

TF(2)20026/18

Office of the Director of  
Agriculture Development &  
Farmers Welfare Department  
Thiruvananthapuram

Email: [organickerala2016@gmail.com](mailto:organickerala2016@gmail.com)

Date: 19/08 /2018

### **CIRCULAR**

Sub:- Annual Plan 2018-19-Scheme on Organic Farming and Good Agricultural Practices 2018-19 - Project on Farm schools and trainings under Good Agricultural Practices - Administrative Sanction accorded from  
-Working Instruction issued:-reg

Ref:- 1)G.O(Rt) No.753/2018/AD Thiruvananthapuram dtd 26.07.2018

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy as it supplies raw material for many of industries and it is the source of livelihood for majority of the rural population in the country. There had been innumerable transformations in cultivation practices of crops to suit the demands of the populace. The demand for food is ever mounting due to persistent increase in human and animal population in the country. As a result the indiscriminate use of fertilizers and pesticides increased in order to fulfill the need of population. It immensely harmed biological activity of the soil rendering it almost lifeless. Persistent Pesticides which are not easily degradable have entered the food chain posing numerous health hazards. Still the developing countries are using banned chemicals like DDT, BHC etc which leads to severe problems to human as well as soil resulting in the diminishing agriculture.

In recent years there has been a backlash against the environmental effects of conventional inorganic agriculture resulting in the organic, regenerative, and sustainable agriculture movements.

Government of Kerala is promoting Organic farming in the state from 2012-13 onwards with the ultimate objective of transforming the state into completely Organic. The programme was initiated in Kasargode district, which was declared as organic district in the year 2012. Agricultural activities are promoted in an ecofriendly manner giving emphasis to the production and application of organic inputs, integrated methods for nutrient management and pest disease management etc. Thus the idea of Farm schools works very well here. The purpose of farm school is to work with farmers to help them & build knowledge and skills to make their farms more profitable and sustainable.

To promote organic farming among youth and farmers there is need to organize awareness programmes including Training, Workshops, Conducting Farm Schools and Model Organic Demonstration Units etc. Hence Department of Agriculture has come forward with the captioned programme covering the following objectives.

### **Objectives**

- 1) To create awareness and to spread knowledge among farmers regarding latest technologies and techniques in organic farming.
- 2) To promote organic farming among rural youth.
- 3) To create awareness among farmers regarding GAP certification.
- 4) To promote entrepreneurship among youth and farmers in organic farming sector.

## **Programmes**

- 1) To Organize Farm Schools on Organic farming in order to disseminate technologies and techniques in Organic Farming.
- 2) To conduct State and District level workshop on Organic farming and GAP Certification
- 3) To Establish model demonstration plots.
- 4) Conducting training on organic farming.
- 5) Conducting exposure visits for farmers to nearby model organic farms/Institutions.

### **1) Farm Schools**

Farm schools aim at developing farmers' skills and improving their knowledge, changing their attitudes towards farming as a business and producing according to market demand. Farm school provides a platform for farmer for learning and interactions, where outstanding and experienced farmers can share their experiences with other farmers and solve problem (if any) through regional options. Farm School can accommodate at least 30-35 people without causing any inconvenience to farmer in reaching the school. It provides various awareness generation programmes such as trainings, seminars, workshops and exposure visits organized by agriculture departments. The farmers can stay in the 'Farm School', learn and experience the innovations of the **"Teacher"**. The 'Teachers' in schools could be progressive farmers/experts where students are the farmers of different villages. The main activity of Farm school is to operationalize **"Organic farming"** and providing awareness about **GAP certification**. This programme has been designed to be demand responsive, flexible and practical. Farmers learn in small groups, in their own farming environment or at their residence. A model organic farm with an area of 1-2

acre is selected, the 'Teacher' will be practicing the principles of organic farming and he will be a model achiever farmer to the locality & able to disseminate the knowledge to other farmers. Agriculture Officer will select the 'Teacher' with the approval of Panchayath standing committee/Karshika Vikasana Samithi.

