

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND
FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
(Present: Dr.ADEELA ABDULLA IAS)**

Sub:- Annual Plan 2024-25 - Scheme on "Production and Distribution of Quality Planting Materials and Improvement of Departmental Farms"- component - "Establishment of Demonstration Units for Improved Technologies"- Working Instructions- issued - regarding:

Read:- 1) G.O.(Rt)No.662/2024/AGRI Dated: 18.07.2024

ORDER NO. ADFW/7134/2024-TH1 Dated.02-08-2024

In the Annual Plan 2024-25, a budget provision of Rs. 1275 lakh is earmarked for the scheme "Production and Distribution of Quality Planting Materials and Improvement of Departmental Farms" under the Head of Account 2401-00-104-91 Plan. One of the components included in the scheme is "Establishment of Demonstration Units for Improved Technologies".

The Government of Kerala have accorded administrative sanction for implementing the component "Establishment of Demonstration Units for Improved Technologies" for an amount of Rs. 50 lakhs vide reference (1) . The following instructions are issued for the smooth implementation of the scheme component. These instructions and guidelines are to be strictly adhered to by all farms henceforth.

Establishment of Demonstration Units for Improved Technologies

The availability of good quality planting materials forms the basis of crop farming. The Department of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare strives to provide genuine, good quality planting materials at reasonable rates to the farming community of the state through the 64 Departmental Farms under its control. The planting materials include paddy and vegetable seeds, pepper cuttings and planting materials of other horticultural crops.

It is common knowledge that 'seeing is believing'. Popularizing and adoption of any new and improved technology requires demonstration of this

technology at specific locations, that can be viewed and assessed by the farming community. Departmental farms, owing to their available resources, can act as model demonstration centres of proven scientific technologies.

Objectives

- To establish model demonstration units for improved technologies in departmental farms.
- To demonstrate the efficacy of new technologies through these demonstrations.
- Effective agricultural technology transfer in line with the Extension principle "seeing is believing".
- To popularize novel and profitable farming techniques.

Demonstration plots showcasing improved technologies will be established in departmental farms based on projects received from these farms. Any innovative technique able to enhance yield or productivity or able to contribute positively towards agricultural development may be selected for demonstration. Some of the technologies that can be adopted in departmental farms is as follows:

1. Precision farming with grafted vegetable seedlings and grafted pepper vines with sensor based soil moisture monitoring systems, drip irrigation systems etc
2. Ultra high density planting of indigenous/exotic fruit crops with modern irrigation systems
3. Vertical farming with hydroponics, aeroponics etc.
4. Nutrition garden models which can be replicated in homesteads
5. Protected cultivation in poly houses, green houses etc. for high value crops
6. Mechanization and automation in farming using modern machinery like seed drills, transplanters, harvesters etc. and automation in irrigation and fertigation systems.
7. Sustainable and organic farming with bio fertilisers, organic manures, integrated pest management practices, crop rotation, inter cropping etc.
8. Agro forestry and Integrated farming systems combining trees with crops and livestock to enhance biodiversity and productivity
9. Renewable energy in agriculture with solar irrigation pumps and drying units, biogas plants for waste management and energy production for powering farm operations etc.
10. Climate smart agriculture adopting drought resistant/flood tolerant crop varieties, agro-meteorological services for climate risk management, carbon sequestration practices like cover cropping, agroforestry etc.

11. Multi-tier cropping systems in coconut, banana etc.
12. Crop museums of all species of crops that can be grown in a particular agro-climatic zone.
13. Genome conservation in Rice, Banana etc. with micro irrigation, plastic mulching etc.
14. Improved varietal collection of fruits plants, spices, tuber crops etc.
15. Progeny orchards of exotic/subtropical fruits

The financial outlay proposed for the establishment of demonstration plots for improved technologies in departmental farms is as follows:

SL.No.	Component	Rate of Assistance	Physical Target proposed	Financial Outlay (Rs in Lakh)
1.	Project based establishment of demonstration plots for Improved technologies in departmental farms	@Rs.1.00 lakh per DAF, Rs.1.50 lakh per special farm and Rs.0.50 lakh for state seed farms and coconut nurseries.	25 cents per farm	50.00
	TOTAL			50.00

(Rupees Fifty lakh only)

General Instructions:

1. Farms shall prepare a detailed project report on any of these technologies suitable for their agroclimatic conditions which can be successfully demonstrated in their farms.
2. The Project Proposals has to be approved by a District level technical committee constituted for the purpose chaired by the concerned PAO.
3. Store purchase rules are to be followed wherever applicable.
4. All registers and documents shall be maintained by farms.
5. All DD(YP)s in charge of farms shall conduct inspections at least once in a month in all farms under their jurisdiction. All PAOs shall inspect them at

least once in two months and the detailed inspection report shall be submitted to the undersigned before 10th of every month. Senior officers of the Directorate shall conduct random inspections of the farms during the year.

The financial requirement of Rs.50.00 lakh for the proposal may be met from the budget provision of Rs.1275.00 lakh available for the scheme "Production and distribution of quality planting materials and improvement of departmental farms" under Head of Account 2401-00- 104-91 Plan.

Project Management & Duration

The project for "Establishment of demonstration units for improved technologies" will be managed by the Additional Director of Agriculture (Farms, VC & Biogas) at the Directorate of Agriculture, and project implementation will conclude by 31/03/2025.

Dr ADEELA ABDULLA IAS
DIRECTOR

To

- 1) All Principal Agricultural Officers
- 2) All Government Farm Heads

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1. Planning section
2. SW section
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