

Agr∉search with a ∱uman touch ISSN NO. 2321- 6220



Demonstration of Open precision farming in Snap melon near Alangad, Ernakulam



· KRIEHLVIGVAN

Distribuition of fruit plant sapling at karumallur Ernakulam

भे विज्ञान वंदः (एरणाकुल JIGYAN KENDRA (ERNAKULA - क्रुत्वीधीडकारण क्रिकः (എकारका)

HES RESEARCH

SUTRI GARDEN 2021-22

CAR - CEN

Ms. Zehra John harvesting vegetables from her Nutrigarden



ICAR-KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA (ERNAKULAM)

ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute Dept. of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Govt. of India Aarattuvazhy beach, Narakkal Post, Kochi, Kerala-682 505



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MANDATES

The overall mandate of KVK is to develop and disseminate location specific technological modules at district level through technology assessment, refinement and demonstration and to act as knowledge and resource centre for agriculture and its allied activities. The specific activities to carry out this mandate are:

- Conducting on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies under various farming systems
- Organizing frontline demonstrations to establish production potential of various crops and enterprises in farmer's fields
- Organizing need based training for farmers to update their knowledge and skills in modern agricultural technologies related to technology assessment, refinement and demonstration, and training of extension personnel to orient them in frontier areas of technology development.
- Creating awareness about improved technologies to larger masses through appropriate extension programmes.
- Production and supply of good quality seeds and planting materials, livestock, poultry and fisheries breeds and products and various bio-products to the farming community.
- Work as resource and knowledge centre of agricultural technology for supporting initiatives of public, private and voluntary sector for improving the agricultural economy of the district.

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KVK TO PROMOTE MANGROVES TOWARDS COASTAL ECO-SYSTEM RESTORATION

angroves are ecologically important plants grown along inter-tidal coastal habitats as they constitute unique ecosystems extremely rich in biodiversity, refuges large variety of terrestrial and aquatic species, act as barrier against cyclones, tsunamis, coastal erosion and maintain inland water quality by preventing sea water intrusion. The KVK Ernakulam has been creating awareness among coastal communities on the importance of Mangrove conservation. The KVK also distributes saplings as mangrove forests have faced considerable destruction in recent times. During the occasion of ICAR Foundation day, on 16th July 2021 the KVK Ernakulam conducted a Mangrove afforestation programme at Karumallur, Ernakulam, Kerala. Mangrove species Rhizophora mucronata, Bruguiera gymnorhiza and Bruguiera cylindrica were planted along the bunds of brackish water fish ponds. Mr. George Menachery, Vice president, KarumallurGramapanchayath inaugurated the programme. Dr. P.A Vikas Subject Matter Specialist (Fisheries) delivered a talk on Importance of mangroves and its significance in eco-restoration and sustainable fish production.



Tree plantation Campaign at Karumallur

GIANT AFRICAN SNAILS INVADING ERNAKULAM FARMS; KVK WITH CONTROL STRATEGIES

The Giant African snails have been causing menace to the farmers of Ernakulam district. The high precipitation and environmental conditions during the period from June to September is very conducive for Giant African snails. Approximately 75 ha area had been infected. The KVK came up with widespread campaign on control measures like application of common salt, Tobacco decoction-Copper sulphate mixture and wheat flour-yeast-jaggery-copper sulphate poison baits. A facebook live programme of KVK on snail control measures recorded a viewership of 11,000. Shri. Shoji Joy Edison, Subject Matter Specialist has conducted a radio talk on 12th July 2021 and also a television programme on 18th July 2021 to disseminate effective management strategies.



Television programme on Control of Giant African snails

MINI FRUIT ORCHARDS IN EACH HOME

n order to make the district Ernakulam self-sufficient in fruit production and also to ensure availability of safe-to-eat fruits in each home, the KVK Ernakulam has been promoting the programme (one fruit orchard in each home) ഓരോ വീട്ടിലും ഒരു പുത്തോട്ടം since 2015. The KVK conducted number of trainings & exhibitions, distributed quality



SCSP fruit plants distribution

ICAR-KYKERNAKULAM Newsletter

saplings & organic manures and extended support services towards establishing fruit orchards. The KVK could set up nearly 850 orchards in Ernakulam over a period of 5 years. Recently on 18th August, 2021 the KVK implemented this programme among scheduled caste farmers of Alangad and Karumallur villages. The programme funded by SCSP sub plan of ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Bengaluru comprised of supplying fruit plants, organic manures and soil ameliorants, training the beneficiaries and technology backstopping. The distribution was inaugurated at Alangad Panchayath president Shri. AbdulManaf and at Karumallur by Panchayath President Smt. Sreelatha Lalu. The beneficiaries were trained on Scientific method of planting and management.