The Farm schools provide season long technical training (at least 6 classes) to farmers on Organic Farming and the activities continue for two years. Teachers may visit Farm schools to see each other as when required and as per schedule. The knowledge and skills of farmer students and Teachers could be sharpening through training, and exposure visits at district/state level. The responsibility of students is to provide support to other farmers in their respective or neighbouring village.

Method demonstration of Preparation of bio-pesticides, Preparation of manure units, Pest & disease management etc will be dealt in Farm School.

This Component will be implemented in 152 Blocks in the State providing an assistance of Rs.40,000/-per block. The amount can be utilised for the expenses relating to conduct of classes, Method demonstration, Trainings. The expenses relate to refreshment charges, stationary and materials for demonstration, teaching etc.

A total sum of Rs.50.8 Lakhs is set apart towards implementing this component in 152 blocks.

## **2.State level and District level work shops on Organic Farming and GAP Certification**

### **a) Two Day State Level Workshop**

A State level work shop on Organic farming and GAP certification may be organized inorder to create awareness among farmers. A Two day State level workshop on 'Organic Farming and Good Agricultural Practices' ensuring participation of selected Farmers, (DDA(NWDPRA), ADA(M), Facilitators and Technology managers from all districts will be conducted.

An amount of **Rs.60000/-** is earmarked to conduct the workshop.

### **b) District Level Work shop**

District level work shop will be conducted for the farmers inorder to create awareness among farmers about Organic Farming & GAP Certification and the new technologies and techniques in Organic agriculture with the participation of all Assistant director of Agriculture,all Agriculture Officers and the staff associated with Organic farming.One such Workshoip per district will be conducted with an assistance of **Rs.30,000/-** for each workshop.

A total sum of Rs.4.20 Lakhs has been set apart towards this component.

## **3.Training Programme**

### **a)Training to Agriculture Officers on Organic Farming & GAP Certification**

Training to all Agriculture Officers on Organic Farming & GAP Certification will be conducted in all districts. In a District, Training for Agriculture Officers and ADAs will be conducted in two batches. Assistant Director of Agriculture with the help of Technology Manager will be the

resource persons for conducting the programme. Service of an expert also be obtained for the training programme. Two such training programme will be conducted in all districts except Wayanad (one) and Kasargode (one) with an assistance of **Rs.20,000/-** per training programme. A total sum of Rs.5.20 Lakhs is earmarked for conducting 26 such training programmes.

#### **b) Training to Farmers**

In addition to technical support through farm schools, knowledge and skill of Farmers may also be upgraded through workshops and training Programmes, training to farmers including Field demonstration, Capacity building of Stake holders and Organic farming and Good Agriculture Practices. Training programmes will be conducted to a group of 30-35 farmers. Total of 70 such trainings are to be conducted. **Rs.20000/-** will be earmarked for one such training cum demonstration programme. A total of Rs.14.00 Lakhs is set apart for implementing this component.

#### **4.Exposure Visit**

Exposure visit of farmers to the Model Organic farms (Farmer's field)/institution etc may be arranged in order to encourage farmers to pursue organic cultivation and develop enthusiasm among them. **30-35 Farmers** from two adjacent blocks will be taken as a group and exposure visit will be conducted. Total of 76 such exposure visits will be conducted. **Rs.20000/-** will be earmarked for one such exposure visits. A total of Rs.15.20 Lakhs is set apart for implementing this component.

