



NEWSLETTER



ICAR-CENTRAL ISLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Vol : XVI

April - June, 2024



हर कदम, हर उगर
किसानों का हमसफर
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

AgriSearch with a human touch

From the Director's Desk

In Andaman and Nicobar, majority of the cultivated area is under low input agriculture. The major crops grown are coconut, arecanut, spices, rice and vegetables. As the agricultural production is far below the requirement, majority of the food grains, vegetables and fruits are transported from mainland India. The timely availability of agricultural inputs is the major concern that affects the agricultural production. Under such circumstances alternative farming like Natural Farming will play a major role in sustaining the island agriculture and livelihood security of the farmers. Natural farming is centred on the principle of utilizing locally available components, eliminating the need for external inputs. Natural Farming has the potential to significantly reduce production cost as it uses *Beejamrit*, *Jeevamrit*, *Mulching* and *Whapasa* which costs very less and are locally available. Improving the soil health is one of the major objectives of Natural Farming by promoting the activities of beneficial microorganisms in soil. Crop residue mulching replenishes soil fertility besides retaining soil moisture, reducing evaporation and soil erosion. As the soil fertility is low in coconut plantation, integration of livestock (desi cow), spices (black pepper, cinnamon, clove and nutmeg), legume fodder and green manure crops (sunn hemp, and glyricidia) along with Natural Farming practices can play a significant role in increasing soil productivity and farm income. It can also be practiced in rice-vegetable cropping system to reduce cost of cultivation under island condition.



Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar

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RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

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Research Highlights

Studies in *Centratherum anthelminticum*

Ajit Arun Waman

Aranya jeeraka is a medicinally important species valued in Ayurveda for treating various ailments. In order to promote its cultivation for meeting the demand, standardization of agro-techniques is desirable. Seeds from three collections, two from Kerala and one from Gujarat, were collected and authenticated. Seed morphological studies suggested variations in the seed length (4.18 to 5.03 mm), seed width

(1.06 to 1.34 mm) and 100-seeds weight (0.4104 to 0.5155 g) among the collections. To improve seed germination in this species, 12 treatments were compared with untreated control and the analysis of results suggested superiority of 500 ppm GA₃ to improve the germination to 46.33% with highest seedling vigour index.

Biochemical analysis of true cinnamon

Ajit Arun Waman and Pooja Bohra

Coumarin is a undesirable chemical constituent present in various *Cinnamomum* species at varied concentrations. In general, the quantity is much lesser in true cinnamon than cassia. In order to know the variability of coumarin content,

study was conducted in the identified 24 collections of cinnamon along with a check variety- Konkan Tej. Results suggested that all the tested samples had coumarin levels within the permissible limits.

Studies in *Garcinia xanthochymus*

Pooja Bohra

Yellow mangosteen fruits were studied at four maturity stages viz. ripe orange, mature yellow, more yellow than green and more green than yellow. With increase in maturity, the fruit weight increased up to 98.1 g with fruit length of 59.4 mm in ripe orange stage. With a

few exceptions, each fruit had single seed embedded in the pulp. Variability was noticed for morphological and biochemical parameters of fruits and seeds among these stages.

Phytoconstituents of Noni (*Morinda citrifolia*) wood extracts

I. Jaisankar

The methanol extracts of Noni wood were subjected to gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS). The obtained spectra were analyzed, which revealed presence of 18 classes of phytoconstituents. The compound's name, molecular weight, formula and structure were extracted from NIST and PubMed. Out of these, two compounds namely 2-Nitrohept-2-en-1-ol and α -n-Propylether of 11-epi-dihydroartemisinin were detected for the first

time. The highest probability found in components such as 4H-Pyran-4-one,2,3-dihydro-3, 5-dihydroxy-6-methyl (86.5%), 4-((1E)-3-Hydroxy-1-propenyl)-2-methoxypheno (69.7%), trans-Sinapyl alcohol (48.8%), 2H-Pyran, tetrahydro-2-(12-pentadecyloxy) (39.1%) and n-Hexadecanoic acid (36.1%). Thus, methanol wood extract shows presence of phytochemicals which could have future applications in therapeutics.

