils. Mr R B Hiremath IATian & co-opted member was present in program & addressed the trainees.

World Food Day



World Food Day at Dharwad

World Food Day was organized jointly by IAT & 'Gelati' association of Agril Department at Dharwad on 30-10-2012. Dr Sanjiv Kulkarni, environmentist & a thinker delivered a special lecture on Food and Health and enlightened the audience about food culture of Indian society, hazards of modern foods, white poisons of our dietary system, importance of fasting, traditional foods and other aspects.

President S M Gadad JDA, other office bearers and members participated in the program.

PEP Talk at Dharwad!



Participants in the programme

Personal Effectiveness Program, a kind of personality development course was conducted for IAT members in collaboration with Vidyaposhak, Dharwad at DATC, Dharwad. Dr L Krishna Naik, DE, UASD inaugurated the program while Mr S M Gadad presided over the program.

WORLD FOOD DAY - 2012 at Raichur



World Food Day 2012 was organized on 18th October, 2012 at Pooratippalli village of Raichur Taluk in collaboration with Krishik Samaj, Raichur, Department of Agriculture and Mr. Ramalingeswara Trust, Pooratippalli.

Mr. Somasekhar, Senior Scientist, RRS, Raichur inaugurated the program and explained the importance of World Food Day. Dr. Satyanarayana Rao, Farm Superintendent, RRS, Raichur, Dr. Bheemana, Entomologist, RRS, Raichur and Mr. S.M. Sidda Reddy, Secretary IAT & President, Krishik Samaj, Raichur were the main speakers.

Mr. Yuvarajappa Sahukar, Ex APMC President, Siddana Gowda Nagalapur, Krishik Samaj, Executive Committee member, IATians and members of Mr. Ramalingeswara Temple trust participated in the program.

World Food Day - 2012 at Tumkur



Sri. Govindraju, CEO, Zilla Panchayat, Tumkur inaugurating the World Food Day

The World Food day 2012 was organized on 30th October, 2012 at Ravindra Chitrakala College auditorium, RT Nagar, Tumkur in collaboration with

Department of Agriculture, Watershed Development Department and Karnataka Oilseed Federation, Tumkur.

Mr. Govindraju, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Tumkur inaugurated the program. Mr. Y.V. Gundu Rao, Deputy General Manager, NABARD (Retired), Bengaluru delivered a lecture on Agriculture Co-operative; Key to feeding the world.

Dr. D. Rajagopal, Vice President, IAT Bengaluru was the Chief guest. Mr. B.C. Anand, Managing Director, KoF, Chitradurga Mr. Y. Dasappa, President, IAT, Tumkur, Mr. Siddaramanna, CEO, Primary Agricultural Co-operative Society, Kibbanahalli, Tiptur and Mr. Murali, District Manager, KoF, Tumkur, Dr. Sujith, Scientist, ARS, Konehalli participated in the program.

Mr. Umesh, ADA, Tiptur welcomed the participants while B.G. Jayappa, ADA (WDD) Tumkur proposed vote of thanks. About 250 members including farmers and IATians participated in the program.

Tree Planting at Bellavi by Tumkur Chapter



Sri. Y. Dasappa, President, IAT Tumkur and District Watershed Development Officer inaugurating the Tree Planting Programme at Bellavi

Planting tree saplings program was organized on 7th September, 2012 at Kids International school, Bellavi village, Tumkur taluk in collaboration with Watershed development department, Tumkur.

Mr. Y. Dasappa, President, IAT Tumkur, Mr. S.N. Hegde, Assistant Conservator of Forest, Mr. Satish kumar, Secretary of the school and president of the Grama Panchayat Mr. Chandrappa, were the Chief guests.

About 350 saplings of different tree species like Teak, Silver Oak, Jambu Nerale, Neem, Honge, Nelli and Jackfruit were planted on the occasion. Mr. T.K. Somashekar, TWDO welcomed the farmers. Mr. Jagadeesh, RFO proposed vote of thanks.

About 75 farmers participated in the program.

