

ADFW/3608/2022-TS2

Directorate of Agricultural Development
and Farmers Welfare Department,
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram.

Date 16-06-2022.

Circular

Sub: Agricultural Development and Farmers' Welfare Department-Scheme on
"Development of Spices"-2022-23-Working Instructions issued – reg.

Ref : 1) G O(Rt) No. 453/2022/AGRI dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 26-05-2022.

2) Endt.No.ADFW/4331/2022-TP2 Dated 31.05.2022

.....

In the Annual Plan 2022-23, an amount of Rs.360.00 lakhs has been earmarked for the scheme "Development of Spices" under the Head of Account 2401-00-108-59 Plan. Administrative Sanction was accorded for the scheme for Rs.360.00 lakh vide reference 1st cited.

The scheme "Development of Spices" was first launched during 2012-13. Spice crops account for a predominant position in the economy of the state. Revival of production of spices is essential to improve the livelihood of people as well as to improve foreign exchange. Apart from foreign exchange earnings, organic spices as well as value added spices are assuming significance. Hence the scheme was accorded administrative sanction with a budget allocation of Rs.360 lakh during 2022-23 under the Head of Account 2401-00-108-59 (Plan).

Objectives of the scheme are:-

- * To increase the area of spices particularly pepper, ginger, turmeric, nutmeg and clove by using high yielding and improved varieties with special thrust to Idukki and Wayanad districts.
- * To produce good quality planting materials of high yielding varieties of pepper through de-centralized nurseries.
- * To enhance productivity of pepper in the state.
- * To assist farmers in technology adoption for higher production.

- * To bring spice cultivation under the fold of " Njangalum Krishiyilekku " campaign.

The main components of the schemes are :-

1. Area Expansion and Development of Pepper (Rs.200.00 lakh)

Cultivation of black pepper can be undertaken in all Agro Ecological Zones in the state as per the report published by the Kerala Agricultural University in 2020. The establishment of new pepper gardens using high yielding varieties of pepper is to be undertaken for improving the production and productivity of pepper in the State. The components to be implemented in the programme are as follows:

a. Area Expansion of Pepper using improved varieties (Rs.100.00 lakh)

Establishment of new pepper garden with improved varieties of pepper is to be undertaken for improving the production and productivity of pepper. This will include indigenous varieties, high yielding varieties developed by research stations and raised in Departmental farms and decentralized nurseries under the scheme. During the year 2022-23, a total area of 500 ha is to be brought under this scheme with an estimated cost for the establishment of one ha of pepper garden as Rs.40000/- on which an amount of Rs.20000/- (limited to 50% of the total cost) will be provided as assistance. An amount of Rs.100 lakhs is set apart for this purpose.

The planting materials required for new planting can be collected from the Departmental Farms, Kerala Agricultural University, Central Government Institutions, Progressive Farmers and other approved Nurseries. The rooted pepper cuttings produced in Departmental Farms during 2022-23 will be supplied to selected districts based on availability. The Principal Agricultural Officers concerned should make necessary arrangements for lifting and distribution of pepper cuttings to Krishibhavans immediately. Farm section of the Directorate will issue the statement for allocation of pepper cuttings of department farms. If the cuttings from farms are not sufficient, cuttings from approved decentralised nurseries can be arranged at district level. The cost of cuttings from department farms/ decentralised nurseries can be adjusted from the scheme provision and the balance amount to be paid to beneficiaries through e-payment.

Support to secondary and micro - nutrients (Rs.5.00 lakh)

Secondary and micro nutrients play an important role in crop yield and quality,

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 a cluster basis so as to supervise the programme effectively. The assistance proposed for Ginger / Turmeric is 50% of the cost of inputs limited to Rs.12500/- per hectare. Farmers will be provided assistance for inputs i.e., for lime, compost/farm yard manure, wood ash, bio fertilizers and bio control agents. Biocontrol agents (biopesticides) has to be procured from the State Biocontrol Laboratory, Mannuthy and bio fertilizers shall be purchased from approved sources like laboratories/farms of the Department of Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University, Central Government institutions and licensed private agencies. Indents may be placed well in advance to SBCL, Mannuthy for the supply of Biocontrol Agents. An amount of Rs.134.00 lakh is set apart for the area expansion of ginger/turmeric in an area of 1072 ha during 2022-23.

b. Nutmeg and Clove (Rs.16.00 lakh)

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

The assistance will be 50% of the cost of inputs limited to Rs.20000/- per ha for meeting the expenditure on planting materials and cost of inputs for INM/IPDM and other agricultural operations required for the management of the crops. An area of 80 ha will be covered during 2022-23 and an amount of Rs.16.00 lakhs is set apart for this component.

An important problem in Nutmeg cultivation is the segregation of seedlings into male and female plants resulting in about 50% unproductive male trees. The only alternative is to adopt vegetative propagation using budded or grafted plants. An ideal plantation should have male and female trees in the ratio 1:10.

