

**Minutes of the Meeting of Managers of DSP Farms to review the Enhanced Seedling  
Production in DSP Farms held at Kochi on 01.03.2012**

A meeting to review the seedling production programme in DSP farms was held on 01.03.2012 at Head Quarters. The meeting was chaired by Shri T K Jose, IAS, Chairman. The list of attendance is given as annexure I. The meeting discussed in detail about the status of seedling production in all the 7 DSP farms.

While welcoming the farm managers to the meeting, Dr.T I Mathewkutty, Deputy Director in charge of DSP Farms informed that performance of the farms need to be improved and the meeting was called specifically for reviewing the progress achieved so far in seedling production for this year. He made a brief presentation on the targets assigned and achievement made by each farm and reviewed the progress. During discussion it was noticed that the percentage recovery of DxT hybrid seedling were very low. There is an urgent need to improve the hybridization technique including pollen processing, its viability, the correct stage of pollination at receptive stage etc.

In his introductory remarks Chairman reiterated the need for ensuring seedling production targets for the current year that Board is aiming to produce 12.00 lakh seedlings, which was the target mutually agreed by DSP farms. The enhanced production of seedlings is expected to meet the enormous demand for quality seedlings in the country. He expressed his displeasure on the low progress achieved in the procurement and sowing of seednuts in DSP Farms. Further he focused that as per the meeting held on 21.07.2011 all the farm managers were informed about the target given on seed nut procurement and seedling production. The performance made by the farm managers in the seedlings production activities was critically analyzed and he emphasized the need for achieving the allotted target of production in full. The three DSP farms viz Mandya, Pitapally and Kondagaon has almost reached the envisaged target of procurement/ sowing, where as the other remaining farms viz, Abhayapuri, Madhepura, Vegiwada and Neriamangalam are lagging very much behind. They have to ensure the production of targeted seedling during 2012 itself. Though instructions were given to send fortnightly reports on nursery operations along with weekly photographs on every Friday, it was noticed that none of them sent the same in time. Chairman showed them the new exclusive icon in CDB website for DSP Farms. Three subheadings viz., details of seedlings production, seedlings germination and photo album are put there. The following farms have not yet sent any photo to Head Office. They were given instructions to send weekly photos (6-10) on every Friday to Head Office

1. Madhepura
2. Abhayapuri
3. Mandya

The following farms have not yet sent any data on germination. They are supposed to send it fortnightly.

1. Abhayapuri
2. Vegiwada
3. Mandya
4. Neriamangalam

The following farms failed to provide fortnightly details on seedling production, procurement of seed nuts and sowing of seed nuts.

1. Madhepura
2. Vegiwada

It is decided in the meeting that hereafter if DSP farms fail to provide the above data in time, it will be recorded in their Annual Performance Appraisal forms. Such lapses if any would be appropriately considered at the time of MACP and promotion.

**(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs, Monitoring by: Shri. Kokhan Debnath, Assistant Director, Time Limit: 3pm of every Friday for Photographs and 1<sup>st</sup>&2<sup>nd</sup> fortnight of every month)**

No excuses like shortage of manpower for slow progress in seedling production will be entertained as the Farm Managers were already given permission to engage Field Officer on contract basis and casual labourers on need basis during July 2011 itself. Chairman opined that the inaction on the part of the Farm Managers is the real reason for the slow progress. The photographs sent to the HQ by some farms clearly proved the lack of adequate care in the seed bed preparation, irrigation, weeding and other management practices followed in the nursery.

Shri. K. Debnath, AD in charge on monitoring seed ling production in DSP farms made a presentation on the overall performance of the farm with emphasis on the procurement, sowing of seed nut, achievement in the performance indicators targeted for 2011-12 etc. This was followed by the presentation by each farm managers.

