

ICAR-CIARI Conducts Training Programme on Intercropping in Plantation Crops for Tribal Farmers in Little Andaman

Denis Giles – 26 February 2025



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Hut Bay, Feb 25: Coconut and arecanut are the major plantation crops of the islands; however, most of the plantations in the islands are monocropped ones. Monocropping poses the risk of spread of dreadful diseases and pests in the plantations and also reduces the resource use efficiency. Land which is the restricting factor for our islands remains largely underutilized through mono cropping.

In order to create awareness among the farmers about this aspect, a training programme on Plantation Crops based Cropping System for Tribal Farmers was organized on February 22, 2025 at Harminder Bay, Little Andaman under ICAR- AICRP on Plantation Crops project. The programme was attended by 25 women participants.

Dr. Ajit Arun Waman, coordinator of the programme provided detailed information on suitable intercrops for plantations and encouraged the participants for taking up the activity in groups so as to generate sufficient produce for selling in the markets. As per their demand, quality planting material of improved varieties of arecanut was also provided under Schedule Tribe Component to the tribal council for establishment of community plantation with intercropping system during the upcoming monsoon season. Mr. Festus, Secretary, Tribal Council and Mr. Andrew Moses, First Captain expressed gratitude to the coordinator and the Institute for the valuable information and physical inputs.