Growth and Yield performance of *Pandanus amaryllifolius* Roxb.

I. Jaisankar

P. amaryllifolius collected from three geographical locations in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands were evaluated for growth, yield, and chemical composition under the Andaman Padauk (*Pterocarpus dalbergioides*) plantation system. Results showed that intercropping with Andaman Padauk significantly enhanced the growth parameters of *P. amaryllifolius*, including plant height

(65.11 cm vs. 54.67 cm in monocrop), number of leaves (63 vs. 58), and leaf length (80.53 cm vs. 65.67 cm). Among the accessions, Accession 3 (IC-0646223) exhibited the best performance with the highest plant height (67.17 cm), number of leaves (67.83), and leaf length (84.92 cm). Yield parameters such as total fresh leaf weight were also higher in the intercrop system (404.86 g/plant vs.



374.89 g/plant in monocrop). Chemical analysis revealed higher total chlorophyll content, water content (79.44% vs. 74.56%), and fiber content (3.62% vs. 3.45%) in the intercrop system. Micro-nutrient content, including zinc, manganese, magnesium, and iron, was also higher in the intercrop system. Accession 3 (IC-0646223) showed

superior quality in terms of leaf chemical composition and micro-nutrient content. Further, analysis involved gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC–MS) of methanolic extracts from the leaf samples of these accessions. The results unveiled presence of 30 bioactive compounds each in the accessions.

Planting material production and Support to UT Department of Agriculture

Ajit Arun Waman and Pooja Bohra

For meeting the requirement of the island stakeholders, quality planting material of various fruits (1,743 nos.) and spices (2,576 nos.) was produced. Further, in order to support the Department of Agriculture, Andaman and

Nicobar Islands to develop mother blocks of improved varieties, quality planting material of cinnamon, black pepper, woody pepper, clove, Andaman Kokum, tejpat etc. was provided.

Youth Migration in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, India: Causes, Impact & Policy Options

S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Y. Sharath, D. Karunakaran, Y. Ramakrishna, Y. Gladston, J.K. Varadan and E.B. Chakurkar

Andaman and Nicobar Islands (ANI) consist of three districts amongst which migration towards mainland is observed to be highest in South Andaman followed by Nicobar and North & Middle Andaman. In India and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, 25 and 29 per cent of youth have migrated during July 2020 - June 2021 respectively. The study found that 67% of youth attained secondary education, but less than 20% pursued higher education, indicating migration for studies or discontinuation. Improving local educational facilities and promoting online learning can address this. Half of the youth have agricultural backgrounds, with aspirations in agriculture (35.83%), medical (13.33%), management (12.50%), and industrial training (8.33%). Policies should focus on land consolidation, Farmer Producer Organizations, formalized contract farming, and climate-resilient practices to retain youth in agriculture. Additionally, 49.17% aspire to government jobs, necessitating better coaching for competitive exams. Entrepreneurship (27.40%) can be boosted through skill development programs. Influencing factors for migration include parents, relatives, and peers, highlighting the need to improve local living conditions.

Causes and impact of migration revolve around social, economical, political, environmental and demographic factors. Migration among youth residing in rural areas of Islands is greater unlike from the national perspective where migration phenomenon is predominant in urban areas. Both at national and island level, migration is found higher among males than females. Policies aimed at promoting education facilities specifically post-secondary level and development of coaching/guidance facilities in public private partnership mode (PPP) could manage migration due to lack of better education facilities in Islands. Creating a congenial competitive environment and instilling a spirit of hope among youths aspiring to get job in government sector will address migration problem due to lack of employment opportunities. To attract and retain youth in agriculture, imparting knowledge and skills to youth and incubation centre to promote agri-entrepreneurship is very important and policies may be initiated in this direction. A multidimensional approach from policy makers is need of the hour to address migration problem for generation next.

