

## Agriculture Exhibition - 2019

Agriculture Exhibition of the Provincial Department of Agriculture for 2019 was conducted from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of September ( 5days) at District Agriculture Training Centre, Thirunelvely on the theme of "**Towards Climate Smart Sustainable Toxic Free Food Production**". About 100 stalls were established in the Exhibition in collaboration with other Agriculture Sector related Departments, Cooperation, Entrepreneurs, Banks, Private Companies, Nurserymen, Department of Zoology & Home Science of University of Jaffna. Information related to agricultural technology were exhibited and sufficient explanations were also provided to the farmers, farm women, students, teachers, officers and the people who are interested in the field of agriculture.

Inauguration of Agricultural Exhibition 2019 was presided by the Provincial Director of Agriculture, NP Mr.S.Sivakumar. The Exhibition was ceremonially declared open by the Governor for the Northern Province Honorable Dr.Suren Rāghavan with the participation of the farmers who presented during that time.

The Agricultural Exhibition 2019 was organized by the team under the leadership of Deputy Provincial Director of Agriculture, Jaffna Mrs.Anchanadevi Srirangan,. On the inauguration Chairman, of the Cashew Corporation Mr.Dhansiri Bandara Karunaratne, , Secretary to the Governor of Northern Province Mr. S. Sathiyaseelan, Secretary to the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture Mr. K. Theivendram, Secretary to the Provincial Ministry of Education

Mr. I. Ilaangovan, Secretary to the Assembly Secretariat of Northern Provincial Council Mrs.Rubini Varathalingam, Government Agent of Jaffna district Mr.N.Vethanayagan, , Deputy Chief Secretary (Engineering) Eng. S. Shanmuhananthan, Deputy Chief Secretary, Personnel & Training Mrs.A. Stanley De mel, Provincial Director of Irrigation Eng. V. Premakumar, Assistant Commissioner of Agrarian Development of Jaffna District Mr. R. Nisanthan, , District Director of Agriculture of Jaffna District Mrs. K. Sasipirapa, Principal for School of Agriculture Paranthan Mrs.S.Suganthi, Officer in Charge, to the Agricultural Research Station Thirunelvely Dr.T.Karunainathan , Deputy Director, Seeds and Planting Materials Development Centre Vavuniya Mr.T.Yokeswaran and Chairman, Nallur Piradashiya Saba Mr.M.Thiyakamoorthy were notable guests in the inauguration. Farmers, School Students, Teachers and Staff of various institutions also participated therein.

After the exhibition was declared open, Sales Centre for selling the agricultural products produced by the farmers who received the Certificates for adopting Good Agriculture Practices was declared Open by the Honorable Governor, NP. It was established in the Exhibition Complex. In addition to that, Certificates were distributed among 06 farmers by the Honorable Governor, NP. Who are adopting Good Agriculture practices in their cultivation.

In the Agricultural Exhibition, production technologies in the Cultivation of Local Vegetables , Up Country Vegetables, OFC like Onion, Chilli, Cereals, Pulses , Tuber Crops, Fruit Crops, Plant Propagation , Cultivation of Fruit Crops under Coconut Plantation, Pineapple Cultivation

under Mango, Fodder cultivation under Coconut, Cultivation of Aloveera, Alley Cropping System, Cultivation of Chilly and Bitter gourd with insect proof net, Management of Farm Machineries, Organic Farming, Urban home garden, Kitchen Home Garden, Office Garden, Floriculture, Mushroom Cultivation and Bee Keeping protection were exhibited and demonstrated with appropriate explanations to the participants.

Research Divisions of Central Department of Agriculture such as Regional Agriculture Research and Development Centre Kilinochchi, Rice Research Station, Paranthan and Agriculture Research Station, Thirunelvely also participated in the Exhibition and presented their research findings.

Seed Laboratory of Seed Certification Service Centre, Kilinochchi and Seeds Certification Service Centre, Jaffna had jointly participated in the exhibition and demonstrated their services to the participants.

Farm Broadcasting Service Northern Unit sold the Agricultural publications to the participants and Seeds and Planting Material Development Centre, Paranthan sold seeds and planting materials to the participants.

National Institute of Post-Harvest Management Institute exhibited Good Practices for Agriculture produce after the harvest and displayed their services to create the awareness among the participants.

Department of Animal Production and Health exhibited the appropriate Technologies in Cattle, Goat and Poultry Farming. In addition, Veterinary Clinic was conducted by Veterinary Hospital, Nallur in order to propose the suitable solution to face the challenges on cattle rearing and they engaged in sales of drugs. Yarl Co also engaged on sales of milk products.

