

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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No: ADFW/4782/2024/TS2

Date:07-06-2024

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Agriculture Development and Farmers Welfare department – Scheme on “Development of Spices” 2024-25– Working Instructions – reg.

Ref:-

- 1) G.O.(Rt) No.465/2023/AGRI dated 17/05/2023
- 2) Order No ADFW/5110/2024-TP2 DATED 28/04/2024

Vide references cited above,continuous Administrative sanction has been accorded for the scheme on “Development of spices” during the financial year 2024-2025 for an amount of ₹460 Lakh (Rupees Four sixty Lakh only) under the Head of Account 2401-00-108-59 (P) for increasing the area under spices like pepper, nutmeg, clove etc and area expansion of annual spice crops such as ginger and turmeric have prime importance. . The detailed working instruction with components and split up of amount of each components is given below

1. Area expansion of black pepper (135.06514 Lakh)

a)Establishment of new pepper garden with improved varieties of pepper will be undertaken using promising and performing indigenous varieties .High yielding varieties developed by research stations and raised in Departmental farms and decentralized nurseries under the scheme, for improving the production and productivity of pepper

b)The estimated cost for the establishment of one hectare of pepper garden is ₹40000/- by the internal estimation conducted by the department .An assistance to the tune of ₹ 8800 per hectare(Rupees Eight Thousand eight Hundred only) can be given for planting materials, critical inputs needed during their planting, prophylactic pest

and disease management practices at the time of planting etc. The assistance for the components which are taken up by the farmers themselves shall be disbursed to them as Direct Benefit Transfer / e-payment on the basis of field inspections, verification and necessary certifications by the field level officials of the Department.

High yielding varieties of pepper shall be preferred as improving the production and productivity of the crops is of utmost importance

c) In the case of planting material distribution, the implementing officers shall procure good quality rooted pepper cuttings from the departmental farms and shall be distributed to the farmers. Quality of the same shall be ensured by BLAKC Scientist, Assistant Director of Agriculture of the concerned block and the Agricultural officer of the concerned krishi Bhavan before procuring for distribution. In any case the assistance shall not exceed the rate as specified from the state scheme provisions but by integrating this scheme with other scheme like MIDH, LSGD etc so as to get maximum benefits for the farmers. There is no restriction that the farmers shall avail benefit from only one scheme.

d) The scheme is intended only for small and marginal farmers of the state. Applications in the prevailing format along with required land records for ensuring the area are mandatory. Applicants shall be a registered farmer in the AIMS Portal.

e) An amount of ₹135.06514 lakh is sanctioned for this component of the scheme for meeting a minimum requirement of 1534.8311 ha, and the expenditure in this regard shall be debited from the Head of Account 2401-00-108-59 (P). The district wise targets for the scheme components are appended as Annexure I of this circular.

2. Area expansion of nutmeg (50.00 Lakh)

a) Nutmeg grafts of orthotropic origin will be given thrust for the area expansion of nutmeg. It is estimated that the cost of planting materials alone required for one hectare is around ₹ 40,000 /-. The distribution of planting materials of good quality at 100% assistance will be covered under the scheme. A total area of 125 Ha will be covered under this component with financial outlay of ₹50.00 lakh (Rupees Fifty Lakh Only).

b)The Agricultural Officers/ AFOs can procure good quality orthotropic nutmeg grafts from the Departmental farms, other Government agencies, approved nurseries, Government sponsored nurseries and can be supplied to eligible farmers. The beneficiary farmers also have the liberty to obtain good quality grafts from any of the sources as mentioned above according to their choice and convenience and in that case, the quality of them shall be ascertained by the team of officials as mentioned in para1(c)

Note: In the case of procurement from the Government approved nurseries, the quality check shall be done by the team of officials as mentioned in para1 c. If the farmer himself procures them he shall inform the source well in advance to the AO's / AFOs for initiating and completing the quality check. If the approved nursery falls outside the jurisdiction of the district, the committee of the concerned district shall do the procedure and inform the concerned.

c)The maximum rate of assistance per grafts shall be ₹250.00 per graft or the actual cost of it whichever is less. In the case of procurement by the farmers themselves the eligible financial assistance shall be passed on to them by e-payment procedure after proper evaluation and certification by the field level officials.

d)It must be observed that, only good quality grafts are being given to farmers/ brought by them. The register pertaining to this scheme shall have the following information for future references and monitoring.

