

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

(Present : Dr.K.Vasuki IAS)

Sub: Annual Plan 2021-22 – Scheme for **Production and Distribution of Quality Planting Materials** – Continuous Administrative Sanction accorded – orders issued.

Read: 1) G.O.(Rt) No. 803/2017/AD dated.19.08.2017
2) Order No. ADFW/489/2020-TP2 dated: 15.06.2020
3) G.O(Rt) No.548/2020/AGRI dated 18.6.2020
4) G.O(Rt) No.555/2020/AGRI dated 22.6.2020
5) G.O(Rt)No.634/2020/AGRI dated 02.07.2020
6) Annual Plan 2021-22

Order No. ADFW/2997/2021-TP2

Dated: 17.04.2021

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st above 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 was accorded for an amount of Rs. **1144.61142** lakh under Head of Account 2401-00-104-91(P) after allotments made for encashment of Queue, WAMS and other pending bills of 2019-20 during 2020-21. In addition administrative sanctions were obtained for an amount of Rs.25.00 lakh for the component ‘Technical integration through Integrated Farming System Research Station, Kerala Agricultural University, Karamana’, Rs.100.00 lakh for component ‘Production of planting materials of Fruits and Vegetables through VFPCCK’ and Rs.94.48 lakh for ‘Propagation and management of Coffee including drip irrigation in nurseries’ vide references 3rd, 4th and 5th read above.

As per the Annual Plan 2021-22 the scheme is proposed to be continued during the current financial year with a budget allocation of Rs.1295.00 lakhs with an amount of Rs.1095.00 lakhs under head of account 2401-00-104-91(P) and Rs.200.00 lakhs under head of account 4401-00-104-98 (P). An abstract of the components included in the scheme during 2021-22 for the amount of **Rs.1250.00** lakh is as follows:

Sl. No.	Components	Amount (₹ in lakh)	
		2401-00-104-91	4401-00-104-98
1	Routine Planting material production including rooted pepper cuttings	650.00	
2	Maintenance of progeny orchards & establishing new progeny orchards	80.00	
3	Seed production programme in State Seed Farms	200.00	
4	Operational and technology support to demonstration units for HTF units & Integrated Farming Systems in Department Farms	50.00	
5	Manpower support to the TC labs	15.00	
6	Production of planting material of fruits and vegetables through VFPCCK	100.00	
6	Mechanisation in special farms &		200.00

	infrastructure development		
	TOTAL	1095.00	200.00

The details of continuing components for an amount of Rs.1195.00 lakh are as follows:

1. Routine Planting Material Production Including rooted pepper cuttings (Rs.650.00 lakh)

This component is envisaged to meet the requirement for routine activities of special farms, transferred farms and production of rooted pepper cuttings including transportation cost of pepper cuttings. Out of this Rs.100.00 lakh each is earmarked for planting material production in Idukki and Wayanad districts.

a) Special farms and Transferred farms (Rs.494.00 lakh)

The main objective of this component is to transform the farms under the Department of Agriculture into model, market-oriented agricultural units. The major share of the scheme is proposed for the following purposes:

1. Purchase of inputs for production of planting materials and for maintenance of existing crops including machinery and irrigation components.
2. For meeting the input costs and gap filling needs including implementing minor works and transportation charges in special farms.
3. For meeting the travel and fuel expenses.

Sl. No.	Item	Amount (Rs.in lakhs)
1	Input cost and minor works of special farms including transportation charges	396.00
2	Gap filling needs of farms transferred to LSGDs including transportation charges	80.00
3	Fuel and travel expenses	
	Tour TA	8.50
	POL	7.50
4	Operational support at HQ (conduct of review meetings, purchase of computers and accessories etc.)	2.00
	Total	494.00

An amount of **Rs.494.00 lakhs** is earmarked for this purpose.

b) Production of rooted pepper cuttings (Rs.156.00 lakhs)

Good quality, high yielding varieties of pepper cutting are to be produced in farms for distributing to farmers through Krishi Bhavans. It is proposed to produce 43.33 lakh nos. of rooted pepper cuttings in department farms during 2020-21. The existing inputs and facilities in farms can be utilized for the production of rooted pepper cuttings.

