A mega Krishi Mela and Horti Fair was conducted at ICAR-CPCRI Research Centre, Kidu during 12-13 October 2019. Krishi Mela was inaugurated by Shri S.R. Satishchandra, President, Central Areca Nut and Cocoa Marketing and Processing Cooperative Ltd. (CAMPCO). In his inaugural address, he hailed the services of the Research Centre, Kidu for the betterment of farming community and appreciated various skill development programmes conducted at CPCRI in association with CAMPCO. He also mentioned about how CAMPCO is helping the farmers to realize better price for arecanut and cocoa.

Shri. Nithyananda Mundoodi, President, Committee of Management, Kukke Shree Subramanya Temple inaugurated the Horti Fair. Shri. Radhakrishna Borker, President, Taluk Panchayath, Puttur released handouts on pest and disease management of coconut, arecanut and cocoa.

Dr. Anitha Karun, Acting Director, ICAR-CPCRI presided over the function. Smt. Sharada Dinesh Gowda, President, Grama Panchayath, Bilinele; Shri. P.P. Varghese; Member, Zilla Panchayath, Kadaba, Shri. Satish Kalige, Ward Member, Bilinele, and Shri. Bhanu Prakash, Project Director, ATMA and Deputy Director of Agriculture, Mangalore, offered felicitations. Dr. Ravi Bhat, Head, Crop Production welcomed the gathering and Dr. K. Samsudeen proposed vote of thanks.

Shri. Nalin Kumar Kateel, Hon’ble Member of Parliament, Dakshina Kannada and Shri. Angara S, MLA, Sullia visited the Krishi Mela and Horti Fair on 13th October 2019 and addressed the farmers. An interface programme on soil and water conservation organized in collaboration with ATMA, Mangalore, a seminar-cum training programme on Crop Production Technologies in Areca nut sponsored by Directorate of Areca nut and Spices Development, Kozhikode, seminar-cum training programme on Crop Production Technologies in Cocoa sponsored by Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development, Kochi, a Workshop on Honey bee farming sponsored by Department of Horticulture, Government of Karnataka, training on Arecanut and Coconut based Cropping System & Management of pests and diseases sponsored by Directorate of Areca nut and Spices Development, Kozhikode at Kidu, Belthangady, Vittal, Quiz and Essay writing competition for farmers and Horti-Fair/ exhibition sponsored by DCCD, Coconut Development Board and CAMPCO, with participation of over 80 agencies. were also conducted alongside with the Krishi Fair.

Sri Kalbavi Rajendra Rao, Project Director, DK Nirmithi Kendra, Suratkal, Dr. Vijayakumar, Assistant Scientist, AICRP on Honey Bees and Pollinators, UAS, GKV Bangalore, Mr. Mohan, Asst. Manager Rural Development, Syndicate Bank, Guttigar, along with scientists from ICAR-CPCRI viz., Dr. Ravi Bhat, Dr. Vinayaka Hegde, Dr. A. C. Mathew, Dr. Elain Apshara, Dr. NR Nagaraja, Dr. Rajkumar, Dr P Subramanian, Dr V Niral, Dr K Samsudeen, Dr Ganesh Khadke and Dr VH Pratibha were the resource persons for the interface/training programmes.

Memento and certificate for the winners of the essay writing and quiz competitions were distributed by Shri. Vidyaprasanna Teertha Swamiji, Kukke Subrahmanya Matha in the valedictory function which was presided over by Dr. Anitha Karun, Acting Director. Dr. V. Niral offered welcome address and Dr. Ganesh Khadke proposed vote of thanks.