KVK TO PROMOTE HOMESTEAD FARMING TOWARDS SAFE FOOD PRODUCTION

he KVK Ernakulam has been providing technology backstopping and supply inputs to establish and develop homestead farming units across the district towards safe food production. Homestead farming ensures safe food in all homes while the excess production can be an income source. The KVK through it's Farm store has been supplying quality farming inputs including vegetable seeds, seedlings, fruit grafts, poultry chicks, fish fingerlings, poultry & fish feed, organic manures, growth enhancers, probiotics, microbial inoculums etc. In order to extend technology backstopping, a comprehensive training on Homestead farming was conducted online on 10th September 2021. Protocol for production of safe to eat fruits, vegetables, egg, meat and fish in homesteads was shared to the participants. Species and breeds suitable for homesteads, farming/ rearing method, potting mixture preparation, pond preparation, animal housing, pests, diseases deficiency symptoms, prophylactic measures etc., were covered.



Comprehensive online training on Homestead farming

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FIELD DAY

Cassava variety *Sree Pavithra* harvest mela and field day was conducted by KVK at Keezhmad on 12th May, 2021. Average production of 6.7 kg/plant was recorded. Progressive farmers participated.



KVK'S partner farmers displaying harvested cassava during the field day

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (EDPS)

Entrepreneurship development programme exclusively for women on Horticultural nursery management was conducted at Koovappady, Ernakulam on 14th July 2021. Women entrepreneurs sponsored by Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) participated. The trainees registered a self help group *Haritham* who commenced seedling nursery and a sales outlet at Block Panchayath campus, North Paravur. A follow up training was provided on 14th September 2021 and KVK is handholding the SHG by providing technology backstopping, quality control and marketing assistance.



Entrepreneurship development programme for MKSP women members



PROGRAMMES PARTICIPATED

Shri.Shoji Joy Edison, SMS (Horticulture)

attended Webinar *Nano fertilizers* organized by IFFCO Marketing division on 1st June, 2021.

Dr. Vikas P.A, SMS (Fisheries)

attended webinar *Transforming food systems with aquatic foods: Scaling up sustainable production solutions* organized by Worldfish, Malaysia on 20th May 2021.

Smt. Sreeletha P., SMS (Home Science)

attended 3 days online training course on *Road map for KVK's to enhance mushroom production and consumption* conducted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru.

CELEBRATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS

WORLD BEE DAY

The World bee day was celebrated on 20th May 2021 by organizing a Virtual visit to a bee farm of progressive farmer Shri. Salim M.K., Alattuchira, Kodanad. Shri.Shoji Joy Edsion, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture) clarified queries of participants followed by interaction with the progressive farmer.



World bee day virtul farm visit

WORLD MILK DAY

The World Milk day was celebrated by conducting online training *New trends in dairy cattle feed-ing* on 1st June 2021 and public awareness on importance of Milk day through various social media platforms.



World Milk day online training

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

The World environment day was celebrated on 5th June 2021 by planting fruit tree saplings at Buds Special School, Krumallur, Ernakulam. The Ernakulam KVK has been involved in distributing plant saplings to school students in Ernakulam district towards developing awareness among youngsters on farming and environmental protection.



Planting saplings on (World Environment day)

NATIONAL FISH FARMER'S DAY

The National fish farmer's day was celebrated on 10th July 2021 by conducting interface on Prospects of Cage fish farming in Kerala. Dr.Vikas P.A,-Subject matter specialist (Fisheries) interacted with farmers. The programme posted in the official facebook page of KVK Ernakulam recorded viewership of 1500.



