



KSNUAHS News Letter



Volume - 13 Issue - 2

April - June, 2025

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From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk.....

Greetings to one and all.....

Bio-fortification refers to the enhancement of the nutrient density of food crops through conventional plant breeding, advanced agronomic practices, and modern biotechnological interventions, without compromising characteristics preferred by consumers or farmers. In India, 13.7% of the population is undernourished, 35.5% of children under five years of age are stunted, and 18.7% are wasted. Furthermore, approximately 67.1% of children between 6 and 59 months and 52.2% of pregnant women aged 15–49 years suffer from anaemia. Karnataka reflects similar trends, with 39.7% of children being stunted and 17.6% underweight. Economic development is intrinsically linked to the quality of human capital; hence, the government implements targeted policy interventions to mitigate these nutritional challenges. It is estimated that every one rupee invested in nutrition programmes yields a return of ₹1,383. Addressing malnutrition requires a comprehensive and holistic strategy, which may include food fortification, medical supplementation, dietary diversification, and bio-fortification. Food fortification entails the addition of essential nutrients to food products to enhance their nutritional value. Medical supplementation involves the provision of vital nutrients in the form of tablets or capsules. Dietary diversification focuses on incorporating a variety of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, and vegetables into the diet. Bio-fortification, distinct from these approaches, involves the breeding or genetic modification of crops to increase their intrinsic nutrient content.



The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) plays a leading role in advancing bio-fortification as a viable and sustainable solution to malnutrition. ICAR has developed 87 bio-fortified cultivars across 16 crop species, which have been integrated into the agricultural value chain to promote improved human health. It has also initiated two specialised programmes: *Nutri Sensitive Agricultural Resources and Innovations (NSARI)* and *Value Addition and Technology Incubation Centres in Agriculture*, aimed at upscaling bio-fortified varieties through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). Bio-fortified foods are economically accessible, as consumers are not required to pay additional costs to obtain them, and the government incurs no extra expenditure for their distribution, unlike in the case of medical supplementation. Academic institutions are also actively engaged in this domain. Notably, research efforts are underway to develop bio-fortified varieties of major cereals cultivated by farmers within their jurisdiction, in collaboration with leading national research bodies such as the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).


Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha

An ever-green revolution implies the enhancement of productivity in perpetuity without associated ecological harm. -M. S. Swaminathan

Fruits and Food Mela-2025 of ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga



The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Shivamogga, celebrated its Silver Jubilee, marking 25 years of uninterrupted service to the farming community. As a part of the celebration, a ***Fruits and Food Mela*** was organized at the KVK campus in Navile, Shivamogga, from **April 26 to April 28, 2025**. The event featured a wide array of local fruits, food products, and culinary specialties from various districts of Karnataka. The inaugural programme was graced by Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director of ATARI, Zone-XII, Bengaluru, and was chaired by Smt. Sharada Poorya Naik, Hon'ble MLA, Shivamogga Rural Constituency. Distinguished guests included Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga; Sri G. H. Shrinivas, Hon'ble MLA, Tarikere; Sri S. Ravikumar, Director, Karnataka State Bhovi Development Board; and Smt. Balkish Bhanu, Hon'ble MLC, Shivamogga, along with senior officers from KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. A total of 150 exhibition stalls were set up to display a variety of fresh fruits, processed food items, and local handicrafts. The Mela attracted participation of numerous local farmers, artisans, and food vendors who showcased their products and demonstrated their skills. The event drew a large and diverse audience across age groups and backgrounds, including farmers, farm women, youth, entrepreneurs, consumers, students, and families. Visitors appreciated the Mela for its excellent organization and the rich display of local agricultural and culinary diversity. As part of the celebration, visitors also toured the demonstration units at the KVK campus, which included the Integrated Farming System, Beekeeping Unit, Sheep and Poultry Farming Unit, Hydroponics, Cacophony Unit, Vermicomposting Unit, Borewell Recharge System, Terrace Garden, and the Ornamental Fish Unit. A key highlight of the Silver Jubilee celebrations was the release of a special commemorative Souvenir, which chronicled ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga's 25-year journey and honored former staff for their significant contributions to its growth and achievements.