#### **DSP farm, Abhayapuri**

Though the farm was given a production target of 2.1 lakh nuts so far only 1.02 lakh (48.7%) could be achieved and the farm receipts accrued is only 13.4 lakhs against the target of 25.00 lakhs. The FM has requested permission to procure 1.00 lakh seed nuts from Orissa with the help of the State centre Pitapally to achieve the target. The same was allowed with an instruction to take early actions to procure seed nuts from Assam itself during next year. The Farm Manager may submit the required proposal for repairing of earthen bunds with the recommendation of the Director, ROG. **(Action: Farm Manager)**

**DSP farm, Mandya:**

The farm deserves appreciation for production of 4.17 lakh nuts against the targeted production of 3.8 lakh nuts (which is 109.9%). They could also accrue a receipt of 117.8 lakh against the targeted 105 lakhs as per the performance indicators. Considering the high demand for Dx T hybrid seedling demand the farm manager may enhance hybrid seed nut production by utilizing all dwarf mother palms. He may also engage trained persons, tripod ladders etc with the objective of attaining higher seed nut and recovery percentage of hybrid seed nut. One dwarf block which is very difficult for hybridization due to more height of palms may be under planted with the same variety by utilizing good quality selected seedlings produced in the farm itself and by adopting proper lay out so that old palms can be cut and removed as and when the newly planted seedlings start yielding. For the removal of poor performing palms and border trees in the farm the FM may send proposals duly recommended by the TAC.

**(Action: Farm Manager)**

**DSP farm, Kondagaon**

The farm could produce only 0.67 lakh nuts against the targeted production of 1.4 lakhs (47.9%) and could realize only 4.62 lakhs against the target of 15.00 lakhs. The AD has sought permission for procuring 10,000 seed nuts from Orissa which was agreed. In order to correct the nutrient content of the soil, more organic manures such as FYM/ compost/vermicompost may be applied to the coconut plantation and on trial basis Plot No.7 may be converted to organic farming. The AD may take urgent necessary measures to control leaf eating caterpillar attack noticed in the farm.

**(Action: Assistant Director)**

**DSP farm, Madhepura**

The performance of the farm is very poor and could harvest only 7868 nuts from 3049 yielding palms. There is an urgent need to improve the production and productivity in the farm. The photographs of the nursery shows that the lay out, sowing etc are not in order. The nursery beds should be planned in such manner that each bed contain 100 nuts (25 x 4 or 20 x 5). The farm manager may ensure all nursery management practices to ensure maximum germination and recovery of seed lings and any shortage in this due to lapses in management will be accountable. The receipt realized in the farm is also not satisfactory and the farm manger may take all steps to achieve the target. Palms producing more than 50 nuts in the farm may be selected as mother palms and used for seed nut collection. For achieving the targeted seedling production seed nuts may also be procured from Orissa.

**(Action : Assistant Director)**

**DSP farm, Pitapally**

The farm has harvested 24552 (111%) nuts against the target of 22000 nuts and the receipt realized is Rs. 12.85 lakhs against the target of 15.00 lakhs. The organic matter content of the farm need to be improved by adopting different methods like application of FYM/ vermicompost, growing

leguminous crops and proper basin management with coconut plant parts. The farm manger should help in procurement of seed nuts for Abhayapuri, Kondagaon and Madhepura from Orissa as per their requirement. **(Action : Farm i/c)**

#### **DSP farm, Vegiwada**

They have harvested 2.6 lakh (143.7%) nuts against the target 1.8 lakh nuts and also realized a receipt of Rs. 32.00 lakhs against the target of 30.00 lakhs. The AD shall ensure the production of two lakh seedlings without fail for which seed nuts may be procured from from root (wilt) disease free belt of Tamilnadu **(Action: Assistant Director)**

#### **DSP farm, Neriamangalam**

The farm could produce only 57028 (51.84%) nut against the target of 110000 nuts and receipts realized is Rs. 15.98 lakh against 20.00 lakhs. The AD may ensure procurement of the required quantity of the seed nuts by the end of May 2012 as the procurement season in Kerala prevail up to that period. The AD may send detailed report on the labourers obtained under MGNREGS with photographs for publishing in the journal.