Schedule Tribe Component

Programme	Number	No of Beneficiaries (M+F=T)
Trainings	2	65
Demonstrations	8	38
Input distribution	7	527

Important Events Held

World Veterinary Day

In observance of World Veterinary Day, the Division of Animal Sciences, ICAR-CIARI, in collaboration with the DAHVS, A&N Administration, conducted an animal health camp at Ranganchang village, Boednabad Panchayat, on April 26, 2024. The theme of World Veterinary Day for this year is “Veterinarians are Essential Health Workers,” which highlights the critical role veterinarians play not only in animal health but also in preventing zoonotic diseases. The camp encompassed examination of animals for general health check-ups, fertility evaluations, pregnancy diagnosis, mass deworming, and vitamin and mineral supplementation. More than 100 animals, including cattle, goats, and poultry were attended to and provided with appropriate veterinary care. Mineral mixtures, vitamin tonics, and deworming medicines were given to all the farmers.



Plate 1. World Veterinary Day Celebration

Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, visits ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE, and DG, ICAR, visited ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, on May 5, 2024. He visited the Horticultural Plants Propagation Unit, World Coconut Germplasm Centre, Livestock Farm Complex, agro-ecotourism farm, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, South Andaman, and Marine Research Laboratory. During his visit to different research and farm units, he interacted with the scientists and technical staff and urged to do more innovative research work with significant outcomes for the benefit of the farming community of the islands. Dr. E.B.Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI gave overall presentation about the institute profile, achievements and development made by the institute. Staff of Regional Station, Minicoy KVK, Nimbudera and KVK, Nicobar also attended the interaction session. DG appreciated the institute research and technological development and interacted with all the staff members of the institute.

On the occasion, he felicitated Padmashree awardee farmer Smti. K. Chellamel and Shri. Chintaharan Biswas, a progressive farmer, whose mango has been registered as Chinta Mango by PPFVRA. He lauded the effort of the

institute in taking the technologies to the farmers field and motivating entrepreneurship development.

He inaugurated an ornamental fish breeding unit and an essential oil field distillation unit in the institute. Dr. V.B. Patel, ADG (F&PC), and Dr. Pradeep De, Director, ATARI, Kolkata, were also present on the occasion. Publications and a mobile app: NICMIS (Nicobar Coastal Management Information System) were also released by the hon'ble secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, on the occasion.



Plate 2. Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary of DARE and Director General of ICAR, visited ICAR-CIARI

Administrative -cum- Training Building inaugurated at KVK, Nimbudera

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, New Delhi, inaugurated the Administrative-cum-Training Building of KVK, Nimbudera on May 6, 2024 in the presence of Dr. V.B. Patel, Assistant Director General (Fruits & Plantation Crops), Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata and Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair. DG also visited progressive farmers' fields and the Karen community at Webi village and interacted with them.



Plate 3. Inauguration of Administrative-cum-Training building

Research Advisory Council meeting

The second meeting of the 10th Research Advisory Committee (RAC) at ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, chaired by Dr. Anil Kumar Singh on May 8, 2024, focused on reviewing divisional projects and action taken reports. Key discussions included strengthening the Minicoy Regional Station, impact analysis of technologies, and the Green Credit program. Specific recommendations



were made for the Divisions of Horticulture and Crop Improvement, Animal Sciences, Natural Resource Management, and Fisheries Science, emphasizing research initiatives, resource management, and commercialization of technologies.



Plate 4. Research Advisory Committee meeting

XVI Institute Research Council meeting

The XVI Institute Research Council of ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair, was held from May 10 to 13, 2024, under the chairmanship of Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair. All the scientists of the institute attended the meeting and presented the progress of ongoing projects. A total of 19 ongoing projects and 10 new institute-funded projects were discussed and reviewed during the meeting.



Plate 5. Institute Research Council meeting

ICAR-CIARI and TIFAC, DST conduct round table meeting on “Climate Resilient Technologies for Island Agriculture”

ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair, in collaboration with the Technology Innovation Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), DST, New Delhi, organized a Round Table Discussion on “Climate Resilient Agriculture Technologies for Islands” on May 15, 2024, at ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair. Prof. Pradeep Srivastava, Executive Director, TIFAC, was the Chief Guest, while Dr. Sammi Reddy, Director, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati and Dr. Gauranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF, were the Guests of Honour. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Gautam Goswamy, Scientist-G, TIFAC and Dr. Jai Sunder, Head, Division of Animal Science under the supervision of Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI. The meeting was attended by expert speakers from different parts of the country viz. Dr. R.N. Sahoo, Principal Scientist, IARI, New Delhi, Dr. Dayakar Rao,

Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, Dr. Senthil Kumar; Dr. T.H. Singh, Principal Scientists, ICAR-IIHR, Dr. Nayan Ahmad, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIHR; Dr. Swarnam T.P., Head, Organic Agriculture System, ICAR-IIFSR, Modipuram, Dr. Sethupathi N. and Dr. Helen Mary Rose from TIFAC. Representatives from the development department, BSI, and all scientists of ICAR-CIARI participated in the meeting.



Plate 6. Round table meeting on “Climate Resilient Technologies for Island Agriculture”

Mass Tree Planting on the Eve of World Environment Day

As a part of World Environment Day, ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair organized a mass planting of tree seedlings involving all staff members. A total of 750 tree seedlings, including species such as *Albizia lebbek*, Jackfruit, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Chakurmani*, and *Sesbania grandiflora*, were planted over an area of 7000 m² in the campus. All staff members actively participated in this green initiative, aimed at developing a sustainable year-round green fodder production model and restoring the degraded land available in the campus. Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, emphasized the importance of trees in reducing greenhouse gases and aiding in carbon sequestration. He urged staff and their families to plant at least one tree for future generations, supporting both livelihood and environmental sustainability. The program was coordinated by Dr. I. Jaisankar, Senior Scientist and Nodal Officer, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. KVK, Nicobar also celebrated world environment Day with distribution of more than 500 saplings including Andaman Padauk, guava, lemon, jamun, tamarind, bael, passion fruit and papaya.



Plate 7. Mass Tree Planting

10th International Yoga Day-2024

ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, along with its Regional Station in Minicoy, celebrated 10th International Yoga Day on June 21, 2024. Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director of ICAR-CIARI, highlighted the importance of yoga in daily life for maintaining health, prosperity and happiness. He further encouraged all participants and employees to practice yoga daily and consistently for a healthy life, emphasizing that yoga can enhance productivity by increasing efficiency without causing stress and anxiety. Shri. P.T. Mathew and Shri. Bikas Chandra Mondal, Yoga Demonstrators from Patanjali Yoga Centre in Prothrapur, Port Blair, demonstrated yoga to all participants. Shri. K. Shyam Sundar Rao, Nodal Officer (I/c) coordinated the program. Shri. Alex Praveen Barla, Yoga Facilitator, proposed a vote of thanks. ICAR-CIARI Regional Station, Minicoy, and AYUSH, Minicoy unit jointly celebrated International Yoga Day at Minicoy. Special lectures were delivered on topics such as 'Yoga & Health and its Significance in Daily Life,' followed by demonstrations of yogaasanas by the AYUSH team. A total of 16 staff members benefited from the program. The event was coordinated by Dr. Gladston Y. and Dr. Ajina S.M.



Plate 8. Celebration of International Yoga Day

ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair celebrates its 47th Foundation Day

The 47th Foundation Day of ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair, was commemorated on June 24, 2024. Dr. D.R. Singh, Vice Chancellor of Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bihar, delivered a Foundation Day lecture on the topic of "Next-Gen Agriculture: ICAR-CIARI's Strategic Priorities for Growth" through virtual mode. He congratulated all the staff of the institute for their achievements and for reaching new heights.

The Chief Guest, Dr. C. Sivaperuman, OIC of ZSI, Port Blair, A&N Island, praised the institute for its commitment to serving the islands, especially in areas such as breed registration, documentation, patents, and the development

of new strategies. Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, commended the dedication of the staff members and praised their hard work throughout the year in his address. Dr. Jai Sunder, Head, Division of Animal Science, ICAR-CIARI, presented the welcome address and highlighted the accomplishments of the institute. Dr. Pooja Bohra, Senior Scientist at ICAR-CIARI, coordinated the programme. Dr. P.K. Singh, Head, Division of Horticulture and Crop Improvement, delivered the vote of thanks. The staff members of ICAR-CIARI, as well as those from its Regional Station at Minicoy, Lakshadweep, KVK, North & Middle Andaman, KVK, Nicobar, and officials from other ICAR institutes, also joined the event virtually



