

Minutes of the Farm Review Meeting held at Kochi on 30-31st July 2012

A meeting to review the activities in DSP farms was held on 30-31st July 2012 at Head Quarters. The meeting was chaired by Shri T K Jose, IAS, Chairman. The list of attendance is given as annexure 1. The meeting discussed in detail about the status of seedling production in all the 7 DSP farms and action plan for the production of seedlings for the next planting season.

While welcoming all, Shri. Sugata Ghose, Chief Coconut Development Officer informed that during last year the nursery activity in the farms improved and the trend of achievement was satisfactory. In spite of the difficulties the Farm Managers have achieved the target of sowing seednuts for production of 11 lakh seedlings. He appreciated all the seven farm leaders and requested them to keep up the spirit of good work. He spoke about the need for initiating farm level research. The farms are rich source of field data which could be analyzed, interpreted and published.

The Director shared the information with all the farm leaders regarding recent technological advances presented during the Cocotech meeting. He offered to provide USB of COCOTECH presentation to all the Farm leaders. He emphasized the need for having tie up with Research Institutions for surveying and identification of mother palms and hybridization in private gardens. While reviewing the financial and administrative matters the Secretary requested all the farm leaders to send the bills and vouchers as well as Farm Receipt on a monthly basis.

The Chairman in his introductory remark stressed upon certain action points that need to be followed by all the farms.

1. The target for every farm is to produce certified quality salable seedlings ready for planting by June - July with a tag indicating the product details.
2. Every grown up dwarf palms shall be utilized for hybridization and recover maximum possible hybridized nuts. The dwarf palms of every farm needs to be given extra care so that they can be upgraded to the level of mother palms.
3. Documentation for release of the varieties consistently performing well in each farm should be taken up.
4. The causes for low productivity of palms need to be found out and eliminated through creative solutions.
5. Fortnightly the photos of highest yielding palms in the farms should be sent to the head quarters specifying palm number, plot number, last 5 year yield and variety.
6. Regular soil testing, application of nutrient as per the test results and necessary remedial measures for improving the soil condition need to be adopted. The production of vermi compost and green manuring is to be increased in the farms for meeting the organic manure requirements.

Dr. T.I. Mathewkutty (Deputy Director), in charge of all DSP farms made a presentation on the overall performance of the farm with emphasis on the procurement, sowing of seed nut, and achievement in the performance indicators targeted for 2011-12. Ranking of farms based on the performance was also presented based on uniform scoring. This was followed by the presentation by each farm managers.

Agenda No. 1-Farmwise reporting

DSP Farm Madhepura:

- ▶ It is noticed that the Farm Manager was making eye estimates on the area planted and interspace availability. The Farm Manager informed that the low productivity in the farm is due to the production of barren nuts. Many assumptions were raised in the meeting that the production of the barren nuts is due to lack of micro nutrients, failure of pollination, low drainage, higher iron content in the soil and winter damage.
- ▶ Some experiments like filling up of land with soil from pond, improving the drainage, application of green manure, application of MgSO₄ and comparison of yield data during last ten winter needs to be done for finding out the real reason.
- ▶ It was also decided to find out the number of barren nuts and its percentage in total harvest during the next harvest. Preventive measures for reducing the winter damage are to be taken.
- ▶ The Farm Manager should ensure completion of netlon shed nursery to be constructed by CPWD by August 2012.
- ▶ Soil and leaf analysis from the CPCRI need to be obtained at the earliest and plot wise nutrient application schedule should be prepared based on the report. Palms in Madhepura farm are of different varieties collected from the major coconut growing states and planted with a view to evaluate and recommend a suitable variety for Bihar. There are less than 10 palms of Saharsa Tall/Kosi Tall (Local variety) in the farm. Local tall are more adaptive to adverse climate of North Bihar. Therefore, yield of palms in Madhepura farm cannot be compared with the coconut grown in the locality. But this concept needs to be authenticated by systematic documentation comparing it with the local palms.
- ▶ Regarding the irrigation requirement proposal and estimate for digging out one bore well, type of pump may be submitted at the earliest. **(Action: Assistant Director, Farm)**

