

HOW TO FARM QUAILS AT HOME – SHARING THE KNOW-HOW WITH KUDUMBASREE MEMBERS

Organised by: Department of Zoology

Report -

On 19th October 2016, the add-on –course, quail farming became a programme for women empowerment since the methodology and know-how was shared to the kudumbasree members of the ward. Kudumbashree is the poverty eradication and women empowerment programme implemented by the State Poverty Eradication Mission (SPEM) of the Government of Kerala. The name Kudumbashree in Malayalam language means 'prosperity of the family'. Ms. Thangamani and Ms. Kousalya represented the Kudumbasree members and came to our college for a hands- on experience of rearing quails.

Rearing of quails is especially useful for women who want to start a business on their own but do not have enough capital to start one. Rearing of quails is advantageous as it requires minimum floor space and needs low investment. Quails are comparatively sturdy birds and can be marketed at an early age ie. five weeks. They reach sexual maturity early and start laying eggs in about six to seven weeks of age. They also lay about 280 eggs per year. Quail meat is tastier than chicken and has less fat content. It promotes body and brain development in children.

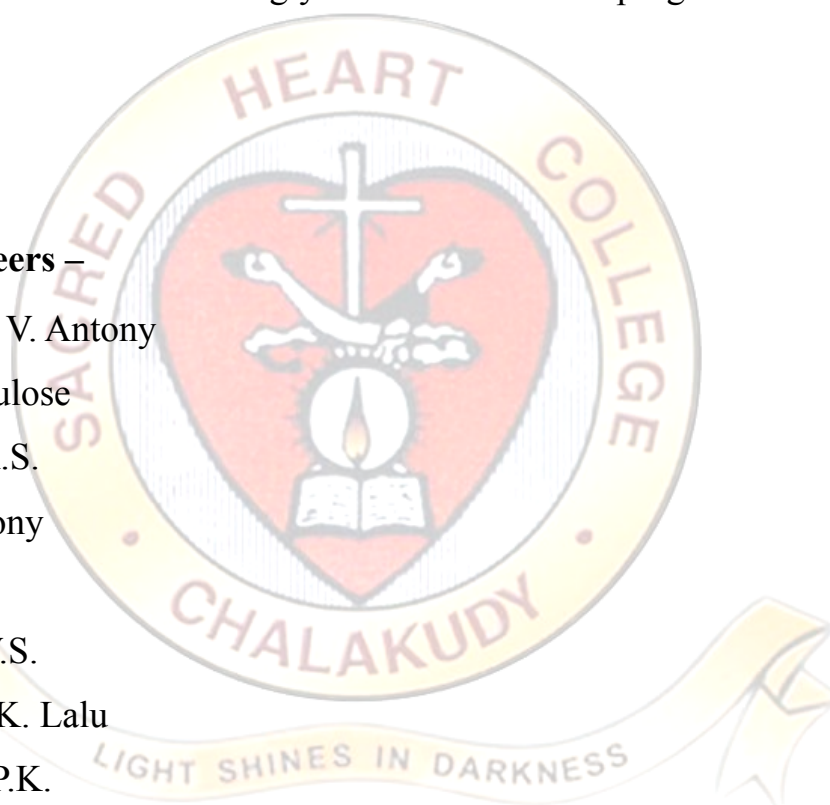
Raising quails is very easy, even beginners can raise them. The student volunteers of the department demonstrated to the invited Kudumbasree members how to handle the quails, how to feed them and fill the buckets for water supply. They also showed the invited women folk on how the waste is collected and put in compost pits for later use as manure. Looking at all these advantages the kudumbasree members were keen on taking up commercial quail farming as it can be a good and profitable business idea.

The representative of the Kudumbasree members themselves did not have not have sufficient space in their own homes; they were willing to share their experience with other kudumbasree members and suggested a follow up.

The Chalakudy Municipality Ward Councillor Ms. Bindu Sasikumar who was the connecting link between the Department of Zoology and Kudumbasree unit of this ward was also present during the interaction. She was highly appreciative of the efforts made by our department in imparting this knowledge to common folk, especially women. She strongly recommended this program to the present members.

Student volunteers –

1. Anupama V. Antony
2. Divya Poulose
3. Swathy K.S.
4. Niva Antony
5. Giya C.Y.
6. Neeraja V.S.
7. Parvathy K. Lalu
8. Namitha P.K.
9. Reshma N.S.
10. Najila Beegum



19/10/2016 – Dr.Jolly Thomas discussing with the kudumbasree members,.



19/10/2016 – Ward councillor addressing the kudumasree members, staff and students present at the event.