Plate 9. Institute Foundation Day

World Ocean Day 2024

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nicobar observed World Ocean Day - 2024 in hybrid mode aiming to raise awareness and foster scientific knowledge on the importance of healthy oceans for sustaining life on earth under the theme "Awaken New Depths". A total of 39 farmers participated in the programme.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, highlighted threats such as ocean acidification, warming, and plastic pollution that endanger marine life and food security, underscoring the critical need to conserve oceans as emphasized in Sustainable Development Goal 14 for sustaining life on Earth. Dr. Santosh Kumar, Head, ICAR-KVK, Nicobar accentuated the significance and backdrop of the day. Cleaning activities were conducted near the coast and participants were provided with planting material.



Plate 10. Celebration of World Ocean Day 2024

Awards/ Honours/Recognitions

Name	Achievement/Recognition
47th Institute Foundation Day-2024	
Dr. Sharath S. Yeligar Dr. Abhilash Dr. Prabhu Dr. Harshang T. Dr. Chitranjan Raul	Appreciation Certificate for New Initiatives
Dr. Ajit Arun Waman Dr. Pooja Bohra	Appreciation Certificate for the Most Efficient Experimental Unit of the Institute to Horticultural Plants Propagation Unit for the year 2023
Dr. Gautam, R. K. <i>et al.</i> ,	Appreciation Certificate for Best Research Publication on Marker assisted enhancement of bacterial blight (<i>Xanthomonas oryzae pv. oryzae</i>) resistance in a salt-tolerant rice variety for sustaining rice production of tropical islands. <i>Frontiers in Plant Science</i> , 14 : 1221537
Dr. J. Praveenraj Dr. K. Sarvanan Dr. R. Kiruba Sankar	Appreciation Certificate for Commercialization of Technology on Dweep Larval Rearing Technology for Fancy Guppy Fish
Dr. Gladston Y. Dr. Ajina S. M. & Team	Appreciation Certificate for Best Experimental Field: Experimental Farm, Regional Station, Minicoy
Dr. K. Saravanan & Team	Appreciation Certificate for Best Working Laboratory: Molecular Biology Laboratory of Fisheries Science Division
Shri. Prakash Mondal Shri. Silbester Dung Dung	Appreciation Certificate for Best Administrative Section: Establishment Section
Dr. P. Perumal Dr. P. A. Bala Dr. Jai Sunder	Appreciation Certificate for New Initiative/Innovation: Modern Dairy Unit
Shri. D. Karunakaran Smti. Asma Bibi	Appreciation Certificate for Best Efficient Cell: Agricultural Knowledge Management Unit
Shri. T. A. Kumar Tirkey	Appreciation Certificate for Efficient Staff (Technical)
Shri. Kakesh Rao	Appreciation Certificate for Efficient Staff (Administrative)
Shri. Tapan Shit	Appreciation Certificate for Efficient Staff (Accounts)
Shri. R. Barman Shri. Prakash Kumar Shri. S. Thirupathi Rao	Appreciation Certificate for Efficient Staff (Field Worker)



Plate 11. Certificate of Appreciation on the Occasion of the 47th Institute Foundation Day - 2024

Trainings/ Meetings/Campaigns

Name of the training/ meeting/ campaign programme / field day	Venue	Date	Participants (M/F/T)	Organizing committee/ coordinators
Demonstrations on harvesting of coconut & arecanut using carbon fibre pole	Profulla Nagar	24/04/2024	20/3/23	Er. Manoj Kumar Dr. V. Damodaran
Farmer awareness programme on Weather based planning for farm and fish management during monsoon season	Shaheed Dweep Island	17/05/2024 to 18/05/2024	10/15/25	Dr. Abhilash
Training on Controlled breeding programme and artificial insemination in goat	Birdline	20/05/2024 to 24/05/2024	13/12/25	Dr. P. Perumal Dr. A. K. De Dr. Y. Ramakrishna Dr. T. Sujatha Dr. P. A. Bala Dr. K. Muniswamy Dr. R. R. Alyethodi Dr. Sharath S. Yeligar Dr. Jai Sunder Dr. D. Bhattacharya
Awareness training on Women friendly implements	Shantipur	22/05/2024	20/5/25	Er. Manoj Kumar Dr. V. Damodaran
Swachh Bharat Mission programme	Sippighat Research Farm	14/06/2024	114/29/143	Dr. Jai Sunder Dr. I. Jaisankar
PM flagship programme (PM- Kisan Samman)	KVK, South Andaman & Nimbudera	18/06/2024	76/8/84	Dr. Y. Ramakrishna Er. Manoj Kumar

