



Institute Day 2007 / 2008

Jaffna College Institute
of
Agriculture Maruthanamadam

Principal's Report

2007

Presentation of Diplomas and Certificates

On

Saturday 19th July 2008

at

Abel's Auditorium JCIT Vaddukoddai.

Chief Guests

Mr. M.A. Sumanthiran

B.Sc, LL.M (Internet And Electronic LAW)

Attorney At Law

&

Mrs. Savithiri Sumanthiran

A.C.M.A.

Distinguished chief guest Mr. Mathiapparan Abraham Sumanthiran Mrs. Savithiri Sumanthiran, Chairman and principal Jaffna College Mr.N.A Vimalendran, Bishop Rt.Rev.Dr. Daniel S. Thiagarajah, members of the council, Rt.Rev.Dr.S.Jebanesan, Chairman and members of the Jaffna College Board of Directors, Staff, Parents, students and well wishers.

We of the Jaffna College Institute of Agriculture extend to all of you a warm welcome to this annual event. We are really happy to have Mr. M. A. Sumanthiran and Mrs. Savithri Sumanthiran as our Chief guests and we extend to you a special word of welcome to this important function of the year. We thank you for having accepted our invitation for this function.

Sir, having been schooled at St Thomas and Royal College, you entered the University of Madras in 1986 and obtained the bachelor of science degree. You joined the Sri Lanka Law College in 1988 where you had a brilliant carrier in the study of law and was called to the bar as an Attorney-at-law of the Supreme Court in 1991. Having gained experience in various fields like Teaching, Chartered trainee at Ernst and whinny you entered the Monash university of Australia and obtained your masters of Law in internet and electronics law on a scholarship awarded by the World Bank.

Sir you are practicing as an advocate in commercial litigation involving corporate, intellectual property disputes, in administrative law constitutional law and fundamental right cases and there by airing the grivences of many people.

Sir, You are also involved in religious activities. You are a member of the Methodist Memorial Church, Moors Road and a good Preacher.

You have been a steward, and leaders meeting secretary at the society level, secretary of the local preachers affairs at the district level and assistant lay secretary of conference, Secretary of the faith and order committee, you are the secretary of the law and polity committee and Chairman of the committee for Justice concerns. Because of your dedicated service you are appointed as chairman commission for Justice and peace of the National Christian Council.

We are Aware that you are doing yeomen service to mankind and it is not an exaggeration if I say that you devote every available minute to uplift the downtrodden and to raise the standard of those who are below the poverty line. It is rather difficult to get people of your caliber.

Mrs. Savithri Sumanthiran Madam, thank you for being with us this morning and consenting to perform the arduous yet pleasant task of distributing the prizes and certificates. You had your secondary education at the Girls High School, Kandy and Ladies College Colombo. After your secondary education you had the golden opportunity of studying in London where you qualified as a Management Accountant in 1986 and worked as an Accountant in the Mercantile sector. There after you have been a Management Consultant, facilitating the preparation of



corporate plans operations manuals etc. You are also involved in religious activities. You had been the treasurer of the Evangelism Department of the Methodist Church for along period and you are a board member of Kithu Sevana of the Angelican Church. Our students are anxiously waiting to receive their prizes and certificates from a gracious lady.

Agriculture was transformed from a simple pioneer and largely self sufficing occupation in to a modern business organized on a scientific and commercial basis. Efficiency is one of the important factors for the production of higher yields of food of high quality. When technology moves faster, the efficiency becomes even more vital. This technology had brought rapid changes. With the help of soil science, plant breeding and other scientific services made available by the agriculture institutes, farmers have made astounding progress. There is a definite and positive interest in farming as a profitable and meaning full venture as it has been clearly demonstrated by the farmers in this part of the country. Most of the students who undergo training at this institute take animal husbandry and crop husbandry on a small scale with a view of enhancing their family income

It is most encouraging that the youth have realized that employment in the private and public sectors is no more a reality and the best way out is to settle for self employment. Agricultural technology education is growing fast throughout the world. It is being looked upon as a key factor for the developing countries particularly Srilanka. Unemployment among college educated youth is very high today. Our youths are facing a crisis. Many avenues open to them until recent times are steadily getting closed and if they are to live with dignity and self respect, the option cannot be other than efficiency in modern scientific agricultural technology. We should be thankful to C. S. I for putting up an agriculture institute where youths could be trained in agriculture. The choice of a carrier is possibly one of the most critical decisions of our lives. It shapes our future and determines our life style.

