



# NEWSLETTER



## ICAR-CENTRAL ISLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

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हर कदम, हर उगर  
किसानों का हाराफर  
आधुनिक कृषि अनुसंधान परिवर्तन

*AgriSearch with a human touch*

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### From the Director's Desk ....

#### Farm diversification for doubling farmer's income under island ecosystem

Farm diversification is a widely advocated means for agricultural and rural prosperity. The risk of crop loss is very high due to natural calamities that adversely affect agriculture in the islands. In Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands, majority of agriculture land is under coconut plantation. This provides



scope for crop diversification for enhancing the farm income and provides employment opportunity to island farmers. Given the vast coconut plantation area in these Islands that lacks intercropping, a climate-resilient Integrated Farming System (IFS) model has been developed and is strongly recommended for the both A&N Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through research of ICAR-CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram and at the ICAR-CIARI Regional Station, Minicoy. These farming system approaches are suitable for 1 acre land. The crop components under A&N island geography, consisted of spices (clove, nutmeg, and black pepper), tapioca, sweet potato, and pineapple grown as intercrops in coconut (0.9 ha). This was integrated with piggery (0.03 ha) and poultry cum fishery (0.06 ha). Additionally, residue recycling, rainwater harvesting (lined pond of 100 m<sup>2</sup>) and Azolla cultivation were included. The study indicated 143 % increase in average farm income with the net income of Rs. 2.32 lakh/ ha/ year. Total farm productivity increased to 32 t/ ha and generated an employment of 325 man days/ ha/ year. The crop and enterprise diversification enhanced farm diversity (0.78) and sustainability (0.75). Total GHG emission (GHG Emission tool V1.1) from the system was 0.96 Mg CO<sub>2</sub> eq/ year/ ha with net carbon sequestration of 5.24 Mg CO<sub>2</sub> eq/ year/ ha. The demonstration block of IFS unit at Mincioy, Lakshadweep islands serves as a platform to promote awareness among the tribal community about sustainable and diversified agricultural practices. By introducing integrated approaches that combine coconut (major crop), livestock, poultry, fish, tuber crops, vegetables, spices and fodder grasses. These IFS model units facilitate technology transfer and capacity building, encouraging farmers to adopt resilient, eco-friendly farming systems suited to the island's unique agro-climatic conditions.

Crop diversification through raised beds, enterprise diversification, crop rotation, green manuring, in-situ rainwater harvesting, and contingency cropping significantly contributed to enhance the performance of Integrated Farming System. While crop residue mulching, agroforestry and organic waste recycling contributed to enlarge the carbon sink and minimized the net GHG emission. The crop diversification and integration of livestock component in a mixed farming system model provides an opportunity for the marginal and small farmers to increase the farm production and total farm income from the same piece of land. The integration of livestock, poultry, fisheries, goat along with farm diversification is more effective in increasing the farm income. Thus farmers can realize the doubling of their income with in a contemplated period of five to six years by adopting integrated farming system.

**Dr. E.B. Chakurkar**

## Research Highlights

### Phytoconstituents of Medicinal trees

I. Jaisankar

#### i. *Morinda citrifolia* L. (Noni)

- The leaf possesses the highest phenolic property with  $404.5 \pm 2.1$  (mg /100g).
- Noni pulp has the highest flavonoids content with  $286.5 \pm 3.2$
- Noni Pulp extract has the richest scavenging ability (DPPH method)  $2290 \pm 8.1$

#### ii. *Pterocarpus dalbergioides* (Padauk)

- The leaf possesses the highest phenolic property with  $230.6 \pm 3.2$  (mg /100g) and has the highest flavonoids content with  $1455.3 \pm 4.7$ .
- Resin extract of padauk has the richest scavenging ability (DPPH method)  $4643.3 \pm 16.9$ .

#### iii. *Macaranga nicobarica*

- The leaf has the highest phenolic property with  $371.3 \pm 1.2$  (mg /100g).
- Petiole extract of Macaranga has the richest

scavenging ability (DPPH method)  $8245.3 \pm 13.0$

- A total of 23 classes of phytoconstituents were found as per GCMS in the *Macaranga nicobarica*. They were; MOME INOSITOL (16.40 %), 1,3,4,5-TETRAHYDROXY-CYCLOHEXANECARBOXYLIC ACID (12.40 %) and Vitamin E (4.40 %) which may be explored for various pharmacological activities and commercial purpose

#### iv. *Pandanus lerum*

- The Pulp possesses the highest phenolic property with  $174.0 \pm 4.5$  (mg /100g).
- The leaf has the highest flavonoids content with  $1768.4 \pm 2.8$ ,
- Leaf extract of pandanus has the richest scavenging ability (DPPH method).
- The Total Antioxidant Activity is found to be much higher in Pandanus pulp with  $4038 \pm 18.7$ .