During the Mela, several technical sessions were organized to disseminate knowledge and promote best practices in agriculture and allied sectors. The topics covered were Scientific Beekeeping Practices and Value Addition of Honey, Processing, Value Addition, and Export Opportunities of Agricultural and Horticultural Produce, *Meliponiculture* (Stingless Beekeeping), Commercial Applications of Bee Venom, Terrace Gardening and Kitchen Waste Utilization, Bonsai Cultivation, Consortium of Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), FPC Formation and Future Prospects, Cashew Production Techniques and Processing, Cocoa Production Techniques. These sessions aimed to enhance the technical knowledge of farmers, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders. The Mela witnessed an overwhelming response, with attendance exceeding 100,000 visitors in three days.

Vikasit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan

The **Vikasit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA)** was successfully conducted by the Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences (KSNUAHS), Shivamogga, during **May 29 to June 12, 2025**. This initiative was part of a nationwide campaign launched by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The primary objectives of the campaign were to disseminate advanced agricultural technologies, raise awareness about government schemes, promote soil health-based nutrient management, and document innovative farming practices. Scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Extension Education Units (EEUs), research stations, constituent colleges, and ICAR institutes actively participated in the campaign. VKSA activities were conducted across 805 villages through 607 structured programmes. In total, 79,830 farmers were reached, including over 24,000 individuals engaged through mass media platforms.



Details of Vikasit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA)

Sl. No.	Date	Venue	Organization	No. of Beneficiaries
01	29-05-2025 to 12-06-2025.	Nine Taluks of the Chikkamagluru District	ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Chikkamagluru	17,239 Nos.
02	29-05-2025 to 12-06-2025.	Gram Panchayats (GP) of the Udupi District	ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Udupi	17,000 Nos.
03	29-05-2025 to 12-06-2025.	Gram Panchayats (GP) of the Chitradurga District	ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Chitradurga	14,082 Nos.
04	29-05-2025 to 12-06-2025.	Holalur village, Shivamogga District	ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Shivamogga	25,738 Nos.

District Level Seminar on Integrated Pest and Disease Management in Cashew

A District-Level Seminar on **Integrated Pest and Disease Management in Cashew**, sponsored by the Directorate of Cashew and Cocoa Development, Cochin, Kerala, was held on **June 26, 2025**, at Ambedkar Bhavana, Avinahalli Gram Panchayat, Sagara. The seminar was organized for the benefit of farmers and farm women of Shivamogga district in collaboration with Shri Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project (SKDRDP), the Department of Horticulture, Sagara, and the Gram Panchayat of Avinahalli. The technical session focused on plant protection strategies in cashew cultivation and was attended by approximately 250 farmers and farm women. The programme aimed to enhance awareness and knowledge of sustainable pest and disease management practices among cashew growers in the region.



Agri-Education Fair



The College of Horticulture, Hiriya, organized an **Agri-Education Fair on June 30, 2025**, at Tulasi Hall, Hiriya. The event was inaugurated by Sri Sudhakar D., Hon'ble Minister for Planning and Statistics, Government of Karnataka, and District In-Charge Minister for Chitradurga. The primary objective of the fair was to raise awareness among Pre-University students about academic opportunities in agriculture and allied sciences. The initiative aimed to assist students in making informed choices regarding their higher education and career paths. Established in 2010, the College of Horticulture, Hiriya, has played a pivotal role in addressing the educational aspirations of rural and local students in Chitradurga district. Recently, the college introduced a B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree programme alongside its existing horticulture offerings, both of which have seen encouraging enrolment. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Minister announced a financial grant of ₹50 lakhs for the development of the infrastructure of the college. Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, addressed the gathering and emphasized the expanding scope of agricultural education and the diverse career prospects available to graduates, both domestically and internationally. Dr. K. C. Shashidhar, Registrar, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, delivered an informative lecture highlighting the breadth of academic programmes in agriculture and other professional disciplines available across India. His presentation provided valuable guidance to students exploring post-Pre-University education options. Members of the University Board, senior officers, and faculty from various PU colleges were also present. The fair was well-received and effectively fulfilled its goal of inspiring and informing young minds about the opportunities within the agricultural sector.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Capacity Building Program on Integrated Farming System

The ICAR–National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad, in collaboration with ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Udupi, organized a five-day capacity building programme on **Integrated Farming System (IFS)** for Scheduled Caste farmers under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) scheme. The training was conducted at



KVK Udupi from **May 19 to May 23, 2025**. A total of 40 farmers participated in the programme and benefited from both the training sessions and the distribution of essential agricultural inputs. The training module covered key aspects of Integrated Farming Systems, including its principles, implementation practices, and the integration of various crop and livestock components. In addition, field visits and study tours to farms of award-winning farmers were organized to provide hands-on exposure and real-world insights into successful IFS models.