Publications

Research Articles

Waman A.A., Bohra P. and Devi R.K. (2024). Biochemical studies in Woody Pepper (*Piper pendulispicum* C.DC.): A spice with edible stem from Andaman Islands, India. *Annals of Phytomedicine*, **13**(1): 1141-1148 (NAAS Rating: 8.70)

Andaman and Nicobar Islands held during March 21-22, 2024 at ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, pp. 1-78.

Folders

Damodaran V. and Manoj Kumar (2024). Package of practices for coconut (Extension folder- Bilingual) ICAR, KVK, Nimbudera, pp. 1-6.

Book edited

Pooja Bohra, Ajit Arun Waman and E.B. Chakurkar (2024). Compendium of lectures of the workshop on sustainable plant protection strategies for

Damodaran V. and Manoj Kumar (2024). Bush pepper (Extension folder- Bilingual) ICAR, KVK, Nimbudera, pp. 1-4.

Technology Demonstrations

Front line demonstration on okra var. Arka Nikitha

Front line demonstration of okra variety Nikitha was conducted at 4 different locations in Nicobar district. The

farmers were trained on all aspects of okra production techniques by adopting plant spacing of 45 cm × 30 cm with the seed rate of 2.5 kg/ha.

Front line demonstration of Dweep CARI Brinjal 1 and 2

Front line demonstration of Dweep CARI Brinjal 1 and 2 were conducted at Tamaloo, Tapoiming, Big Lapathy villages. The average area under each demonstration was 0.10 ha with 5 beneficiaries in each demonstration.



Plate 12. Front line demonstration on okra var. Arka Nikitha

The farmers were trained on various aspects of brinjal production technologies. All the recommended practices, i.e., seed treatment by *Trichoderma* @ 2g/kg seed, transplanting of one month old seedlings were adopted with spacing of 60 cm × 60 cm.



Plate 13. Demonstration of Dweep CARI Brinjal 1 and 2 varieties in Nicobar

IPRs/Commercialization of Technologies

“Chinta Mango” farmer's variety registered in PPVFRA , New Delhi

ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair facilitated Shri. Chintaharan Biswas, a progressive mango farmer having more than 100 mango trees from Shaheed Dweep, to register his variety with the name “Chinta Mango” with the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority (PPVFRA), New Delhi. This is the first mango variety from these islands to be registered in the PPVFRA. The certificate was handed over to Shri. Chintaharan Biswas by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Hon’ble Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR during his visit to ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.



Plate 15. ‘Chinta Mango’ variety registered in PPVFRA

Patent granted to ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair for an Acaricide Formulation

ICAR - Central Island Agricultural Research Institute has been granted a patent for an invention entitled an “Acaricide Formulation for the control of ticks in farm animals” on June 10, 2024. The invention involves preparation of a unique acaricide formulation for the control of ticks in farm animals. The main advantage of the formulation is that only one single active chemical ingredient in minute concentrations has been used, which is eco-friendly. The preparation has larvicidal and adulticide properties in animals, do not pick up infection up to 180 days post treatment even after exposure to infective stage and egg hatchability of adult female engorged tick was 0%. This invention was developed by a team of Scientists comprising of Dr. T. Sujatha, Dr. D. Bhattacharya, Dr. Arun Kumar De, Dr. P. Perumal, Dr. Jai Sunder and Dr. E.B. Chakurkar.