## **Financial Outlay**

An abstract of the programme under the scheme is furnished below:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Components</b>	<b>Physical Target</b>	<b>Rate of Assistance</b>	<b>Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)</b>
<b>1</b>	Farm Schools -(1 Farm school per Block)	152	40,000	60.8
<b>2</b>	Organizing State Level and District Level Workshops on Organic Farming and GAP certification			
a	State Level Workshops (2 days)	1	60,000	0.60
b	Conducting district level Workshop on Organic farming & GAP certification. (1 per district)	14	30,000	4.20
<b>3</b>	Training Programmes			
a	Training to Agricultural Officers on Organic Farming and GAP Certification	26	20,000	5.2
b	Training to Farmers on Organic Farming & GAP Certification.	70	20,000	14
<b>4</b>	Exposure visit for farmers to Model organic farm/farmer's field etc/institutions.	76	20000	15.2
	<b>Total</b>			<b>100.00</b>

**Rs.100.00 Lakhs (Rs.One Hundred Lakhs only)**

### **Financial Outlay**

During the current financial year, there is a budget provision of Rs.1011 Lakhs for the scheme "Organic Farming and Good Agricultural Practices" under the head of account **2401-00-105-85(P)**. Out of this an amount of **Rs.100 Lakhs** (Rs. One Hundred Lakhs only) has been earmarked for implementing the captioned programme 'Farm School'.

The District wise details of the activities under the programme Farm Schools under Good Agricultural Practices is attached in Annexure I.

### **Mode of Implementation**


At the State level, the scheme will be monitored by Additional Director of Agriculture (M) and assisted by Joint Director of Agriculture (PP). Organic Farming Cell will coordinate the programme at state level. At the district level Principal Agriculture Officer will monitor and evaluate the scheme. The Deputy Director of Agriculture (NWDPPRA) will implement the scheme and will furnish the monthly progress report on Organic Farming activities to Directorate of Agriculture on 5<sup>th</sup> day of every month. The implementation of marketing components under the scheme will be supervised by Assistant Director of Agriculture (M).

Sd/-

**Director of Agriculture**

Copy to:

- 1) All Additional Directors of Agriculture
- 2) All Principal Agricultural Officers
- 3) All Assistant Directors of Agriculture
- 4) CA to DA
- 5) IT website

  
**BABY GIRIJA. B., B.Sc (Ag), MBA**  
Deputy Director of Agriculture  
State Organic Farming Cell  
Directorate of Agriculture  
Thiruvananthapuram



## Farm schools under Organic farming and Good Agricultural Practices 2018-19

## Components (Amount in Lakhs)

Sl No	Name of Districts	Farm Schools		State level Workshop		District level workshop		Training to Agricultural officers		Training to farmers		Exposure Visit		Total
		Phy	Fin	phy	fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	
1	Thiruvananthapuram	11	4.4	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	5	1.0	6	1.2	7.3
2	Kollam	11	4.4	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	4	0.8	5	1.0	6.9
3	Pathanamthitta	8	3.2	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	4	0.8	4	0.8	5.5
4	Alappuzha	12	4.8	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	5	1.0	6	1.2	7.7
5	Kottayam	11	4.4	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	5	1.0	5	1.0	7.1
6	Idukki	8	3.2	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	4	0.8	4	0.8	5.5
7	Ernakulam	14	5.6	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	6	1.2	7	1.4	8.9
8	Thrissur	16	6.4	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	8	1.6	8	1.6	10.3
9	Palakkad	13	5.2	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	6	1.2	7	1.4	8.5
10	Malappuram	15	6	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	7	1.4	8	1.6	9.7
11	Kozhikode	12	4.8	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	6	1.2	6	1.2	7.9
12	Wayanad	4	1.6	0	0	1	0.3	1	0.2	2	0.4	2	0.4	2.9
13	Kannur	11	4.4	0	0	1	0.3	2	0.4	5	1.0	5	1.0	7.1
14	Kasaragode	6	2.4	0	0	1	0.3	1	0.2	3	0.6	3	0.6	4.1
15	Head Quarter	0	0	1	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.6
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>60.8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>100</b>

Sd/-  
Director of Agriculture

**BABY GIRIJA B, B.Sc (Agriculture)**  
Deputy Director of Agriculture  
State Organic Farming  
Directorate of Agriculture  
Thiruvananthapuram