World Honey Bee Day

World Honey Bee Day was observed with the theme *“Bee Inspired by Nature and Nourish Us All”* at two locations: ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Chikkamagaluru on **May 20, 2025**, and the Zonal Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station (ZAHRS), Babbur Farm, Hiriya on **May 23, 2025**. The programme aimed to raise



awareness about the ecological and agricultural significance of honey bees, and to highlight the role of youth in conserving these vital pollinators. Mr. Ranjith, an experienced beekeeper from Aldur, Chikkamagaluru, addressed the participants and emphasized the economic benefits of beekeeping, particularly its contribution to sustaining farm income. The event benefited 76 participants at ICAR-KVK, Chikkamagaluru, and 35 farmers and farm women at ZAHRS, Babbur Farm, Hiriya.

Capacity-Building Program for FPO Leadership

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga, in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for **Farmer Producer Organisations**, University of Horticultural Sciences (UHS), Bengaluru, organized a two-day Capacity Building Programme for Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Board of Directors (BODs) of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) from Shivamogga and Haveri districts. The programme, held from **June 20 to 21, 2025**, focused on the theme *“Roles & Responsibilities, Administrative Management, and Convergence of FPOs in Value Chain Engagement.”* The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. In his address, he highlighted the critical role FPOs play in strengthening agricultural value chains through collective action. He noted that FPOs facilitate better access to inputs, credit, and technology, while also improving marketing and processing capabilities. These efforts help reduce costs, minimize post-harvest losses, and add value to agricultural produce, thereby enhancing farmer resilience and income. Other dignitaries from the university also graced the occasion, along with Shri Dinesh, Director, Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF). CEOs and Board of Directors from various FPOs across Shivamogga and Haveri districts actively participated in the training programme.



International Exposure

A team from KSNUAHS, Shivamogga including the Registrar, Director of Research, and five faculty-visited the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand, and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines, from **May 10–14, 2025**. The visit focused on building academic collaborations and exploring student–faculty exchange opportunities.

Earlier, faculty members attended the **International Conference on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change (ICSAPCI)** on **May 8–9** in Manila, co-organized by KSNUAHS, NEUST Philippines, and Confworld ERDA.

Recognition Highlights:

- ✦ **Dr. K. C. Shashidhar** received the **Best Research Award**
- ✦ **Dr. Vinaya Kumar H. M.** earned the **Best Presentation Award**

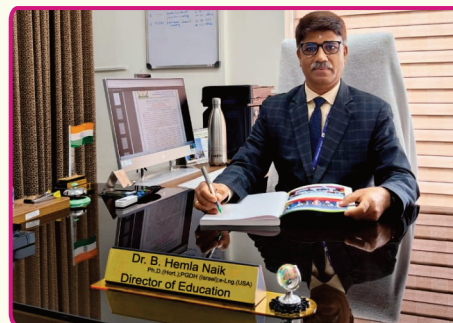
KSNUAHS's work in sustainable agriculture and climate resilience drew strong appreciation on the global stage.



Nomination for different organisation/ Universities

Dr. B. Hemla Naik, Director of Education, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga has been nominated as;

- Hon'ble Member of South Zone as Zonal Councilor of Society for Promotion of Horticulture, ICAR-IIHR, Bangalore for 2 years from 2025 to 2027.
- Expert Member of the Academic Council of UHS, Bagalkot for 2 years from 2025 to 2027.



Sports Achievements

The 22nd All India Agricultural Sports Meet was held at Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Kumarganj, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, from **May 2 to May 5, 2025**.

Students from the university delivered an outstanding performance, securing a total of eight medals: six gold, one silver, and one bronze. The prize winners are as follows:

- ✦ Shivaraj 1500m running Gold Medal,
- ✦ Darshan 400m running Gold Medal,
- ✦ Firoz, Prajwal, Abhishek, Dharshan 4x100m. Relay Gold Medal
- ✦ Prajwal High Jump Silver Medal
- ✦ 400-meter Hurdles – Bronze Medal

The team also achieved the **Men's Overall Championship Runner-Up** position in athletics, marking a significant accomplishment at the national level. A total of eight medals were won, including six gold, one silver, and one bronze.



