



Director General's Message

Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) programme aims to transform the input dealers into para-extension professional so as to address location-specific crop production technologies of broad-based agriculture at the field level. The network of agro input traders needs to be expanded in every village across the country.

I am happy to note that the DAESI program has made remarkable progress in the year 2022-23. We have witnessed the highest number of batches last year. In order to make the program more successful, several state and national level review meetings were also conducted time to time. We also tried innovations in DAESI programme implementation such as refresher training program to DAESI trained input dealers, making MIS more robust to capture final exam, financial data etc.

I compliment the nodal agencies involved at the state and district level for their contribution to make the programme successful and strengthening



agricultural extension and advisory system through trained input dealers. I am sure this year we will put a giant step in our objective to train all the input dealers of the country and creating an army of private extension network to serve farmers.

Best Wishes

(P. Chandra Shekara)
Director General

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I. ISARD Dharwad training the DAESI candidates on scientific agricultural practices

Institute of Studies on Agriculture and Rural Development (ISARD) Dharwad encourages the candidates to learn through hands on experience by involving in cultivation practices in the premises of Nodal Training Institute (NTI). The candidates of DAESI were involved in all cultivation practices starting from preparation of land, sowing, watering, weeding, timely irrigation till harvesting. The cultivated crops for the practical exposure were vegetables and pulses.

The practices such as chemical usage, recommended chemical dosage and no chemical usage were experimented in separate rows for demonstration. Due to this practice, candidates grew their

their background could explain the important stages of different crops. Further, the candidates revealed their involvement in different activities in growing the crops to the expert from MANAGE on the day of final examination.

Further, DAESI candidates of ISARD, Dharwad (TP No. 2111) developed a mini Biogas plant out of their interest. Their interest was encouraged by facilitator Shri R.B. Hiremath who has vast experience in field trainings. His expertise involves the trainees in practical exercises that helps to know the advantage and limitations of the different in-situ soil conservation and waste management methods. In total, the scientifically proven practices along



Fig: The input dealers explaining the importance of different cultivation practices

confidence in detailing the importance of different practices and how scientific recommendations are more important for enhancing crop productivity. It also validates the time tested principle of extension 'learning by doing'. The candidates irrespective of

with field experience made them to gain the trust in Agricultural science.

This proves that interest to teach and learn drives the learning environment more interesting and achieve greater learning outcome.

II. Central Agriculture Minister, Shobha Karandlaje's address to the farmers and DAESI students

Honourable Union Minister of state for Agriculture, Kumari Shobha Karandlaje addressed the students of DAESI Programme at KVK Mudigere on 10th January 2023. The address by the Minister was arranged to the DAESI Participants on the side lines of inauguration of new KVK administrative building at Mudigere.

Dr. A. T. Krishnamurthy, the Head and Senior

scientist of KVK-Mudigere, explained the activities carried out by KVK for upliftment of farmers income. The major trainings of KVK that are intended to meet local needs were Anabe cultivation, Bee keeping, Poultry rearing, Integrated farming systems etc.

The Honourable Union Minister emphasized on various schemes being implemented by the central Govt for the welfare of the Farmers and

Agripreneurs. She also suggested DAESI students who are going to be front-line service providers as input dealers to maintain rapport with the farmers to know the real problems of the farmers. Further, they should be guided to make use State and Central governments scheme to address their difficulties in farming. The government's efforts to disseminate the information on schemes and programmes to the farmers have not been successful. To facilitate effective dissemination, input dealers were brought into the information dissemination channels of public extension system. She also concerned on the diversity of the cropping system by introducing more pulses and oil seeds which are of high demand

than arecanut plantations. Scientists highlighted the menace of leaf spot disease in Arecanut and recommended the preventive measures to control the severe crop loss.

Two beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) programme who had contributed significantly to the programme were honoured by the Honourable Union Minister. She urged the KVK officials to identify at least one beneficiary from each village and extend the program benefits so that other farmers could take advantage of it, since it was the honourable Prime Minister's priority programme. She also requested to advertise the programme effectively.