We focus our attention to sustainable agriculture where the important ingredient is organic farming. The aim of organic farming is to create agricultural systems that are ecologically stable and reasonable productive without toxic interventions. Most of our farmers are becoming increasingly concerned with high levels of pesticides in food. They opted for integrated pest management (IPM) which emphasizes the use of cultural practices instead of synthetic insecticides. Sustainable agriculture in a way reduces the health and environmental risks. Land is a very important resource and its availability accessibility and suitability for agriculture should be of particular concern for sustainable agriculture. There is a good potential for the sustainable agriculture to alleviate hunger and poverty among the poor people and help them to raise their standard of living.

Our institute has launched a project recently in home gardening through various non governmental organizations like world vision, TRRO etc which will help not only the tsunami affected people but also to many city dwellers. Many people are interested in home gardening but they are unable to carry it out

because of the constraints like in sufficient land space, unsuitable soil, lack of technical knowledge in farming etc. Vegetable seedlings in small gunny bags with soil + compost are being supplied to the tsunami affected people and city dwellers as this method has lot of advantages over the traditional way of planting.

I am happy to announce that the agriculture institute functions effectively to attain the objectives of establishing it. The object of the institute is to train the educated unemployed youth in modern scientific agriculture so that they could be self employed in agriculture, getting a reasonable steady income for their lively hood. In spite of the heavy odds against us due to the unsettled condition in this part of the country, the institute has shown good progress by expanding in to new fields. I am happy to note that We have started an agro information centre at this institute comprising computer section, digital library etc. Computer education is another important factor in technological progress. Most of the work performed by man in the past is now taken over by the computers. More and more young people are attracted towards this course of study as they feel that they can get a good knowledge and training in agriculture and computer study. We send our students to J.C.I.T Vaddukoddai for two weeks computer training as we have only two computers which are not sufficient for their practical work.

STAFF

Mrs. .A.V.Emil continues to be the Vice Principal. Messer's M. Kandasamy and K.Kuganesan continue to be in charge of the school section and farm section respectively. Mr.P.Thayalan is our Accounts Assistant. Mr.M.Pathmanathan continues to function as Agriculture Instructor and assists the Farm Manager and school section in their activities. Mr.A.Jeevan is appointed as Field Officer. Mr.S.Chandrasegaram (Visiting Lecturer) teaches English for the one year diploma students

IN MEMORIUM

Dr. C Jeyaratnam Former principal of Jaffna College institute of Agriculture passed away on 23rd June 2008. During his tenure of office As Principal, he had contributed a lot for the growth and development of this institute. He had been the manager of Jaffna College, Treasurer as well as a member of the J.C.B.D, Vice Chairman of Council of the J.C.I.T. & IA, and treasurer of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India. He retired from the Agriculture Department as deputy director.

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Mr. .N.A. Vimalendran was elected as the chairman. Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Daniel . S. Theagarajah is an exofficio member Mr. T. Kugathasan was elected as the secretary of the council. Dr.V.R.David was elected as the Treasurer. The council members are Rt.Rev. Dr.S. Jebanesan,(Chairman J.C.B.D)

Mr.N.R,G Hoole Director of the Technical Institute , Mr.Ernest Thambinayagam , Rev .Fr. Sunnystan , Mrs .T. Rajaratnam, Mr. S.S. Senthilnathan , Mrs. I. Thavanayagam , Dr.Noble Surendran ,Mr. V.Veluppillai, Mrs .Rohan Raju, Mr. A.C.Francis, Rev.Miss.J.Ratnasingham.

SCHOOL SECTION

The institute provides agricultural training in all aspects of farming including crops and livestock. The four months course of training has attracted a greater number of students compared with the one year course. The medium of instruction is Tamil. However English is taught with special emphasis on agricultural technology

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE COURSE

40 Students were enrolled at the beginning and 24 students sat the final examination in April 2007. 25 students were taken in July 2007 and 15 students sat the final examination in October 2007

ONE YEAR AGRICULTURE DIPLOMA COURSE

24 students were enrolled at the beginning and 10 students sat the final examination in February 2007. 40 students were taken in February 2007 and 30 students sat the final examination in February 2008. 40 students were taken in January 2008 and 36 students are attending classes regularly.

STUDENTS ACTIVITIES

We are happy that Students union met regularly once a week and follow their programme which includes debates, agriquiz contests and discussions on topics related to agriculture and other allied fields. The staff guide them in these activities.

