Southern Regional Station of ICAR-NDRI, Bengaluru organized “Malnad Gidda Farmers training and Cattle Show” at Sullia, Dakshin Kannada Karnataka on 7th March 2020

A farmers training programme on “Malnad Gidda Farmers training and Cattle Show” was organized by Southern Regional Station of ICAR-NDRI, Bengaluru at Shiva Krupa Kalamandira, Sullia, Dakshin Kannada Karnataka on 7th March 2020 under KLDA-MOEF&CC funded project on “Proteo-Genomic approach to elucidate productive & reproductive performance of Malnad Gidda, Amrithmahal & Hallikar breeds of cattle”. A total of 325 Malnad Gidda farmers including NGO’s, Gaushala, students, entrepreneurs, and media personnel attended the programme. The programme started in the morning with Gou Pooja followed by inaugural function. The inaugural function was attended by, Padmashree Girish Baradwaj as Chief Guest, Dr. K. M. Gurumurthy, Assistant Director, Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Dr. Keshava, Assistant Manager, KMF, Sullia, Veterinary officers Dr. Dinesh Saralaya, Dr. Nitin Prabhu, Mr. S. Ramesh, AGM, NABARD, Mangalore as Guests of Honour. The inaugural session was continued with Malnad Gidda farmers training where the experts delivered lecture especially Dr. K.P. Ramesha, PI of the project and Organizing Secretary, briefed on the importance of indigenous breeds of Karnataka, in particular about Malnad Gidda cattle and role of SRS, ICAR-NDRI for improvement of this breed through research and extension activities. In addition, various topics on health care and management of Malnad Gidda cattle, reproductive disorder management and fertility augmentation techniques were also covered by experts. A separate farmer and experts interaction session was also held, where in farmers queries were answered by experts. During the programme we distributed pamphlets on Malnad Gidda breed and training kit. In addition, inputs viz. mineral mixtures, probiotic supplements and about 5000 fodder slips/stem cuttings of Sampoorna (DHN6) and Co-5 varieties were also distributed to Malnad Gidda farmers.

Parallel to the training programme, Malnad Gidda Hubba (Malnad Gidda Cattle Show) was also organized. Farmers from various villages in and around Sullia brought their Malnad Gidda cattle including heifer, cow, calves and breeding bulls for the show. The cattle judging committee evaluated and selected best three Malnad Gidda cows, heifers and a best bull for the award/prize. During the mela, Scientists & Co-Investigators of the project Dr. S. Jeyakumar and Dr. A. Manimaran, Conveners of the programme coordinated the overall event in association with Dr. Y.V. Krishnamurthy from Khamadhuga Scheme of Ramachandrapura Math. In the mela, various stalls kept by farmers, NGO’s displayed various products of indigenous cows etc. In the afternoon, an interactive session between experts & farmers was organized where the farmers raised various questions on indigenous cattle rearing. In the evening, Sri Angara, Hon’ble Member of Karnataka Legislative Assembly from Sullia, farmers, press and media personnel and other dignitaries participated in the valedictory function. Dr. K.P. Ramesha, Organizing Secretary of the programme welcomed and felicitated the Chief Guest of the function and addressed the gathering. Later, Shri Angara addressed the gathering and explained the importance of Malnad Gidda in the rural economy and also appreciated the efforts of SRS of ICAR-NDRI for their improvement. Later, the dignitaries honoured various Malnad Gidda farmers and prize winners for their interest and devotion in Malnad Gidda cattle rearing, conservation and improvement. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Y.V. Krishnamurthy, the local convenor.
Glimpses of photos showing Malnad Gidda Farmers training and Cattle Show at Sullia, Dakshin Kannada, Karnataka on 7th March 2020