



**ICAR sponsored Winter School on
Future - Proofing Indian Oil Palm:
Precision Technologies, Climate Resilience
and Sustainable Intensification
1-21st December, 2026**



Course Director
Dr. K. Ramachandrudu
Coordinators
Dr.P. Anitha
Dr. A.R.N.S. Subbanna

Organised by

भारतअनुप - भारतीय तेल ताड़ अनुसंधान संस्थान
ICAR - Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research

Pedavegi- 534 435, Eluru Dt., Andhra Pradesh

Phone: 08812 259532/524, Fax: 08812 259531

Email: director.iiopr@icar.org.in; Website: <https://iiopr.org.in>

About Institute

ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (ICAR-IIOPR) is at the forefront of advancing oil palm research and development in India, focusing on productivity, profitability, sustainability, climate resilience and technology-driven cultivation. The Institute undertakes multidisciplinary research in crop improvement, hybrid seed production, molecular breeding, tissue culture, precision agriculture, sustainable production, systems approach, mechanization, post-harvest technology and ICT-enabled farming. Its 3,306 oil palm germplasm accessions support breeding programmes, including advanced third-generation hybrids targeting 7-8 t/ha oil yield and dwarf hybrids for future plantation systems. Molecular markers enable early identification of fruit forms, palm traits and accelerating breeding. ICAR-IIOPR has developed water and nutrient efficient technologies, including biomass recycling practices that can reduce inorganic fertilizer requirements by about 50%, along with improved cropping systems, integrated pest and disease management, site-suitability mapping and mechanization solutions. Through the All India Coordinated Research Project on Oil Palm, the Institute supports development across 16 states through training, demonstrations, diagnostics and digital advisories. Future research emphasizes metabolomics, sensors, automation, life-cycle assessment, carbon and water foot printing, beneficial endophytes and AI/ML-enabled mechanization and plantation monitoring. Through research, innovation, capacity building and technology transfer, ICAR-IIOPR aims to build a profitable, sustainable, resource-efficient and self-reliant oil palm sector contributing to the vision of *Atmanirbhar Bharat*.

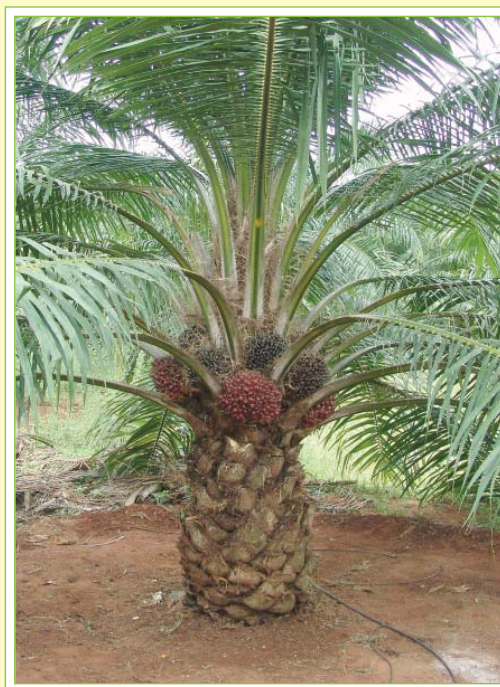


About Training

Oil palm can play a vital role in strengthening India's vegetable oil security and enhancing farmers' income but its sustainable expansion faces challenges related to climate variability, resource constraints, quality planting material, pests and diseases, labour, harvesting and post-harvest losses. Addressing these challenges requires precision technologies, climate-resilient practices, efficient resource management, cropping systems and mechanization across the oil palm production chain. Emerging tools such as remote sensing, GIS, drones,

sensors, AI/ML and automation offer new opportunities for precision plantation management, crop monitoring, yield prediction and mechanization. Advances in hybrid seed production, nursery management, molecular breeding and tissue culture are essential for quality planting material while climate smart practices, efficient fertigation, biomass recycling, cropping systems and integrated pest and disease management can enhance resource-use efficiency and resilience.

Further, harvesting and post-harvest mechanization, fruit bunch handling, maturity assessment, processing and value addition are important for reducing labour dependency, minimizing losses and improving profitability. Keeping these emerging needs in view, the Winter School entitled “Future-Proofing Indian Oil Palm: Precision Technologies, Climate Resilience and Sustainable Intensification” is proposed under the ICAR Winter School Scheme to provide participants with advanced knowledge and practical exposure to quality seed production, precision farming, climate resilient production, sustainable intensification, mechanization and post-harvest technologies for developing a productive, profitable and sustainable oil palm sector in India.