Tumkur chapter conducts AGM

Annual General Body meeting of IAT Tumkur Chapter was conducted on 30-10-2012 under the Chairmanship of Sri. Y. Dasappa, President, Tumkur chapter. The following deliberations were conducted.



Mandya Chapter M.C. Meeting held on 17-10-2012

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Sangaiah, President, IAT, Mandya Chapter. Mr. M.C. Shivaraj, Secretary, IAT, Mandya chapter, welcomed all the delegates and appealed for membership drive to strengthen the chapter. A thorough discussion on restructuring of management working group was discussed and month wise activities were worked out the meeting ended with vote of thanks by Mr. Jayaswamy, Joint Secretary of the chapter.

- Recording of previous meeting proceedings.
- Presentation of programme of 2011-12 and Budget. The balance as on 31-3-2012 is Rs.74,511.00
- Programmes for 2012-13 : Totally 11 programmes have been planned.
- Activities of the chapter: The following decisions have been taken
 - To meet once in two months.
 - Enrolment of newly recruited officers of all related departments.
 - Follow up of allotment of site to IAT Tumkur at Hirehalli Seed Farm.
 - Selection of new members for the committee.

In view of posts of JDA & DWDO being vacant it was decided to call Special General Body meeting after filling up of these posts by Government.

- The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks

World Food Day - 2012 celebrated



Participants in the World Food Day - 2012 at Mandya

The program was presided by Dr. V.T. Sannveerappanavar. Dr. C. Shankaraiah, Rtd. Dean, College of Agriculture, Mandya and Mr. P. Ramakrishnegowda, Director, Co-operative societies, Mandya were the resource persons. Around 68 members participated in the program. Mr. M.C. Shivaraju proposed vote of thanks.

Honours

Best Paper Presented



Dr.R.C.Gowda, Professor, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, College of Agriculture, G K V K ,

Bengaluru participated in the 8th International Symposium on Plant Soil Interactions at low pH (8th PSLIPH) 2012 held at UAS, Bengaluru on 18th to 22nd October, 2012.

Dr.R.C.Gowda presented a paper on "Long term application of fertilizers and manure" on soil acidification in an Alfisol. And he received the "Best paper presentation award" in the conference.

'Balikai ripens' with a Fellowship



Dr. R. A. Balikai, Professor of Entomology, Department of Agricultural Entomology, college of Agriculture, Dharwad has been conferred with prestigious fellowship of Royal Entomological Society of London for his substantial and significant contributions to the field of entomological science.

Precision Agriculture catching up



Dr.M.B.Patil, Associate Professor of Plant Pathology and Project Coordinator, Precision Agriculture Project, College of Agriculture, Raichur has participated in the 11th International Conference on Precision Agriculture held on 15-18, July, 2012 at Indianapolis, USA and presented two research papers on Precision Agriculture and also chaired a session on "Emerging Issues in Precision Agriculture."



Paper on Seed Treatment presented

Dr. Ashok S. Sajjan, Associate Professor of Seed Science & Technology and Head, College of Agriculture, and Secretary, IAT Regional chapter Bijapur participated in Alumni Workshop International Training Program in Plant Breeding and Seed

Production from 3-5 October 2012 held at Phnom Penh, Cambodia and has presented a research paper entitled "Influence of seed treatment with Imidacloprid 600 FS on seed viability in sunflower during storage".

Angadi wins poetry award



Mr. Channappa Angadi, IATian was conferred with 'Muddanna Anamika' Endowment award instituted by Kannada Sahitya Parishat for his literary work 'Bhoomi Thiruguva Shabda', a poetry collection.

Ph.D in infinity in Dvaita



Mr. Seshagiri Rao, former Agricultural Officer, KSDA, was awarded the degree of Vidyavaridhi (Ph.D) in Dwaita Vedanta on 29th August, 2012 for his thesis entitled "Concept of infinity in Dvaita School of thought" by Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidya Peetha, Tirupati, A.P.

Congratulations IATians!!

