

**The twenty-second Convention of Indian Agricultural Universities Association was held at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Madurai Campus during 18-20 December 1995. The following topics were selected for discussion at the Convention.**

**THEME**

Role of agricultural universities in the light of changing agricultural Scenario.

**SUB-THEMES**

1. Agricultural education in the light of changing agricultural scenario.
2. Agricultural extension education in the light of changing agricultural scenario.
3. Animal sciences in the light of changing agricultural scenario.
4. Support of agricultural universities in promoting agro-based industries.
5. Micropropagation as an aid to high-density orcharding under irrigated conditions in India.

**MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The Personal Promotion Scheme is leading to deterioration in the quality of teaching, research and extension, and hence requires modification.
2. Research should be programme oriented, not scientist oriented, and should have clear focus, mission-mode approach and regular monitoring.
3. The State agricultural universities should explore the possibility of starting short-duration Diploma/Certificate courses based on local needs and employment opportunities.
4. The Krishi Vigyan Kendras should be with State agricultural universities or under their management if associated with Non-Government Organizations having adequate infrastructure facilities.
5. The syllabi may be revised every 5 years after thorough discussion in the Board of Studies and Academic Council.
6. One-third of the research projects should be allotted to fundamental aspects.
7. The Research and Extension Advisory Councils should draw members from the development departments, entrepreneurs and progressive farmers, whose suggestions can be valuable in identifying the areas of research.
8. Subject matter specialists in Animal Husbandry should be appointed in Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Directorates of Extension Education in all State agricultural universities.
9. With the globalization of agricultural markets, there is urgent need to pay special attention to post-harvest technologies and agro-industrial aspects of all agricultural land, and the animal science produce and products. The products and processes of agro-industrial value should be patented.
10. The primary processing as an integral part of production agriculture may rest with the ICAR and State agricultural universities, whereas the secondary processing may better be handled by the CSIR laboratories.
11. High-density orcharding under irrigated condition gives high productivity per unit area, and it can be tried with moderate irrigation facility with the help of drip irrigation. Studies are needed on resource base, crop-rhizosphere interaction, pest and disease management etc.