

Training with farmers and Women Self Help Groups in Tamil Nadu

From July to September, 2010, several training sessions were organized as part of the ClimaRice capacity building programme.

A planning workshop and training programme was organized for ClimaRice project farmers on 22nd of July in the Farmers Training Center (Krishi Vigyan Kendra) in Karur district. In this training 25 farmers including 6 farmwomen participated and learnt about soil sampling, quality seed selection, seed germination test, seed treatment with biologicals and nursery raising through mat nursery method.



Picture 1: Capacitybuilding at the Framers Training Center in Karur District

An exposure visit for ClimaRice project farmers was also organized to the Farmers Training Center on the 18th of August. The famers visited a System of Rice Intensification (SRI) field in Manikandam village. 24 farmers participated along with ClimaRice Project scientists from Tamil Nadu University of Agriculture, training center staff and scientists. Farmers observed the SRI method as well as operating a motorized weeder in the field.



Picture 2: Farmers learning to operate a motorized weeder in an SRI field

During the exposure visit, the ClimaRice project farmers interacted with the progressive farmer Mr. Puthisigamani, a B.Sc (Agri) graduate in his farm in Karupayurani village near Madurai. The progressive farmer shared about his SRI experiences, farm mechanization, conoweeder design modification, green manuring, nursery raising techniques for machine planting. He has taken up SRI paddy cultivation in 10 acres of land, for which planting was done by machine.

On the 22nd of September, a farmers training was held in the mat nursery section of the Farmers Training Center. Totally 18 farmers participated in the programme. Preparation and raising techniques of mat nursery was explained and demonstrated to the farmers.



Picture 3: Farmers observing the mat nursery method