

National Science Day Celebrations 2025

National Technical Workshop on Plant Propagation, Value Addition, Startup Ventures and Export Opportunities of Banana



Jointly Organized by



Nehru Arts and Science College
(An Autonomous Institution)
Department of Biotechnology
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu



Agri Amigos Private Limited
(Registered under Ministry of
Corporate Affairs,
Govt. of India)
Theni, Tamil Nadu



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27th & 28th February 2025



Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College
(An Autonomous Institution)
Affiliated to Bharathiar University
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

In Coordination With



Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College
(An Autonomous Institution)
TM Palayam, Coimbatore - 641105
Tamil Nadu, India.

Coconut and Fruit Crops Development Centre
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Rainbow Gardens, Sillamarathupatti - 625528
Bodi Taluk, Theni Dt., Tamil Nadu, India.

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National Technical Workshop on

Plant Propagation, Value Addition, Startup Ventures and Export Opportunities of Banana

Greetings!

Students, Researchers, Professors and Scientists, every year our country is celebrating February 28 as National Science Day. On behalf of Department of Biotechnology, Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu and Agri Amigos Pvt. Ltd, Theni, Tamil Nadu have planned to conduct National Science Day Celebrations 2025 on 27th & 28th February, 2025.

In this connect, it is scheduled to conduct "National Technical Workshop on Plant Propagation, Value Addition, Startup Ventures and Export Opportunities of Banana."

This National Technical Workshop will be conducted with the support of Western Ghat Researcher Association of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (RAAST INDIA), METVSO Research Foundation, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, EDII- Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum, HC&RI, TNAU, Periyakulam, Theni Dt., Tamil Nadu., PROSPER Foundation, Theni, Tamil Nadu., CREA Foundation, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, DHAKSHAN Bioscience, Salem Dt., Tamil Nadu, Alliance Biodiversity & CIAT and Sankar Biotech, Hosur, Tamil Nadu.

Introduction

India is the topmost banana producing country globally, and within India, Tamil Nadu holds the position of the fifth largest banana producing state, contributing significantly to national production. The banana industry faces numerous challenges such as diseases, climate change, and fluctuating market demands, but it also presents vast opportunities for growth, innovation and export.

To capitalize on these opportunities and overcome the challenges, a comprehensive understanding of advanced techniques in plant propagation, value addition, establish startup ventures and the expansion of export markets is crucial.

The National Technical Workshop on Plant Propagation, Value Addition, Startup Ventures and Export Opportunities of Banana brings together experts, researchers, farmers, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders to discuss the latest developments in banana cultivation, processing, related business ventures and global trade.

This National Technical Workshop aims to provide a platform for the exchange of knowledge, best practices and collaborative efforts to enhance the productivity, sustainability and profitability of the banana industry.

Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Nehru Arts and Science College has emerged from the galaxy of Nehru Group of Institutions with the dictum, "Knowledge is wisdom". The Trust headquartered at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, has spread its wings to the neighbouring State Kerala by establishing Educational Institutions of high reputation. The trust was constituted by Late. P. K. Das, the Founder Chairman. His legacy is being taken up by his sons Adv. Dr. P. Krishna Das as the Chairman and Managing Trustee and Dr. P. Krishnakumar as CEO and Secretary.

The College is situated in a tranquil environment of sprawling 35 acres campus located in Thirumalayampalayam about 2.5 Km from NH 47 (connecting Coimbatore and Palakkad), 15 Km from Coimbatore City and 14 Km from Kerala border. Its calm, lush green, pollution free surroundings dissolved in the chill breeze makes the climate salubrious and atmosphere conducive for intact and effective learning. It is easily accessible through 60 Institution's buses plying from various parts of Coimbatore, Tirupur, Pollachi and Kerala.

The College was established in 1998 offering 04 programmes with 54 students. It is affiliated to Bharathiar University, recognized by UGC with 2 (f) and 12 (B), certified with ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 14001:2004. NASC was accredited by NAAC with "B" Grade (CGPA 2.75) in 2009 and reaccredited with "A" Grade (CGPA 3.10) in 2014. Due to the consistent and conscious efforts of the Management and the Principal, in nurturing the Institution, it has grown in strength and achieved success over the years. The College has got Autonomous Status in July 2017.