Students were taken on agriculture study tour to the following stations

1. Agriculture research station - Thinnavelly
2. District training centre- Thinnavelly
3. Artificial insemination centre- Thinnavelly
4. Jaffn district development Co-operative society – Thinnavelly

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Seminars and work shops in collaboration with various other organizations were conducted mainly on topics related to agriculture, animal husbandry and other allied fields with the idea of educating the farmers and cattle owners. Agriculture teachers, officers of the department of agriculture and agrarian services participated in these seminars.

A seminar on "fertilizer management and substitutes for fertilizer" in collaboration with T.R.R.O was held at our institute on 20.06.2007 for farmers and the following officers participated

Mr.T.Kugathanan J.C.I.A

Mrs A.V.Emil J.C.I.A

Mr.M.Kandasamy J.C.I.A

Another seminar on " Methods of storing agricultural produce" in collaboration with T.R.R.O was held at our institute on 27.06.2007 for farmers and the following officers participated.

Mrs .A.V.Emil J.C.I.A

Miss. S.Gowthami T.R.R.O

A seminar on " Self employment in agriculture for O/L ,A/L passed out students" in collaboration with Nonformal division of the Education Department (Valigamam zone) was held at Ramanathan College on 01.11.2007 and the following officers participated.

Mr.M.Kandasamy J.C.I.A

Mrs. S.Sivasakthy. Assistant Director- Non formal Education.

A workshop on "Diseases related to agricultural practices and its preventive measures" in collaboration with the Department of Health and the Medical Faculty of the University of Jaffna was conducted at our Institute on 23rd November 2007 at 9.00 am and the following participated 14 medical students.(4th year) : Medical Faculty University of Jaffna.

Mrs.Sivarajah : Community medicine Medical Faculty .

Mr.N.Premkumar : P.H.I. Kondavil

It was a very useful workshop and 50 students and 27 farmers attended this workshop.

A seminar on "Homestead Development" in collaboration with national youth service council was held on 24th November 2007 at Chunnakam National Youth council and the following officers participated.

Mr.T.Kugathanan J.C.I.A

Mrs A.V.Emil J.C.I.A

Mr.M.Kandasamy J.C.I.A

Mr. S.Kanapathippillai N.Y.S.C

Another seminars on " Home stead Development" in collaboration with National Youth service council was held on 23rd December 2007 at karaveddy Divisional Secretary's office and the following officers participated

Mr.M.Kandasamy J.C.I.A

Mr.S.Balasubramaniam – Retired Agriculture Instructor

Mr.K.Kuganesan J.C.I.A



A seminar on "Home gardening" in collaboration with National Youth Service Council was conducted on 31st December 2007 at Divisional Secretary's office training centre Chavakachcheri and the following officers participated.

Mr.M.Kandasamy J.C.I.A

Mr.K.Kuganesan J.C.I.A

Mr.A.Wijeyakumar A.I Chavakachcheri

A seminar on "Bio intensive gardening" in collaboration with T.R.R.O was held at our institute on 15th April 2008 for farmers and the following officers participated

Mr.T.Kugathanan J.C.I.A

Mr.M.Kandasamy J.C.I.A

Mr.P. Seyon T.R.R.O

Miss M.Sugirtham T.R.R.O

Training classes for students on awareness of sustainable agriculture in home gardening" was conducted in collaboration with Vaddu Development Foundation at the following schools on the dates mentioned against the names of the schools. These training classes were conducted by Mr.M.Kandasamy

1. Saraswathy Vidyalayam Araly on 14.06.2007
2. Vadducentral College on 15.06.2007

Another training classes for 40 farmers in collaboration with T.R.R.O was conducted at our Institute on compost making and its uses on 10th April 2008 . This training class was conducted by J.C.I.A staff

INSTITUTE FUNCTIONS

The Institute day of J.C.I.T and J.C.I.A was held on 2nd June 2007 at J.C.I.A hall Maruthanamadam with Bishop Rt.Rev. Dr.S . Daniel S. Thiagarajah and Dr Mrs Thaya Thiagarajah as the chief guests. Olivila was celebrated on 18th December 2007 at our Institute and Bishop Rt.Rev. Dr.S . Daniel S. Thiagarajah delivered the Christmas message.

LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS

Libraries play a very important part in promoting the progress of knowledge. A well managed library besides supplying many valuable books not to be got else where is very conducive to educational progress in other ways. A large library is also the store house of books that would in time be lost to the world if there were no such places to keep them long after they have ceased to be read by general



public. Students should be encouraged to develop their reading capacity to increase their general knowledge and be concerned about the current issues of the world in which they live in.

