

Agriculture:

Agriculture continues to be the most predominant sector of the State economy, around 60 percent of the population is engaged in Agriculture and allied activities for their livelihood. The State has as an area of 130.33 Lakh ha.. with a gross cropped area of around 59.42 lakh ha.. The Government policy and objectives have been to ensure stability in agricultural production and to increase the agricultural production in a sustainable manner to meet the food requirement of growing population and also to meet the raw material needs of agro based industries, thereby providing employment opportunities to the rural population.

Tamil Nadu has all along been one of the states with a creditable performance in agricultural production with the farmers relatively more responsive and receptive to changing technologies and market forces.

The Agriculture Department has taken up the challenge to achieve higher growth rate in agriculture by implementing several development schemes and also propagation of relevant technologies to step up the production. Intensive Integrated farming system, massive Wasteland Development Programme, comprehensive watershed development activities, water management through Micro irrigation systems, Organic farming, Soil health improvement through Bio-fertiliser including Green Manuring, adoption of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) technologies are given priority through various programmes, besides crop diversification to fetch better return and value addition to agricultural produce are also given priority to improve the economic status of the farming community.

Department of Agriculture Marketing & Agri Business:

Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business Department act as nerve centre from where marketing impulse are transmitted to put all the marketing interventions on track to safeguard the interest of both farmers and consumers. The Department is focusing and taking concerted efforts to ensure remunerative price to the farmers by creating infrastructure facilities for marketing and post-harvest management. To improve farmers' income recently more thrust are given for promotion of Farmer Producer Organization (FPO), implementation of Supply Chain Management for Perishable Commodities and creation of e-trading facilities

வேளாண்மைப் பொறியியல் துறை

நிலம் சீர்திருத்தத்தில் தொடங்கி விதைப்பு, பயிர் பாதுகாப்பு, அறுவடை மற்றும் அறுவடைக்குப்பின் மதிப்புக் கூட்டுதல் போன்ற பல்வேறு வேளாண் பணிகளை மேற்கொள்ள, வேளாண்மைக்கு தொழிலாளர்கள் அரிதாகிவிட்ட இன்றைய சூழலில் கால விரயமின்றி குறித்த நேரத்தில் மேற்கொள்ள ஏதுவாக, வேளாண் இயந்திரமயமாக்கலை விவசாயிகளிடையே கொண்டு சேர்ப்பதில் இன்றியமையாததாக வேளாண்மைப் பொறியியல் துறை விளங்குகிறது.

விவசாயத்திற்கு பெருகி வரும் நீரின் தேவையினை, குறைந்து வரும் நீர் ஆதாரங்களைக் கொண்டு சிறப்பான நீர்வள பாதுகாப்பு, நீர் மேலாண்மை உத்திகளைக் நீங்காத கையாண்டு, விவசாயிகளிடம் இடம் பெற்றுள்ளது வேளாண்மைப் பொறியியல் துறை. மண் வளத்தினை பாதுகாத்திடவும், புதிய பாசன ஆதாரங்களை உருவாக்கிடவும், பாசன நீரினை இறைத்திட புதுப்பிக்கத்தக்க ஆற்றலுக்கான தொழில் நுட்பங்களை புகுத்திடவும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு துணைபுரிகிறது வேளாண்மைப் பொறியியல் துறை.

விளைவித்த வேளாண் விளைபொருட்கள் உரிய விலையின்றி வீணாவதை தடுத்து, விவசாயிகள் மதிப்புக் கூட்டி, இலாபம் ஈட்ட, முக்கிய பங்காற்றுகிறது வேளாண்மைப் பொறியியல் துறை.

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE

HISTORY OF DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND PLANTATION CROPS

Birth of Horticulture Department

Initially all Horticulture schemes were implemented by a separate Horticulture wing in the Agriculture Department. This wing was headed by a Joint Director of Horticulture (Commercial crops) at the Directorate of Agriculture in Madras.

Recognizing the vast scope for development of Horticulture in the state, a New Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops was created on September 26, 1979 with headquarters at Dharmapuri and was headed by a senior officer of the department. The Directorate was shifted to Chennai, LLA Building on Anna Salai in 1992. The Government of Tamil Nadu converted the post of Director of Horticulture and Plantation Crops into a cadre post for the I.A.S and since 1992, I.A.S officers have been posted to head the department.

The Department finds a home

In 1979 when the Department was formed, the area under Horticulture crops was 6.60 Lakh Ha and production was 24.33 lakh MT. Today, the area under Horticulture crops has increased to 13.76 Lakh Ha and production touch 186.68 lakh MT (2017-18-Final advance estimate). The Department integrated all the area-specific and crop-specific various scheme and thrust areas were identified and technical staff were positioned in all the Districts at Block level as a "Unit" comprising of Assistant Director of Horticulture (ADH), one Horticulture Officer (HO) and Four field functionaries, viz. Assistant Horticulture Officer (AHO).

Horticulture strengthened its root

The Directorate of Horticulture was shifted to the newly constructed Agriculture Complex Building at Chepauk in 1997. As time passed by Horticulture the area under Horticulture crops increased and need was felt to implement the schemes in a mission mode. The state Government set up a mission for the development of Horticulture in the state in 2003. The mandate of the mission was to give impetus to production, processing, value addition and marketing of vegetables, fruits, flowers and medicinal plants. The mission sought to improve production through balanced nutrition management. It laid stress on evolving suitable mechanisms for regulating the production of quality planting material and giving impetus to need based research. The need for establishing adequate infrastructure for post harvest management especially preservation and marketing was outlined. Tamil Nadu, was thus a pioneer among the states in India to start a separate mission for promotion of Horticulture.

Emergence of New Agency

Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency was formed on the 18th of June 2004 and was registered as a Society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975. It was conceived as a Special Purpose Vehicle for the purpose of implementing centrally sponsored schemes.

TANHODA has provided much needed operational and financial flexibility for implementing schemes. Fund flows have become faster, the pace of implementation has picked up and schemes have seen steady progress. TANHODA now is the nodal agency for Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) - National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) " Per Drop More Crop", Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization Project (TN-IAMP), National Agro Forestry and Bamboo Mission, National Ayush Mission- Medicinal plants.

Besides the Schemes, there are 63 State Horticulture Farms and 19 Parks and gardens under the control of TANHODA.

The Financial approval for the Farms are approved by the Governing council, headed by the Agriculture Production Commissioner/ Director/ Commissioner of Horticulture as Managing Director. The other members are the heads of Departments - The Director of Agriculture, Additional Secretary to Government Finance Department, The Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, The Chief Engineer, Agricultural Engineering Department, The Director, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, and The Dean (Horticulture) Tamil Nadu Agriculture University.