Celebration of Important Days

Events celebrated at various constituent colleges, research stations and ICAR-KVKs :



Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on April 10, 2025. All officers, staff members, and students actively participated in the celebration.



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Jayanti and Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram Jayanti were jointly celebrated on April 14, 2025. On

this occasion, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, delivered a speech highlighting the life and contributions of both eminent leaders. The event saw enthusiastic participation from officers, staff, and students. Celebrations were held across all constituent colleges, research stations, and the University.

A **laptop distribution** programme was organized on **May 6, 2025**, at the College of Horticulture, Mudigere. Laptops were distributed to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students studying in various constituent colleges of the University. Dr. M. Ravi Kumar, Director, SC/ST Cell, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, along with other university officers, participated in the event



Jagajyothi Sri Basaveshwara Jayanthi was celebrated on **April 30, 2025**. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha addressed the gathering about the life and legacy of Jagajyothi Sri Basaveshwara. Officers, staff, and students participated in the event.

International Yoga Day was celebrated on **June 21, 2025**. The chief guest Devanavathe Jalayoga delivered a talk on the importance of yoga in daily life. Officers, staff, and students were participated. The celebration was held across all constituent colleges, research stations, and the University.



Photo News

Training and Capacity Building Programmes Conducted (April–June 2025)

A series of training and capacity-building programmes were conducted by various ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendras and affiliated institutions during April to June 2025, focusing on skill development, scientific farming practices, and sustainable agriculture. The details are as follows:



A **Five days Training Programme on "Mushroom Production Technologies"** was organized by ICAR-KVK, Chikkamagaluru in collaboration with NAARM, Hyderabad.

A **one-day skill-oriented capacity building programme on Scientific Beekeeping** was conducted on April 2, 2025, by ICAR-KVK, Chikkamagaluru, in association with the Central Coffee Research Institute, Government of India, Balehonnur.



To,

Patron-in-Chief**Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Vice-Chancellor****Patron Chairman****Dr. B. Hemla Naik, Director of Education****Editor****Dr. Basavaraj Beerannavar****Associate Editor****Dr. T. M. Soumya****Assistant Editor****Dr. Mallikarjuna M. C.****Assistant Editor****Dr. Priyanka***If undelivered please return to:*

The Editor, University Communication Centre, KSNUAHS, Iruvakk, Shivamogga - 577 412



A capacity development programme on **“Integrated Nutrient Management and Intercrops in Arecanut”** was held at Malenalli, Shivamogga on **April 05, 2025**.



A training programme on **Pest and disease management in Horticulture crops** was organised under the RKVY project. by ICAR-KVK, Chithradurga on **May 05, 2025**.



A training programme on **Safe use of Pesticides** was held at Rangenahally, Hiriyur taluk on **May 13, 2025** by ICAR-KVK, Chithradurga in collaboration with the

Department of Agriculture, Chithradurga.



A 3days **“Skill Development Training on Coconut Tree Climbing”** was organized by ICAR-KVK, Chithradurga from **June 16 to 18, 2025**.



A oneday training programme on the use of **Bio-Fertilizers, Waste Decomposer and Microbial Consortium** was conducted on **June 17, 2025**

by ICAR-KVK, Chikkamagaluru in association with Sehgal Foundation, Chikkamagaluru.

A training programme on **Agriculture input dealers on safe use of pesticides and fertilizers** was conducted by ICAR-KVK, Chithradurga on **May 13, 2025**.

**World Environmental Day**

was celebrated by the NSS Unit, College of Agriculture sciences, Iruvakk in collaboration with AICRP on Agro forestry and Bio diesel unit MAHRS, Iruvakk on **June 5, 2025**.



World environmental Day organized by NSS Unit, College of Horticulture, Mudigere in Collaboration with Department of Forest, Mudigere on **05-06-2025**.



The Farmers Training Institute, Iruvakk, successfully organized a one day on-campus training programme on **“Integrated Management in Arecanut”** on **23-06-2025**.



ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga in collaboration with KCRLPS, Zilla Panchayath, Shivamogga organized five days residential training programme for **Krishi Sakhi** workers from **June 23 to 27, 2025**. at the KVK Campus Shivamogga