OBITUARY

The Managing Committee of IAT deeply mourns the sad demise of the following IATians

- 1) Mr. S.V. Prakash, DDA (Retd.)
- 2) Mr. M.A. Srinivasan, JDA (Retd.)
- 3) Mr. Kubera Reddy, Manager, KSSC
- 4) Mr. Vikram R. Mane, Officer Canara Bank
- 5) Dr. H.S. Hanumanthappa, Former D.E., UASB

Farmers' Suicide - One issue, many views

I am a firm believer that sometime it's right to do the wrong thing & wrong to do the right thing

Confusiousky, K-15

A famer's suicide is the food for many politicians, bureaucrats & their own children too!

Hence, P Sainath said "Everyone loves Good drought"

Here are some reactions to the Guest Editorial of Dr. Prakash Kammaradi & Reactions of your editor's REACTION

Read on!

- Editor

Farmers' suicides are National Shame

Sir,

Thanks for the sincere efforts of all those involved in the editing of Krishi Tantrajna. It has come up very nicely.

Just, I would like to express my opinion relating to resorting of farmers suicides- Who is the real enemy of the farmers?



While presenting suicides one should be very cautious. Please see my points below:

Between 1950s to 1970's Indian agriculture experienced a rapid rise in the agricultural growth and productivity due to green revolution, characterized by three main factors viz, development of hybrids/high yielding varieties,

intensive use of chemical fertilizers and chemicals and access to irrigation. Since four decades, some perceptible changes are discernible in the Indian agriculture. Of late, the terms of trade is not favorable for major crops across regions due to agrarian distress and hardship of the peasants that emanated from marginalization of the size of holdings, too much dependence on external inputs, increased input costs, volatility of the product prices, squeezing farm profits, growing dependence on unstable groundwater and so on.

Undoubtedly, agrarian crisis is visible and evident on different scales in Indian agriculture across different regions. Whether the brunt of agrarian crisis is uniform across all the groups of farmers like marginal, small and large and across regions like irrigated, dry land, transition zones have not been made clear.

Farmers... emotional?

Farmers are becoming emotional & tending to commit suicides which have become sporadic. It is really a paradox that when there was starvation in the country, there were no suicides. But, now with sufficient food availability, farmers are indulging in suicides. It is a national shame. In some cases these are all highly politically motivated.

In some cases, the natural deaths have been converted into suicides to draw the attention of Govt and to claim

compensation. No farmer would like to resort to suicide. This has become a very sensitive issue. As economists/Scientists we should be very objective and critical in analysing and reporting suicides.

It is mindboggling about why agrarian distress and suicides are relatively more in some states, but not in other states. For instance, no suicides in Tamil Nadu though there has been agrarian crisis why? Similarly in most of the north Indian states. What are the reasons for the lack of suicides in these states? Perhaps an objective empirical study would answer some of these issues. Without an adequate empirical base, reporting sensitive issues like suicides, one should be careful.

Prof. N. Nagaraj (Fulbright Scholar)

Principal Scientist (Economics)

Markets, Institutions and Policies

ICRISAT, Hyderabad

* * * *

Stop Lip Service. That is enough to combat farmers' suicide!!

Dear Sir,

The June-Aug Issue edited by Prakash has come out well.

I read both of your articles on farmer suicide. I also read a response from Nagaraj on the subject. Prakash has raised an important and burning issue of farmer's plight. How many suicides are genuine and how many are not genuine is not important. What is important is, even after 62 years of independence farmer is still not able to make a decent living out of agriculture!!

There may be a few cases of motivated reporting. But the truth is that farmer is not able to make money in agriculture unlike other vocations. There are indeed genuine farmers' suicides happening. Even if one farmer commits suicide, it is an insult to humanity. It speaks volumes about the way agrarian economy is managed by the government machinery of the day.

Don't attribute political motives and greed for compensation for suicides

In my opinion, attributing political motives and greed for compensation as reasons for suicide is insulting the dead farmer and all those who are walking dead!!