3. Establishment of De-centralized Pepper nurseries (Rs.10.00 lakh)

One of the major problems faced by pepper farmers in Kerala is the non availability of good quality rooted pepper cuttings. The effect of inputs applied and good management practices followed can be fully realized only with the adoption of improved varieties that results in augmentation of yield. To achieve this, good quality planting material have to be made available to pepper farmers. Small scale nurseries with production capacity of 0.5 lakh cuttings per nursery per year can be

particularly, if the soil is deficient in Calcium, Magnesium, Sulphur, Zinc, Iron etc. 50% assistance limited to Rs.500/- per ha can be provided for expenses such as cost of secondary and micro nutrients, soil sample collection, transportation, analysis etc. Support to secondary and micro nutrient application are to be provided for an area of 1000ha during 2022-23 by utilizing an amount of Rs.4.5 lakhs @ 450/ha. An amount of Rs.0.50 lakh is set apart for soil sample collection, transportation, analysis etc @ 50/ha, covering an area of 1000ha

Support to soil ameliorants (Rs.64.80 lakh)

This component will be implemented to help pepper farmersto overcome problems in connection with soil acidity. Use of lime or other soil ameliorants like gypsum has been advocated by soil scientists for correction of pH and improving the physiochemical properties of soils. A total amount of Rs.64.80 lakh is set apart for the implementation of this component for providing assistance of 75% of the total cost limited to Rs.5400/ ha for the cost of soil ameliorants, application cost etc.

d. Prophylactic Spraying against Quick wilt of Pepper (Rs.30.20 lakh)

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 attack on the root system causes complete damage of the plant within a short span of time. 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, 50% assistance will be provided for spraying, subject to a maximum amount of Rs.10000/- per hectare including cost of lime, copper sulphate, copper oxychloride etc and labour charge. The programme is to be implemented on a campaign mode in affected areas with the support of Agro Service centres, Karshika Karma Senas of each area,pepper samithies, KVK, LSGs etc. An area of 302 ha has to be covered with prophylactic spraying against quick wilt disease of pepper with a financial outlay of Rs.30.20 lakh during the year 2022-23.

2. Area Expansion of other spices (Rs.150.00 lakh)

a. Ginger and Turmerie (Rs.134.00 lakh)

The main objective is to increase the area of Ginger and Turmeric using high yielding and improved varieties adopting scientific cultural practices and productivity improvement practices. As these crops are shade tolerant with shallow

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 2022-23 a total of 30 numbers of de-centralized nurseries will be established with an assistance @ Rs.30000/-per nursery.

For effective implementation of the project, operational expenses will be paid for meeting fuel charges of vehicles, training expenses, conduct of review meetings, documentation etc. An amount of Rs.1.00 lakh is set apart for the purpose.

Financial Outlay

An amount of Rs.360 lakhs under the Head of Account 2401-00-108-59-Plan is set apart for the components under Development of Spices. Components wise breakup is as follows.

Sl. No.	Components	No. of units/Ha	Rate of Assistance (Rs)	Total amount required (Rs. in lakh)
1	Area expansion and development of Pepper			
a	Area expansion of Pepper using improved varieties	500 ha	20000/- per ha	100.00
b	Support to secondary and micro nutrients:			
	i. Cost of inputs	1000 ha	i) 450/- per ha	5.00
	ii. Collection of soil samples, transportation etc.	1000 ha	ii) 50/- per ha	
c	Support to soil ameliorants	1200 ha	5400/- per ha	64.80
d	Prophylactic spraying against Quick wilt of Pepper	302 ha	10000/- per ha	30.20
	Sub – Total (a+b+c+d)			200.00
2	Area Expansion of other Spices			

2	Area Expansion of other spices			
a	Ginger/Turmeric	1072 ha	12500/- per ha	134.00
b	Nutmeg/Clove	80 ha	20000/- per ha	16.00
	Sub - Total (a+b)			150.00
3	Establishment of decentralized nurseries including operational cost			
a	Establishment of decentralized nurseries	30 No's	30000/- per nursery	9.00
b	Operational cost			1.00
	Sub - Total (a+b)			10.00
	Grand Total			360.00

The district wise, component wise physical and financial target are shown in the annexure

As there is separate budget provision for Idukki and Wayanad packages during 2022-23, the amount required to provide assistance for area expansion of pepper in those districts have to be included in the packages.

Mode of Implementation

The scheme will be implemented through the Krishibhavans of the selected districts. Wide publicity should be given through mass media. At block level, Assistant Director of Agriculture will co-ordinate and supervise the programme. At the district level, the Deputy Director of Agriculture (H) will be the nodal officer and at the state level, Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will monitor the programme.

The assistance to the farmers should be credited to the bank account of the concerned beneficiaries through e-payment. The expenditure will be met from the Head of Account 2401-00-108-59 Plan.

