

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE , DIRECTORATE
OF AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND FARMERS' WELFARE, VIKAS
BHAVAN, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

(Present : Dr.K.Vasuki IAS)

Sub: Annual Plan 2020-21 – Scheme for Development of Spices – Continuous
Administrative sanction modified – orders issued- reg:

Read: 1) G.O.(Rt)No.781/2017/AD dated.04.08.2017
2) Order No. TP(2) 12925 /2019 Dated:16.05.2019 and 12.06.2019
3) Annual Plan 2020-21
4) Circular No. S.S.1/132 (1)/2020/Fin dt. 30.3.2020.
5) Circular No. 21/fin/2020 dt 08-04-2020
6) G.O.(Rt) No.393/2020/Agri dated.22/4/2020.

Order No.ADFW/478/2020-TP2

Dated:08.06.2020

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st above accorded Administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, Development of Spices 2017-18 and continuous Administrative Sanction was accorded during 2019-20 as per reference 2nd cited above for an amount of Rs.946.25577 lakhs.

As per the Annual Plan 2020-21 the scheme is proposed to be continued during the current financial year with a budget allocation of Rs.1010.00 lakhs abiding by the norms and conditions of the Government Order read 1st above. Out of this, an amount of Rs.7.51595 lakh was allotted for encashment of bills not e-submitted to treasury upto 31.3.2020 and submitted on or before 18/4/2020 as per Circular cited (4) above and an amount of Rs.183.4836 lakh was allotted for encashment of 'Queue' bills & WAMS clearance bills of 2020-21 as per Circular cited (5) above. Hence the balance available for issuing Administrative sanction during 2020-21 is only Rs.819.00045 lakh as stipulated in the above mentioned circulars.

The details of continuing components for a total amount of Rs.669.00045 lakhs is given below:

1. Area Expansion of Pepper (Rs.50.00 lakhs)

Establishment of new pepper garden with high yielding varieties of pepper can be undertaken for improving the productivity of pepper. The estimated cost for the establishment of one ha of pepper garden is Rs. 40000/-. Financial assistance proposed is 50% of the total cost limited to Rs. 20000/- ha. During the year 2020-21, total area of 250ha is proposed to be brought under cultivation with improved varieties of pepper and an amount of Rs.50.00 lakhs is set apart for this component.

2. Area expansion of other spices (Rs.40.00)

a) Ginger / Turmeric

The main objective is to increase the area of Ginger and turmeric using high yielding and improved varieties, productivity improvement of organic ginger and

turmeric and to assist farmers in technology adoption for higher production. The cultivation of ginger and turmeric with high yielding varieties adopting scientific cultural practices will be undertaken for increasing production and productivity. As these crops are shade tolerant with shallow roots suitable for intercropping, there is immense scope for area expansion.

As far as possible the scheme should be implemented in a compact area on cluster basis so as to supervise the programme effectively. In the case of Ginger and Turmeric the assistance will be 50% cost of inputs limited to Rs.12500/- per ha. Farmers will be provided assistance for inputs i.e. for lime, compost/ farm yard manure, wood ash, bio fertilisers and bio control agents.

It is proposed to cover 240 ha during 2020-21 and an amount of Rs.30.00 lakhs is set apart for this component.

b) Nutmeg/ Clove

The climatic conditions of Kerala suit nutmeg and it is grown in homesteads as an intercrop. The area expansion programme is to promote cultivation of the locally adapted and improved varieties of nutmeg / clove. The financial assistance should be extended to farmers for area expansion of nutmeg/ clove using high quality planting materials and meeting cost of inputs for adopting INM/ IPM.

Financial assistance @ Rs.20000/- per ha will be provided for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of inputs for INM/ IPM etc. It is proposed to cover 50 ha during 2020-21 and an amount of Rs.10.00 lakhs is set apart for this component.

3. Establishment of De-centralized Pepper nurseries (Rs.3.00 lakhs)

One of the major problems faced by the pepper farmers is the non availability of good quality rooted pepper cuttings. Improved varieties play a significant role in augmenting the yields in any production programme. Effect of inputs applied and good practices followed can be fully realized only with the adoption of improved varieties. To achieve this, good quality planting material has to be made available to pepper farmers. Small scale nurseries with production capacity of 0.5 lakh cuttings per nursery per year can be operated through SHGs, Women Groups, Unemployed youths etc. with technical support from Department of Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University and Research institutions, Central Government institutions, KVKs etc.

During 2020-21, a total of 10 nos. of de-centralized pepper nurseries are proposed to be implemented with an assistance @ Rs.30000/-per nursery with an outlay of Rs 3.00 lakhs.