### Integrated farming system evaluation

I. Jaisankar

Coconut - animal - fish based integrated farming system with a floating shed for poultry over the fish pond has been established in one hectare area which yielded vegetable of 165 kg in an area of 450m<sup>2</sup>, 38 kg of banana and pine apple and 20825 coconuts from 128 and 29 kg of goat and poultry birds. This system has earned total income of Rs. 45250.00.



Plate 1. Vegetable cultivation under Integrated Farming system

### Molecular characterization of Ivy gourd

P. Prabhu and P. K. Singh

- A moderate level of genetic variations has been reported within the accessions/ population of Ivy gourd.
- The SSR marker, TRINITY\_DN995\_c0\_g1\_i1 (0.5783) has been standardized as the most informative marker.



## Standardization of live feed based seed rearing of *Labeo rohita* and *Penaeus vannamei* culture in biofloc system

Chittaranjan Raul and J. Praveenraj

The biofloc inoculum has been prepared using jaggery and probiotic bacteria with 48 hr aeration and added to the culture tank *P vannamei* and *Labeo rohita*. The

maximum production was found for 4000 stocking density *P vannamei* with an average individual size of 15 gm.

## Exploration of fishery, biology and market potential of tuna resources of Minicoy

Y. Gladston and S.M. Ajina

A new tuna Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) has been standardised using a split-model sinker design and structural changes in the fishing crafts at Minicoy. Eighteen fish species (*Exocetus volitans*, *Thunnus spmachoyi*, *Carcharhinus melanoptera*, *R acutus*, *H elongata*, *Histrohistro*, *Macolarmacular* *Paraceociosp*, *Cephapholis sp*, *Pristpomoides*

*filamentous*, *Cheilopogon frucatus*, *Lutjanus decusatus* *Plectropomus leavis*, *Sagocentron sp*, *Ostichtys sp*, *Epinephelus sp*, *Atheromorus sp*, *Epinephelus tikula*) have been documented using the device and their major food habit of fish, squid, Acetes shrimps, megalopa larvae, and bait organisms has been reported.

## Integrated Farming Systems for enhancing sustainable livelihood of rural tribal community of Minicoy

S.M. Ajina and Y. Gladston

Comparative soil analysis between Integrated Farming System (IFS) and non - IFS areas revealed that non - IFS areas exhibited lower nutrient levels, indicating the positive impact of IFS practices on soil fertility. Research on energy cycling and nutrient flow within the IFS system is in progress. Vegetable cultivation has been successfully explored

with pumpkin, spinach, and tuber crops to be part of IFS, enhancing crop diversity and overall productivity. A commercial poultry feed formulation based on masmin technology was developed and introduced, aiming to improve poultry nutrition and reduce feed costs.

## Cultivation of king chili at Car Nicobar

Akshay and Santosh Kumar

An On-Farm Trial (OFT) has been initiated for King Chili (*Capsicum chinense*) to assess its adaptability, yield potential, and farmer acceptance under local agro-climatic conditions of Car Nicobar. The outcome will help develop location-specific recommendations, enhance awareness about niche crops, and support the commercialization of king chili in the region through improved cultivation practices.



Plate 2. On-Farm Trial of king chili launched in Car Nicobar

## Cultivation of sweet corn–green gram intercropping

**Sanketh G.D. and Santosh Kumar**

On-Farm Trial for the Sweet Corn–Green Gram intercropping system has commenced at Car Nicobar to validate their production potential and refine agronomic recommendations suitable to tribal farming community. This intercropping strategy will

offer tribal farmers a climate-resilient cropping option that balances food, nutrition, and income security, contributing to sustainable and diversified farm systems.

## Front Line Demonstration on Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO)

FLD has been initiated to promote the production of VCO through indigenous and small-scale techniques. This FLD focuses on enhancing farmer knowledge regarding hygienic processing, value addition, and income generation from coconut-based products. Farm households are being trained in cold extraction methods and proper storage practices. The initiative

aims to increase awareness about the health benefits and market demand of VCO, while also encouraging women and rural entrepreneurs in coconut-growing regions. The FLD will serve as a model for replication, supporting rural livelihoods and strengthening the value chain in coconut farming systems.

