

Focus on organic farming in plantation crops



M. N. Sreenivasa, head, Institute of Organic Farming, UAS, Dharward, speaking at a national workshop at CPCRI regional station in Kayamkulam on Saturday.

STAFF REPORTER
ALAPPUZHA

A one-day national workshop on 'Organic Farming in Plantation Crops-Present Status and Future Prospects' was held at Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) regional station at Kayamkulam on Friday.

The workshop was organised to reflect on the current status and challenges faced and to evolve a road map to make farming ever-green and quality-centric without compromising on targeted quantum.

It was inaugurated by M.N. Sreenivasa, head, Institute of Organic Farming, UAS, Dharward.

Mr. Sreenivasa emphasised on making farming ho-

listic and inclusive to harness maximum output by optimum utilisation of resources. He said that soft targeting on soil microbiome was needed to maintain good soil health.

Pest suppression

"Encouraging balanced host-predator relationship through augmentation of defenders is the key in organic pest suppression," Mr. Sreenivasa added.

In her presidential address, Anitha Karun, director (in charge), CPCRI, Kasaragod, outlined the success of organic farming in plantation crops through effective recycling of organic biomass, conservation of biodiversity, and biological pest suppression.