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‘Evolve strategy for sustainable farming’

- Staff Reporter

CPCRI organises World Soil Day celebrations; soil health cards distributed to farmers



P. Karunakaran, MP, distributing soil health cards to farmers at a function to mark the WorldSoil Day celebration organised by the Central Plantation crops Research Institute in Kasaragodon Saturday.

The World Soil Day was celebrated here on Saturday, giving thrust on soil health management for sustainable farming.

“We have been neglecting our soil for too long. Soil-related issues adversely affect crop productivity and it is high time that we adopt a strategy for sustainable farming by giving focus on soil health management,” P. Karunakaran, MP, said.

He was inaugurating the World Soil Day celebration organised by the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) here. He also distributed Soil Health Cards to select farmers from the district.

“The theme for this year’s celebration is ‘Soil a solid ground for life’. The public should be made aware of the significance of soil as the basis for food, feed, fuel and fibre production and for ecosystems and human well-being,” he said. “Local self-governments should formulate and implement programmes for soil conservation with the support of government agencies and such initiatives will be successful only if active participation of local people is ensured,” he said.

Research

Presiding over the function, CPCRI Director P. Chowdappa said the institute had made efforts to strengthen research on resource conserving technologies, especially those for soil and water conservation suitable for coconut and arecanut based cropping systems.

C. Prabhakaran, president, Madikkai grama panchayat, A. Rajan Kuttyanam, award-winning farmer, and Ravi Bhat, CPCRI, offered felicitations at the function.

A training programme for farmers on soil health management was also organised.

Former CPCRI Director K.U.K. Nampoothiri opened the training programme. Principal Scientists C. Thamban and A.C. Mathew led the sessions on resource conserving technologies for soil health management.

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