National fish farmers day flyer

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POSHAN MAAH

The Poshan maah was celebrated to mark the importance of Nutrition, nutrition gardens and planting trees in homesteads by organizing campaigns in the district. The Poshan vatika maha abhiyan & Tree plantation programme was conducted in collaboration with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO) on 17th September 2021 at Block Panchayath office, North Paravur. Adolescent girls were special invitees. Inauguration and supply of planting materials were done by N.Paravur Block panchayath president Smt.Simna Santhosh. The session on *Management of nutrigarden in home-*

steads was conducted by Shri.Shoji Joy Edison, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture) and session on *Importance of millets in human diet* was conducted by Smt.Sreeletha P, Subject Matter Specialist (Home science). An exhibition on millet varieties was also conducted commemorating the international year of millets. Millet based preparations were also provided to the participant girls and farmers. Tree plantation has also been done in KVK campus.

A webinar on *Homestead nutrition gardens to fight malnutrition* was also conducted in collaboration with Amrita Institute of Health Sciences (AIHS), Kochi on 18th September 2021. The webinar covered two topics, viz., *The ill effects of pesticides on nutritional outcome* by Smt. Sreelakshmi S, Asst. Professor, Department of clinical nutrition, AIHS and *Management of nutrition garden in homesteads* by Shri. Shoji Joy Edison, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture) of KVK Ernakulam. Students, faculty members and farmers participated.



Class on nutrition garden and use of millets in diet



Handing over seed and seedlings to farmers during Poshan vatika maha abhiyaan

GOVT. OF INDIA PROGRAMMES

LIVE WEBCAST OF PRIME MINISTER'S PROGRAMME

The KVK organized live webcast of Hon'ble Prime Minister's programme dedicating crop varieties to the nation on 28th September 2021. Mr. Sajeesh

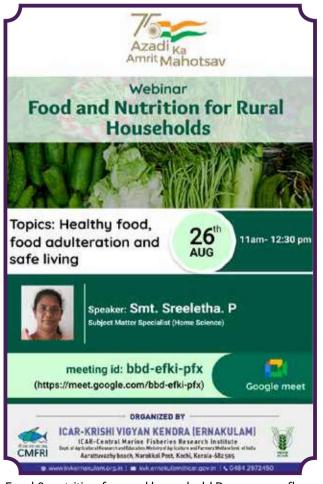
M.M, Member, Narakkal Grama Panchayath inaugurated the webcast followed by a farmer-scientist interface where Smt.P.Sreeletha, Dr.Smita Sivadasan and Dr. Vikas P.A. Subject matter specialists interacted.



Inauguration of live webcast of PM programme

SWACHCH BHARATH ABHIYAN

AZADI KA AMRUTH MAHOLSAV



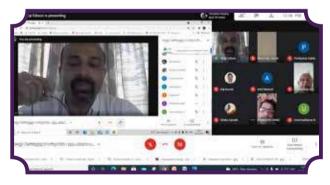
Food & nutrition for rural household Programme flyer

As part of the nationwide celebration of Azadi ka Amruth Maholsav, KVK Ernakulam conducted webinar on *Food and nutrition for rural households* on 26th August, 2021. Smt. P. Sreeletha, Subject matter specialist (Home science) led the webinar. She emphasized on healthy food habits, food adulteration and technology of safe living.

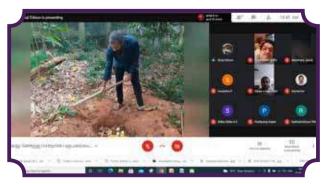


FERTILIZER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Balanced use of fertilizers is important to maintain optimum soil health and reap a rich harvest from crops. The Ernakulam KVK has conducted online Fertilizer awareness campaign on 18th June 2021.



Fertilizer awareness programme online



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Video show on soil sample collection

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The participants were educated on importance of soil test based fertilizer application. The method of soil sample collection and sample preparation for analysis were demonstrated and conducted awareness class on *Balanced use of fertilizers*.