4. Revitalization of Pepper garden (Rs.177.00 lakhs)

Revitalization involves gap filling with new pepper vines, replacing damaged standards, carrying out fertilizer/manure and lime application and plant protection

measures with the aim of rejuvenating unproductive and neglected pepper gardens. Financial assistance of 50% of the total cost limited to **Rs.10000/ha** will be given during 2020-21 for maintenance of gardens covering an area of **1770 ha** for carrying out these activities in all districts, except Wayanad where assistance will be provided under Wayanad Package scheme. Farmers will be provided assistance for inputs i.e. for lime, farm yard manure/ compost, plant protection chemicals and bio control agents. An amount of **Rs.177.00 lakhs** is set apart for this purpose.

5. Integrated Pepper Development in Idukki (Rs.399.00045 lakhs)

Pepper is one of the major spice crop of Kerala. Idukki ranks first both in terms of area and production of Pepper in Kerala covering an area of **42694 Ha.** as in 2015-16. Both Central and State Governments are implementing various programmes for development of spice crops in the state which have yielded some results. However, farmers are not able to reap the benefits of high commodity price for pepper prevailing in domestic market. This is due to decline in the area and production of pepper in the state due to pest and disease occurrence, senility of vines and poor management. Incorporating new technologies in management of pepper gardens including production techniques in planting material production is the need of the hour. The present proposal for Integrated Pepper development aims at restructuring pepper development activities for augmenting production and productivity in Idukki district which can be replicated throughout the state.

Objectives

1. To increase production and productivity of pepper.
2. To increase and popularize high yielding planting materials with latest technology.
3. To ensure local availability of quality planting materials by promoting local nurseries.
4. To utilize latest technology in the production of planting materials with high vigor and yield potential.
5. To rejuvenate pepper plantations through proper crop health management.
6. To create model plots adopting latest technology so that farmers get first hand awareness of technology which will enhance the rate of adoption.

Project Area

The activities will cover all the gramapanchayats in Idukki district.

Approach

Cluster approach is proposed in implementing the scheme which will increase efficiency of agricultural practices, instill confidence in the members of the group, ensure adoption of technology and reduce the management cost of gardens as a whole.

Components of the programme

1. Area Expansion Programme
2. Support for onfarm production units of Trichoderma/VAM
3. Promotion of farmer varieties

4. Promotion of use of pepper grafts
5. Promotion of soil-less pepper nurseries
6. Support for secondary and micro nutrient application
7. Support for soil ameliorants application
8. Prophylactic spraying through Agro Service centres
9. Revitalization of pepper samities
10. Operational expenses
11. Travelling Expenses

a) Area Expansion of Pepper

Establishment of new pepper garden with high yielding varieties of pepper can be undertaken for improving the productivity of pepper. The estimated cost for the establishment of one ha of pepper garden is Rs.40000/-. An amount of **Rs.20000/-** (limited to 50% of the total cost) can be given as assistance.

During the year 2020, total area of **1015 ha** is proposed to be brought under cultivation in Idukki with improved varieties of pepper. An amount of **Rs.203.00 lakhs** is set apart for this purpose.

b) Demonstration of farmer developed varieties

There are around 75 no, of pepper varieties in cultivation now. This include both indigenous/local varieties like Aimpiriyan, Kottanandan, Vellamunda and high yielding varieties like Panniyoor series developed in research stations. There are farmer developed varieties also like Aswathy, Suvarna and Pepper Thekken which have special qualities like resistance to particular disease, specific morphological characters (like more number of berries/spike) which gives higher yield etc. Such varieties can be made popular among cultivators through establishing their Demonstration plots. Farmers can visit these plots and get a first hand information on the superior qualities of the variety concerned. This will also be a encouragement and recognition to the farmer who developed it.

Financial assistance will be provided @**Rs.10,000/-** to establish a demonstration plot of 0.10 ha. **10 such plots** are proposed for which **Rs.1.00 lakhs** is set apart.

c) Support to secondary and micro-nutrients

Secondary and micronutrients play an important role in crop yield and quality particularly if the soil is deficient in Calcium, Magnesiun, Sulphur, Zinc, iron etc.

An assistance of **Rs.500/ha** is proposed towards expenses involved like cost of nutrients and it is proposed to cover an area of 1000 ha for which **Rs.5.00 lakhs** is set apart for cost of nutrients including soil sample collection, transportation analysis etc.

d) Support to soil ameliorants

It is proposed to cover **870.5 ha** under this component to correct soil acidity. An assistance of **Rs.5400/ha** is proposed towards expenses involved like cost of soil ameliorant and its application costs etc. A total amount of **Rs.47.00 lakhs** is proposed for this component.

e) Prophylactic Spraying through Agro Service centres against Quick wilt of Pepper

Quick wilt, which is a fungal disease, is one of the main reasons for inflicting heavy losses in the pepper production in the traditional pepper producing areas. The fungus attacks both the root system as well as the aerial parts of the pepper plant. The attack on the root system causes complete damage of the plant within months. Most effective control against this disease is spraying with 1% Bordeaux Mixture / 0.2% Copper oxychloride and/or soil drenching with the same @3-5 litres/plant base.