Some of the reasons for farmers distress that I came across during my working with farmers (That is the only thing I did during my entire career!) are:

1. Farmer is sunk in debt on an ongoing basis, most of the time either thru the legacy passed on by parents or out of his own doing. These are the loans taken from private lenders like commission agents and private individuals at as high a interest rate as 3 to 4 % per month! Tell me how can a farmer survive with this kind of interest burden?



2. Farmers' cost of production has gone to such levels that even the increased yield that he gets these days by using hybrid seeds and improved cultivation practices does not fetch him good enough income to cover the cost of cultivation per acre
3. Seasonal vagaries also add to the problems of the farmer.
4. As farmer has to repay his loans (private and bank loans), immediately on arrival of the fresh crop, he can't hold on to his produce and sell at a higher price later to get reasonable returns. If he waits, his interest cost will go up. Therefore he has no choice but to sell the produce as soon as the crop is harvested, to the same lender who financed him at an exorbitant rate of interest. The Lender, with the financial muscle that he has, hoards the produce taken from the farmer, sells at his price and makes good money. This way farmer is looted twice!! Once when he borrows money on interest from the lender and second time when he sells his produce to the same lender!!
5. Case of Vegetable farmers is also similar. They invest a lot and cultivate perishable vegetables like tomato, Onion etc. When the crop is harvested price crashes and the farmer goes bonkers!

Farmer, a permanent orphan?

What are the choices left to the farmer? Weaker ones who are deeply distressed commit suicide. There is no one who can help him to overcome this situation! It is really sad and bad!

Government does only lip service. Giving seeds at subsidised rate is not a great favour to the farmer. In fact seed cost is only around 5% of the total input cost. Rest of the inputs including labour is expensive. Is the MSP offered by the government based on any "empirical study", just borrow the quote of Nagaraj? I doubt! If that is so, farmer would have been not in a position, in which he is today!

Come on, let us not make fun of the farmer who is pushed to the wall and doubt that the suicide cases are motivated! It is hard life out there. He can't make ends meet. That is the real fact!

There may be many solutions to the problem and experts may have different opinion on the subject. My views on the subject is based on my interaction in the last 33 years with the farmers who are struggling day in and day out to make ends meet across the Country.

Some suggestions. Any taker?

Some of the simple solutions that I think are required and the government must consider are :

1. Fix price based on actual cost of production for all crop with a minimum of 25% profit margin to the farmer.
2. Help farmer with storage facility for perishable crops like vegetables under subsidised costs, so that farmer can safe keep the produce and sell when the price is appropriate.

3. Help farmer find a good market to sell their produce—provide logistics support for transportation to the markets
4. Reduce number of middle men in the value chain.
5. Help farmer with subsidised loans (interest rates of under 5%) from nationalised banks and make Banks to procure the produce at a purchase price prefixed by the government based on cost of production. Banks can sell the produce to traders / millers after recovering their handling costs. With the kind of infrastructure banks have, they can handle this efficiently. All that is required is a legislature that makes it compulsory for banks to lend & procure.

I may sound like an idealistic stupidity to some of my friends! I bet! Implementing some of the strategies mentioned above will sure help. But who has patience, time and commitment to help farmer? All politicians need farmer for their vote. But when it comes to helping them in their upliftment, no one comes forward. It is only lip service that the powers that be can offer.

H Sateesh Hegde

Former Head(International Business)
Advanta India Ltd

* * * *

KFC, McDonalds responsible for Farmers' Suicides?

Dear All,

The issue of farmer's suicide is a heart rending issue and deserves the attention of every conscientious citizen of the Country—not just politicians or bureaucrats who have failed to offer a solution anyway.



Having said that it is also important that it should not become an emotive issue. Emotions prevent us from putting our fingers on the underlying cause of the problem.

Take for example the land reforms - we thought it was social revolution. It indeed was but without adequate forethought. The result was that we distributed land to all the landless, who were already burdened with bondage to the landlord. The land given was in bits and pieces - which was not going to be economically profitable anyway – it would have sufficed only for his subsistence and meet his requirement of two square meals a day. He had to borrow because he had to buy at least seeds, he had to borrow again because it did not rain the last time he borrowed, he had to borrow again because there were good rains but good rains also brought pests...and ad infinitum.