Women empowerment activities/trainings

S.No.	Name of activities/Trainings	Total participants	Women participants
1	World Environment Day	50	19
2	World Ocean Day	39	11
3	17 th Kisan Samman Nidhi	30	6
4	Capacity building programme under TSP sponsored by ICAR- IIHR, Bangalore	33	21

Participation in seminars/ symposia/ conferences/ workshop

Name	Programme	Details
Dr. I. Jaisankar	24 th Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Tuber Crops	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat
	QRT meeting of the ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi	Presented the AICRP-AF report on April 11, 2024
	Quality Planting Material Production Project review meeting	ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi on April 17, 2024
Dr. Ajit Arun Waman	Annual Review Meeting of CSS-MIDH (NHM) Project	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Shalimar, Srinagar during June 9-10, 2024
Dr. T. Sujatha	Annual Review Meeting of poultry seed project	ICAR-Research Complex for NEH Region, Nagaland during May 2-3, 2024
Dr. A.K. De	Annual Review Meeting of AICRP on pig	ICAR-National Research Centre on Pig, Guwahati, Assam, during April 25-26, 2024
Dr. Jai Sunder	Annul Review Meeting of Foot and Mouth Disease	ICAR-National Institute on Foot & Mouth Disease, Bhubaneswar during June 18-19, 2024
Dr Jai Sunder Dr. K. Saravanan	Launching workshop of All India Network Project on Antimicrobial Resistance in Animal and Fisheries	National Agricultural Science Complex, New Delhi, on May 22, 2024

Distinguished Visitors

- Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. V.B. Patel, Assistant Director General (Fruits & Plantation Crops), ICAR, New Delhi and Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata visited ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair and ICAR-KVK, South Andaman on May 5, 2024 and ICAR- KVK, North & Middle Andaman on May 6, 2024.
- Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair & Nodal Officer Minicoy, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair visit at Regional Station, ICAR-CIARI, Minicoy, Lakshadweep
- Dr. Naveen Patle, ADC (Hort.) and Shri. Manoj, K., Under Secretary (Project), MIDH, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GoI officials visited Horticultural Plants Propagation Unit and Garcinia block of the Institute on May 21, 2024.



Plate 16. Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, along with Dr. V.B. Patel (Fruits & Plantation Crops), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata visits ICAR-KVK, North & Middle Andaman.



Plate 17. Director, ICAR-CIARI visits Regional Station, Minicoy

New projects/ initiatives & Infrastructure development

- Administrative-cum-Training Building of ICAR-KVK, Nimbudera inaugurated on May 6, 2024.
- An area of 7000 m² was developed as a sustainable fodder production model at Garacharma Farm.
- An agrotourism unit having 24 glass aquaria for displaying 12 species of endemic fish and 12 species of exotic species was inaugurated at ICAR-CIARI, Garacharma by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR on 05 May, 2024.

Personnel

Appointment

- Shri. Kanishk Bhukar, Administrative Officer joined on April 22, 2024.
- Shri. G. Prasanth, Finance and Accounts Officer joined on April 22, 2024.
- Shri. Abhishek Kumar (T-1) joined on April 25, 2024.
- Smti. Savita Kumari (T-1) joined on April 29, 2024.
- Shri. Ujjwal Kumar (T-1) joined on 30 April, 2024.
- Shri. Brajesh Kumar (T-1) joined on 30 April, 2024.
- Miss. Shivani Kumari (T-1) joined on 01 May, 2024.
- Shri. Hritik Raushan (T-1) joined on 03 May, 2024.
- Shri. Akshay, SMS (Fruit Science) joined on 14 June,

2024.

- Smti. Teena, STO (T-6) joined on June 25, 2024.
- Shri. Mohit, SMS (Plant Pathology) joined on June 26, 2024.

Promotion

- Shri. Ramen Barman, SSS to T1 joined on 18 April, 2024.

Superannuation

- Shri. A. Babu Swamy, TO on May 31, 2024.
- Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Pr. Scientist on June 30, 2024.



Published by	:	Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director
Compiled & Edited by	:	Dr. Jai Sunder, Shri. D. Karunakaran and Dr. Ajit Arun Waman
Typesetting & Designing	:	Mrs. Asma Bibi and Mrs. Nazneen Khan
Photographs	:	Mr. K. Ali Akbar
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