To encourage farmers to take up this plant protection activity, it is proposed to give assistance for spraying @ **Rs.10000/- per hectare** including cost of fungicides and labour charge. The total area proposed to be covered is **1300 ha** and the total financial requirement is **Rs.130.00 lakhs**. The programme will be implemented on a campaign mode with the support of Agro Service centres of each area. The service of trained personnel in these centres can be effectively utilized for the purpose.

f) Revitalization of Pepper samithies

An amount of **Rs.9.00 lakhs** is proposed apart for revitalisation of 36 samithies providing assistance @ **Rs.0.25 lakh/samithy**. The assistance is proposed to be utilized for carrying out basic functions like registration, maintenance of records, for meeting expenses in organizing meetings, arranging inputs, setting up of bio pharmacy etc. Expenditure for activities related to organic farming can also be met from this provision.

g) Operational Expenses

For effective implementation of the project, operational expenses for meeting fuel charges of vehicle, training expenses, review meeting, documentation etc are to be met from the project funds. An amount of **Rs.2.00 lakhs** is proposed for the purpose.

h) Travelling Expenses

Idukki district has 8 blocks with head quarters at Thodupuzha. For implementing this scheme, extensive field visits are to be conducted for proper supervision and farmers training to be organised for extensive use of bio control agents for Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM). Hence provision for meeting travel expenses of field staff, Agricultural Officers, Assistant Directors of Agriculture

and supervising officers is essential for the effective implementation of the scheme. An amount of Rs.2.00045 lakhs is set apart for the purpose.

Components of 'Integrated Pepper Development in Idukki'

Sl. No.	Component	No. of units/ha	Unit cost (Rs.)	Total amount required (Rs.in lakhs)
a	Area expansion of pepper	1015 ha	20000/- per ha	203.00
b	Demonstration of farmer-developed varieties (unit area - 0.10 ha)	10 no.s	10000/- per unit	1
c	Support to secondary and micro nutrients a. Cost of inputs b. Collection of soil samples, transportation, etc.	550 ha	500/Ha	5
d	Support to soil ameliorants	870.5 ha	5400/ha	47.00
e	Prophylactic Spraying through Agro Service centres against Quick wilt of Pepper	1300 ha	10000/ha	130
f	Revitalization of pepper samities	36 samithies	25000/samithy	9.00
g	Operational expenses			2
h	Travelling Expenses			2.00045
	Total			399.00045

Financial Outlay

An amount of Rs.669.00045 lakhs is required for implementation of the continuing scheme 'Development of Spices' during 2020-21. The component wise breakup is as follows.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	No. of units / ha	Unit cost (Rs./unit or ha)	Total Amt. required (Rs in lakhs)
1	Area expansion of pepper	250	20000	50
2	Area expansion of other spice crops			
	a.ginger/turmeric	240	12500	30
	b. nutmeg/clove	50	20000	10
3	Establishment of decentralised pepper nurseries (No.)	10	30000	3
4	Revitalization and rejuvenation of pepper gardens	1770	10000	177
5	Integrated Pepper Development in Idukki			
a	Area expansion of pepper	1015	20000	203
b	Demonstration of farmer developed varieties	10	10000	1

	Support to secondary and micro nutrients			
c	Cost of inputs & Collection of soil samples, transportation, etc.	1000	500	5
d	Support to soil ameliorants	870.5	5400	47
e	Prophylactic spraying through Agro Service Centres against Quick Wilt disease.	1300	10000	130
f	Revitalization of pepper samities	36	25000	9
g	Operational expenses including transportation			2
h	Travelling Expenses			2.00045
	Sub Total 4 (a-h)			399.0045
	Grand Total (1-4)			669.00045

(Rupees six crores sixty nine lakhs and forty five only)

In the circumstances mentioned above, modified continuous Administrative Sanction is hereby issued for the implementation of the scheme 'Development of Spices' during 2020-21 for an amount of **Rs.669.00045 lakhs (Rupees Six Crores Sixty Nine Lakhs and Forty five only)**, as per the above statement debiting the expenditure to the head of account 2401-00-108-59 (P) from current year's budget provision. The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the Government Order read above.

As per G.O read as reference (6) above, fund allocation for schemes have to be provided AEU wise. Accordingly, implementing sections at the Directorate of Agriculture will provide AEU wise fund allocation while issuing working instructions for the scheme.

Monthly progress report should invariably contain component wise physical and financial targets and achievements, number of beneficiaries and the stage of implementation of each component. Since the Government is giving emphasis to women participation and gender budgeting, maximum efforts have to be made to include women beneficiaries in the scheme. The number of women beneficiaries and the amount utilized for such beneficiaries (component wise) should also be separately shown in the monthly progress report.

To
 Copy to
 TS section of the directorate for issue of detailed working instructions
 TA to Director of Agriculture, CA to All Additional Directors of Agriculture of the HQ, State Agricultural Engineer, Senior Finance Officer for information
 IT section of the directorate for posting on the website

Sd/-
 Deputy Director of Agriculture (Plg)
 Directorate of Agriculture
 Kuvempur

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