The following general conditions should also be followed up while implementing the scheme:-

- i) All rules, formalities and procedures shall be strictly followed for the implementation of the schemes. The norms of financial propriety shall be adhered to.
- ii) The expenditure will be met only from the provision available under the appropriate head of account.
- iii) The fund release will be based on actual requirement, and the fund released should not be parked in banks.
- iv) Store Purchase Rules shall be strictly adhered to for all kinds of purchases.
- v) Tender/e-tender and other stipulated formalities shall be followed wherever necessary.
- vi) Post creation and purchase of vehicles are not admissible under the scheme.
- vii) The Principal Agricultural Officers shall monitor the implementation of the scheme and ensure that the implementation is as per the existing procedures, rules and regulations.
- viii) The implementation agencies/Departments also shall prepare an implementation schedule to complete the project in time and send regular progress report on financial and physical progress on a quarterly basis.
- ix) The Director shall hold monitoring meetings to review the progress and send report to Government regarding the progress of implementation of the approved scheme.
- x) AIMS portal registration for the scheme and Digital Soil Health Card is mandatory.
- xi) Geo fencing & Geo tagging of the beneficiaries is mandatory.
- xii) The scheme shall be implemented so as to integrate the same with the objective of the mass campaign " Njangalum Krishiyilekku".

The monthly progress report in the prescribed proforma should reach this office on or before 5th of every succeeding month. 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 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 utilised for such beneficiaries (component wise) should also be shown separately in the monthly progress report.

- sd -
Director of Agriculture

To:

All Principal Agricultural Officers

Copy to: 1. CA to Director

2. CA to All Additional Directors of Agriculture

3. All Joint Directors of Agriculture/Senior Finance Officers

4. Planning Section for allotment of funds

5. SW Section

6. Finance Section

7. TH Section

8. IT Cell (for publishing in website)

JYOTHI. K. I
PEN: 600834
Plant Protection Officer
Directorate of Agriculture Development
and Farmers' Welfare
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram - 33

SCHEME ON DEVELOPMENT OF SPICES-DISTRICTWISE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL TARGET 2022-23

H/A : 2401-00-108-59 plan

SL No	District	1.Area expansion and development of Pepper										2.Area expansion of other spices				3.Establishment of Decentralized Pepper Nurseries including operational cost				Grand Total
		(a) Area expansion of Pepper using improved varieties @20000/ha		(b) Support to secondary and micro-nutrients @450/ha		(c) Support to soil ameliorants @5400/ha		(d) Prophylactic Spraying against Quickwilt of pepper @10000/ha		(a) Area expansion of Ginger/ Turmeric @ 12500/ha		(b) Area expansion of Nutmeg/ Clove @ 20000/ha		(a) Establishment of Decentralized Pepper Nursery @30000/ Nursery		(b) Operational Cost				
		Phy.Target (ha)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Phy.Target (ha)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Phy.Target	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Phy.Target (ha)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Phy.Target (ha)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Phy.Target (ha)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Phy.Target (No's)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Fin.Target (lakhs)	Fin.Target (lakhs)			
1	TVM	50	10.00	100	0.45	100	0.05	120	6.48	30	3.00	42	5.25	3	0.60	2	0.60	0.07	26.5	
2	KLM	30	6.00	60	0.27	60	0.03	75	4.05	19	1.90	28	3.5	4	0.80	2	0.60	0.07	17.22	
3	PTA	20	4.00	40	0.18	40	0.02	50	2.70	13	1.30	42	5.25	4	0.80	1	0.30	0.07	14.62	
4	ALP	25	5.00	50	0.23	50	0.03	60	3.24	15	1.50	71	8.875	4	0.80	1	0.30	0.07	20.035	
5	KTM	35	7.00	70	0.32	70	0.04	80	4.32	20	2.00	85	10.625	7	1.40	2	0.60	0.07	26.365	
6	IDK	45	9.00	90	0.41	90	0.05	120	6.48	30	3.00	140	17.5	8	1.60	2	0.60	0.08	38.71	
7	ERM	30	6.00	60	0.27	60	0.03	75	4.05	19	1.90	85	10.625	5	1.00	2	0.60	0.07	24.545	
8	TCR	50	10.00	100	0.45	100	0.05	110	5.94	28	2.80	42	5.25	7	1.40	3	0.90	0.07	26.86	
9	PKD	30	6.00	60	0.27	60	0.03	70	3.78	18	1.80	71	8.875	3	0.60	2	0.60	0.07	22.025	
10	MPM	30	6.00	60	0.27	60	0.03	75	4.05	19	1.90	85	10.625	7	1.40	2	0.60	0.07	24.945	
11	KKD	35	7.00	70	0.32	70	0.04	85	4.59	21	2.10	85	10.625	7	1.40	3	0.90	0.07	27.035	
12	WVD	45	9.00	90	0.41	90	0.05	120	6.48	30	3.00	212	26.5	7	1.40	4	1.20	0.08	48.11	
13	KNR	50	10.00	100	0.45	100	0.05	100	5.40	25	2.50	42	5.25	7	1.40	2	0.60	0.07	25.72	
14	KSGD	25	5.00	50	0.23	50	0.03	60	3.24	15	1.50	42	5.25	7	1.40	2	0.60	0.07	17.31	
	Total	500	100.00	1000	124.50	2100	0.50	1200	64.80	302	30.20	1072	134.00	80	16.00	30	9.00	1.00	360.00	