## Facilities for demonstration at farm, ICAR- CIARI Regional Station, Minicoy, Lakshadweep Islands

**Gladston Y., Dr Ajina S.M., Shareefudden Hassan and Arif M.I**

Farmers can get scientific information for cultivation of crops such as:

- Local varieties of – Chilly (1000 m<sup>2</sup>), Brinjal (400 m<sup>2</sup>), Tomato (400 m<sup>2</sup>), Malabar spinach (200 m<sup>2</sup>), Ridge gourd (250 m<sup>2</sup>), snake gourd (250 m<sup>2</sup>), Water melon (500 m<sup>2</sup>), Pumkin (500 m<sup>2</sup>), bitter gourd (250 m<sup>2</sup>), and Amarathus (200 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Ground nut, Jasmine (100 plants) Rose (50 plants) and tube rose (100 plants) for first time in Islands

- Farmers can know how to prepare Wormicide using curry leaves, moringa leaves and neem leaves

**Livestock Farmers of Minicoy, Lakshadweep Islands are facilitated by ICAR- CIARI Regional Station to purchase:**

- Masmin based poultry feed
- Noni extract for immunity boosting in livestock

## Schedule Tribe Component

Programme	Number	No of Beneficiaries (M+F=T)
Trainings	4	230
Demonstration	5	150
Input distribution	6532	534



Plate 3. Training program conducted under Scheduled Tribe Component



## Important Events Held

### ICAR-CIARI and NABL Organize Awareness Program on Laboratory Accreditation

The ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CIARI), in collaboration with the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), successfully organized an awareness program on NABL accreditation at its Sri Vijayapuram campus. The event aimed to provide valuable insights into the process and significance of NABL accreditation, highlighting its benefits for academic institutions, industry professionals, regulatory bodies, and laboratory management. The program underscored the importance of adhering to international quality standards and compliance protocols essential for laboratory accreditation and quality assurance. A total of 50 participants from various institutions across the Andaman Islands attended the program. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from stakeholders keen to strengthen laboratory practices and align them with national and international benchmarks.



Plate 4. Awareness program on NABL laboratory accreditation

### World Intellectual Property Day, 2025

The celebration of World Intellectual Property Day offers a unique opportunity for sharing advances in Intellectual property rights and how intellectual property (IP) helps and enables the technological innovation that drives Indian Economy. The campaign is also an opportunity to highlight the role that IP rights, such as, patents, trademarks, industrial designs, copyright, that play in encouraging innovation and creativity.

Dr. T. Sujatha, Principal Scientist & Incharge-Institute Technology Management Unit, ICAR-CIARI informed that this is very much proud moment for the institute. The IPR portfolio of the institute has been improved significantly with 10 granted patents, 9 Animal and plant genetic germplasms registered,

11 technologies commercialised, 6 ICAR certified technologies and one trademark.

Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI addressed the gathering that the mind of each and every individual has some IP that needs to be explored and to be protected. The awareness on IPR protection needs to be continued. A total of 72 participants including scientists, projects staffs and students of ICAR-CIARI, ICMR and NIOT attended the programme.

### National Workshop on “Sustainable Agriculture through Natural Farming”

ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIARI), in collaboration with the Andaman Science Association (ASA) and Gujarat Natural Farming Science University (GNFSU) successfully organized one day National Workshop on “Sustainable Agriculture through Natural Farming” on May 13, 2025, at Sri Vijaya Puram highlighting the importance of natural farming for soil health, farmer livelihoods, and agro-ecological balance.. The workshop brought together eminent experts, researchers, extension personnel, and farmers to deliberate on sustainable Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI and President, ASA. Dr. R.A. Gurjar, Director of Extension, GNFSU; Dr. N. Ravisankar, Project Coordinator, AICRP on IFS; and Dr. A. Velmurugan, ADG (SWM), ICAR addressed the gathering. Several publications were released by the dignitaries to promote awareness and knowledge dissemination. Dr. C.K. Timbadia, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Natural Farming Science University (GNFSU) was the Chief Guest of the workshop.



Plate 5. National Workshop on “Sustainable Agriculture through Natural Farming”

### ICAR-CIARI Celebrated 48<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day

The ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CIARI), Sri Vijaya Puram, celebrated its 48<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on June 23, 2025. Shri. G. Santhanam, General Manager, NABARD, Sri Vijaya





Puram, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Aparup Das, Director, ICMR-RMRC, Sri Vijaya Puram, was the Guest of Honour.

Shri. G. Santhanam congratulated the Institute on its achievements in fostering growth and development in the Islands. He pointed that ICAR-CIARI stands out as a unique agricultural institute in India, conducting research across a wide range of sectors including horticulture, crop science, animal science, natural resource management, and fisheries science. He encouraged the scientists to further enhance their contributions to agriculture and allied sectors in the region. He also elaborated on NABARD's role as a development bank, mandated to provide and regulate credit and other facilities for the promotion of agriculture, small-scale industries, cottage and village industries, handicrafts, and allied rural economic activities. Noteworthy initiatives highlighted included the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations, Watershed Development, and Tribal Development programs. He expressed NABARD's keen interest in collaborating with ICAR-CIARI on models aimed at improving rural livelihoods through rooftop gardening, organic farming, tribal empowerment, protected cultivation of high-value vegetables, and the transfer of new technologies to farmers.