Department of Agrarian Development exhibited the electronic method of Registration of Paddy Lands and issuing Identity cards to farmers. Further, they exhibited soil and water testing methods and utilization of Solar Powered water Pump. Traditional agriculture implements were also exhibited and their usages were also explained to the participants. They conducted the Quiz Competition distributed prizes to the winners with the sponsorship of Bank of Ceylon, Chunnakam. In addition, the activities implemented by the Department of Agrarian were also presented to the participants.

Department of Irrigation exhibited the Valukkaiyaru Scheme Model and Thondamanaru Drinking Water Scheme and explained to the participants. Further, they explained on Ground Water Usage & Management and special features of lift irrigation.

Department of Meteorology exhibited the meteorological instruments and explained to the participants on methods of measuring the climatic factors. Further, they explained the details of services rendered by them.

Different kinds of medicinal plants used in indigenous medicine sector were planted and have been maintained by the Department of Indigenous Medicine. The special characters and uses of 28 herbals were exhibited. Herbal drinks like illaikanchi, Nannary drink, Alovera drink were distributed to participants at free of charge. The staff explained the nutritional values of herbals. Mobile clinic was also conducted to demonstrate its services.

Coconut Cultivation Board exhibited their services and demonstrated planting methods of coconut seedlings. Palmyrah Development Board also exhibited their services providing to the people and they exhibited various kinds of Palmyrah products and traditional palmyrah based foods.

Sri Lanka Cashew Corporation explained the techniques on planting Cashew plants and traditional as well as mechanical method on decortications.

Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board explained the way of doing insurance for crops and the benefits of the insurance.

Jaffna Peninsula Seed Production Co-operative Society, Banana Producers and Sales Co-operative Society, Neervely and Integrated Farmer's Society, Mullaitivu exhibited their products and engaged in sales activities.

Arecanut Producers Society, Vavuniya exhibited their products produced from various parts of area nut trees. Sri Lanka Export Development Board conducted awareness program with the objective of developing 2,000 Exporters in 2020. In addition, JACHUFI Fruit Based Industry, Tholakaddy and Sathustha Fruit Juice Production Institute were engaged in sales of their products.

National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka exhibited the methods on Fresh Water Fish rearing and Coastal Fisheries Development and activities undertaken by them to promote the consumption of Fresh Water fishes and Coastal fishes.

Department of Zoology exhibited and explained the importance of biodiversity through food chain with live samples. Department of Home Economics established a stall to promote the consumption of traditional foods. They exhibited different food items produced from Kurakkan, Samai, Thinai, Varagu and Cambu and explained the processing methods of such cereals.

Jaffna Mushroom Producers Society, Bee Keepers' Society, Organic Vegetables Producers Society and Aloveera Producers Society registered under Department of Agriculture exhibited their activities and sold their products.

Farm Women Societies and Private Entrepreneurs exhibited their value added products and engaged in sales activities. They have give the feedback that awareness and employment opportunities were created to the women through this Agricultural Exhibition.

Seer Bio (Pvt) Ltd, Thirunavukkarasu Memorial Farm and Green Visvalanka exhibited inputs for toxic less agriculture and its production methods. They also engaged in sales activities.

Jaffna Siddha Medicine Productions & Sales Services Cooperative Society exhibited the Lehiyam & Aurvedic Medicines and various kinds of oils and explained about traditional treatment methods. They also the engaged on sales of medicines produced with the approval of the Department of Indigenous Medicine.

Agriculture Sector Modernization Project exhibited their plans and gave appropriate explanation to the participants. Prammasakthi Industries, Nutri Food Packers, Punkkuduthivu Food Production and Sales Centre exhibited their products & engaged in sales activities.

National Development Bank, Cargills Bank, Bank of Ceylon & People's Bank had also participated & exhibited their services being provided to the farmers for modernizing the sector of agriculture. Private companies like Jinasena (Pvt) Ltd, Citigardens, Piyadasa & Sons ,Hayleys Agriculture, Everpure Hi – Tec (Pvt) Ltd. North Lanka (Pvt) Ltd & Cargills established the stalls and exhibited their products such as Agriculture Machineries, Micro Irrigation Systems, Sprayers etc and engaged in sales activities.

Private Nurserymen like Pavisaru, Poongani Cholay, V.Garden, Nithy & Karis Garden exhibited their fruit, trees and flower plants and engaged in sales of plants and seedlings.

17,254 School Students & Teachers from 320 schools and 51354 Farmers, Officers and general public participated in the exhibition and gained new appropriate environmentally friendly knowledge and skills in the field of agriculture.