ORGANIC MANURE FROM FISH MARKET WASTE: COMMERCIAL UNIT FOR WOMEN ENTRE-PRENEUR ESTABLISHED



Smt. Ivy Jose with branded fish manure at her production unit

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The KVK Ernakulam established a commercial production unit for processing fish market waste into quality organic manure at Munambam, Ernakulam, Kerala. The unit that has a capacity to process 1MT fish waste in a month was established under Swachh bharat abhiyan programme of Govt. of India in association with women entrepreneur Smt. Ivy Jose. The fish waste manure is branded as *Fishlizer* that enhance flowering and fruit setting favouring enhanced crop production.

TECHNOLOGY/INFORMATION DISSEMINATION THROUGH MASS MEDIA

RADIO

- 1. Shoji Joy Edison : ആഫ്രിക്കൻ ഒച്ച് നിവാരണ മാർ ഗങ്ങൾ Kochi FM 102.3 broadcasted in *Samakaleekam* programme on 12th July 2021.
- 2. Vikas P.A : തിരുത കൃഷി, Kochi FM 102.3 broadcasted in *Kisanvani* programme on 10th August 2021.

TELEVISION

1. Shoji Joy Edison : ആഫ്രിക്കൻ ഒച്ച് നിവാരണ മാർ ഗങ്ങൾ telecasted in Malanadu TV on 18th July 2021.

MEDIA COVERAGE



The Webpage of KVK Ernakulam disseminated 55 relevant information for farmers with a page hit of 1929.



The twitter handle of KVK Ernakulam disseminated 91 tweets having 1500 tweet impressions.



The WhatsApp groups of KVK disseminated 134 farm advisories to reach 100 lead farmers.

FARM SERVICE CENTRE

MACHINERY RENTAL AND MORE



CMFRI, Goshree road, Near high court junction, Kochi -18 Customer care: 9562120666

A KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA ERNAKULAM INITIATIVE

ON FARM SERVICE WITH A TECHNOLOGY BACKSTOPPING

AGRO MACHINERY RENTAL SERVICES

50 HP TRACTOR WITH ROTOVATOR/ CAGE WHEEL/ LEVELLER/ CULTIVATOR/ BUND FORMER/ SHREDDER/ REVERSIBLE MB PLOUGH/DISC PLOUGH/POST HOLE DIGGER | 28 HP TRACTOR WITH ROTOVATOR/ CULTIVATOR | 12 HP POWER TILLER | BRUSH CUTTER POWER WEEDER/GARDEN TILLER | WATER PUMP PADDY TRANSPLANTER | MIST BLOWER ENGINE OPERATED EARTH AUGUR MOTORIZED SPRAYER | KNAPSACK SPRAYER HAND OPERATED SPRAYER | DIESEL SLURRY PUMP SOIL/MANURE MIXER MACHINE



COLUMNS IN PERIODICALS

Vikas P.A. Subject matter specialist (Fisheries). മത്സ്യകൃഷി : ചോദ്യം ഉത്തരം,Karshakashree Book 27 Issues 4,5,6,7 & 8.



The facebook page of KVK Ernakulam disseminated 9 information that was followed by 11000 members.



Facebook live programme during National fish farmers day



Facebook live programme on control of Giant African snails

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NEWSPAPERS

- 1. Salt –tobacco decoction to fight giant African snails. The New Indian Express, 14th June 2021.
- 2. ഓൺലൈൻ പരിശീലനം നാളെ. Deshabhimani, 14th June, 2021.
- 3. ഒച്ചിനെ നേരിടാൻ ഓൺലൈൻ ക്ലാസ്സ്. Kerala Kaumudi, 14th June, 2021.
- 4. ആഫ്രിക്കൻ ഒച്ച് നിയന്ത്രണത്തിന് ഓൺലൈൻ പരിശീ ലനം. Mathrubhumi, 14th June, 2021.
- 5. ആഫ്രിക്കൻ ഒച്ച് നിയന്ത്രണം : പരിശീലനം. Madhyamam, 14th June, 2021.
- 6. പോഷക വാടിക മഹാ അഭിയാൻ. Mathrubhumi, 18th September, 2021.
- 7. പോഷണം തോട്ടം : പരിശീലനം നടത്തി. Malayala manorama, 18th September, 2021.
- 8. മത്സ്യ കർഷക സംഗമം സംഘടിഷിച്ചു. Malayala manorama, 1st October, 2021.



