

“Touching the lives of tribal farmers”- ICAR-NBAIR organized a “Training-cum-Input Distribution Programme for ensuring sustainable livelihood security for SC farming Community of Chinnakanal Panchayat, Idukki, Kerala

The ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (NBAIR), located in Bengaluru, hosted a "Training-cum-Input Distribution Programme" aimed at ensuring sustainable livelihood security in agriculture for the SC farming community of Chinnakanal Panchayat, Idukki, Kerala on 25 May, 2023. This event was organized under the Schedules Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) Program in collaboration with ICAR-KVK, Idukki, and ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru. The program began with a warm welcome from Dr. R. Marimuthu, Senior Scientist & Head of KVK, Idukki, followed by a presidential address delivered by Mrs. Valliyammal, Vice President of Chinnakanal Grama Panchayat. The keynote address was given by Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director of ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru. Additionally, three special addresses were delivered: the first by Mrs. Reena Chacko, Chairperson of Bapooji Sevak Samaj, the second by Dr. B.T. Rayadu, Principal Scientist at ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, and the third by Dr. Ramya, R.S., Scientist at ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru. Dr. Ramya also delivered a talk on the benefits and application of *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, as well as the utilization of black soldier fly for waste degradation and compost production. During the ceremony, 12 farmers were felicitated, and approximately 100 farmers attended the program. Around 50 tribal farmers received inputs such as honey bee boxes, black soldier fly rearing and composting units, knapsack sprayers, and *Pseudomonas flourescens* formulation.

