The state of Karnataka experienced shortage of rainfall in the kharif season of this year. This has lead to the much attentive thinking on drought situation and its impact. The farmer and his live stock are the sufferers. The drought mitigation strategies need to be effectively developed and implemented at every farm level. The dryland horticulture crops come to the rescue of the farmer under such circumstances. The moisture conservation technologies need to be imposed in perennial crops.

For mitigating the drought, antitranspirants, drought tolerant varieties, soil mulching etc are some of the immediate options to be followed by the famers.

The farmers having irrigation facilities have to go for short durated crops and vegetables particularly leafy vegetables, to make their farming more profitable. Livelyhood options need to be prioritized at the village level.

Meetings

The project on demonstration of “Integrated Farming System” in Farmers Field is being implemented by the University. To review the progress and guide the implementing scientists, a meeting was organized by the Directorate of Research on 04.06.2012 at Udyanagiri, UHS, Bagalkot. Dr. S. A. Patil, the Chairman, Karnataka Krishi Mission, addressed the implementing scientists. Dr. S. B. Dandin, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor presided over function. Dr. B. Raju, Director of Education, Dr. M. B. Madalageri, Director of Research and Dr. Y. K. Kotikal, Director of Extension were present. The difficulties, encountered while implementing the project, were also discussed and clarified.

Academic Council

Eighth Academic Council Meeting was held on 05-06-2012 at UHS, Bagalkot. The Director of Education welcomed the Chairman and Council Members and informed the members of the Academic Council that, the University students have performed better in the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) Examination during the academic year 2011-12 as compared to the previous years. The performance of KRC College of Horticulture, Arabhavi was excellent followed by the College of Horticulture, Bidar and Bagalkot. The Hon’ble Vice Chancellor and the Chairman briefed the members of the Academic Council about the importance of this meeting pertaining to the adaptation of Guidelines/Regulations for direct recruitment and promotion of Teachers (CAS – 2006) as the Government of Karnataka has sanctioned good number of posts. He expressed that, the recruitment has to be made before academic year 2012-13, as the university has shortgae of teachers and supporting staff.
Global Investors Meet (GIM-2012)

The Government of Karnataka organised a grand event to attract the investors to Karnataka. The University Scientists participated in the Global Investors Meet held on 7th and 8th June 2012 by exhibiting the products developed by the university that can be taken by the industrialists for further commercialization. The Vice Chancellor, Dr. S. B. Dandin, the Director of Extension, Dr. Y. K. Kotikal, Special Officer (PPMC) Dr. Ashok Alur took part in the technical sessions.

ICAR Regional Committee meeting

ICAR Regional Committee meeting of Region VIII was held on 15th and 16th of June 2012 at TNAU, Coimbatore. The Hon’ble Vice Chancellor Dr. S. B. Dandin along with Director of Research, Dr. M. B. Madalgeri and Director of Extension, Dr. Y. K. Kotikal participated in the meeting. They made a visit to the state horticulture Farm, Kallar after the meeting to collect saplings of under exploited fruit crops.

State level variety release committee meet

A meeting of state level variety release committee for horticultural crops was held on 17.07.2012. The Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Director of Research and Director of Extension participated in the meeting in which there were two release proposals from our university, namely Bhagya-Drumstick and Apoorva - Bellpepper were approved.

CSS- NHM Scheme progress review meet

"CSS- NHM Scheme progress review meeting” was held at GKV, Bangalore on 18th and 19th July, 2012. The Director of Research and the Director of Extension participated in the meeting. A grant of 69 lakhs was allotted to the University for training, seed production and other activities.

Board of Studies (PG)

Meeting of the Board of Studies for PG was held on 22nd July 2012 at UHS, Bagalkot. The Chairman welcomed the members for the 4th Board of studies meeting and expressed his appreciation to the Deans of all four Horticulture Colleges with PG programme for conducting the written qualifying examination on behalf of the Dean (PGs) and informed the members that from the academic year 2012-13 the Directorate of Post Graduate Studies will take the responsibilities of conducting the written qualifying examination. The Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor in his opening remarks, suggested the members to give more emphasis to research activities related to climate change and to mitigate the problems which are arising due to the climate change. He stressed for the development of ideas types that respond well to the climate change impacts and ensured sufficient fund for the research in the university.

Board of Studies (UG)

Meeting of the Board of Studies for UG was held on 23rd July 2012 at UHS, Bagalkot. The Chairman, the Director of Education, welcomed all the members to the 4th meeting of Board of Studies. The Board of Studies decided about the inclusion of new modules in experiential learning for mass production of biopesticides and biofertilizers. The Board of Studies (UG) principally accepted the proposal of “Establishment of College of Horticultural Engineering and Food Technology” at Dharwad.