The youtube channel of KVK Ernakulam disseminated two video programmes that was watched by 593 members.

PUBLICATIONS

- Kaladharan P, Shinoj Subramannian, Pushparaj Anjelo, Arun Thulasidharan, and P.Vysakhan. 2021. Mulching brown seaweed Sargassumwightii during transplant on the growth and yield of paddy, Journal of the Marine biological association of India, 63 (1) Jan-Jun 2021.
- Vikas P.A & Shinoj Subramannian. 2021. കരിമീൻ വിത്തുല്പാദനം : പതിവായി ചോദിക്കുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങളും അവയ്ക്കുള്ള ഉത്തരങ്ങളും. Krishi Vinjana Pathrika of KVK (Ernakulam) 01/2021.
- 3. Vikas P.A & Shinoj Subramannian. 2021. Calendar for Cage fish Farming. Krishi Vinjana Pathrika of KVK (Ernakulam) 02/2021.
- 4. Vikas P.A & Shinoj Subramannian. 2021. Mullet Farming. Krishi Vinjana Pathrika of KVK (Ernakulam) 03/2021.

AGRO INPUT PRODUCTION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FARMERS

- The KVK produced 2900 numbers vegetable seedlings, 215 numbers Curry leaf saplings, 80 Papaya saplings, 135 Drumstick saplings at it's Satellite seedling production centre Miracle Microgreens, Cherai and the partner farmer realized INR 16,650/-
- 2. The KVK produced 2450 vegetable seedlings at it's Satellite seedling production centre, Puthuvype and the partner farmer Smt.Mary Jacob realized INR 6,125/-.
- 3. The KVK produced 817 numbers of Sree Padma Yam setts and 740 numbers of Sree Pavithra & Sree Raksha cassava stumps at it's Satellite tuber seed production centre and partner farmer Shri Jacob Mathew realized INR18,864/-
- The KVK produced 400 kg organic manure by processing fish market waste at it's Satellite manure production centre lvy's Agro Hub, Cherai and the partner farmer Smt.lvy Jose realized INR 16,000/-.
- The KVK produced 89,850 numbers of Pearlspot seeds at it's Satellite fish seed production centre, Karumallur and the partner farmers Mr. Shibu T.S, Mr. Sarin C.S, Dr. Lala, Mr. Justin Maxi, Mr. Ullas A.R, Mr. Deepu Sasidaran, Mr. Santhosh kumar, Mrs. Shiby Sajan, Mrs. Sindu Prasad, Mr.Prasad, Mr. Venu T.S and Mr.Akhil Baiju together realized INR. 9.00 lakhs.
- The KVK produced 300 litres of Panchagavya at it's Satellite cow produce production centre, Vengoor and partner farmer Shri. C T Dinoj realized INR30,000/-
- 7. The KVK produced 191 Thalasseri poultry seeds at it's Satellite poultry chick production centre, Alangad and partner farmer Shri Mathew Vithayahtil realized INR 34,380/-



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PARTNER FARMERS ADVERTISEMENTS



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COLLABORATIONS

The KVK collaborated with various organizations by sharing it's expertise for their programmes during the report period.

Vegetable and fruit promotion council Keralam (VFPCK)

KVK Ernakulam collaborated with VFPCK to conduct district level capacity building programme on 10th August 2021 at Kanjoor in Ernakulam district. Shri Shoji Joy Edison, Subject Matter Specialist delivered lecture on *Integrated nutrient management in banana and vegetables*

SAMETI, Thiruvananthapuram

KVK Ernakulam collaborated with SAMETI, Thiruvananthapuram to conduct Krishi Padasala on 8th June, 2021. Dr. P.A Vikas, Subject Matter Specialist delivered lecture on *Fish farming prospects and practices.*

KVK Pathanamthitta

KVK Ernakulam collaborated with KVK Pathanamthitta to conduct state level webinar on 16th June 2021. Dr. P.A. Vikas, Subject Matter Specialist delivered lecture on Fish farming prospects and practices.