DSP Farm Abhayapuri:

- ▶ The Farm Manager reported the presence of winter damage in the Farm. It was decided to adopt measures like giving night irrigation and smoking to reduce the winter damage.
- ▶ For additional requirement of watch and ward, a watchman can be engaged from the available casual workers on need basis.
- ▶ Damaged earthen bund need to be repaired urgently. On completion of the bund, advice from Coir Board may be obtained for covering it with geo- textile.
- ▶ Proposal with estimate/quotation for the replacement of damaged boat with new wooden boat may be sent to the Head Quarters for approval.
- ▶ The stem bleeding problem in the farm is to be controlled with advice from CPCRI Kahikuchi.
- ▶ The Farm Manager is instructed to be more vigilant to prevent pilferage in the farm and adopt all management measures specially irrigation at 5 days interval and timely application of nutrient to increase productivity of palms.

- ▶ It was instructed to supply cuttings of high yielding fodder grass to neighboring dairy farmers and to sprinkle cow dung slurry on border plants to minimize the grazing of cattle. (**Action: Farm Manager**)

DSP Farm Neriamangalam:

- ▶ The Farm Manager requested to sanction one more weed cutter since the existing one doesn't work properly and one more rotary tiller for making beds for nursery. He has been asked to send the proposals with proper justification for the purchase of weed cutter.
- ▶ The topography of the farm is undulating and hence terracing is needed for the nursery. A proposal with quantification of terracing is to be sent for the same.
- ▶ It was noticed that some of the Hybrid palms are growing under the shade of nearby teak trees and the yield is low. Hence a proposal to remove the shade trees may be sent. All the issues like constructing tar road, purchase of 1 HP electric motor, purchase of boosting motor for block 10 etc., was discussed and the AD was asked to send suitable proposals.
- ▶ It was informed by the AD that the seed garden complex Munderi has requested for a letter from the HQ for supplying seednuts to Neriamangalam. (**Action: Assistant Director/H.Q**)

DSP Farm Vegiwada:

- ▶ The performance of the farm in seedling production during the previous year is recorded as satisfactory.
- ▶ The Farm in Charge was asked to obtain technical expertise for the purchase of suitable generator for running minimum four bore wells during load shedding in peak summer for uninterrupted irrigation schedule.
- ▶ It was decided there is no need for constructing new godowns for storing the nuts, instead the old quarters can be utilized.
- ▶ The Farm in Charge reported that the disposal of matured coconut is a cumbersome task and price quoted is very low. It was decided in the meeting that the farm manager may seek all appropriate measures to dispose the nuts available after selecting seed nut (**Action: Assistant Director**)

DSP Farm Kondagaon:

- ▶ As suggested by the AD, certified seedlings could be supplied to the State Horticulture Department on credit basis with written supply order and assurance of payment.
- ▶ The Assistant Director proposed for two more bore wells to supplement the water shortage during summer. The AD is asked to submit the suitable proposal for approval.
- ▶ Purchase of a WLL connection or Wi-max connection and Inverter are accepted and AD may submit the suitable proposals for approval.
- ▶ Proposal for installation of sprinkler irrigation may be resubmitted with fresh estimate or quotations. (**Action: Assistant Director**)

DSP Farm Pitapally:

- ▶ It was informed by the farm in charge that the farm is facing severe shortage of water and widening and deepening of two nos. of water reservoirs was suggested. However the meeting decided to consider the construction of small water harvesting tanks.
- ▶ Conversion of old office for using as Farmer's hostel was suggested by the farm in charge for conducting various training on Coconut. The proposal is under consideration.

- ▶ In order to improve the soil conditions of the farm, application of more cow dung was accepted with a direction that the application should be uniformly done. Poultry manure could be used after proper decomposition and after mixing with coir pith or other neutral media. **(Action: Assistant Director)**

DSP Farm Mandya:

- ▶ The Farm is progressing well in achieving the target assigned for production of seedlings and total receipts. It was informed by the farm in charge that there is an acute shortage of water due to low availability of KRS Dam water. It was decided in the meeting that during the current year if monsoon fails and under extreme contingencies seednuts sown in farm can be transferred to other farms.
- ▶ The request of the Farm Manager for providing a new portable generator is accepted. The Farm Manager shall submit the proposal with fresh quotation for approval.

