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Mr. N. U. Raam Mohan

Mr. N. U. Raam Mohan is an innovative coconut farmer, coconut breeder and a poultry farm owner. He is a mechanical engineer and has a post graduate degree in Enterprise and business growth from University of Glasgow. His father Mr. S. Umapathy has produced a high yielding hybrid called Ramaganga (GBGD x WCT) with the guidance and advice of Mr. O. V. R. Somasundaram. He manages the agri-business along with his brother Mr. Ramprasad. Today there are more than 6000 farmers who have planted Ramaganga in their fields after seeing the performance of it. He owns 150 acres, mainly planted with coconut and acid lime. The coconut varieties include, WCT, Tiptur Tall, Gangabondum, Chowghat Orange Dwarf and Malayan Yellow Dwarf. The breeding facility houses a modern lab where pollen is stored and pollen viability is checked and stored for each batch. The entire farm is managed by agri-professionals. The whole breeding programme and the farm are managed by software developed exclusively for Umapathy farms. The irrigation in the entire farm is done by drip-fertigation through venturi. All the trees are fertigated weekly once. Modern nursery using pencil drip irrigation and barcode for each seedling is done for ensuring the quality planting materials. By using pencil drip irrigation every seedling is given equal opportunity to grow. This helps in rejecting the seedlings which are not meeting the quality standards. This is the first private coconut nursery in India to use barcode for coconut seedlings. By scanning the bar code, one can exactly find out all the details about the seedling, such as mother palm, pollen tree number, pollinator, inspector, harvest date etc. This has significantly improved the quality and transparency in coconut breeding. Best coconut seedlings are produced and they are sold to the farming community. He helps other farmers by conducting regular farm advisory visits to make the farming profitable. Coconut sugar is another attraction in his farm which is produced using neera tapped through ice box technology developed by ICAR- CPCRI, Kasaragod. By using this method, neera is collected in controlled and protected condition which helps to produce pure natural coconut sugar. Coconut sugar is sold in the name of 'farm made foods' in the domestic and international market. He strongly believes in innovations coupled with dedication in farming will make farming remunerative and profitable.

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