**Plate 6. 48<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Celebrated at ICAR-CIARI**

Dr. Aparup Das delivered the Foundation Day lecture on “Genomic Evidence for Zoonotic Origin of Malaria in India”. He discussed the transmission dynamics of malaria between animals and humans. He congratulated ICAR-CIARI on the Foundation Day celebration and expressed his interest in collaborative work in the fields of medicinal plants, zoonotic diseases, and the One Health approach. A total of 10 publications, including technical bulletins and folders, were released during the event. Progressive farmers from the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands were recognized for the successful adoption of CIARI technologies. Scientists and staff members were felicitated for their outstanding contributions in technology development, commercialization,

field experiments, section performance, research publications, and overall institutional service. On this occasion, the Institute commercialized one technology titled “Dweep Go Fly”, a synthetic and herbal-based fly repellent. The Director, ICAR-CIARI, handed over the license agreement to Mr. Sainath R. Shenoy, C/o Mahalasa Agro Products.

### **World Earth Day – 2025**

World Earth Day 2025 was observed at ICAR-KVK, Perka, Car Nicobar, with active participation of around 22 farmers, students, and local officials. The event raised awareness on environmental protection and the role of agriculture in addressing climate change. Awareness talks on soil health, renewable energy, and reducing carbon footprint were delivered by departmental experts. During the event, plantation drive and pledge for environmental stewardship was also taken up.

### **World Environmental Day**

World Environment Day 2025 was celebrated at ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Perka, Car Nicobar, with the participation of 46 farmers, school students, and local officials. Dr. Santosh Kumar, Head, KVK Nicobar, highlighted the urgent need to protect and restore natural ecosystems. He emphasized the role of farmers and youth in adopting sustainable agricultural and environmental practices. Awareness talks were delivered by officials from the Forestry, Agriculture, and Veterinary departments, focusing on biodiversity conservation, organic farming, pollution control, and the importance of tree plantation in climate resilience. Mass plantation drive involving the planting of native and fruit-bearing saplings around the KVK campus was held with pledge to adopt eco-friendly practices and contribute actively towards environmental protection.



**Plate 7. World Environment Day 2025 celebrated at ICAR-KVK, Perka, Car Nicobar**

### **World Ocean Day**

The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nicobar organized a combined celebration of Viksit Krishi





Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA) and World Ocean Day 2025 at Perka Village, Car Nicobar, with active participation from around 58 local farmers, youth, and departmental officials. Dr. Santosh Kumar, Head, KVK Nicobar detailed the importance of VKSA in rural agriculture and the relevance of ocean conservation in coastal regions. Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, joined virtually as Chief Guest and emphasized the need for convergence of departments for rural development and marine protection. Shri Paul Devid, Captain of Perka Village, graced the event as Guest of Honour and urged farmers to utilize available schemes while stressing environmental responsibility. Officials from Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Fisheries Departments shared insights on schemes like PMMSY, KCC for fishers, livestock health programs, and sustainable farming practices. Activities such as plantation drive and beach cleaning

activity were conducted reinforcing community commitment to ecological sustainability and ocean conservation. Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI was the nodal officer Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA).



**Plate 8. Celebration of Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan & World Ocean Day 2025 at ICAR-KVK, Car Nicobar**

## Deputation abroad/ PG studies/ HRD

### Students guided for dissertation projects

Sl. No.	Name of the Student	Degree	Guide	Organization	Project Duration
1	Saborni Mazumdar	M.Sc. (Biotech.)	Ajit Arun Waman	VELS University, Chennai	3 months
2	Simran S.	B. Tech.(Biotech.)	Pooja Bohra	Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology	6 months

## Awards/ Honours /Recognition

Date	Name	Achievement/Recognition	Event
April 2, 2025	Subam Debroy	Reviewer	Aquaculture Science and Management, Springer Nature.
May 5, 2025	Subam Debroy	Reviewer	BMC Veterinary Research, Springer Nature.
May 5, 2025	Subam Debroy	Reviewer	Aquaculture International, Springer Nature
May 6, 2025	J. Praveenraj	Dr. C.V. Kulkarni best young scientist award	ICAR-CIFE Foundation Day 2025
May 6, 2025	Pooja Bohra	Reviewer	Plant Physiology Reports, Springer Nature
May 7-9, 2025	Ajit Arun Waman	Best Presenter Award	XXXIV AGM of AICRP on Plantation Crops at AC&RI, Madurai, Tamil Nadu
May 13, 2025	Raj Narayan	Reviewer	Journal of Advances in Biology & Biotechnology
May 16, 2025	I. Jaisankar	Certificate of Excellence	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science