At present, NASC college is catering to the needs of 3,705 aspirants by offering much-sought after courses in Arts, Science, Commerce and Management streams. The College offers 22 UG, 8 PG, 10 M. Phil. and 09 Ph. D. Programmes. The College has been excelling consistently in producing University Ranks and the figure progressed to 204 Rank holders from the year 2006 onwards.

Agri Amigos Pvt. Ltd, Theni, Tamil Nadu

Agri Amigos Private Limited registered at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India in 2019 as Farm Development and Agri Business organisation, CIN No. U01100TZ2019PTC033190. The organisation is run by experienced Agricultural Doctoral & Agri Industrial Professionals having 20+ years of experience in Agriculture and Horticulture areas like Organic farming, Integrated Farming System, Agri Inputs production and supply (Organic and bio products), Soil nutrient studies, Agri machinery & equipment supply, Smart farming technology solutions, Agricultural produces exports and Farmer Producer company consultancy services. Agri Amigos has been interested on work with leading National and International Research Institutes and Organizations, Animal Husbandry, Agriculture and allied sector Incubation centers, Organic Certification agencies, Agricultural Students Network, Farmer Networks across India, Government Nodal agencies and Farm Labourer networks.

Agri Amigos signed MOU with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu., Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu., Thiagarajar College (Autonomous), Madurai, Tamil Nadu., The American College (Autonomous), Madurai, Tamil Nadu., RVS Technical Campus (Autonomous), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu., Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women (Autonomous), Periyakulam, Theni Dt., Tamil Nadu., Sethu Institute of Technology (Autonomous), Virudhunagar Dt., Tamil Nadu., Thanthai Rover Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development, Perambalur, Tamil Nadu. and Radian Fivserv (Rural Finance NBFC), Bangalore, Karnataka.

Agri Amigos Pvt. Ltd is registered technical incubatee of EDII- Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum (EDII-PHBIF), Horticultural College and Research Institute, TNAU, Periyakulam, Theni Dt., Tamil Nadu., Madurai Agri Business Incubation Forum (MABIF), Agricultural College and Research Institute, TNAU, Madurai, Tamil Nadu., and EDII-Killikulam Agri Business Incubation Forum (EDII- KABIF), V.O.C. Agricultural College and Research Institute, TNAU, Killikulam, Vallanadu, Thoothukudi Dt., Tamil Nadu.

Agri Amigos Pvt. Ltd collaborated with various National Organisations and organized flagship programmes include AGRI TECHNOVA 2023, AGRI INNOVA 2023, AGRI & FOOD TECH EXPO 2024 and AGRI INNOVA 2025.

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Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Organising Co-Chair

Dr. A. Pal Pandi

National Secretary, RAAST India
Professor and Head (Research)
Bharath Niketan Engineering College
Theni Dt., Tamil Nadu

Organising Co- Secretary

Dr. N. Saranya

Head of the Department
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Organizing Secretary

Dr. M. Daniel Jebaraj

Managing Director, Agri Amigos Pvt. Ltd
Theni, Tamil Nadu
Professor of Practice
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
National President, RAAST India.

Organising Convenors

Dr. A. Swarnalatha

Dean

School of Life Sciences and Head Food Science and Nutrition
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. O. S. Nimmi

Assistant Professor (SG)
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. V. Shanmugam

Associate Professor
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Deepa Mundekkad

Assistant Professor (SG)
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. P. Thirunavukarasu

Assistant Professor (SG)
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. R. C. Jaysree

Assistant Professor
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. V. Sharmila

Assistant Professor
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. S. Dinesh Kumar

Assistant Professor (SG)
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. E. Udayan

Assistant Professor
Department of Biotechnology
Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

National Technical Workshop: Resource Persons

Dr. K. P. Sudheer

Professor & Head, Agri Business Incubator, Department of Agricultural Engineering, College of Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University Campus, Vellanikkara, Thrissur, Kerala.

