

Editorial Foreword

Today there is a serious question before all the stakeholders in the agricultural sector concerning applicability of the research findings. Especially in the developing countries there are many scientists who have undertaken scores of research but only few commercial products have come about as a result of these researches. What may be the answer or answers to this question? Some experts believe that it is due to lack of entrepreneurship as it is a pre-requisite for product development and commercialization.

Researchers do research and they do not attempt to convert their results into commercial applications. Then who should take the initiative to convert research findings and outcomes into commercial products and technologies that are beneficial to the farmers. I believe that governments, public and private sector institutes, companies and NGOs can take initiatives for this exercise. There must be a policy, national and/ or institutional, to establish strong partnerships among researchers and other stakeholders to carried out this process. Most of the researches in agriculture are applied researches. Hence, there is no value if the findings of these researches are not put into practice.

Further, I would like to pay my attention to the so called “organic agriculture“. Organic farming is a sector that had not paid serious attention in research- product /technology development symbiosis. It is a common belief that organic farming is good but its productivity is less and therefore without so called modern agricultural practices we cannot supply food requirement for the growing global population. Is it true? I am not a supporter of this ideology. I have observed in my recent visit to Philippines that totally organic based farms with very high yields compared to modern practices and with low cost of production. These farms have all the farming practices and crops such as paddy, veggies, fruits, fresh water fish and livestock. So scientists and researchers in agriculture must think to conduct research and publish outcomes that are beneficial to both farmers and consumers. Hence, the Journal of Agricultural Sciences will give priority to such research findings in the future.

Currently the JAS has been included in more than 25 journal databases including AGRICOLA, Cabi Abstracts, Index Copernicus, DOAJ and CiteFactor. It shows the wider acceptance of JAS by international citations and journal databases. This is an indicator for our progress in journal quality during past years. There were many people behind this success. This honour must go to Dr. MLM Chandrika Dissanayake - Coordinating Editor of JAS, Mr Prasad C Iddamalgoda, Ms Suiox Cummings of SLJOL, all the authors, reviewers and editorial committee members. I must also thank Dr.P.K Dissanayake for extending his valuable support for JAS despite being a member of the editorial board.

Prof Rohana P Mahaliyanaarachchi

Editor in Chief

01st January 2014