Date	Name	Achievement/Recognition	Event
May 29, 2025	Raj Narayan	External examiner for M.Sc. thesis	SASRD, Nagaland University, Medziphema Campus
June 1, 2025		Member for Assessment Committee	Assessment of Technical Person (T-5 to T-6) held on 1.06.2025 at ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer
June 3, 2025		External examiner for M. Sc. thesis	SASRD, Nagaland University, Medziphema Campus
June 12, 2025	Pooja Bohra	Elected as Zonal Councillor (East Zone)	Society for Promotion of Horticulture, ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru
June 13, 2025	Raj Narayan	Reviewer	BMC Plant Biology, Springer Nature
June 19, 2025	Raj Narayan	Chairman of Advisory Committee	Attended Oral Comprehensive exam of M.Sc. Student as Chairman of Advisory Committee on 19.06.2025 at Agriculture University, Jodhpur
June 19, 2025		Chairman of Advisory Committee	Attended Oral Comprehensive exam of Ph. D. Student as Chairman of Advisory Committee on 19.06.2025 at Agriculture University, Jodhpur
June 20, 2025		Chairman of Advisory Committee	Attended Pre thesis seminar of M.Sc. Student AS Chairman of Advisory Committee on 20.06.2025 at Agriculture University, Jodhpur
June 19, 2025	Ajit Arun Waman	Reviewer	Medicinal Plants (International Journal)
June 23, 2025	Ajit Arun Waman Pooja Bohra	Technology Development Award	ICAR-CIARI Foundation Day-2025
June 23, 2025	Ajit Arun Waman	Appreciation Certificate for Dweep Agro-Eco Walk	
June 23, 2025	Ajina S.M.	Appreciation cash award	
June 23, 2025	Chittaranjan Raul	Best efficient experimental unit	
June 23, 2025	R Kiruba Sankar	Best research publication award for the year 2024	
June 24, 2025	Pooja Bohra	Reviewer	National Academy Science Letters, Springer Nature
June 30, 2025		External examiner for Doctoral thesis	Nirwan University, Jaipur, Rajasthan



## Trainings/ Meetings/Campaign

Name of the training/meeting/campaign programme	Venue	Date	Participants (M/F/T)	Organizing Committee/ Coordinators
Workshop on import substitution in spices: opportunities for Andaman and Nicobar islands (WISS-2025)	ICAR-CIARI (Virtual mode)	02/04/2025	16/9/25	Ajit Arun Waman Pooja Bohra E.B. Chakurkar
Awareness programme on marine fish diseases” under nsipaad project	Car Nicobar	05/04/2025	38/4/42	Chittaranjan Raul R. Kiruba Sankar J. Praveenraj
Live viewing of 5 <sup>th</sup> episode of krishi choupal	KVK Nimbudera	12/04/2025	24/4/28	V. Damodaran Manoj Kumar Yatharth Sharma Subam Debroy Rakesh Dawar
Field day- showcasing the potential of oil seed crops cultivation in andaman	Bloomsdale research Farm, ICAR-CIARI.	17/04/2025	25/5/30	Prabhu P. P.K. Singh Ramakrishna Y. Abhilash Harshang T.
Farmer-scientist interaction meet (RAC) and kisan goshti	ICAR KVK Nimbudera	20/04/2025	34/22/56	V. Damodaran Manoj Kumar Yatharth Sharma Subam Debroy Rakesh Dawar
Celebration of 7 <sup>th</sup> edition of poshan pakhwada	ICAR KVK Nimbudera	22/04/2025	0/20/20	V. Damodaran Manoj Kumar Yatharth Sharma Subam Debroy Rakesh Dawar
Conducted sensitization programme on sustainable masmin production and byproduct utilization	RS Minicoy	01/05/2025	11/120/131	Gladston Y. Ajina S.M. Shareefudden Hassan Arif M.I. R. Kiruba Sankar
Fishermen-scientist interaction meet on tuna resources and sustainable fishing	RS Minicoy	05/05/2025	15/0/15	
Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan 2025 & plantation drive	RS Minicoy	07/05/2025	14/16/30	
Live viewing of 6 <sup>th</sup> episode of Krishi Choupal	ICAR KVK Nimbudera	10/05/2025	6/0/6	V. Damodaran Rakesh Dawar
National workshop on “Scientific agriculture through Natural Farming” in online mode	ICAR KVK Nimbudera	13/05/2025	12/6/18	V. Damodaran Yatharth Sharma Subam Debroy Rakesh Dawar
Training on “Integrated soil and water conservation practices for sustainable agriculture”	Dukenagar, Swadeshnagar	22/05/2025 to 23/05/2025	20/05/25	V. Damodaran Rakesh Dawar Yatharth Sharma
Farmer led quality seed production in paddy techniques and practices	Keralapuram	28/05/2025	26/6/32	Prabhu P. P.K. Singh
Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan, 2025	N & M Andaman District	29/05/2025 to 12/06/2025	6,764 / 5,144 /11908	V. Damodaran Yatharth Sharma Subam Debroy Rakesh Dawar

