

CIRCULAR

Sub: Annual Plan 2020-21- Scheme on "Augmenting Production and distribution of quality planting materials through Departmental Farms KERASAMRUDHI" for popularization of dwarf and hybrid varieties in Kerala to sustain coconut cultivation as a profitable and manageable venture – working instructions issued-reg.

Ref: 1. G.O. (Rt.) No. 803/2017/AD dated 19.08.2017
2. Order No.ADFW/489/2020- TP (2) dt.15/06/2020

Government of Kerala, vide GO read ^{1st} above have accorded administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, "Production and Distribution of Quality planting materials during 2017-18 and vide reference 2nd cited continuous administrative sanction for an amount of Rs.314 lakhs has been accorded under head of account 2401-00-104-91(P) for the component "KERASAMRUDHI" during 2020-21 with the following objectives:

1. To bring 25% area under cultivation of dwarf varieties of coconut that is fit for both culinary purpose and oil extraction.
2. To bring 10% area under cultivation of hybrid varieties of coconut.
3. To raise germplasm of promising dwarf palms in 10 ha in selected department farms for hybridization programme.
4. To undertake hybridization for hybrid seed nut production
5. To supply WCT coconut seedlings to meet the existing demand.
6. To increase the production and productivity of coconut in the State.

Now, **Rs. 314 lakhs** has been earmarked for the implementation of the scheme – Kerasamrudhi during 2020-21. Accordingly, the working instructions are issued for the implementation of the scheme "Kerasamrudhi" during 2020-21 with the following components. As per the G.O(Rt)No.1144/2018/Agri dt.19/11/2018 the procurement rate for WCT/Dwarf seed nuts is Rs. 70/nut and for hybrid seed nuts is Rs.75/nut.

1.Procurement of dwarf seed nuts(Rs. 0.70 lakhs)

An amount of **Rs 0.70 lakhs** is earmarked for the implementation of the component - Procurement of dwarf seed nuts. This will be done by Seed Development Unit, Chavakkad, Thrissur.

The mother palm selection and collection of nuts should be done strictly in accordance with the guidelines stipulated in Package of Practices Recommendations of KAU/coconut manual of Department of Agriculture.

The Dwarf coconut seed nuts will be procured from farmers @ Rs. 70/- per nut. Proper registers and records must be kept at the Krishi Bhavans in connection with the procurement of seed nuts and payment of seed nut cost to farmers.

The district wise target is shown below;

SI.No.	Name of PAO	No. of dwarf seed nuts to be procured	
		No. to be procured	Amount (in lakhs)
1	Thrissur	1000	0.7
	Total	1000	0.7

2.Procurement of hybrid seed nuts(Rs.37.5 lakhs)

During 2019-20 hybridization activities were carried out in superior dwarf/tall coconut mother palms identified in farmers' field for the production of hybrid seed nuts. It is expected that approximately **0.5 lakh** no. of hybrid seed nuts will be available for procurement during 2020-21 as detailed below. An amount of **Rs. 37.5 lakhs** is set apart for this purpose. The Assistant Directors at seed procurement units will procure the quality hybrid seed nuts as per the guidelines given in the Package of Practices, Kerala Agricultural University/Manual for Coconut Nurseries from the palms already hybridized in farmers' field @ Rs.75/- per hybrid seed nut.

Procurement will be done at selected centres under the Department of Agriculture viz Model Hybridisation centre(TXD Unit) chalde-Kannur, Seed Development Unit Chavakkad,Thrissur Seed Garden Complex Munderi and Malappuram field.

The district wise target is shown below:

SI. No	Name of PAO	No. of hybrid seed nuts to be procured	Amount allotted (in lakhs)
1	Thrissur	28000	21.00
2	Malappuram	2000	1.500
3	Kannur	20000	15.00
	Total	50000	37.5

3. Procurement of WCT seed nuts(Rs.252 lakhs)

Considering the longevity of tall coconut palms, yield and high oil content, there is constant demand among the farmers for WCT coconut seedlings. Moreover, the Department of Agriculture has been producing and distributing quality tall coconut seedlings every year as a part of its routine activities. During the year 2020-21, it is proposed to procure **3.6 lakh** nos. of WCT coconut seed nuts from disease free areas for raising seedlings in coconut nurseries and farms under the department for production and distribution of quality seedlings. The cost of one WCT coconut seed nut is Rs.70/-. An amount of **Rs. 252 lakhs** is set apart towards the cost of WCT seed nuts.

Procurement will be done at selected procurement centres under the Department of Agriculture, viz. Seed Development Unit Vadakara (Kozhikode) Seed Development Unit Chavakkad (Thrissur), TXD Pollination Unit Chalode, (Kannur) and Seed Garden Complex Munderi (Malappuram).