Joint meeting of Package of Practices

Joint meeting to finalise the Package of Practices for horticulture crops was organized by UHS, Bagalkot on 25th and 26th June, 2012 at IIHR, Bangalore in which officers and scientists from Farm Universities of the state and department participated. Dr. S. B. Dandin, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, UHS, Bagalkot, Dr. Amrik Singh Sidhu, Director, IIHR, Bangalore, Dr. Y. K. Kotikal, Director of Extension, UHS, Bagalkot, Dr. M. B. Madalageri, Director of Research, UHS, Bagalkot, Dr. S. N. Hanchinal, Director of Extension, UAS, Raichur, Dr. B. Raju, Director of Education, UHS, Bagalkot and Dr. S. D. Doijode, Principal Scientist, IIHR, Bangalore were present.
**Trainings**

**Integrated Farming System**

The training programme under “Integrated Farming System” demonstration was conducted at the Directorate of Extension, Udyanagiri, Bagalkot on 5th July 2012. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. B. M. Desai and Dr. T. B. Tuppad both from Krishik Samaja, Bagalkot District. Dr. M. B. Madalgeri, Director of Research and Dr. Y. K. Kotikal, Director of Extension released the two floders related to Integrated Farming System (IFS) and also briefed about the Integrated Farming System to be demonstrated in farmers fields. Dr. Gangadhar Narbanchi, Asst. Prof. (Entomology), Dr. H. B. Patil, ADR, UHS, Bagalkot & Dr. S. N. Patil, Assistant Professor delivered the lectures on different aspects of horticulture crop management. The programme was organized by Dr. Basavaraj Tamadaddi, Associate Prof. & IFS Co-ordinator, Directorate of Research, Udyanagiri, Bagalkot. About 80 selected farmers of Sunaga village of Bilagi Taluk, Bagalkot district had participated.

**Commercialization and Value Addition in Agriculture and Horticulture Crops**

Four days training programme was organized under ATMA SAMETI (North) at Udyanagiri campus of University of Horticultural Sciences on “Commercialization and Value Addition in Agriculture and Horticulture Crops” from 23rd to 26th July 2012 for the Extension workers in Agriculture and Horticulture. Twenty Officers from Department of Agriculture and Horticulture participated in the training. The programme was inaugurated by the Director of Extension, and University Scientists delivered lectures on different aspects. There was an exposure visit for trainees on the last day of training programme.

**Demonstration on Onion Storage Structure**

Onion storage structure demonstration and one day district level training programme was organized on 28. 07. 2012 under RKVY project (Onion storage) at field of Shri Andandgouda Policepatil Masuti village, Basavanbagewadi Tq, Bijapur Dist. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Y. K. Kotikal, Director of Extension, UHS, Bagalkot. Dr. S. I. Hanamshetti, Dean, K R C, College of Horticulture, Arabhavi presided over the function, Shri Manjunath Narayanpur DDH Bijapur, Shri Mohangouda C. Patil President of Gram Panchayat Masuti and Shri C. P. Patil Progressive farmer of Masuti were the chief guests. The function was organized by Dr. Laxman Kukanoor Principal Investigator of RKVY project. Around 300 farmers of different taluks of Bijapur Dist. attended the programme.

**Finance Management**

Two days training programme was organized on 14th to 15th July 2012 on Finance Management and Administration to Drawing Officers and Assistant Cum Computer Operators at Udyanagiri, University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot. Information book containing the rules and regulations was released for the benefit of the trainees.
In continuation of “Krishi Chintana” programme entitled “Shreegala Nadige Krishiya Kadege” held earlier, another awareness cum seminar was organized at Gavisiddeshwara math, Koppal on 01.07.2012 in which many swamijies from different maths participated. The Hon’ble Vice Chancellor was the chief guest and released a book. Director of Extension and Special Officier (PPMC) participated in the seminar.

**Visits**

Hon’ble Board Members and discussed about the role of honey bees in pollination of various cross pollinated horticultural crops. Dr. J. B. Gopali, Head, HEEU, Dr. T. B. Allolli, Professor (Horticulture) and other staff members of RHREC, Dharwad were present during the visit.

**Visit abroad**

Dr. Raghavendra K. Mesta Associate Professor of Plant Pathology & Head, Horticulture Research Station, Haveri (Devihosur,) participated in the International Post Harvest Symposium held at Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 25th to 29th June 2012 and presented a research paper on ‘Management of Post harvest smudge infection in onion through fungicides’.

**Fellowship**

Mr. Vijaykumar Rathod, Assistant Professor was selected as “Summer Research Fellow” 2012 by Indian Academy of Science, Bangalore and he was assigned to undergo two months (May to June 2012) training on “Molecular Approaches for Drought Resistance in Legumes” at ICRISAT, Hyderabad under the guidance of Dr. Rajeev Kumar Varshney, Director, Centre of Excellence in Genomics and was issued with the certificate from the ICRISAT, Hyderabad on 10.07.2012.