- i. GIS location of the farm.
- ii. Variety and source of grafts
- iii. Approximate age of the grafts at the time of planting.
- iv. Expected time for getting the full yield from them.

e) The Assistant Directors of Agriculture of the concerned blocks shall get a copy of the concerned pages of the register before initiating the payment.

f)The AOs /AFOs shall issue standing instructions for managing the

nutmeg farms as per the following package of practices as published by the KAU.

i. Nutmeg requires a hot, humid climate without pronounced dry season. The soil should be rich in organic matter and well drained.

ii. The tree prefers partial shade. Sheltered valleys are the best suited. It can be grown up to about 900m above MSL. For planting, Since the nutmeg trees require shade, suitable fast growing shade trees like Albizia, Erythrina etc are to be planted in advance. Banana can also be grown as a shade crop in the early stages. Suitable coconut plantations shall be given preference.

iii. Pits of 90 cm x 90cm x 90cm are dug at a spacing of 8m x 8m with the onset of southwest monsoon. The pits are filled with topsoil and compost or well decomposed cattle manure and seedlings are planted.

iv. Manuring Apply 10 kg cattle manure or compost per seedling during the first year. Increase the quantity gradually till a well grown tree of 15 years and above receives 50 kg of organic manures per year. Apply N:P2O5:K2O@20:18:50 g/plant during the first year. This may be doubled in the next year. Gradually increase the N:P2O5:K2O dose to 500:250:1000 g/plant/year to obtain full dose from 15th year

on wards.

(Note: Fertilizer application shall be as per soil test data only)

v. Harvesting Fruits are available throughout the year, but the peak period of harvest is from June to July. When fruits are fully ripe, the nuts split open. These are either plucked from the tree or allowed to drop.

g)The scheme is intended only for small and marginal farmers of the state. Applications in the prevailing format along with required land records for ensuring the area are mandatory. Applicants shall be a registered farmer in the AIMS Portal)

It is sanctioned to establish nutmeg in an area of 125 ha. With a financial outlay of ₹ 50 lakh with financial assistance @ 40000/Ha (Rupees Forty Thousand per Hectare)during 2024-25 for implementing

this component of the scheme and the targets for the same are appended as Annexure II of this circular.

3. Area expansion of clove (34.3750 Lakh)

a) The PAOs are directed to establish clove as an inter crop in suitable coconut gardens under their jurisdiction and necessary instructions to the sub offices shall be given by them.

b) Cost of planting materials at a maximum rate of ₹13,750 per hectare is admissible under this scheme component.

c) For the procurement and distribution of planting materials, the instruction as given under 2(b) shall be adhered to.

d) The package of practices by KAU shall be the standard for implementing this component of the scheme.

e)The scheme is intended only for small and marginal farmers of the state.Applications in the prevailing format along with required land records for ensuring the area are mandatory .Applicants shall be a registered farmer in the AIMS Portal

f) An amount of ₹34.3750 lakh is sanctioned for this component of the scheme in an area of 250 ha with financial assistance of 13750/Ha (Rupees Thirteen thousand per Hectare) .The targets for the same are appended as Annexure III of this circular.

4)Area expansion of ginger and turmeric (99.9 Lakh)

a) The cultivation of ginger and turmeric with high yielding varieties adopting scientific cultural practices is to be undertaken for

increasing production and productivity as part of the scheme.

b) An assistance of ₹ 15,000/- per hectare (Rupees Fifteen thousand per Hectare) is sanctioned for planting materials, lime, compost/farm yard manure, wood ash, bio fertilizers and bio control agents. Bio control agents (bio pesticides) are to be procured from the State Bio control 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 agencies.

c) The scheme is intended only for small and marginal farmers of the state. Applications in the prevailing format along with required land records for ensuring the area are mandatory. Applicants shall be a registered farmer in the AIMS Portal

(d) An amount of ₹ 99.9 lakh is sanctioned for a total minimum area of 666 Hectare and the targets for the same are appended as Annexure IV of this circular.

(b) Immediate steps are to be taken to disburse amount and the completion report shall be sent to the undersigned

5. Establishment of decentralized pepper nurseries (5.1 Lakh)

a) This component of the scheme is intended for farmer groups/ clusters and application in the prevailing format is mandatory.

b) Small scale pepper nurseries with production capacity of 0.25 to 0.5 lakh cuttings per nursery per year shall be operated through Krishi koottams, SHGs, Women Groups, Unemployed youths etc, with technical support from Department of Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University and Research institutions, Central Government institutions, KVKs etc.

c) Rapid Multiplication technology for pepper, serpentine layering etc, shall be adopted.

d) A maximum amount of ₹30,000 (Rupees Thirty thousand per Nursery) can be utilized for the establishment of de-centralized pepper

nurseries. This amount shall be used for the requirements like establishment of shade houses, preparation of potting mixture, bio-control agents, etc. The unit shall function for at least 3 years from the date of establishment and execute with an agreement .

e) An amount of ₹ 5.1 lakh is sanctioned for providing assistance for the establishment of 17 decentralized nurseries @ Rs. 30,000/- per unit (having production Capacity 0.5 lakh cuttings per annum) for various districts are appended as Annexure V.