Name of the training/meeting/campaign programme	Venue	Date	Participants (M/F/T)	Organizing Committee/ Coordinators
Awareness program on the use of DAT(Distress Alert Transmitters) in marine fishing practices	Car Nicobar	30/05/2025	25	R Kiruba Sankar J. Praveenraj Chittaranjan Raul
Training on neera collection techniques	Tapoiming	30/05/2025	26/24/50	Santosh kumar
Awareness programme on Aquatic animal diseases	Collinpur	31/5/2025	22/2/24	J. Praveenraj R Kiruba Sankar
Awareness programme on “report fish diseases app” under NSPAAD project	Bambooflat	02/06/2025	14/22/36	J. Praveenraj R Kiruba Sankar Chittaranjan Raul
Three-day hands-on training on dweep go-fly formulation	NRM Division ICAR-CIARI	24/06/2025 to 26/06/2025	1/1/2	Talaviya Harshangkumar D. Bhattacharya Abhilash E. B. Chakuarkar
Significance of Natural Farming	Arong	03/06/2025	28/34/62	Santosh kumar
Scientific production of VCO	Kimous	04/06/2025	20/16/36	
Farmers interaction under vikashit krishi bhara abhiyan	South Andaman district	06/06/2025	100/0/100	Chittaranjan Raul
Backyard vegetable cultivation during the monsoon and farmer awareness on weather-based advisory services	Malacca	11/06/2025	29/21/50	Santosh kumar
Awareness generation program among farmers hygiene, pest identification and bio pesticide use	Big Lapathy	25/06/2025	32/28/60	Santosh kumar
Kharif campaign, 2025	Gram panchaya, Subhashgram, Diglipur	25/06/2025	7/3/10	Organized by Department of agriculture in collaboration with ICAR KVK Nimbudera (Subam Debroy)





Plate 9. Glimpses of trainings/Exposure visit

## Publications

### Research papers

- Bohra, P. and Waman, A.A.(2025) Studies on Fruit Characteristics at Different Growth Stages and Enhancement of Seed Germination in Mountain Sweet Thorn (*Flacourtia montana* J. Graham). *Applied Fruit Science* 67: 180. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10341-025-01405-8>(NAAS Rating: 7.2)
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- M.S.Ajina, T.Sujatha, Y. Gladson, E.B. Chakurkar, A.K. De, Sunder, Jai, Sunder., Yelighar, Sharath & D.Bhattacharya. (2025). Morphological description of desi chicken in Minicoy, Lakshadweep Islands. *Indian Journal of Veterinary and Animal science Research*. 54 (2): 33-42.
- Jaisankar, I., V. Damodaran, B. Augustine Jerard, Abhilash, Talaviya Harshangkumar and Manasseh Moses E. (2025). Effect of plant density on corm yield in Elephant Foot Yam (*Amorphophallus paeoniifolius*) under Island condition. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association*. 30 (1): 13-16.
- Kumar, V., Kumar, S., Kumar, A., Narayan, R., Pandey, V., Kumar, S. and Vipin. (2025). Genetic divergence for yield and yield attributes in tomato (*solanum lycopersicum* L.). *Plant Archives* 25(1):1257-1261.
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### Popular Article

Ajit Arun Waman and Pooja Bohra (2024). Culantro Cultivation in Arecanut Interspaces: A Profitable System for the Island Farmers. *Spice India* 37(10): 12-13

## TOT including radio talks/ TV programme broadcast

- Live TV Programme on Krishi Darshan by Doordarshan Kendra, Sri Vijaya Puram on the topic “Pre-Monsoon Dry Sowing” aired on 8 May 2025 by Talaviya Harshangkumar.
- Live TV Programme on Krishi Darshan by Doordarshan Kendra, Sri Vijaya Puram on the

- topic “Vermicompost: Turning Waste into Gold” aired on 26 June 2025 by Talaviya Harshangkumar.
- Dr. Chittaranjan Raul delivered a live phone-in talk on Breeding and seed production of Indian major carps on 15 May 2025.





