

## **GAP IN SPICES: TRAINING COURSE FOR UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS**

Spices Board has been offering training to unemployed youths belonging to agricultural families in the country to act as agricultural resource persons in various aspects involved in quality spices production. The Board is currently inviting applications from candidates from Kerala, Karnataka and Tamilnadu for 9<sup>th</sup> batch.

Under the programme, Good Agricultural Practices like good quality planting materials production, crop husbandry practices, integrated pest management (IPM)& integrated disease management (IDM), post harvest handling, storage and processing, organic certification requirements and organic production practices of selected major spices and herbs will be covered. The scheme is designed to act as an alternative extension mechanism fully conversant with good agricultural practices rooted in rural communities with self-reliance. The programme will help in bridging the gap in current yield levels and the potential yield of crops.

The objective of this programme is to train unemployed youths from agricultural families enabling them to act as resource personnel to improve the quality of spice production. The incumbents would provide an interface between the Board and Spices growers by rendering advisory services.

### **Curriculum:**

Practical training on production of quality planting material, organic inputs such as vermi-compost, conventional composting, biodynamic preparations, traditional knowledge based inputs such as *panchakavya*, bio-fertilizers, bioagents ( *Trichoderma*, *Pseudomonas*, *Mycorrhizae* etc.), identification and management of major pests and diseases of spices, soil testing and advisory services, mechanization, post harvest handling and processing including on farm value addition will be imparted during this programme. Medium of instruction will be English.

### **Location:**

The training will be provided at the Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Spices Board, Myladumpara, Idukki District, Kerala, 685 553.

**Duration:**

The duration of this programme is three months (April –June 2012) and 30 candidates will be trained. It is a compulsory residential programme.

**Eligibility:**

Unemployed youths from agricultural families including agricultural labourers with 10 +2(Science) or VHSC (Agriculture) qualification are eligible. Candidates who are members of Kudumbadree or similar farmers' group will be given preference. Candidates whose age is between 18-30 years as on 29/2/ 2012 only need to apply (33 years for SC/ST).

**Stipend for trainees:**

A stipend of Rs.2000/ per month during the period of training will be given to the trainees to meet expenses on travel, food and accommodation.

**Post training activity:**

After successful completion of this training programme, it is expected that the trainees will continue to engage themselves in agricultural based activity including production of quality spices in their own villages and provide side by side extension services to the spice growers, interested in sourcing their expertise on payment basis.

**Submission of application:**

Application in the prescribed format neatly hand written or typed shall be addressed to The Director (Research), Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Spices Board, Myladumpara, Idukki District, Kerala, 685 553. Tel (04868) 237207, 237206 Fax: 04868-237285, E-mail: icrimyla@yahoo.com

**Last date for receipt of application: 29.02.2012**

**Selection of candidates:**

Based on the qualification, candidates will be short-listed and the decision of the Board is final.

## APPLICATION FORM

1.Name of the applicant

2.Date of birth\*

3.Educational qualification\*

4.Present address (with pincode & telephone number)

5. Permanent address

6. Occupation of Father/Guardian

7.Do you belong to SC\*/ST\*/OBC                      Yes                          No   

8.Are you agriculturist cultivating own land                      Yes                          No   

(or)

Are you cultivating land taken lease/rent                      Yes                          No   

9.Detail of agricultural land if any, owned or leased

Area ha       Sy.no       Village       Taluk

10. Are you member of any farmer group\*                      Yes                       No

If yes, give name and address of the groups

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\*Attested proof to be attached

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I certify the details and information given in this form are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Signature of the candidate)

N.B. Selected applicants shall be intimated by post and no enquiry regarding the selection shall be entertained

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