

**EFFECTIVENESS OF ONE DAY TRAINING PROGRAMMES
CONDUCTED BY COCONUT RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN
YEAR 2005**

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Coconut is the largest plantation crop in Sri Lanka that yields approximately 6000 nuts per hectare per annum on average at present. However the potential yield is about 12000 nuts per hectare per annum. It has identified that this difference is mainly due to lack of adoption of new technologies by the growers.

One day training programmes conducted by the Coconut Research Institute of Sri Lanka have designed to update the technical knowledge and change the attitude of growers as well as the management staff of coconut estates. The present study was carried out to investigate the effectiveness of this programme conducted during the year 2005. The objectives of the study were to assess the present level of knowledge, perceptions about the programme, attitude and adoption of recommended practices of the participants. Data was collected through a pre –tested structured questionnaire. The sample consisted of 75 respondents selected purposive from Gampaha, Kurunegala and Puttalam districts.

Results revealed that the majority of participants were land owners. Most of them have obtained maximum of five years experience in coconut cultivation. Majority of participants has attended this programme with the objective of improving productivity of their lands. Perception score showed that as much as 74.67 percent have had positive perception towards the programme. Out of the selected nine practices, 62.67 percent adopted more than five practices. Further, this adoption has positive relationship with land area ($P=0.004$), knowledge ($P=0.0009$) and profession ($P=0.0374$). Least adopted practice was irrigation. Eighty percent of participants possessed highly favorable attitude towards the programme. Attitude showed positive relationship with adoption ($P=0.0317$), perception ($P=0.0337$) education ($P=0.0201$) and profession