Growing cotton where jowar has to be grown triggered suicides in Vidharbha?

So the crux of the matter is in economic terms - ability to invest. What is the fun in handing over factories to labourers when they do not have the capacity to maintain a stock inventory? So what we did was we invested more on behalf of the farmer gave him more loans soft or hard or

whatever - across the board. So a grape farmer, the ragi farmer, the poultry keeper all got loans. But the market place was ruthless and the ragi farmer was left penniless and indebted.

There is no other explanation why farmers in Vidharbha - one of the most drought prone areas were given loans for over thirty years to cultivate a commercial crop like cotton which is very sensitive to moisture stress! WHERE HAD OUR COMMON SENSE GONE? Ecologically Vidharbha region is suited only for jowar and other coarse millets given the soil and climatic conditions.

But this brings us to the second question, why did then farmers continue to gamble with cotton? The reason is very simple they were caught in a vicious cycle and thought that somehow this year will be different and we will reap a bumper harvest and make good all losses. There was nobody to tell them that if they had a bumper harvest the prices would crash!! In the meanwhile the social changes swept the country in the eighties with colour TV and Maruti 800.

What is the connection between this and agriculture? The connection is that our '**aspirations**' changed we were not going to be satisfied with two square meals a day - we had to earn more to own a fridge, a TV, a phone and a maruti. Other social support systems like the joint families were also undergoing change (I do not think the practice of 'Vara-anna' (Weekly rice) is there any more even in small towns) and the recipe for disaster was perfect. The results '**suicides**' AND INCREASING CRIME RATE or extremism of all kinds (somehow we tend to ignore this in our emotional outburst).

Ragi Mudde & Jolada Rotti replaced by KFC & kalmi Kababs!

The solution does not lie in administering prices - practices that have failed the world over. The solution lies in ecological approach to agriculture and strict zonation of crops and this is very unlikely to happen. Consider the alienation of land to maize and biofuels. Why is this happening - the answer is simple the market place. 4.0 lakh chicken (6000 tons) are gobbled up every day by bangaloreans which means at least 8000 tons of poultry feed, much of which is maize. So now we move from cotton to maize and instead of eating ragi mudde or jolada roti we want KFC and Kalmi Kababs - which is going to be ecologically unsustainable. One ton of grain will support more people if we consumed the grain directly than converting it into chicken since the conversion efficiency of grain to chicken is less than 70 per cent! You will only end up getting 70 kgs of chicken from one ton of grains even in the most efficient poultry farm! In a democratic country like India can we ask people to eat only grains and not chicken? And you can not maximize the production of both - in economic terms there is a trade-off, if you increase the production of one the production of second product goes down. This brings us to another related pain.

A third point. Planet Earth has not increased in size over the years. We were 36 million in 1947 and 120 million in

2010. The arable land has remained the same or increased only marginally because of opening up forests for cultivation or improved irrigation. So the per capita land available for agriculture has drastically declined. Add to this the problem of fragmentation - it is so rampant that 60 per cent of the farmers have less than one acre (average). How do you expect them to plan anything and arrange for inputs/investment? Why should portfolio diversity be important for only shareholders and other investors? What diversity can you have on less than one acre of dry land? What profits can the farmer make from the land? How will he hedge against risks of crop failure or price crash? So should we not stop being emotional about farming and think of moving people from farming to other enterprises. The data all over the world shows that economic prosperity or welfare indices do better when the number of people depending for livelihood on farming comes down. Why do we lack the courage to accept this fact. In fact if anything we are trying to push more people into farming - which means you are tacitly pushing them to the

brink of suicides! This is another disaster in the making.