The estimated cost of rooted pepper cuttings in department farms is calculated as Rs. 3/- per cutting. Physical target proposed is 43.33 lakh nos. and **Rs.130.00 lakhs** is required for this purpose. The amount will be utilized to meet the cost of mother vine, potting mixture, cost of poly bags and other inputs for plant protection activities. The cost of mother vine is fixed as Rs. 5/- metre.

Transportation Cost : The rooted pepper cuttings produced in farms are to be transported to various Krishi Bhavans in the State. An amount of **Rs. 26.00 lakhs** is needed for this purpose.

The total fund requirement for the production of rooted pepper cuttings, including transportation cost works out to **Rs.156.00 lakhs**.

2) Management of existing progeny orchards and establishment of new progeny orchards (Rs.80.00 lakhs)

It is proposed to improve the existing progeny orchards in Special Farms and DAFs. The programme include cutting of old, senile mother plants and gap filling with new varieties of fruit crops like mango, jack, guava etc. It is proposed to implement the programme in selected farms. Establishment of new progeny orchard involve planting new varieties of fruit plants suitable for the locality. Plants can be purchased from Kerala Agricultural University, research stations, approved nurseries etc.

Details of the component is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Particulars	Unit Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Units (ha)	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Management of existing progeny orchards (gap filling using high yielding varieties of fruit plants, pruning, providing modern irrigation facilities, plant protection, manuring etc	2	24	48
2	Establishment of new progeny orchard as demonstration plots, new varieties of Mango, Jack, Guava, Cashew and other fruit plants desired for the locality. Plants can be purchased from University, approved nurseries, research stations etc (land development activities, modern irrigation facilities, manuring, plant protection, purchase of planting materials etc.)	1.93575	16.53	32
	Total			80.00

An amount of Rs.80.00 lakhs is earmarked for this purpose.

3) Seed Production Programme in State Seed Farms (Rs.200.00 lakh)

There are 33 State Seed Farms under the Department of Agriculture They are entrusted with the task of producing good quality seeds, which are distributed to farmers mainly through Krishi Bhavans. To meet the rising demand for quality seeds, State Seed Farms should be further strengthened to increase the quantity of seeds of new high yielding varieties suitable for each locality and for different systems of cultivation. Support for purchase inputs for seed production, improving infrastructure facilities in these farms including mechanization are essential. **An amount of Rs.200.00 lakh is set apart for these activities.**

a) Inputs, transportation costs, mechanization

The Seed Production Programme involves purchase of breeder seed materials from reputed institutions like State Agricultural Universities. In addition, purchase of inputs like materials for

preparation of media, organic manure, biofertilisers and biocontrol agents to cover nutritional and plant protection aspects, transportation cost etc are also needed. The expenditure involved for this item may be met from the budget provision.

b) Improved Farm Mechanization programme

Farm operations like land preparation, sowing/planting, weeding and harvesting need deft hands to complete the works in a limited period of time. Shortage of skilled manpower and their limited output are major impediments in increasing seed production and farm development. Hence mechanization to be resorted to increase the output efficiency of seed farms. Various equipments and machinery like tillers and tractors, transplanter, cono weeder etc may be purchased as per requirement of each farm.

c) Infrastructure Development

Purity of seeds is a major criteria in assessing the quality of seeds. This includes absence of other crop and weed seeds, foreign materials, pest infestation etc. Each stage of production of seeds, therefore, has to be handled with utmost care and cleanliness. This necessitates establishing infrastructure facilities for post harvest operations like drying, storage etc. Majority of state seed farms do not have facilities like drying yards and seed stores which may lead to contamination during various stages of post harvest handling compromising on the quality of seeds. Hence it is proposed to establish infrastructural facilities like drying yard, seed stores and seed bins in state seed farms. In addition, development of water and irrigation structures already existing in the farms, constructing rain water harvesting structures are also proposed for providing irrigation. To ensure the viability of vegetable seeds for longer periods, cool chambers and similar facilities may also be installed.

