

TF(2) 39703/2017

Directorate of Agriculture Development  
& Farmer's Welfare, Vikas Bhavan,  
Thiruvananthapuram  
Dated: 24.1.2018

### **CIRCULAR**

Sub: Annual Plan 2017-18- Scheme on "Soil Health Management and Productivity Improvement"-Root Health Management practices- Working Instructions for the component 'Application of biofertilizers and biopesticides' issued-reg

- Ref: 1. G.O. (Rt.). No. 634/17/AD dated 23.06.2017  
2. Letter No. TP (2) 16107/17 dated 04/05/2017 of the Director of Agriculture  
3. Circular of even no. dated 17.1.2018

As per Government Order cited above, Administrative Sanction has been accorded for the implementation of the scheme "Root Health Management practices" with components for providing assistance for application of biofertilizers/biopesticides and establishment of onfarm production units of Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhizae(VAM). The scheme is to be implemented during 2017-18 at a cost of Rs. 100 lakh from the total budget outlay of Rs. 2700 lakh set apart for "Soil Health Management and Productivity Improvement" under the H/A 2401-00-800-28 Plan.

#### **Objectives**

- To introduce the concept of Root Health Management
- To promote cultural practices to support root development and growth like seed treatment using biofertilizers and biopesticides
- Application of Trichoderma
- Use of Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhizae(VAM)
- Application of Phosphate Solubilizing Bacteria (PSB)
- Organic manure application
- Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria(PGPR)

#### **Programmes**

Two components are included under the scheme., viz., providing assistance for

application of biofertilizers/biopesticides and establishment of Onfarm Production Units of Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhizae(VAM). The working instructions for Establishment of Onfarm production units of Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhizae (VAM) has already been issued vide reference 3rd cited.

**Providing assistance for application of biofertilizers/biopesticides:**

To support root development and growth, cultural practices like seed treatment using biofertilizers and biopesticides, application of Trichoderma, use of Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhiza(VAM), application of Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria(PSB), Organic manure application, Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria(PGPR), etc are to be promoted, for which assistance is provided. Assistance can be provided for application in crops like vegetables, banana, paddy, spices, etc. The inputs should be purchased from approved sources like laboratories/ farms under the Department of Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University, Central Government Institutions and approved private agencies .

**Assistance provided:**

Under the scheme, 50% assistance is to be provided on the cost of biofertilizers and biopesticides. Assistance @ 75% can also be provided on the cost of medium(FYM/cowdung, etc) for mixing of biofertilizers/biopesticides (eg. Trichoderma with FYM/cowdung) and the labour charge required for mixing and application.

**Mode of implementation:**

The field level implementation will be done by the Agricultural Officers of the concerned Krishi Bhavans.

The scheme will be implemented by the Deputy Directors of Agriculture (WM) at District level and the Assistant Directors of Agriculture at block level.

**Monitoring:**

Additional Director of Agriculture (Planning) will be in charge of the programme at the State level. The Principal Agricultural Officers will monitor and co-ordinate the programme at the district level. Monthly progress reports should be furnished to the Director of Agriculture by

the 5th of every month. The crop wise physical achievement under the scheme should be reported to this office after implementation.

### Financial Outlay

The financial outlay for this programme is Rs. 40 lakh, which can be met from the budget provision earmarked for the scheme 'Soil Health Management and Productivity Improvement 2017-18' under the head of account 2401-00-800-28 Plan.

Sd/-

Director of Agriculture

### Copy to:

1. All Principal Agricultural Officers
2. TA to Director of Agriculture
3. All Additional Directors of Agriculture
4. DDA, IT Cell (for publishing in the website)
5. Accounts Section
6. Planning section for allotment of funds
7. Stock file/ Spare

*Rajasee I*  
25/1/18  
**RAJASEE I**  
Assistant Director of Agriculture  
Directorate of Agricultural Development  
& Farmers Welfare, Vilas Tharun  
Thiruvananthapuram

## Annexure

### Financial target for application of biofertilizer/biopesticide

Rs. in lakh

Sl. No.	Name of District	Financial target
1	Thiruvananthapuram	4
2	Kollam	4
3	Alappuzha	4
4	Kottayam	4
5	Ernakulam	4
6	Thrissur	4
7	Palakkad	4
8	Malappuram	4
9	Kozhikkode	4
10	Kannur	4
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>