(Action: Farm Manager)

Agenda No.2- Hybridization programme in the farm.

- ▶ It was decided in the meeting that hybridization programme needs to be initiated in the farms where it is not done. The Deputy Director informed that the proposals received from Kondagaon and Vegiwada will be cleared in a week.
- ▶ The incubator in DSP farm Abhayapuri is to be repaired. The proposal for the same is to be sent before 20th August 2012.
- ▶ The Farm Manager, Madhepura has informed that the hybridization programme can not be taken up in the farm. The CCDO has given instructions to farm in charge of Abhayapuri and Madhepura to visit DSP Farm Mandya to learn hybridization techniques. Hybridization work should be initiated at Madhepura also. The proposal for establishing the hybridization unit shall be submitted to Head Quarters immediately for approval by Madhepura.
- ▶ The problems of availability of foldable aluminum ladder for hybridization was raised in the meeting. It was decided that Shri.B.Chinnaraj, Senior Technical Officer shall initiate purchase procedure at the earliest. The Farm Managers were requested to submit the requirement to Head Quarters urgently.
- ▶ It was strictly instructed to achieve targets of emasculation and hybridization within time specified. **(Action: H Q/ Respective Farm in-charge)**

Agenda No. 3- Weekly and fortnightly reporting:

Weekly and fortnightly reporting of photos and germination details of nursery is properly done by the farms. However, the farm in chargers pointed out the difficulties in sending germination details fortnightly. The suggestion for sending germination details on monthly basis would be considered in future. At present, fortnightly reporting is to be continued. Weekly uploading of photographs could be done on Mondays instead of Fridays.

It was decided that uploading the news on VIPs visit to farms and other activities in journals and website will be followed up by Shri.Chinnaraj B, STO at HQ. **(Action: HQ x all farms in charges)**

Agenda No.4-Interspace availability, Irrigation seed nut procurement plan:

The area cultivated and interspace available for nursery preparation was discussed in detail. It was noticed that Madhepura farm in charge doesn't have any records on quantified

data on available interspaces. Hence it was instructed to measure the total interspaces available in the farm and report the same to HQ by 20th August 2012.

The interspaces available in all the farms were analyzed and the farm in chargers were given instructions to sow the targeted no. of seednuts in the interspaces available as per PERT chart schedule. Procurement plans for current year nursery programme was discussed in detail. All the farms were given instruction to adopt necessary water conservation and water harvesting methods.

Agenda No. 5- Field level Research programmes in the farm:

All the farms were given research topics in the meeting for doing field level research based on the current cultivation status. The research topics, experimental layout, treatment and replications shall be given in details. The topics given are as follows,

Madhepura

- Project for studying the cause for low production in the farm. All the assumed causes for low productivity may be analyzed for the same.
- Comparative study on different perennial intercrop and combinations in coconut garden.

Abhayapuri

- Management of stem bleeding diseases.
- Performance of different varieties in Assam conditions.
- The quantification and economic analysis of coconut farm with fodder grass cultivation.

Kondagaon

- Study on intercrops and its economic evaluation.
- Evaluation of coconut varieties.

Vegiwada

- Varietal suitability of dwarfs in Vegiwada condition.
- Damage and incidence of RPW & Case worm and their management.
- Comparison of growth of coconut in normal and stony blocks.

Neriamangalam

- Evaluation on double planting in a pit and circular planting in low land.
- Repellency of red Palm Weevil with marigold.

Mandya

- Comparison of different fertilizer doses and fertilizer combinations in different coconut varieties by following RBD and split plot analysis.
- Evaluation study on different coconut variety.
- Water stress and its effect on coconut cultivation.
- Analysis of using Tiptur Tall as a male parent in hybridization.