Dr. K. C. Sivabalan

Founder & CEO, CREA Foundation, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. R. Nageswari

Associate Professor (Agronomy), Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Aduthurai, Thanjavur Dt., Tamil Nadu.

Dr. P. Vetrivelkalai,

Associate Professor, Department of Nematology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, TN

Dr. V. P. Shanthi

Associate Professor (Horticulture), AD Agricultural College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Sivalingam Elayabalan

Collaborative Scientist (CGIAR- CIAT) – Banana

Visiting Scientist (USM- Malaysia and STJU- China)

Technical Director (Dhakshan Bioscience & Sankar Biotech), Attur, Salem Dt., Tamil Nadu.

Dr. M. Viji

Assistant Professor (Botany), Thiagarajar College (Autonomous),

Affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Vasanthan Selvam

Chief Executive Officer, EDII - Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum

Horticultural College and Research Institute, TNAU, Periyakulam, Theni Dt., Tamil Nadu.

Dr. R. Vinoth

National Secretary, AIASA, New Delhi

Faculty, Institute of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Trichy, Tamil Nadu

Mr. S.K. Babu

Project Director, Eco Green Unit, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

National Technical Workshop: Advisory Committee – Academics & Research

Dr. H. Kesava Kumar

Senior Scientist (Nematology)

ICAR - Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Dr. K. Venkatesan

Associate Professor & Head, Dept. of Home Science

Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh

Dr. M. Alagupalamuthirsolai

Senior Scientist - Crop Production (Plant Physiology)

ICAR- Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. V. David Chella Basker

Assistant Professor (Agricultural Economics)

Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. C. S. Shivakumara

Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics

Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research, Tamaka, Kolar, Karnataka.

Dr. M. Paramasivan

Associate Professor (Plant Pathology)

Agricultural Research Station, TNAU, Vridhachalam, Cuddalore Dt., TN

Dr. G. Sathish

Associate Professor (Hort.)

Horticultural College & Research Institute, TNAU, Periyakulam, Theni Dt., TN

Dr. D. Gopi

Associate Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

Rohini College of Engineering and Technology, Kanyakumari, TN

Dr. N. Aananthi

Associate Professor

Dept. of Plant Breeding and Genetics, AC & RI, TNAU, Madurai, TN

Dr. K. Kalpana

Associate Professor (Plant Pathology)

Department of Plant Protection, HC&RI, TNAU, Periyakulam, Theni Dt., TN

Dr. P. Vijayakumary

Associate Professor

Department of Renewable Energy Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore, TN.

Dr. P. Meenakshi

Assistant Professor (Biochemistry)

Department of Renewable Energy Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore, TN.

Dr. M. S. Marichamy

Assistant Professor (Hort.)

Dept. of Horticulture., PAJANCOA & RI, Karaikal, Puducherry U.T.

Dr. K. Manimekalai

Assistant Professor (Biotechnology)

Hindusthan College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, TN



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National Technical Workshop on Plant Propagation, Value Addition, Startup Ventures and Export Opportunities of Banana would likely be structured around several focused technical sessions, each addressing a specific area of interest or expertise. Here is a proposed breakdown of possible technical sessions for such a workshop:

Session 1: Advanced Techniques in Banana Plant Propagation

- Overview of Banana Propagation Methods: Exploration of traditional and modern methods like tissue culture, micropropagation, and clonal propagation.
- Disease-free Planting Materials: Techniques for producing and maintaining disease-free planting materials for high-quality banana production.
- Genetic Improvement and Hybridization: Advances in genetic selection for improving banana varieties that are resistant to diseases such as Panama disease and Fusarium wilt.
- Propagation Challenges and Solutions: Addressing common challenges in propagation, such as pests, diseases, and environmental factors affecting growth.