So back to some hard questions, are Vidharbha farmers doomed to grow only jowar? Who is going to make cotton farming in Vidharbha less risky? Where does the solution-lie co-operative farming, contract farming, corporate farming (I can see emotions overtaking reason again!!)? We have not even begun asking the right questions and vertaking reason again!!)? We have not even begun asking the right questions and consequently in the same state as the blind men describing the elephant!!

We should perhaps have guest editorial from agribusiness to see a different perspective.

These are my random thoughts as I am no expert, but I have a strong case. My lord!

Regards and Kudos to KT once again.

Prof. Chandrashekhar Krishnappa,

Dept. of Entomology
UAS, GKVK, Bangalore

KT, Praises & punches!!

It was one of those days; I had started hating my own voice, my own writing & editing too. Thanks to the monotony. I decided to bring in some Guest Editors to edit the Krishi Tantrajna. Result..... Six Editors over a period of Six years. Mr. Curiosity in me wanted to know how the Guest Editors will review my performance during my term as editor of KT.

- Editor

Read On.....

Sir,

Please accept my apologies for the inordinate delay in replying to your mail, I was held up with the 8th International Symposium on Plant Soil Interactions on Low pH held between 18 - 22nd October 2012 at UAS, Bangalore as many as 100 foreign delegates participated. the symposium was very successful.

As regards Krishi Tantarajna all what I wanted to say is that you were the first person who brought in a change that was well accepted. The innovations you tried paid rich dividends in making KT a much sought after publication.

In fact each edition had a touch of you. You did your job splendidly. Please accept my congratulations.

The next person who takes over has to do a lot of hard work to maintain the same tempo. Good luck and thank you for what you have done for IAT.

Prof. Ram Krishna Parama

Dept. of Soil Science,
UAS-B, Bengaluru

* * * *



Sir,

My million apologies for the delay in responding to your request to give feedback on KT. I was also a member of the editorial committee of KT for some time and now, I am editing a journal 'Hittalagida' in journal. Hence, I know very well the difficulties of editing a journal, that too on honorary basis. Compared to other journal, the KT has got two distinct advantages. One, it has got an institutional backup in the form of IAT, And hence, may not be hard pressed for resources; both human as well as the monetary, for publication. Secondly, it is having assured membership of a few thousand, as IATians are de facto members of KT. In spite of these two distinct advantages, the KT was just confined to a sort of 'reporting' (of IAT activities) news letter rather than a serious scientific journal for professional in the field of agriculture science and technology. Credit must go to you for breaking the stalemate in this regard.

In addition to routine reporting, you have introduced the idea of guest editorial along with picking up a current issue bothering the farm economy. This is not only a novel



one but also an effective one in penetrating in to readers' inner monologue. I am really thankful for choosing me as the guest editor, with such fine words, for the recent issue of KT providing an opportunity to raise the issue of farmers' suicides in India. There are people who trivialize the whole issue. They not only exhibit their academic dishonesty but also the intellectual bankruptcy.

But it is interesting to see that friends like Satheesh Hegde coming out so positively in support of farmers with such a constructive suggestions to involve banks in procurements of agricultural commodities. It is so innovative; I incorporated this as a policy prescription in one of my recent paper prepared for National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore. What else a pro-active journal could expect by invoking a debate on such a vital issue and is there any better way to take it forward?.

Above all, you worked thru heart by making use of your friendship, love & affections while involving people like me in the guest editorial that is unmatched. Even in such a small epistle on farmers' suicide, your reaction to the editorial is more appealing than the editorial itself. But it is your generosity to keep yourself in a low profile while projecting the others.

Dr. T.N. Prakash Kammardi,

Professor & Head, Department of Agricultural Economics, and
Honorary Director, Cost of Cultivation Scheme,
University of Agricultural Sciences,
Bangalore, 560065, India.

* * * *

Sir,

What can I say about the miraculous turnaround you brought in KT? Though informative the dull-n-drab KT became a colourful and vivacious young bride brimming with enthusiasm - which everyone secretly wished to feast their eyes on!! When I say this I mean no disrespect to any and many senior IATians who have toiled hard to make what IAT and KT are today.