Pitapally

- Study on infection of red palm weevil on Coconut.
- Study on Perennial intercrops in Coconut.
- Studies on water management in Coconut.

- Studies on improvement of soil structure and microbial activities in the soil.
- Study on Red Palm Weevil and Black headed caterpillar management.
- Improvement of soil characteristics of red lateritic soil of Pitapally farm.

Agenda No.6- Milestones for 2012-13 & Discussion and Finalisation of PERT Chart

Dr. T.I.Mathewkutty, Deputy Director presented the major milestones for the year 2012-13., and the conduct of hybridization training, FOCT training, formation of CPS etc. A model project evaluation and review technique was also presented. Based on these each farm in charge proposed their PERT chart for seedling production. This was discussed in detail and approved. All the Farm Managers were mutually agreed to follow the PERT Pattern and achieve the assigned target. The finalized PERT Chart is given as Annexure II.

Concluding remarks of the Chairman

Chairman has given a brief presentation on the vision, missions and goals to be achieved by the DSP farm during 12th five year plan. He pointed out the ways to make India the world leader in coconut production and processing. All the farms have to take joint efforts to improve the productivity of palms so that the highest yielding palms will be there in each and every farm. The new planting is to be done in a manner that 25% dwarf, 25% hybrid and 50% tall should form the final ratio of the population. The farms are to be the grooming centre for technical Man power/skilled labour/nursery for Coconut. Communication and presentations skills of farm managers need to be improved so as to take up the emerging opportunities across the globe in Coconut sector. Every month all the farms need to publish articles in the journal. More emphasis should be given to farm level research and hybridization programme so that varieties in the name of Board can be released. All the farms have to conduct training programmes for farmers, FoCT and Hybridization certificate course on regular basis. The new concept of evolving satellite farmers in a radius 30 KMs around the farm is to be practiced.

The meeting was concluded at 21.00 hrs with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Kochi-11
07.08.2012

Chief Coconut Development Officer

Annexure I

List of participants

1. Shri. T. K. Jose IAS, Chairman
2. Shri. Sugata Ghose, Chief Coconut Development Officer
3. Dr. K. Muralidharan, Director
4. Dr. Anup Kumar Nandi, Secretary
5. Dr. T. I. Mathewkutty, Deputy Director
6. Dr. Remany Gopalakrishnan, Deputy Director
7. Shri. Rejeev P George, Deputy Director
8. Shri. R Madhu, Audit Officer
9. Shri. Sabareenathan, Finance Officer
10. Smt. Mini Mathew, Publicity Officer
11. Shri. Khokhan Debnath, Assistant Director
12. Shri. E. Aravazhi, Assistant Director
13. Dr. Shyamlal, Assistant Director
14. Shri. Sardar Singh Choyal, Assistant Director
15. Shri.R.S. Sengar, Assistant Director
16. Dr. M. K.Singh, Farm Manager
17. Shri. I. C. Kattiyar, Farm Manager
18. Shri.B Chinnaraj, Sr. Technical Officer
19. Kum. Deepthi R, Technical Officer
20. Shri. Babu N Sreenilayam, Office Assistant

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm Nursery - Mandya														
Activities	12-Jul	12-Aug	12-Sep	12-Oct	12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement 4.8 Laks)	120000	60000	150000	150000										
Completion of Sowing														
Germination														
Certification														
Procurement of 4.8 lakh seednuts will be completed by october 2012														
Completion of 4.8 lakh seed nuts will be sown in Mandya by November 2012														
Recording of germination of seednuts will be completed by April 2013														
Certification of 2.4 lakh seedling will be ready by 31.08.2013														

Subject to availability of water in KRS and favourable monsoon

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm - Abhayapuri													
Activities	12-Aug	12-Sep	12-Oct	10th Nov 2012	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement (4.0 Laks)	50000	150000	200000	Own source sowing round the year followed									
Completion of Sowing	Yellow bar												
Germination			Dark green bar				Dark green bar						
Certification								Red bar		Red bar			
Procurement of 4.0 lakh seednuts will be completed by November 2012													
Completion of 4 lakh seed nuts will be sown in Abhayapuri by December 2012													
Recording of germination of seednuts will be completed by May 2013													
Certification of 2.4 lakh seedling will be ready by 31.08.2013													