The teachers should not only teach and impart knowledge but also serve as a role model. The presence of a good library in an Institution encourages the educational standards of the students. In addition to the theory and practical aspects of agriculture, it is very important for a student to be introduced to the habit of reading and gathering more information pertaining to agricultural science. Steps are being taken to increase the number of books in our library. We have requested various organizations and individuals for the donation of books and there is a good response. I am happy to note that we are getting books, Magazines, bulletins, leaflets etc and other literature from various sources. We have found that there is dearth of agriculture reading materials by way of leaflets, bulletins and even books. Few books that are available are very much outdated as they have been written or compiled some ten to fifteen years back. In all our institute has published twelve books in Tamil mostly on agricultural science. Arrangements are being made to publish books covering the various fields of agriculture like crop production, plant protection, horticulture, irrigation and drainage, fertilizer use, compost making, soil science and environmental pollution.

VISIT BY SCHOOLS

Some Schools in the Jaffna peninsula have shown great interest in visiting our farm and study the various activities that are being carried out here. The following schools visited our farm during the year 2007/2008.

- 1) J/ Mahajana College .- Tellippalai
- 2) J/ Arunodaya college – Alaveddy
- 3) J/ Navaly Maha Vidyalayam
- 4) J/ Pandaterruppu Hindu College
- 5) J/Health centre- Jaffna
- 6) J/ Moolai Saivapragasa Vidyalayam
- 7) J/ Victoria College Chulipuram
- 8) J/ St.Peters Roman Catholic School Navaly
- 9) J/ Vigneswara College Kuppilan
- 10) J/ Veemankamam Mahavidyalayam
- 11) J/Kanderodai Tamil Kandiah Vidyalayam
- 12) J/Vaddu Hindu College Vaddukoddai
- 13) J/Driberc College Chavakachcheri
- 14) J/Ramakrishna Vidyalayam Kokuvil
- 15) Medical faculty students and health Department officers
- 16) Y.M.C.A Navaly
- 17) Y.M.C.A Jaffna

FARM

The object of the farm section is to be an effective teaching aid to acquire new skills and scientific know how in farming. The farm consists of a dairy, poultry and a variety of crops. Despite the high cost of feeding and labour, I am happy that we obtained a good profit in the year 2007 and hopeful that this year 2008 should bring in good results.. As a teaching institution it is not possible to concentrate on just one crop say banana. For the benefit of the trainees, we have designed a cropping system in such a way that the students receive the best possible training on the various aspects of crop cultivation. The same principle applies to animal husbandry. The stocking rate has been stepped up during this year with respect to cattle and poultry.

The harvest of the maha season crops planted in November has been completed by end of March 2007. Even though we grow most of the crops like okra, bushitavo, Bombay onion, pumpkin, long beans etc for teaching purpose, more attention is being paid in raising seedlings of chilies, brinjal, tomato, cabbage, tobacco etc in nursery beds and in potting of grafted orange, grafted lime and lemon plants as these bring more revenue to the farm. Assistance to the farming community is one of the objectives of this institute. At present the service rendered to them consists of the supply of seedlings and planting materials. Hundreds of farmers have obtained these items from us. Under horticulture we have lime, rough lemon, orange, mango, avocado, sapodilla, belly and guava. Field practical work for the students lasts three hours and students are given opportunity to learn various skills in the different enterprise. In poultry there will be birds from day old to point of lay and from point of lay to culling stage. Techniques like fowl pox vaccination, ranicut inoculation or oral, worming feeding, culling etc are all taught during their training period.

In addition to the cultivation of crops, we are carrying out some research activities in consultation with the department of agriculture and with the Jaffna university. New varieties of crops are being tested to see their yield performance and adaptability.

An investigation is being carried out to increase the yield and shortening the age of banana crop by planting the suckers at a closer spacing as good income could be obtained in a shorter period. The research division of the department of agriculture has selected our Institute as one of the location for the varietal adaptability trial (VAT) of four varieties of okara namely T.V.6 T.V.7 T.V.8 and Haritha. The investigation has revealed that one variety of Okara namely Haritha is a promising variety with high yield and adaptability to our region. Attention is also being paid to the cultivation of oil crops like sunflower, gingelly, Groundnut, castor and grain crops like kurakkan, maize, sorghum and pearl millet.

There seems to be a good demand for ornamental plants like roses, crotons etc and we are planning to have more ornamental plants for sale. I find that the customers are more concerned with ornamental plants than the food plants. Investigations are being continued to see the feasibility of using the



products of Margosa leaves, bark, seeds, garlic etc as an alternative to some of the insecticides. A book let on this subject was published which was funded by CARE international.