The district wise target is shown below:

Sl. No.	Name of PAO	No. of WCT nuts to be procured	Amount allotted (in lakhs)
1.	Thrissur	40000	28.00
2.	Kozhikode	300000	210.00
3.	Kannur	20000	14.00
	Total	360000	252.00

4. Raising germplasm of dwarf coconut palms in selected departmental farms (Rs. 0.30 lakhs)

In order to ensure the availability of various promising DxT coconut hybrids in adequate numbers in future, it is proposed to raise a germplasm of different dwarf coconut varieties in **0.75ha (150 no.)** in selected department farms for utilization in hybridization programme. Dwarf coconut seedlings procured from authentic sources like the CPCRI, KAU, other State Agricultural Universities and other reliable sources will be utilized for the programme. An amount of **Rs.0.30 lakhs** is set apart for this purpose @ Rs.200/- per seedling. The Principal Agricultural Officers will select the farms for raising the germplasm and report.

The district wise target is shown below:

Sl. No.	Name of PAO	Area to be covered (ha)	No. of dwarf seedlings to be planted	Amount allotted (in lakhs)
1.	Alappuzha	0.25	50	0.10
2.	Thrissur	0.25	50	0.10
3.	Malappuram	0.25	50	0.10
	Total	0.75	150	0.30

5.Undertaking hybridization in dwarf coconut palms for DXT hybrid seedling production(Rs. 1.5 lakhs)

Hybrid coconut seedlings have a crucial role in stepping up the production and productivity of the crop in the state as they are capable of breaking the yield barrier in productivity. They are both high yielding and early bearing & grow up to medium stature. It is proposed to undertake hybridization activities in **100 no.** of dwarf coconut palms identified in the state for procurement of hybrid seed nuts.

Hybridization is proposed to be carried out in hybridization centres under the Department of Agriculture, viz. Seed Development Unit Chavakkad (Thrissur), TXD Pollination Unit Chalode, (Kannur) and Seed Garden Complex Munderi (Malappuram). An amount of **Rs.1.5 lakhs@Rs.1500/palm** is set apart for this purpose.

Sl. No.	Name of PAO	No. of dwarf palms to be identified for hybridization	Amount allotted (in lakhs)
1.	Thrissur	50	0.75
2.	Malappuram	50	0.75
	TOTAL	100	1.5

6. Transportation Charges of seed nuts and seedlings(Rs. 15 lakhs)

Transportation of coconut seed nuts and seedlings forms the essential part of the programme. An amount of Rs. 15 lakhs is set apart for meeting the transportation charges of coconut seednuts and seedlings under this programme

The district wise target is shown below:

Sl. No.	Name of PAO	Amount allotted (in lakhs)
1	Thrissur	2.25
2.	Malappuram	0.50
3.	Kozhikkod	11.5
4.	Kannur	0.75
	Total	15.00

7. Miscellaneous Expences(Rs. 7 lakhs)

Miscellaneous expenses like purchase of materials for marking & banding of mother palms, pollination activities, sealing of seed nuts, preparation of data base etc. form essential part of the programme. An amount of **Rs. 7.0 lakhs** is set apart for meeting the miscellaneous expenses related to pollination,preparing inventory etc.

The district wise target is shown below:

Sl. No.	Name of PAO	Amount allotted (in lakhs)
1	Thrissur	1.5
2	Malappuram	0.5
3	Kozhikkod	4.0
4	Kannur	1.0
	Total	7.0

General guidelines

1. The selection of mother palms for seednut procurement should be as per the guidelines given in the package of practices recommendations of Kerala Agricultural University/Manual for coconut nurseries of the Department of Agriculture.
2. Care should be taken in the selection of good quality seed nuts from the selected mother palms. Only fully matured, medium sized seed nuts will be selected. Fruit weight should be more than 400 g and spherical or oblong in size and shape. Undersized and oversized nuts should be rejected at the time of inspection of harvest and also while loading the seed nuts in lorries for despatch.
3. Harvesting of seed nuts by farmers will be done under the direct supervision of Agricultural Assistants in Krishi Bhavans and selected nuts should be sealed and stored as per the procedure at one point. As soon as the nuts are selected, the same should be sealed using sealing hammers on the entire segment at the distal end of the nuts. Seed nuts without sealing should not be taken for sowing and the same will be rejected and returned. In case the seed nuts are to be rejected the sealing should be cancelled by sealing cross wise over the seal already marked.
4. Since the dwarfseed nuts need to be sown within 15- 20 days, make sure that the dwarf seed nuts procured reach the Coconut Nurseries/Farms where the nuts are to be sown within this time limit. The staff at Krishi Bhavan/ Assistant Director of Agriculture/ Farm Officers/ Deputy Director of Agriculture should be vigilant in this aspect at appropriate level. Transportation cost will also be provided for seed procurement based on store purchase rules
5. Utmost care should be taken for the selection of parent palms for hybridization. The details of pollination and hybridization works undertaken should be properly entered in registers maintained at field offices. Maximum number of dwarf mother palms of the locality/farms should be identified for carrying out hybridization works for the production of hybrids.
6. Proper registers and records must be kept at the Krishi Bhavans/procurement centres in connection with the selection of mother palms, procurement of seed nuts and payment of seed nut cost to farmers.
7. The Agricultural Officers/ Agricultural Field Officers should monitor the programme at Panchayat/Municipality/Corporation level and inform the progress to the Assistant Director of Agriculture concerned. After the harvest of the day is over, the Agricultural Assistants should physically verify the total number of nuts recorded in the field note book. This must tally in all the cases. The Agricultural Assistants should post their entries in the mother palm register maintained in the office on the same day itself. Under no circumstances this should be postponed. Over writing or erasing should not be made both in the field note book and in the mother palm registers.
8. Utmost care should be taken for the selection of parent palms for hybridization. The details of pollination and hybridization works undertaken should be properly entered in registers maintained at field offices. Maximum number of dwarf mother palms of the locality/farms should be identified for carrying out hybridization works for the production of hybrids.

