



Fixing of velon screen in the sluice gate

302 farmers including 66 farmwomen have been trained in intensive prawn/fish culture during 1977 and 1978. Stress is on quality of training and not on the number trained.

No certificate or diploma is offered to trainees and the KVK will not produce a white-collared class.

The post-training activities are closely followed.

The Kendra has successfully demonstrated through their trainees the economic feasibility of prawn culture in the hitherto unutilised brackish water canals amidst the coconut groves of the Vypeen Island.

The KVK has been conducting socio-economic survey of the locality so as to identify the problems of the society, which would help giving proper orientation to the developmental programmes. This activity helps to identify the constraints encountered and to suggest remedial measures as well as to modify the training programmes.



collection of prawn seed from surf

A Management Committee gives advice and guidance in the working of KVK. With the Director of CMFRI as the Chairman, the Committee consists of representatives of the Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Kerala and the Kerala Agricultural University, progressive farmers and farm-women and local leaders, besides technical experts.



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KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

CONCEPT OF LAB TO LAND



CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
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The KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA for mariculture under the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute was established in 1976.

The KVK is based on the three fundamental principles—production, work experience (learning by doing) and up-lift of weaker rural population.

It is designed and devoted to impart need-based and skill oriented vocational training to farmer fishermen who intend to go for self-employment. Their background interests, needs and resources are carefully considered, and the syllabus and time schedule are kept so mobile as to facilitate it.

The operation of KVK is confined to a district level. This is to ensure close and continuing contact with the trainees. Hence Narakkal village (Vypeen island) in Ernakulam Dist. was chosen as the ideal centre. The island has plenty of perennial and seasonal fields where traditional fish and prawn filtration and paddy cultivation are being done. It has unutilised swampy areas also where mariculture operations on scientific and commercial lines could be undertaken.



Eradication of predators

KVK disseminates the technical know-how perfected by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute on the culture of marine and brackish water organisms, ensuring a ready and regular flow of scientific and technical information from "LAB TO LAND"



Collection of prawn seeds in the creeks



Collection of prawn seeds from low lying areas

The problems of the fishermen are so complex that the KVK intends developing gradually practical facilities for training in all branches of agriculture and allied fields, appropriate to the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem of the area.

The trainees are imparted training in the identification of prawns, aspects of their life history, breeding seasons, collection of spawners, breeding and rearing techniques, collection of prawn seeds from nature, improvement in traditional prawn culture, classification and selection of farm site, construction of farms, preparation of fields for stocking, removal of predators, scientific methods of stocking selected varieties, culturing them and harvesting them.

In the place of the traditional prawn filtration the CMFRI has been recommending a type of intensive culture by selective stocking of the field for longer periods of 12 to 14 weeks rather than filtering the field every fortnight and capturing under-sized prawns.



Canals amidst coconut groves