Objectives

- To improve knowledge and skills in precision technologies and better plantation management practices for efficient and sustainable oil palm production.
- To improve climate resilience in oil palm production by using climate-smart technologies and practices.

About venue and how to reach

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (ICAR-IIOPR), Pedavegi is located near Eluru in Andhra Pradesh. Eluru, approximately 15 km from the Institute, is the nearest major town and is well connected by road and rail. Weather is mild and pleasant during December month. Participants arriving by train can alight at Eluru Railway Station and reach the Institute campus by taxi or auto-rickshaw in about 30 minutes. From Eluru, proceed along the Eluru-Jangareddygudem road and continue towards the ICAR-IIOPR campus at Pedavegi via the 7th Mile. The Institute is also conveniently accessible by air, being approximately 60 km from Vijayawada International Airport and 110 km from Rajahmundry Airport followed by a road journey to the venue.



Scan for Location

Eligibility and selection criteria

Researchers/teachers/extension personnel not below the rank of Scientist or Assistant Professor in Horticultural/Agricultural Sciences and related disciplines from State Agricultural Universities/Central Agricultural Universities, ICAR Institutes are eligible to apply. A total of 25 candidates will be selected for this programme through a Screening Committee as per the ICAR guidelines.

How to apply

Nominations for the training programme should be submitted online through an email. A scan copy of the prescribed format duly approved by the competent authority should be sent to the email of course director or coordinators. A non-refundable deposit of ₹ 50/- should be sent through scanning the UPI code given.



Scan for payment

In case of any difficulty in submitting the application online, the duly filled-in application form approved by the competent authority of their organization should be forwarded directly to the Course Director at the address given in the brochure.

Accommodation and travel

Boarding and lodging will be provided free of cost to participants during the training period at the ICAR-IIOPR Guest House on a sharing basis. Travel Allowance will be paid as per the participant's entitlement for the class of travel, restricted to the AC II Tier fare by the shortest route. Participants are required to produce valid tickets/receipts in support of their travel claim. Reimbursement will be made as per prevailing ICAR guidelines.

Important dates

Last date for receiving nomination: 31 October 2026

Intimation of selection: 5 November 2026

Confirmation by participant: 10 November 2026

Intimation to waitlisted participants if selected: 13 November 2026

Applications can be sent to

Dr. K. Ramachandrudu

Principal Scientist & Course Director
ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research,
Pedavegi - 534 435, Eluru District
Andhra Pradesh, Contact: 9441964291
E-mail: chandrudu.kr@icar.org.in,
ramac9508@gmail.com

For more information, contact

Dr. K. Suresh

Director
ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research
Pedavegi - 534 435, Eluru District,
Andhra Pradesh
Contact: 08812-259409
E-mail: director.iiopr@icar.org.in

**Format of Application Form for ICAR sponsored Winter School
on**

**“Future -Proofing Indian Oil Palm: Precision Technologies, Climate Resilience
end Sustainable Intensification”**

(1-21st December, 2026)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details / Response
1.	Full Name (in block letters)	
2.	Designation	
3.	Discipline	
4.	Present Employer and Address	
5.	Address to which reply should be sent in block letters	
6.	Permanent Address	
7.	Mobile No	
8.	E-mail	
9.	Date of Birth	
10.	Gender (Male / Female / Others):	
11.	Teaching/Research/Professional Experience (mention post held during last 5 years and number of publications)	
12.	Marital Status: Married / Unmarried	
13.	Mention if you have participated in any training/ Summer/ Winter School/Short Course etc.during last 5 years under ICAR/ other organizations	
14.	Level of knowledge on oil palm (0-5 scale)	
15.	Fee transaction details (₹ 50.00)	

16. Academic records

Examination	Subject	Year of passing	University/Institution
Bachelor's degree			
Master's degree			
PhD			
Others if any			

Signature of the Applicant with Date

Recommendations of the forwarding Institute:

Signature of the Forwarding Authority
with Seal and Date

CERTIFICATE

It is certified that the information furnished above is correct. Traveling allowances will be paid / not be paid by this office.

Signature of the Sponsoring Authority
with Seal and Date