

Brief note about RFS

The Regional Fodder Station located at Hessarghatta is situated about 35 km North-west of Bangalore. The altitude of the Farm is about 880 m above mean sea level with a similar climate to Bangalore (latitude 12°58'N longitude 77°36'E).

It was established as Indo Australian fodder seed project in the year 1979 in collaboration with the Australian government. Later it was renamed central fodder seed production farm in the year 1984 and become a subordinate office under Department of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

In the year 2014, the Central Fodder Seed Production Farm is renamed as Regional Fodder Station under Department of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India.

This Farm is working as a bridge between the Research Agencies like, ICAR, State Agricultural/Veterinary Universities and the State Agriculture/Animal Husbandry Departments for Development of fodder activities in the state of Kerala, Karnataka, Goa and one island Lakshadweep. The station is conducting demonstrations in the farmers' field with the help of Departments of Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Forest, Milk Producers Union, KVKs, and NGOs and trying to increase the milk production, thereby increasing the National wealth/health.

A) Services offered

- Production of foundation and certified seeds of improved varieties of fodder/forages.
- Supply of seeds to the Govt and other agencies for further multiplication and Distribution.
- Imparting training on fodder seed production to state government officials.
- Organization of Farmers Day/farmers Fair at village level.
- Central Mini-kit Testing Programmes.
- Fodder Demonstration Programmes

B) Seed Production

This farm is producing following fodders seeds of both indigenous and perennial grasses which were imported from Australia as per the agro-climatic conditions suitable to this region and have also been produced and supplied to various Agencies throughout the country.

Name of the crop	Variety
Maize	African tall
Sorghum	CoFS 31, CSV 33 MF
Rhodes	Callide
Guinea	Gatton Panic, Macueni, Riversdale
Signal	Congo
Drumstick	PKM1

C) Various extension activities of farm

	
Farmers training	Students training
	
Veterinary officers training	Demonstration of fodders
	
Azolla demo unit	Participation in krishimela

D) Present infrastructure

1. Total farm area: 161 ha

Cultivable area: 132 ha

Rainfed area: 87 ha

Net irrigated area: 45 ha
2. Mechanical work shop: Six tractors, diesel operated pump, generator
3. Seed processing unit: seed grader, seed godown
4. Implement shed: disc plough, disc harrow, cultivator, ferti cum seed drill, rotavator, rotary slicer, fertilizer broadcaster, fodder reaper, multi crop thresher
5. Administrative block
6. Conference hall
7. Seed museum
8. Fodder demo plot
9. Azolla demo unit
10. Residential quarters
11. Entrepreneur hostel