Supervision

All the palms selected under the programme should be periodically inspected by both Agricultural Officers and Agricultural Assistants. The Assistant Director of Agriculture at block level should closely watch the implementation of the programme and should ensure that a minimum of 10% of the plots are inspected by them. Deputy Director of Agriculture (YP) in charge of the scheme at District level should inspect 5% of the plots. The Principal Agricultural Officers of the districts should visit at least 1% of the gardens/plots. It should be ensured that the palms are selected according to the guidelines specified. In the case of erring officers, appropriate actions should be initiated/ recommended to higher officials at state level.

Additional Director of Agriculture (Farms) is monitoring the scheme at state level. The Principal Agricultural Officers should submit fortnightly report of the programme to the Additional Director of Agriculture (Farms) in his name cover. Any difficulties or bottle necks in the implementation of the programme should be brought to the notice of the Director of Agriculture or Additional Director of Agriculture (Farms) or Joint Director of Agriculture (Farms) and get it cleared then and there.

The expenditure towards the implementation of the scheme will be met from **Rs. 314 lakhs** earmarked for the component "Kerasamrudhi" under the Head of account: **2401-00-104-91 Plan.**

To
 All Principal Agricultural Officers
 Except Wayanad
 Copy to
 All Additional Directors of Agriculture
 All Joint Directors in HQ
 Planning Section/ TA to Director of Agriculture
 DDA (IT) for publishing in the website
 SW section for updation in plan space

Sd/- 
 Director of Agriculture

Additional Director of Agriculture
 (Farms, Biogas & Fisheries)
 Directorate of Agriculture
 Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-33

Annexure 1

Allotment of funds under Kerasamrudhi 2020-21.H/A 2401-00-104-91 Plan

Sl no	Item	Districts										Total Allot Rs.in lakhs
		ALP		TSR		MLPM		KKD		KNR		
		Phy Target	Allotment Rs in lakhs	Phy Target	Allot In lakhs	Phy Target	Allot In lakhs	Phy Target	Allot In lakhs	Phy Target	Allot In lakhs	
1	Procurement of dwarf seed nuts	-	-	0.01 lakhs	0.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.70
2	Procurement of hybrid seed nuts			0.28 lakhs	21	0.02	1.5			0.2	15.0	37.5
3	Procurement of WCT seed nuts			0.4 lakhs	28			3.0 lakhs	210	0.2	14.0	252
4	Raising germplasm of dwarf palms	0.25 ha	0.1	0.25 ha	0.10	0.25 ha	0.10					0.3
5	Hybridisation in dwarf palms			50 Palms	0.75	50 palms	0.75					1.50
6	Transportation &				2.25		0.50		11.5		0.75	15.0
7	Miscellaneous expenses				1.5		0.5		4.0		1.0	7.0
	TOTAL		0.1		54.3		3.35		225.5		30.75	314

(Rupees Three Hundred and fourteen lakhs only)

For Director of Agriculture

Additional Director of Agriculture
(Farms, Biogas & Vegetables)
Directorate of Agriculture

Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-33

TH (2)11548/2020

Directorate of Agriculture
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram
Dt. .07.2019

NOTE

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- Ref: 1. G.O. (Rt.) No. 803/2017/AD dated 19.08.2017
2. Order No.ADFW/489/2020- TP (2) dt.15/06/2020
3.This Office circular of even no.dt 30 / 06 /2020

Government of kerala, vide GO read 1st above have accorded administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, "Production and Distribution of Quality planting materials during 2017-18 and vide reference 2nd cited continuous administrative sanction for an amount of Rs.314 lakhs has been accorded under head of account 2401-00-104-91(P) for the component " KERASAMRUDHI" during 2020-21. Accordingly, working instructions have been issued as per ref (3) above and the planning section is requested to allot funds to the following Principal Agricultural Officers under H/A 2401-00-104-91 plan for the implementation of the scheme.

Sl.no.	Name of PAQ	Amount to be allotted(Rs. In lakhs)
1	Alappuzha	0.10
2	Thrissur	54.3
3	Malappuram	3.35
4	Kozhikkod	225.5
5	Kannur	30.75
	TOTAL	314.0

(Rupees Three Hundred and Fourteen Lakhs Only)

To Name of PAQ
Planning Section
Alappuzha

Copy to
(1) SW Section
(2) PAOs of the above Districts
Kannur
TOTAL

For Director of Agriculture

Additional Director of Agriculture
(Farms, Biogas & Vegetables)
Directorate of Agriculture
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-33