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm - Madhepura													
Activities	12-Aug	12-Sep	10th Oct 2012	12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement (2.0 Laks)	50000	150000											
Completion of Sowing													
Germination													
Certification													
Procurement of 2.0 lakh seednuts will be completed by September 2012													
Completion of 2 lakh seed nuts will be sown in Madhepura by 10th October 2012													
Recording of germination of seednuts will be completed by April 2013													
Certification of 1.2 lakh seedling will be ready by 31.08.2013													

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm - Vegiwada													
Activities	12-Aug	12-Sep	12-Oct	12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement (2.5 Laks)	50000(Own)	70000(Out)+30000 (own)	100000(out)		Own source sowing round the year followed								
Completion of Sowing	10.11.12												
Germination													
Certification													
Procurement of 2.5 lakh seednuts will be completed by October 2012													
Completion of 2.5 lakh seed nuts shall be sown in Vegiwada by October 2012													
Recording of germination of seednuts shall be completed by April 2013													
Certification of 1.5 lakh seedling shall be ready by 31.08.2013													

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm - Pitapally													
Activities	12-Aug	12-Sep	12-Oct	12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement (2.0 Laks)	100000	150000	150000										
Completion of Sowing	Yellow			Yellow									
Germination			Dark Green	Dark Green	Dark Green	Dark Green	Dark Green	Dark Green					
Certification								Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	
Procurement of 4.0 lakh seednuts will be completed by october 2012													
Completion of 4 lakh seed nuts will be sown in pitapally by10th November 2012													
Recording of germination of seednuts will be completed by March 2013													
Certification of 2.4 lakh seedling will be ready by 31.07.2013													

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm - Kondagaon													
Activities	12-Aug	12-Sep	12-Oct	12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement (2.0 Laks)	50000	50000	100000										
Completion of Sowing				10.11.12									
Germination													
Certification													
Procurement of 2.0 lakh seednuts will be completed by october 2012													
Completion of 2 lakh seed nuts will be sown in Kondagon by 10th November 2012													
Recording of germination of seednuts will be completed by April 2013													
Certification of 1.2lakh seedling will be ready by 31.07.2013													

APPROVED PERT CHART-DSP Farm Nursery - Neriamangalam													
Activities	12-Aug	12-Sep	12-Oct	12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan	13-Feb	13-Mar	13-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug
Procurement (2.04 Laks)	50000	54000	100000										
Completion of Sowing				10.11.12									
Germination													
Certification													
Procurement of 2.04 lakh seednuts will be completed by october 2012													
Completion of 2.04 lakh seed nuts will be sown in Nerimangalam by 10thNovember 2012													
Recording of germination of seednuts will be completed by March 2013													
Certification of 1.2lakh seedling will be ready by 31.07.2013													

Farm Review Meeting of DSP Farms of the Board held on 30th and 31st July 2012



Officers participated in the Farm Review Meeting of seven DSP Farms of the Board held at CDB HQ, Kochi on 30th and 31st July 2012. A production target of 1.3 million coconut seedling is fixed for the year 2012-13, which includes 25% dwarf varieties.



Farm Managers: (first row LtoR) Shri.K. Debnath, DSP Farm, Pitapally, Orissa, Shri.Sardar Singh Choyal, DSP Farm, Neriamangalam, Kerala, Shri.R.S. Sengar, DSP Farm, Kondagaon, Chhatisgarh, Shri.Ishwar Chandra, DSP Farm, Abhayapuri, Assam, (Second row LtoR) Shri.M.K. Singh, DSP Farm, Mandya, Karnataka, Dr.Shyamlal, DSP Farm, Madhepura, Bihar and Shri.E.Arvezhi, DSP Farm, Vegiwada, Andhra Pradesh.