Mode of implementation

The component mentioned above may be implemented as per requirement of each farm. Hence it is proposed to implement these components on a project mode. The farm officers in each State Seed farm (SSF) can submit a proposal incorporating the requirements under any or all these components. The proposal will be vetted and approved by a Technical Committee at district level comprising of Principal Agricultural Officer (Chairman), Deputy Director (H), 2selected Assistant Directors of the district having experience in farm activities, Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri), and Farm Officer(s) of the district. The district level committee can vet projects up to Rs.10.00 lakh. Funds will be allotted to the districts as per their request on a first-come first-served basis. Project proposals above this amount will be vetted and approved by a State-level Committee with Additional Director of Agriculture (Farms) as Chairman with Joint Director of Agriculture (Farms), State Agricultural Engineer and Assistant Director of Agriculture (Farms) at HQ as members.

An amount of Rs.200.00 lakhs is earmarked for the component Seed Production Programme in State Seed Farms during 2020-21.

4) Operational and Technology Support to demonstration units for Hi-Tech Farming Demonstration (HTF) Units including integrated farming system models (Rs.50.00 lakhs)

(a) Operational and Technology Support to demonstration units for Hi-Tech Farming Demonstration (HTF) Units

The scheme mainly aims at the transformation of departmental farms to model market oriented, agricultural units. Hi Tech Farming (HTF) units have been established in 9 departmental farms with the support of State Horticulture Mission. It is proposed to implement the component 'Operational and Technology Support to demonstration units for HTF units' through Human Resource Group.

Objectives

1. To sustain the already established protected cultivation units in the departmental farms successfully by providing all the required inputs, human resource support and marketing support.
2. To appoint technical staff both offices and technical assistants on contract basis to manage the protected cultivated units effectively.
3. To impart training to the newly appointed technical staff and the technocrats of the department on the latest technologies in the field of Hi-tech Agriculture.

High Tech farming (HTF) units have been established in the following departmental farms with the support of State Horticulture Mission.

1. Coconut Nursery, Kazhakuttom
2. Sugarcane Seed Farm, Pandalam
3. District Agricultural Farm (DAF), Mavelikkara
4. District Agricultural Farm (DAF), Kozha, Kottayam
5. State Vegetable Farm (SVF), Vandiperiyar
6. Model Horticultural Farm (MHF), Kannara, Thrissur
7. Orange & Vegetable Farm, Nelliampathy
8. District Agricultural Farm (DAF), Taliparamba
9. State Seed Farm (SSF), Pulloor periya, Kasaragode

The following activities are proposed for the implementation of this project.

- a) Supply of inputs and adoption of agronomic practices in poly houses.

It is estimated that an amount of Rs.200 /sq.m is required towards the cost of cultivation including the cost of media/media preparation, planting materials, cost of other inputs, cost of cultural operation up to harvest etc. These expenses are to be provided to the concerned departmental farms to ensure flawless adoption of technologies for polyhouses. The total area of demonstration units of the departmental farms is 4000 sq.m. and an amount of **Rs. 4.00 Lakhs @** Rs.200/sq.m. is earmarked for this purpose.

