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Cyber Extension Training

An orientation programme on cyber extension was conducted for the agriculture officers of Thrissur and Ernakulam districts. 21 persons attended the programme. The agriculture officers were trained to use new agricultural softwares and familiarisation of agriculture related websites was done by experts.

Orientation Training

An orientation training on IT and Cyber Extension was conducted for Vocational Higher Secondary certificate holders was conducted on 27th October at centre for E Learning Vellanikara. 15 persons attended the training programme.

Organic food against cancer



Studies have proved recently that organic foods help in reducing the probability of getting cancer. It sounds unbelievable but this is true and has been scientifically proved over and over again. Organic foods increase the antioxidant level in the body.

Antioxidants are essential in eliminating the chances of getting cancer as one grows older. Antioxidants are compounds that may shield cells from the impairment initiated by unstable substances that are known as free radicals. Free radical impairment is the main reason behind the cause of cancer. Antioxidants merge with and cause the free radicals to stabilize and may stop some of the impairment free radicals.

To further open the eyes of people on the benefits of organic foods, it must be observed that traditional foods make use of pesticides, herbicides and hormones which contribute largely to cancer development. Imagine increasing your chances of getting a disease which can kill when eating food which is meant for survival. It is better to prevent than to neglect an impending situation. To stick on the safer side, the population should encourage organic food consumption for good health and in the long run reduction in the death rates.

Hormone treatment in vegetables



We can use plant growth hormones in fruit and vegetable cultivation. It is used to enhance germination, flowering, and fruit development. And ripening. IAA, NAA, 2,4-D, gibberellic acid, cytokinin, ethylene etc are used. Application of biofertilizers should be done carefully.

Each hormone should be applied in appropriate time. Usually they are used at a low concentration. For example, we use 2-5 ppm 2,4-D for early ripening of tomato and chilli. The success of hormone treatment is based on climate change, variety & growth habit.

Courtesy: Karshakasree

Liquid Biofertilizers

Biofertilizers are such as *Rhizobium*, *Azospirillum* and *Phosphobacteria* provide nitrogen and phosphorous nutrients to crop plants through nitrogen fixation and phosphorous solubilization processes.

These Biofertilizers could be effectively utilized for rice, pulses, millets, cotton, sugarcane, vegetable and other horticulture crops. Biofertilizers is one of the prime input in organic farming not only enhances the crop growth and yield but also improves the soil health and sustain soil fertility.



At present, Biofertilizers are supplied to the farmers as carrier based inoculants. As an alternative, liquid formulation technology which has more advantages than the carrier inoculants can be used. It has longer shelf life -12-24 months, No contamination, No loss of properties due to storage upto 45° C, Greater potentials to fight with native population, Easy identification by typical fermented smell, Cost saving on carrier material, pulverization, neutralization, sterilization, packing and transport, Quality control protocols are easy and quick, Better survival on seeds and soil etc.

Courtesy: Karshakasree

Potato beans- A New Salad Crop



Potato beans

RM-1, a potato beans variety released from Rajendra agriculture university, is found to be suitable for Kerala. It has a duration of 150 days and the tuber is used for consumption. Tubers have the shape of beet root but light yellow in colour. Inner part can be cut into round pieces and can be used as salad. It contains only 5-6% sugar. And is usually grown up to 1000 m from mean sea level. It grows in all types of soil and gives higher yield in alluvial soil. RM-1 has a yield of 40-45 tonnes.

Courtesy: Karshakasree