



AzadiKaAmrit Mahotsav

Training Workshop on “Agriculture inputs and organic farming” to Technical staff members of TNSRLM at IFGTB, Coimbatore on 27th April, 2022

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore has conducted a one day training workshop on “**Agriculture inputs and organic farming**” to the staff members of Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) on 27th April, 2022 at the institute as a celebration of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**. The participants included Asst. project officers, Block Mission Managers, Block Co-ordinators, Community Resource Persons and Self Help Group (SHG) volunteers of Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission. The programme started with the welcome address by the training co-ordinator Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist- F & Head, Chemistry and Bioprospecting Division, IFGTB, Coimbatore.

Smt.P. Chandra, Joint Director/Project Director, TNSRLM, Coimbatore while addressing the gathering stated the importance of organic farming especially to women farmers. She also insisted that the bio inputs for organic farming must be developed by WSHGs on their own with the available local resources and must be used in their own agriculture field. The Group Co-ordinator Research Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist- G inaugurated the training workshop and in her inaugural address stated that the bioproducts viz, biopesticides, biobooster, biofertilizer and growth promoter developed by IFGTB have reached out to the farmers and other stakeholders and received overwhelming results. She also emphasized about tree planting in the agricultural lands and in home gardens. She also insisted the participants to learn the technical inputs provided by the IFGTB staff members properly and train the women farmers in their jurisdiction block to promote organic farming and promote healthy society. The inaugural session ended with the formal vote of thanks by Shri M. Santhasilan, Asst. Project officer, TNSRLM, Coimbatore.

During the technical session the training Co-ordinator Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist- F detailed about the development of biobooster “**Tree Rich Biobooster-(TRB)**” an organic bioproduct developed using coir pith waste compost and other municipal waste composts such as vegetable and flower wastes along with other bio wastes which can be used as comprehensive potting mix for use in kitchen, terrace and home gardens. Flower and vegetable wastes added provided nutrient enrichment through micro elements input.

During the practical session, preparation of biofertilizer was detailed by Shri Krishnamoorthy, JRF Forest Protection Division. Smt. K.S. Rathnam, Technical Officer gave hands on training to develop TRB to the trainees which included compost making out of solid wastes especially

flower waste, vegetable waste, weed and other wastes which are the components in the development of TRB product. Various aspects of the development of the bioproduct “Tree Rich Biobooster” which included selection of raw materials, processing, compost making, preparation of blocks, and evaluation of their efficacy were demonstrated in detail with all necessary materials. Three resource persons who are representatives of the farmers namely Shri. Chellamuthu from Erode, Smt. Dayanithi and Smt. Sangeetha from Pudukottai have narrated the organic farming inputs they have developed and being used in their agricultural field.