- b) Remuneration for Contract appointment of technical staff

The protected cultivation demonstration units require close observation and quick remedial measures for the problems that can arise at any time. So an officer with Bsc (Ag) qualification @ Rs. 25000/- per month and an Agriculture Assistant with VHSE (Agri) qualification / retired Agriculture Assistant @Rs.10000 per month will be appointed on contract basis exclusively for supervising/carrying out of routine activities effectively in each demonstration unit. Under this component funds provided for remuneration to contract technical staff is for 8 months only. The total amount earmarked for the contract appointment of technical staff during 2021-22 is **Rs.16.00 lakhs.**

- (b) *Promotion of Integrated Farming system in potential department farms (Rs.30.00 lakh)*

Integrated Farming System is an ideal model where agriculture and allied activities are managed in tandem as a single composite unit. This mainly involves farming as the base unit with animal husbandry, poultry, fisheries, apiculture, etc. as associated components. The advantage of such a system is the optimum use of space and recycling food, water and avoiding waste of resources. Even the waste from one unit will serve as manure or even food for another. Integrated farming has the advantage that any loss in one system will be compensated by better prices/returns from others.

During 2021-22 an amount of Rs.30.00 lakhs is earmarked for the establishment of Integrated Farming Units in the farms under the Department. At least 3 activities other than crop cultivation will be included in the unit. The officer in charge of the farm shall prepare suitable proposals and get it approved by the district level committee. The cafeteria of activities that can be included with the base agriculture unit are animal husbandry, poultry rearing, pisciculture, apiculture or vermi compost/coir pith compost units.

5) Manpower Support to Tissue Culture Labs (Rs.15.00 lakhs)

Manpower support will be provided to 2 existing tissue culture laboratories under the department at BMFC Kazhakuttam and District Agricultural Farm, Anchal. Additional manpower support is provided for the full utilization of the production capacity of these two tissue culture labs.

a) Tissue Culture Lab – DAF, Anchal

The present annual production is 2 lakh numbers of tissue culture plantlets. The targeted production of tissue culture plantlets for 2021-22 is 4 lakhs with the additional provision mentioned below. The additional manpower required for the full capacity utilization of the lab is 7 tissue culture technicians, one scientist, one electrician-cum -A/C Mechanic and one housekeeper for maintaining the lab.

i. Scientist

One scientist will be posted to solve the technical problems that will periodically arise in the laboratory. The subculture stage, the sub culture media, concentration of hormones etc should be supervised by the scientist. A person having BSc (Agri) / MSc Biotechnology with minimum 5 years experience in tissue culturing of banana is to be engaged as scientist on a consolidated pay of Rs. 30000/- per month. Planning, supervision and monitoring of all the activities in the lab is will be done by the Scientist. The service of the scientist is proposed for two months and is for the critical periods of production process for the technical guidance.

ii. Tissue Culture technicians

In order to overcome the shortages of tissue culture technician to assist the TC subculture work, media preparation, hardening etc., 7 tissue culture Technicians having VHSE (Agri)/ +2 pass with Biology and having 6 months experience in TC Lab is appointed in a consolidated salary of Rs. 9000/month.

iii. Electrician cum A/c Mechanic

Maintenance of electrical equipments in the lab and maintenance of A/c unit etc. is to be done by the Electrician cum A/C Mechanic. A consolidated pay of Rs. 9000/- per month will be provided to him.

iv. House Keeper

The duties of the house keeper is to maintain the cleanliness of the lab, utensils and lab cloths etc, person with VHSE (Agri) +2 pass is to be engaged with a consolidated pay of 9000/- per month.

Abstract of funds earmarked for DAF Anchal is as follows.

Sl. No.	Category	Rate (Rs/ month)	No. of months	Total Amount (Rs in lakhs)
1	Scientist – 1 No.	30000	2	0.60
2	TC Technicians – 7 Nos	9000	7	4.41
3	Electrician/ AC Mechanic - 1 No.	9000	3	0.27
4	House Keeper - 1 No.	9000	9	0.81
	Total			6.09 (limited to 5.00)

b) Biotechnology & Model Floriculture Centre, Kazhakuttom

It is targeted to produce 13.50 lakhs tissue culture plantlets during 2021-22 for which additional manpower (Tissue culture technicians) of 2090 man days will be provided @ Rs.350/manday. An amount of **Rs.10.15 lakhs (rounded to Rs.10.00 lakhs)** is set apart for the purpose. The remaining portion of the labour requirement can be met from the funds of other plan schemes. The required manpower to the lab may be made available by engaging persons on contract basis or on consolidated remuneration.

