A Workshop-cum-Training on Plant Health Management in Coconut was organised at ICAR – Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod on 14th May 2019.

The programme was conducted with the objective of creating awareness about the status of pest and disease incidence in coconut and crop loss incurred thereof and to enhance knowledge about the integrated pest and disease management strategies recommended to manage the pests and diseases of coconut to avoid crop loss and for creating awareness about the prophylactic plant protection measures in coconut to be adopted before the onset of south west monsoon.

Selected farmers from all gramapanchayats of Kasaragod district and extension personnel of Department of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare participated in the workshop-cum-training.

Mrs. Tizamma Thomas, Principal Agricultural Officer, Kasaragod inaugurated the programme and Dr. K.B. Hebbar, Director-in-charge CPCRI, presided over the inaugural function.

In the inaugural function, Mr. A.A. Jaleel, President, Mogral-Puthur grama panchayat released the publication on ‘Incidence and intensity of pests and diseases of coconut in North Kerala, and offered felicitations.

Mrs. Stella Jacob, Project Director, Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Kasaragod also addressed the gathering in the inaugural function.

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Dr. Leena, S., Chief Technical Officer, Krishi Vigyan Kendra and Mrs. Tizamma Thomas, Principal Agricultural Officer, Kasaragod who are superannuating from the service by the end of May 2019 were felicitated in the inaugural function.

Dr. C. Thamban, Principal Scientist, CPCRI spoke on ‘Status of pest and disease incidence in coconut in northern Kerala and crop loss incurred’ and Dr. P.S. Prathibha, Scientist, CPCRI spoke on ‘Integrated pest and disease management in coconut-prophylactic measures at the onset of monsoon’.

After the presentations, group discussion on ‘Strategies for scaling up the adoption of recommended technologies by coconut growers through appropriate interventions of State Dept. of Agriculture/ATMA/Local Self Governments’ was held. Mrs. Sajanimol, Mrs. Sushama, Mr. Krishnadas, Mr. Umesh, Deputy Directors of Department of Agriculture and farmers participated in the group discussion.

Dr. C. Thamban, Principal Scientist, welcomed the gathering and Dr. K.P. Chandran, Principal Scientist, proposed vote of thanks.