**(Action : Assistant Director, Target date:31<sup>st</sup> May 2012)**

**Action by: (Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs)**

**Monitoring by: Shri. K. Debnath, AD, HQ**

#### **GENERAL DECISIONS**

The general decisions taken during the meeting were the following.

1. Any reduction in performance of seedling production even by a single number will be counted as un satisfactory and will be reflected in the annual confidential reports of the Assistant Directors/Farm Managers concerned. **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs  
Monitoring by: Shri. K. Debnath, AD, HQ  
Supervision by: Deputy Director I)**
2. All the 7 DSP farms shall start hybrid seed nut production by utilizing the available dwarf mother palms in the farm. For proper pollination, pollen collection, preservation etc necessary infrastructure shall be created wherever the same is not available. Similarly pollinators shall be identified and trained. . **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs  
Monitoring by: Shri. K. Debnath, AD, HQ)**
3. Identify suitable candidates having educational qualification SSLC/+2 ( of age group 18-35 years) for pollination training and engage them as Pollinators. These pollinators shall not be used for other routine works and shall be used for semiskilled works like nursery management, plant protection activities etc by providing suitable incentives. **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs)**

4. For every 400 dwarf palms for hybridization programme one pollinator may be engaged. The farm manger shall engage the pollinators immediately after this meeting and send proposal for providing necessary incentives to them.
5. All the mother palms should be maintained well with scientific package of practices including need based higher dosage of inputs, plant protection methods, basin management, etc. **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs)**
6. The poor yielding palms in the farms shall be identified and removed if the same could not be improved by management practices. The farm i/c may send suitable proposal for the same with the approval of Technical Advisory Committee.(TAC). **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs and HQ)**
7. Variety wise, agewise productivity charts should be prepared, maintained and communicated to HO, annually. . **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs)**
8. The fortnightly report on germination details, weekly reports on status of seed ling production; procurement of seed nuts sowing of seed nuts along with six to ten clear photographs depicting the progress of operations should be sent through e-mail for updating in the website of the Board. . **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs)**
9. All the farms may send proposals for installing sprinkler irrigation system for the nursery area at least in one plot.
10. The Secretary categorically informed that all the receipts of the farm is to be sent to HQ on every month from the next financial year onwards and no expenditure can be made by utilizing the receipt of the farm without Head quarters permission . **(Action: All DSP Farm Managers & ADs)**
11. Wherever difficulties are experienced in sending e mails/ photos, broad band internet connection may be taken at the farm. However till such arrangements photos may be sent via nearest internet service centres.
12. The Farm i/c may send suitable proposal for purchasing 10 HP rotary tiller for taking basins and other operations and weed cutter wherever the same has not yet been purchased.
13. DSP farm, Mandya shall provide 50,000 dwarf seed nuts to CPS of Kerala for nursery raising. The F.M. can also supply atleast 10,000 DxT hybridized seed nut to Neriamangalam. **(Action by: Farm Manager, DSP farm, Mandya)**

The meeting was concluded at 20.30 hrs with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Issues with the approval of Chairman

Kiochi-11

13.03.2012

Dy. Director (Dev)

## **Annexure I**

### List of participants

1. Shri. T. K. Jose IAS, Chairman
2. Dr. K. Muralidharan, Director
3. Dr. Anup Kumar Nandi, Secretary
4. Dr. T. I. Mathewkutty, Deputy Director
5. Dr. Remany Gopalakrishnan, Deputy Director
6. Shri. Khokhan Debnath, Assistant Director
7. Shri. E. Aravazhi, Assistant Director
8. Dr. Shyamlal, Assistant Director
9. Shri. Sardar Singh Choyal, Assistant Director
10. Shri.R.S. Sengar, Assistant Director
11. Dr. M. K.Singh,Farm Manager
12. Shri.B Chinnaraj, Farm Manager
13. Shri. I. C. Kattiyar, Farm Manager
14. Kum. Deepthi R, Technical Officer