A weed called "Parthenium" which was brought to Jaffna peninsula from India is again spreading fast in some areas like Kopay, Inuvil, Urumpirai and Atchchuvely. This has become a menace and this is harmful not only to plant and animals but also to human beings too. We are giving the necessary assistance to the department of agriculture and Agrarian service in eradication of this weed.

Poultry section is one of the important units in the farm. To day approximately 90 percent of the poultry farmers in Srilanka use commercial feeds whilst the others use self mixed feed. As the price of poultry feed has gone up, it has become necessary to look for new avenues of producing quality poultry feed with the available raw materials. With this end in view, investigations have been carried out at this institute by two university students in this field and the investigations revealed that quality poultry feed could be produced locally with the available raw materials. We have increased the extent of pasture by planting different varieties of grass cuttings mainly to cut down the expenses on cattle feed

GENERAL

We are unable to commence work at the paranthan farm school because of the disruption of the transport service. However a name board has already been planted there mainly to prevent people from encroaching.

FUTURE PROPOSAL

It is our fervent desire to make the farm a model one with integrated farming of crop and animal husbandry. The conversion of crop and animal refuse to compost and thereby reducing the application of fertilizer will pave the way to semi organic farming. The bio gas plant which we will be putting up will help us to reduce our electricity bill and also to provide artificial light to stimulate egg production. The vegetable nursery will be established right through out the year so that the requirement of seedlings for the home gardens could be met.

Home economics section will be expanded so that the students could learn more of handicraft, dress making and in preservation of fruits and vegetables. A meteorological station is an important unit in an agricultural Institute and we are planning to have one at our institute when the necessary funds are available. Steps are being taken to equip our laboratories as this is very important for the diploma students. We are also interested in the following projects for generation of power

1. Installation of solar plant
2. Erection of a wind mill



THANKS

I wish to thank the staff, students and employees of the institute for the co-operation extended to carry out the institute day to day activities.

To the director, staff and students of the Technical Institute for inviting us to participate in the various functions.

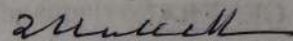
I wish to express my sincere thanks to chairman and members of the council of management for their valuable guidance, advice and support at all times.

My thanks are due to Mr M.A. Sumanthiran for his glamorous presence here today and for his inspiring address. In the same breath, we thank you again madam to have come here to distribute the prizes.

I Thank you ladies and gentlemen for your kind presence and patient hearing.

Thank you

Principal



T.Kugathasan

Certificate Course

January 2007 – May 2007

- 1447 Arunakirinathan - Sivakaran
- 1487 Varathalingam – Sopana
- 1488 Varathalingam – Suganya
- 1489 Murgaiya – Murukananthiny
- 1492 Nadarajah Anogowasalya
- 1493 Sivagnanam Niranjala
- 1494 Yoharasa Rajive
- 1496 Ganeshamoorthy Jeevana
- 1497 Shanmugam Jasitha
- 1498 Subramaniam Chandrika
- 1499 Gunaratnam Peadan
- 1501 Kunalan Katheesan
- 1503 Sivam Sivatheepam
- 1504 Yoganathan Gowsekan
- 1505 Jeyabalasunderam Sutharsan
- 1506 Thangarajah Sulaxsana
- 1507 Fararasasingam Nisanthini
- 1508 Masilamany Beulah Thevamalar
- 1509 Suntharamoorthy Santhuru
- 1510 Nimalanathan Tharshini
- 1511 Sinnijah Piharo
- 1512 Kunapirakasam Vaseekaran
- 1513 Balasuntharam Kirushanthi

July 2007 – October 2007

- 1557 Ponnampalam Pirasanthiny
- 1558 Thurairosa Thaventhiran
- 1563 Sivalai Sumaska
- 1564 Rasalingam Kalairuban
- 1565 Kukavathany Sivakaran
- 1566 Rasiah Poonga
- 1568 Rasenthiram Selvakumar

Diploma in Agriculture 2006

First Division

1470 Thillaiyampalam Kajendrakumar

Upper Second Division

1459 Kageentha Jegatheeswaran

1469 Siyamala Kanagarajah

Lower Second Division

1465 Sugalyah Suntharalingam

1468 Ramadevi Dushyanthan

Pass Division

1454 Anusiya Arumai

1457 Prashanthi Thiyagarajah

1462 Sivayoki Sivasurendran

1464 Sastyvarathan Raguraj

1466 Lathajini Balasingam

1473 Mariastella John

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