Farm Information Bureau

KVK Ernakulam collaborated with Farm Information Bureau (FIB), Govt of Kerala to conduct an online farmer awareness programme on 19th May 2021. Dr. P.A. Vikas, Subject matter specialist delivered lecture on *Homestead fish farming.*

FPO CORNER

TRAINING ORGANIZED FOR FPO

KVK organized a training for FPOs on usage of Integrated Digital Enterprise for Agriculture for Farmer producer companies on 13th August 2021. Members of the FPOs registered by KVK viz., M/s Pokkali farmer producer company limited and M/s Periyar valley spices farmer producer company limited participated. Smt. Riya Mathew, Associate process leader, Nslhub Hyderabad delivered the lead talk. Company board members, CEOs and Subject matter specialists of the KVK participated.

KVK IN SERVICE OF FARMERS

Total of 300 hours of farm machinery rental services were provided to farmers during the first half of 2021-22 and income of INR 1.0 lakh generated.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

 Sree Pavithra cassava variety of ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram is suitable to uplands of Ernakulam. This variety maturing in 8-9 months has good cooking



quality and market preference. The yield recorded was 67 MT/ha though there was mosaic virus incidence of 25-30%.

 Giant trevally is a good candidate species for brackish water cage farming in Ernakulam district. Eight months rearing is required to reach marketable size of 800 gm. Ideal farming season of Giant trevally is December to July.



3. Black mussel (Mytella strigata) invasion to cage fish farms can be controlled by simultaneous

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stocking of adult Pearlspot fish along with target species within the cages and also in the space between inner and outer nets.

4. Thalasseri poultry is an improved indigenous poultry suitable for homesteads of Ernakulam. This breed attains sexual maturity at 155 days and can produce 130-140 eggs annually. Supplementary feeding with 25-30 g layer feed is recommended.





- 5. The development of bacterial soft rot in banana can be arrested by drenching root zone 2g bleaching powder or 3g copper oxy chloride dissolved in one litre of water.
- 6. Fungal diseases like abnormal leaf fall and flower drop in Nutmeg can be prevented by prophylactic spray of Pseudomonas fluorescence at a concentration of 20 g diluted in 1 litre water.



PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS

INTERNSHIP

he KVK Ernakulam associated with St Alberts College, Ernakulam to organize Online Internship session for the students of B Voc. (Commercial Aquaculture) on 12th July 2021. Dr. P.A Vikas, Subject matter specialist delivered a lecture on Present status of seed trade in Indian aquaculture sector. Objective of the B Voc. programme is to develop entrepreneurially oriented aquaculture graduates.



Online internship session for B Voc students



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CMFRI NEWS

INTEGRATED MULTI-TROPHIC AQUACULTURE (IMTA) PROVED SUCCESS IN KERALA

The IMTA is a practice which combines appropriate proportions of fish, bivalves and seaweeds to create balanced farming system towards environmental and economic stability. With production of one tonne Green mussels from 150 strings hung around four fish cages near Moothakunnam in Ernakulam, the IMTA practice has proven to be economically feasible and suitable to Kerala conditions. The average Mussel size recorded was 72g. The fish-



es cultivated inside the cages and seaweeds cultivated around the cages also contributes to farmer's income. IMTA is a sustainable farming practice as excess nutrients and carbon dioxide from the cage farm are all directly or indirectly utilized. Adoption of this innovative technology can transform the lives of coastal fishermen communities.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON SEAWEED FARMING

Online Training Programme on Seaweed Farming was conducted by Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI to Fisheries Officials in collaboration with State Institute of Fisheries Technology (SIFT), Kakina-



da, Andhra Pradesh on 27th May 2021. Seaweed farming has recently been gaining momentum among fishermen as an additional income generating enterprise.

SPINY LOBSTER FATTENING IN SEA CAGES



Ademonstration of scientific sea cage farming Adof spiny lobsters conducted at Mottakopuram, Thoothukudi by Tuticorin Regional Station of CMFRI under it's Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) program. Live baby scalloped spiny lobsters collected from fish landings were quarantined in hatchery and the selected healthy baby lobsters were stocked in the



cages for 140-150 days. The hard shelled and grownup spiny lobsters each weighing 200g is preferred for live export market. The farm gate price for 200 g and above spiny lobsters was INR2200 per kg and fishermen earned INR1.10 lakhs from this promising venture. The programme demonstrated utilizing undersized lobsters for tapping additional income.









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