## IPRs/Commercialization of Technology

### ICAR-CIARI licensed “Dweep MAS-poultry feed”

Technology License Agreement was signed on 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2025 for the technology “Dweep MAS-Poultry Feed” at Regional Station, Minicoy, Lakshadweep Islands, ICAR- (CIARI) and Ibrahim Manikfan, Job-Civil Contractors, Minicoy, Lakshadweep Islands. Scientific team: Dr. T. Sujatha, Dr. Y. Gladston, Dr. S.M. Ajina and Dr. E.B. Chakurkar.

Bhattacharya, Dr. T. Sujatha, Dr. Arun K.De, Dr. Jai Sunder and Dr. E.B.Chakurkar.

### CIARI Registers Germplasm of Woody Pepper at NBPGR, New Delhi: an Effort to Conserve and Utilize Island's Native Diversity

ICAR-CIARI has been working on systematic evaluation and bio-prospection of native species to identify their potential for food, medicine as well as a source of livelihood to the local farmers. One such unique species- woody pepper is locally known as choi jhaal in our Islands. This wild relative of black pepper has been present in these islands; however, only a few people were aware about the edible property of it. Systematic studies on this species at CIARI suggested that the stem pieces of this species are a source of important bioactive molecules including - phenolic compounds, piperine and oleoresins (a known bioavailability enhancer of herbal origin) and antioxidants. Considering the local popularity of this species and its potential as a source of livelihood to the island farmers, it was identified as a novel crop for the islands. The vine produces abundant adventitious roots on each node, which strongly adhere to the support while growing. Stem thickness increases even up to 9 cm as the vine grows. The germplasm may be exploited for commercial-scale cultivation as an intercrop in the arecanut in the warm and humid tropical islands, and it may go well with tree crops under protected conditions.

The crop was christened by the researchers at CIARI as woody pepper to give it an international identity. Dr. Ajit Arun Waman and Dr. Pooja Bohra, Senior Scientists, ICAR-CIARI made consolidated efforts under the guidance of the Director- Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, and a collection of it was registered as a novel germplasm (INGR 25029) at ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi.



Plate 12. Woody Pepper germplasm registered by CIARI at NBPGR, New Delhi



Plate 10. Dweep MAS-Poultry Feed” licensed at CIARI- Minicoy

### Technology Commercialization of Dweep Go-Fly formulation process: A Step towards Sustainable Fly Management

ICAR-CIARI has successfully developed Dweep Go-Fly, a ready-to-use spray formulation designed to repel house flies and flesh flies. The product is a blend of three safe chemical compounds, a non-toxic organic polar solvent, and essential oils—ensuring it is safe for humans, animals, and the environment. Dweep Go-Fly offers effective fly repellency for up to 4 hours in open environments such as fish markets and livestock sheds, and up to 24 hours in enclosed spaces like homes, bakeries, and sweet shops. This technology is not only expected to serve the needs of the island communities but also holds significant market potential across mainland India, promoting hygienic surroundings and enhancing food safety standards. Scientific team: Dr. Talaviya H., Dr. D.



Plate 11. Dweep Go-Fly” commercialized by ICAR-CIARI



## Women empowerment activities/trainings

### ICAR-KVK, N & M Andaman Celebrates 7<sup>th</sup> Poshan Pakhwada (8<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2025) to Promote Maternal and Child Nutrition

ICAR-KVK, N & M Andaman, celebrated the 7<sup>th</sup> Poshan Pakhwada on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025, aligning with this year's national focus on addressing malnutrition and promoting nutrition awareness at the grassroots level. The program aimed to sensitize pregnant and lactating women, mothers of children up to 5 years of age, and Anganwadi Workers on the importance of nutrition, health, and dietary diversity for maternal and child well-being.

At the outset, Shri Yatharth Sharma, Subject Matter Specialist (Home Science), welcomed all the participants and highlighted the critical role played by Anganwadi Workers in ensuring mother and child health, especially in rural areas. He also stressed the importance of the First 1000 Days of Life as a vital window for ensuring lifelong health and development. Further he elaborated on the importance of dietary diversity, nutrigarden (Poshan Vatika), and balanced diets for pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children. He also explained the significance of this year's themes such as the popularization of the Poshan Tracker App and the implementation of the CMAM (Community-Based Management of Acute

Malnutrition) Module.

Shri. Subam Debroy, Subject Matter Specialist (Aquaculture), spoke on the nutritional importance of fish in the local diet, emphasizing its role as an affordable and rich source of protein and essential micronutrients, particularly valuable for children and expectant mothers in the Andaman region. Shri. Rakesh Dawar, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy), informed participants about nutrient-rich crops and biofortified varieties suitable for local cultivation, encouraging women to adopt kitchen and nutrition gardens to improve family nutrition and dietary intake.