The total financial allocation for meeting the manpower requirement of the 2 Tissue Culture laboratories is summarized below.

Sl. No.	Name of TC Lab	Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	Tissue culture Lab at DAF, Anchal	5.00
2	Biotechnology & Model Floriculture Centre, Kazhakuttom	10.00
	Total	15.00

6) Mechanization & Infrastructure Development in Farms (Rs.200.00 lakh)

In department farms, mechanization programme need to be promoted and widened incorporating the recent advancement in the sector. Technologies and improved practices must bring out at the reach of farmers. It is also essential to make sure that the technology, equipment and technical expertise must be effectively utilized for the benefit of department farms. In general, the following specific benefits are expected by implementing this project.

- Increase in cultivated area
- Labour savings
- Reduction in drudgery in farm operations

Objectives

- To equip the farm with modern farm machinery
- Reduce the labour requirement in farm operations
- Reduce the drudgery involved in the farm

Need based purchase of machineries for 14 special farms under Department of Agriculture is envisaged under this scheme. In addition, infrastructure development work to be carried out during 2021-22 in various farms under the Agriculture Development & Farmers' Welfare Department will be selected according to the proposals received from farm officers and sanction issued by the competent authority following store purchase and other relevant rules. Existing procedure will be followed for the same. Government sanction will be sought as and when required.

An amount of Rs.200.00 lakh is earmarked for this component under head of account 4401-00-104-98 Plan.

Financial Outlay

Abstract of the components included under the scheme during 2021-22 is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Components	Amount (₹ in lakh)	
		2401-00-104-91	4401-00-104-98
1	Routine Planting material production including rooted pepper cuttings	650.00	
2	Maintenance of progeny orchards & establishing new progeny orchards	80.00	
3	Seed production programme in State Seed Farms	200.00	
4	Operational and technology support to demonstration units for HTF units & Integrated Farming Systems in Department Farms	50.00	
5	Manpower support to the TC labs	15.00	
6	Mechanisation in special farms & infrastructure development		200.00
	SUB- TOTAL	995.00	200.00
	TOTAL	1195.00	

During the current financial year, there is a budget provision of Rs.1295.00 lakhs for implementation of the scheme "Production and Distribution of Quality Planting Materials" with an amount of Rs.1095.00 lakh under head of account 2401-00-104-91(P) and Rs.200.00 lakh under head of account 4401-00-104-98(P).

In the circumstances mentioned above, continuous Administrative Sanction is hereby issued for the implementation of the scheme '**Production and Distribution of Quality Planting materials**' during 2021-22 for an amount of **Rs.1195.00 lakhs (Rupees eleven crore and ninety five lakh only)**, as per the above statement from current year's budget provision including an amount of Rs.995.00 lakh from H/a 2401-00-104-91 (P) and Rs.200.00 lakh from H/a 4401-00-104-98 (P). The expenditure of Rs.995.00 lakh will be debited from head of account **2401-00-104-91(P)** under the following sub-heads:

Subheads	Amount (Rs. In lakhs)
04-TE-1-Tour TA	8.50000
34-OC	979.00000
45-POL	7.50000
Total	995.00000

The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the Government Order read above.

Proposals for the balance amount of Rs.100.00 lakh under head of account 2401-00-104-91 (P) shall be submitted to Government seeking administrative sanction.

Monthly progress report pertaining to the scheme should invariably contain component wise physical and financial targets and achievements and the stage of implementation of each component.

Sd/-
DR.K.VASUKI IAS
DIRECTOR

To
TH section of the Directorate for issue of detailed working instructions

Copy to

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

Ch. di
Deputy Director of Agriculture (Pig)
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