Session 2: Integrated Pest and Disease Management in Banana Production

- Identification of Major Pests and Diseases: A deep dive into the primary pests and diseases that affect banana crops, including nematodes, weevils, and fungal infections.
- Biological Control and Integrated Pest Management (IPM): Exploring eco-friendly pest management strategies and integrating them with plant health protocols.
- Sustainable Practices: Methods to reduce chemical use in banana farming and promote sustainable, organic farming practices that improve long-term soil and plant health.
- Disease Management through AI Technology: Originally designed for banana crops, Tumaini is an innovative AI-powered mobile app that helps farmers and extension workers quickly identify and manage crop diseases. Using advanced image recognition technology, Tumaini enables users to scan plant leaves and pods to receive real-time diagnoses and treatment recommendations. With Tumaini, we aim to equip farmers with tools to safeguard their crops against disease, improve yield, and enhance food security.

Session 3: Value Addition in Banana Farming

- Processing Techniques: In-depth presentations on different ways to add value to bananas, including turning them into banana chips, flour, jams, or juices.
- Nutritional Benefits and Market Trends: Understanding the growing consumer demand for banana-based products and their health benefits.
- Innovative Products and New Markets: Exploring cutting-edge banana products, such as banana-based vegan food products, and the potential for tapping into niche markets.
- Packaging and Branding: Techniques for packaging banana products to ensure freshness, extend shelf life, and appeal to global markets.

Session 4: Innovations and Research in Banana Agriculture

- Emerging Research and Technologies: Updates on cutting-edge research, such as genetic modification, CRISPR technology, or advances in plant breeding.
- New Tools for Monitoring and Data Collection: Use of technology like drones, sensors, and AI in improving banana production and ensuring farm efficiency.
- Collaborative Research and Development: Encouraging collaboration between universities, research institutions, and industry stakeholders to drive innovations that benefit the banana sector.

Session 5: Entrepreneurial Opportunities and Financing in Banana Agriculture

- Business Models for Banana Farming and Processing: Exploring successful business models for smallholder farmers, cooperatives, and large-scale producers.
- Accessing Finance and Investment for Banana Ventures: Information on securing funding for banana farming or banana-based businesses, including government grants, loans, and venture capital.
- Value Chain Development: How to create a robust and sustainable banana value chain that includes growers, processors, distributors, and exporters.

Session 6: Export Opportunities and Market Expansion

- Global Banana Trade Overview: Analysis of global banana production and consumption patterns, major importers, and exporters.
- Navigating Export Regulations and Standards: Understanding food safety standards, quality certification requirements, and logistics involved in banana exports.
- Marketing Strategies for Export: How to effectively market banana products internationally, targeting specific countries or regions based on consumer preferences.

Each session could feature a combination of expert presentations, panel discussions, case studies, and interactive workshops, providing participants with practical knowledge and solutions that they can apply in their own banana-related endeavours. The goal would be to equip attendees with the skills, insights, and connections necessary to drive innovation and growth in the banana industry.

Who can apply?

UG, PG Students of Life Sciences (Biotechnology, Food Science and Nutrition, Microbiology) / Agricultural Sciences/ Any Science Faculties, Researchers, Persons working in relevant industries and entrepreneurs.

Registration Fee:

- Rs.800 /- (Rs. 600/- for Workshop Fees + Rs.200/- for Student Membership Fees for Western Ghat Researcher Association of Agricultural Technology).
- Fee included for attending various Technical Sessions and availing course materials (soft copy) excluding Refreshments, accommodation, breakfast, lunch, dinner.
- At the end of the programme, National Technical Workshop Participation Certificate will be issued to the participants.

Account Details

Account Name	AGRI TECHNOVA
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How to apply?

Submit completed registration form at www.agriamigos.com along with the fee on / before 15th February, 2025.

For further communications and support, please contact to

National Technical Workshop Co-Organising Secretary

Dr. N. Saranya

Head of the Department

Department of Biotechnology

Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous)

Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Contact Number: 8870244345

National Technical Workshop Organising Secretary

Dr. M. Daniel Jebaraj

Managing Director, Agri Amigos Pvt. Ltd

Theni, Tamil Nadu

Professor of Practice

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

National President, RAAST India.

Contact Numbers:

9361885985 8610266172

9842642848 8610561280