6) Adoption of integrated and improved management practices (50.00 Lakh)

a) Prophylactic spraying against pepper quick wilt is covered under this component. 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 fungus attacks both the root system as well as the aerial parts of the pepper plant. The attack on the root system causes complete damage of the plant within a short span of time.

b) An integrated approach involving phytosanitation, appropriate cultural practices, preventive measures added with timely chemical control measures are necessary for successful management of the disease. Phytosanitation involves, planting disease free cuttings in new plantations, destruction of infected plant materials by burning, treatment of basing with fungicidal drenching, lime application etc. Cultural practices involve timely tying or pruning of runner before north east monsoon, mulching the basins to prevent rain splash, prevention of water stagnation and facilitating proper drainage in the plantation.

c) To encourage farmers to take up this prophylactic plant protection activity, assistance shall be provided for prophylactic and curative activities subject to a maximum amount of ₹5000 per hectare (Rupees Five Thousand per Hectare) including cost of fungicides and labour charge. The programme is proposed to be implemented with the support of Krishikoottams in the service sector, Agro Service centers, Karshika Karma Senas of each area etc.

d) It is targeted to cover an area of 1000 Ha, under this scheme

component with financial outlay of Rs 50.00 lakh (Rupees Fifty Lakh Only) and the targets for the same are appended as Annexure VI of this circular.

7) Financial abstract of the scheme.

(a) The detailed financial abstract of the scheme components is presented below.

Sl.No.	Name of the components	Rate of assistance(Rs)	Physical target (Ha/numbers)	Financial Allotmen(Lakh)
1	Area expansion of pepper	Rs. 8800/ha	1534.8311 ha.	135.06514
2	Area expansion of nutmeg	Rs. 40000/- ha.	125 ha.	50 .00
3	Area expansion of clove	Rs. 13750/ha.	250 ha.	34.3750 .00
4	Area expansion of ginger & Turmeric	15000/Ha	666 Ha	99.9
5	Establishment of decentralized nurseries	Rs. 30000 / nursery	17 no.s	5.1
6	Adoption of integrated and improved management practices	5000/ Ha	1000 Ha	50.00
7	E-LAMS			85.49874
8	Q BILL	--	-	0.06112
	TOTAL			460

10. Scheme Management, Monitoring and Evaluation

(a) The Project Manager of this scheme shall be the Additional Director(CP) and the district level monitoring shall be done by DDA(H) under the concerned PAOs.

(b) The scheme shall be implemented through the Krishi Bhavans of the State. Wide publicity shall be given through mass media. Assistant Director of Agriculture will co-ordinate and supervise the programme at the Block level.

(c) The fund release shall be based on actual requirement, and the fund released should not be parked at any level.

(d) Regular field visits are to be conducted at the field level. The nodal DDAs and concerned ADAs shall conduct periodical inspections and evaluations.

(e) All PAOs are directed to conduct field inspections for monitoring the programme implementation.

(f) 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.

Director of Agriculture

To

All Additional Directors of Agriculture & SAE

Copy to

1. All PAO'S
2. TA to Director
3. Senior Finance Officer

4. Planning Section for allotment of funds
5. SW & M&E Section
6. Finance, Accounts and Audit Sections
7. All Technical Sections
8. IT Cell (for publishing in website)
9. Stock file.

Annexure I– Area expansion of pepper @ 8800/ha

Sl.No	Name of the district	Physical(ha.)	Financial(Rs. Lakh)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	120	10.56
2	Kollam	110	9.68
3	Pathanamthitta	100	8.8
4	Alappuzha	90.8311	7.99314
5	Kottayam	100	8.8
6	Idukki	178	15.664
7	Ernakulam	100	8.8
8	Thrissur	110	9.68
9	Palakkad	60	5.28
10	Malappuram	110	9.68
11	Kozhikkode	100	8.8
12	Wayanad	156	13.728
13	Kannur	120	10.56
14	Kasargode	80	7.04
	TOTAL	1534.8311	135.06514