Only that when your turn came, you did a wonderful job as an editor - the idea of guest editorship was a master-stroke which galvanized some sleeping giants. These editorials brought a fresh perspective to KT and brought issues of contemporary interest in a thought provoking manner.

On my part I thoroughly enjoyed the witty captions and tongue-in-cheek one-liners. You have set a high standard which will be hard to emulate. I am sure KT would continue to be guided by you and the future editors would not shy away from seeking your counsel steering the KT in these turbulent times for agriculture. On your part I hope you would not mind mentoring a young talent at IAT.

Praise over....now for the punches... I suddenly realize I do not have any punches to land on you as promised. A minor piffle is that I personally do not like glossy paper and did

not like at all the multi-coloured captions!! For the first, cost-cutting could be an excuse but for the latter no excuses!! And thou shall be punished suitably for bringing so many colours into our lives.

Prof. Chandrashekhar Krishnappa

Dept. of Entomology,
UAS-B, Bengaluru

* * * *

Sir,

Sorry I could not reply to your mail earlier.

I do not have comments of comparison of KT, between those edited by you and KT of earlier period. However, as you have indicated, a lot of changes have been brought about by you. This included bringing people like me to get involved in editing and contributing. This and many other changes have enhanced participation from various stakeholders and enlarged the readership.

One important thing that brings credibility to KT is debating on important contemporary issues, like Farmer Suicides. I think it will be good to keep one section in the KT focused on such important topics, in every issue. If this can be institutionalised, it will be very good.

You have left behind a good legacy for those coming in your place. Hope they will continue the good work.

Best wishes,

B.L. Parthasarathy

IIM-B

MD, BASIX Consulting & Training Services Ltd.,
Bengaluru

* * * *

Sir,

Thanks to the editor and his team for bringing out a sea change in the KT issues of IAT, Bangalore for the last 6 years and made us to wait with curiosity and interest for the newsletter. The color contrast, interesting and informative contents, catching captions made the difference. Editorials on various issues affecting the farming community gave work to our brains. New attempts like Guest Editorials and Reaction from readers/IATians are praiseworthy. The efforts of the editor and the support rendered by the Managing Committee in making KT unique and attractive are highly appreciated.

This is not my opinion, but the opinion of so many IATians known to me.

Hope the next editorial team will continue with the good work done by this team.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Sridhara Adiga (Last)

Asst. Director, Dept. of Agriculture, Bengaluru

* * * *



KT, P & P... from others

Sir,

'No Chee, Thoo, but sahabash'

After you took over the charge of the editor of KT, it has improved in its get up and the contents with appropriate captions for each event reported a lot for the keen interest shown for the improvement and hope that the same tempo would continue whom so ever comes in next. But, if there was on time publication & publishing innovative tips culled from other bulletins would have added more value to KT.

However, commendable work is done to bring the issues with considerable improvement for which you deserve to be thanked.

Dr. K.H Seetharam Reddy,
Chitradurga

Sir,

As editor of KT, you have done a commendable job. All these days it has come up very well. The credit for bringing out such a superbly and informative News Letter should go to you, Sir. I wish, god will give you strength to shoulder still higher responsibility

S. Sathya Prakash

DEADLINE FOR HEADLINE - EDITOR DOWNS HIS PEN

Dear IATians,

Happy New Year.

Thanks for bearing me for 6 long years as Editor (Head Eater!) of KT.

This is my last issue as the editor of KT. I have a satisfaction of serving the interest of IAT, IATians, KT & ultimately farmers in my own limitations & capability.

While parting as the editor, I have a contentment of initiating a debate on a burning issue of Farmers' Suicide. Hope, you will all appreciate it.

If you study the history of any newsletter all over the world, they are generally "dry" reporting just who did what & where..... I tried to change this myth by making KT a bit humorous, little more interactive, emotional and experimental. I received a massive support from you all for all that I did.

While cherishing this sweet relationship with you & KT, I may please be permitted to keep my pen down

S.N. Lakshminarayana
Editor

We are 3500 Plus 14



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