Plate 13. ICAR-KVK, N&M Andaman celebrates 7<sup>th</sup> Poshan Pakhwada

## Participation in seminars/ symposia/ conferences/ workshop

Name	Programme	Details
R Kiruba Sankar	SANGITI-2025, Survey of Andaman and Nicobar Governance initiatives for transformative islands	DBRAIT, Sri Vijaya Puram during April 28-29, 2025
Raj Narayan	Conference SANGITI-2025 (Survey of Andaman & Nicobar Governance Initiatives for Transformative Islands) on 29.04.2025	Andaman and Nicobar Administration, Sri Vijaya Puram during April 28-29, 2025
I. Jaisankar	National workshop on celebrating tribal ingenuity: strategies for protecting, valuing, and marketing tribal farmers' varieties, innovations and geographical assets	Regional Station of ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on May 1, 2025 (Virtual).
Ajit A. Waman	XXXIV AGM of AICRP on Plantation Crops	AC&RI, Madurai, Tamil Nadu during May 7-9, 2025.
T.Sujatha	National workshop on sustainable agriculture through natural farming	May 13, 2025 by ASA, ICAR-CIARI and Gujarat Natural Farming Science University
V. Damodaran	National workshop on "Scientific agriculture through Natural Farming"	May 13, 2025 ICAR-CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram



Name	Programme	Details
Yatharth Sharma Subam Debroy Rakesh Dawar	National workshop on “Scientific agriculture through Natural Farming”	May 13, 2025 ICAR-CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram. Around 18 farmers joined the workshop in online mode at KVK Nimbudera.
I. Jaisankar	Presented the project achievement in 25 <sup>th</sup> Annual group meeting on AICRP on Tuber Crops	May 19-20, 2025 at Hyderabad conducted by CTCRI, Trivendrum
Raj Narayan	Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan- 2025	Diglipur, nimbudera during May 29- 31, 2025 & June 1-2, 2025

## Distinguished visitors

Name	Designation
Prof. Anil Kumar Singh	RAC Chairman
Dr. V. B. Patel	Assistant Director General (F&PC) ICAR, RAC member
Dr. J. Rema	Former Director ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode, RAC member
Dr. N. P. Sahu	Joint Director, ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, RAC member
Dr. R.R.B. Singh	Vice Chancellor, DSVC Kamdhenu, RAC member
Dr. S.K. Singh	Ex Director, ICAR - National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning
Dr. M. Senthil Kumar	Director (R), Coffee Board
Dr. N. Surya Prakash Rao	Former Director (R), Central Coffee Research Institute, Coffee Board, Chikkmangaluru
Dr. Suresh Kumar	Former HOD, PB & G (R), Coffee Board
Dr. Nandgopal	Deputy Director (Planning & Coordination), Coffee Board
Gopalam Santhanam	General Manager, NABARD, Sri Vijayapuram
Shri. Chank Basha Saik	The Coast Guard CEO, Minicoy visited the ICAR-CIARI Regional Station, Sri Vijaya Puram, on 15th June 2025.

## New projects/ initiatives & Infrastructure development

### New project proposals

- "Development of coconut based natural farming system models for Andaman and Nicobar Islands" has been submitted by Dr. I. Jaisankar, Senior Scientist to the National Mission on Natural Farming, NRM Division, ICAR, New Delhi.
- “Assessment and strengthening of round year vegetable production through acquisition and

utilization of germplasm and strategic introduction” (Dr. Raj Narayan, Head, Horticulture & Forestry Division)

### Other information

- Dr. J. Praveenraj served as a member of the technical committee meeting of the RGCA to oversee the activities of RGCA at Kodyaghat, tiger shrimp nucleus breeding centre.

## Personnel

### Promotion

- Shri. M. Srinivasan, SSS to T-1 on May 6, 2025
- Shri. Satya Narayan, SSS to T-1 on May 6, 2025
- Shri. Bikash Mondal, SSS to T-1 on May 6, 2025

### Transfer

- Dr. K. Saravanan, Sr. Scientist transferred to ICAR-CIBA, Chennai
- Shri. B.V.B. Swamy, SSS transferred to ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad.

- Shri. BBV Trinath, SSS to ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad.

### Superannuation

- Shri. Nemai Chandra Paul, Ex-T2 on April 30, 2025
- Smti. Champa Das, Technician on May 30, 2025



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Photographs	:	Mr. K. Ali Akbar
Address	:	ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Sri Vijaya Puram-744105, A & N Islands
Phone No.	:	03192-250436
E-mail	:	director.ciari@icar.org.in