Annexure II – Area expansion of nutmeg @40000/ha

Sl.No	Name of the district	Physical(ha.)	Financial(Rs.
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			Lakh)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	10	4
2	Kollam	10	4
3	Pathanamthitta	7	2.8
4	Alappuzha	8.00	3.20
5	Kottayam	10.00	4.0
6	Idukki	11.00	4.4
7	Ernakulam	9.00	3.60
8	Thrissur	10.00	4.00
9	Palakkad	9.00	3.60
10	Malappuram	9.00	3.60
11	Kozhikkode	8.00	3.20
12	Wayanad	8.00	3.20
13	Kannur	8.00	3.20
14	Kasargode	8.00	3.20
	TOTAL	125.00	50.00

Annexure III – Area expansion of Clove @13750 /ha

Sl.No	Name of the district	Physical(ha.)	Financial(Rs. Lakh)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	20.00	2.7500
2	Kollam	20.00	2.7500
3	Pathanamthitta	17.00	2.3375
4	Alappuzha	17.00	2.3375
5	Kottayam	17.00	2.3375
6	Idukki	18.00	2.4750
7	Ernakulam	18.00	2.4750
8	Thrissur	20.00	2.7500
9	Palakkad	17.00	2.3375
10	Malappuram	17.00	2.3375
11	Kozhikkode	17.00	2.3375
12	Wayanad	17.00	2.3375
13	Kannur	18.00	2.4750
14	Kasargode	17.00	2.3375
	TOTAL	250.00	34.375

Annexure IV– Area expansion of Ginger and Turmeric @15000/ha

Sl.No	Name of the district	Physical(ha.)	Financial(Rs. Lakh)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	40	6
2	Kollam	30	4.5
3	Pathanamthitta	30	4.5
4	Alappuzha	20	3
5	Kottayam	50	7.5
6	Idukki	90	13.5
7	Ernakulam	50	7.5
8	Thrissur	35	5.25
9	Palakkad	40	6
10	Malappuram	50	7.5
11	Kozhikkode	60	9
12	Wayanad	106	15.9
13	Kannur	40	6
14	Kasargode	25	3.75
	TOTAL	666	99.9

Annexure V – Establishment of decentralized nurseries 30000/ha

Sl.No	Name of the district	Physical(ha.)	Financial(Rs. Lakh)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	1	0.3
2	Kollam	1	0.3
3	Pathanamthitta	1	0.3
4	Alappuzha	1	0.3
5	Kottayam	1	0.3
6	Idukki	2	0.6
7	Ernakulam	1	0.3
8	Thrissur	1	0.3
9	Palakkad	1	0.3
10	Malappuram	2	0.6
11	Kozhikkode	1	0.3
12	Wayanad	2	0.6
13	Kannur	1	0.3

14	Kasargode	1	0.3
	TOTAL	17	5.1

Annexure VI – Target for the adoption of improved management practices

@5000/ha

Sl.No	Name of the district	Physical(ha.)	Financial(Rs. Lakh)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	90.00000	4.50000
2	Kollam	60.00000	3.00000
3	Pathanamthitta	50.00000	2.50000
4	Alappuzha	50.00000	2.50000
5	Kottayam	60.00000	3.00000
6	Idukki	110.00000	5.50000
7	Ernakulam	60.00000	3.00000
8	Thrissur	90.00000	4.50000
9	Palakkad	60.00000	3.00000
10	Malappuram	70.00000	3.50000
11	Kozhikkode	65.00000	3.25000
12	Wayanad	110.00000	5.50000
13	Kannur	75.00000	3.75000
14	Kasargode	50.00000	2.50000
	TOTAL	1000.00000	50.00000

E-LAMS

SL No	Name of the district	Amount
1	Thiruvananthapuram	8.83456
2	Kollam	7.11794
3	Pathanamthitta	7.25059
4	Alappuzha	1.1125
5	Kottayam	7.10089
6	Idukki	8.58076
7	Ernakulam	7.52936
8	Thrissur	8.57814

9	Palakkad	3.0475
10	Malappuram	3.9136
11	Kozhikkode	8.2025
12	Wayanad	6.90145
13	Kannur	3.3052
14	Kasargode	4.02375
	TOTAL	85.49874

sd/-
SEERAM SAMBASIVA RAO IAS
DIRECTOR
Director of Agriculture

To 1) All PAOs

Copy to: 2) TP2 section
3) *ada plant protection@gmail.com*

1. All PAO'S
2. TA to Director
3. Senior Finance Officer
4. Planning Section for allotment of funds
5. SW & M&E Section
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h. C. ...
JOINT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE (PP)
DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE
VIKAS BHAVAN, TRIVANDRUM.