III. VISIT of DAESI input Dealers to MANAGE, Hyderabad

Eighty input dealers attending the Diploma in Agriculture Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) program in Urvakonda and Ananathapur district visited National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad on 11th January 2023.

Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Coordinator (DAESI) and Deputy Director (Extension), Ms. Kanchan Bhagwat, Consultant (DAESI), Dr. G. Naveen Kumar, Research Associate and Ms. Jyothi Sahre, Consultant (ACABC) were present Ms. Kanchan Bhagwat,



DAESI Input dealers with MANAGE Faculty

about the post-graduate diploma i. e PGDAWM and PGDAEM massive online courses (MOOCs) conducted by MANAGE every year.



Principal Coordinator (DAESI) addressing input dealers

Consultant (DAESI), welcomed all 80 input dealers with Facilitator, G Adinarayana to MANAGE. She introduced and explained about the different schemes and projects i.e DAESI, ACABC, STRY, RKVY- RAFTAR run by MANAGE under the Ministry of Agriculture and farmer welfare contributing mandatory activities like how work to be done, role of consultancy, how trainings/workshops/seminars to be conducted in MANAGE etc. She also discussed

Dr. G. Naveen Kumar, Research Associate, explained about the different center activities such as Center for Public Private Partnership, Center for FPO and Monitoring & Evaluation, Center for Gender studies, Nutritional Security and Urban Agriculture, Center for Supply Chain Management & Marketing, center for Climate Change and Adaptation etc. and their nature of work. Ms. Jyothi Sahare, had explained about the Central Government scheme i.e Agri clinic and Agri-Business center (ACABC) being implemented by MANAGE through NTIs. Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Coordinator (DAESI) addressed the trainees regarding how the technologies learnt are to be transferred to the farming community with good advisories on crop production, weather, marketing etc.

IV. Chandrakanth enjoys the newfound role of an extension worker in controlling the snail infestation of crops

The farmers cultivating pulse crops such as Tur, soya bean, green gram and black gram were in severe crop loss during June 2022 due to crop infestation with the snails. The Farmers consulted DAESI trained input dealer Chandrakanth's for a solution to control the snails in their field.

He was aware of list of videos developed by KVK Kalaburgi where snail control is one of them. He contacted the KVK-Kalaburgi scientists and collected the video from them and learned the snail control mechanism. Further, he observed the snails in the clients field in the context of controlling them as learned from the videos.

The learned input dealer started brief conversation with his clients and other nearby farmers, explaining the solutions to the snail problems. His recommendation to the farmers is simple that the piles of plant debris placed in strategic locations

throughout the field and cover them with gunny bags. As a result, Snails were drawn to the organic matter in plant debris in large numbers. Further, he advised to use table salt spray or salt to kill them. As an alternative, he also proposed applying metaldehyde to the soil at a rate of 2 kg per acre, which will kill the snail.

Farmers who adopted the recommendations found relief from their snail problem appreciated Chandrakanth for providing it on time. According to him, his actions have aided 50 farmers who has cultivated soybeans in approximately 100 acres and saved an estimated loss of Rs. 25,00,000.

Sri. Chandrakanth thanked the DAESI programme for enabling him to offer such technical solution. He expressed his gratitude to Dr. Raju Teggelli, Head, KVK Kalaburgi and Dr. ZaheerAhamad, scientist, KVK Kalaburgi for his capacity building through their teaching.



Name of the DAESI candidate: Shri. Chandrakanth Beerappa

Year of batch: 2021-22

NTI Name: ICAR- KVK Kalaburgi.

Overview of DAESI Program

- 1) Number of SAMETI's, implementing DAESI program - 20
- 2) Total Programs completed - 1738
- 3) Number of ongoing batches - 572
- 4) Candidates appeared in final examination – 66,890
- 5) Number of candidates enrolled in ongoing batches – 22,960



Progress in the month of January and February, 2023

- 1) Number of exams completed – 94
- 2) Number of batches inaugurated - 127



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