

Save the Tanks, Protect Livestock

SEMINAR

Venue:
 **CESCI Campus,
Kadavur, Madurai**

Date:
 **29 August 2026
Saturday**

Time:
 **10:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m.**



Tanks and Livestock Livelihoods

Village tanks are the biggest of all the common property resources that play a vital role in sustaining livestock-based livelihoods and the rural economy. They provide livestock with:

- Drinking water;
- Grazing areas;
- Space for livestock pens and resting; and
- A vital common resource that supports livestock rearing in rural communities.

However, over the past three decades, the water-holding capacity and grazing resources of tanks have steadily declined. As a result, livestock keepers are facing increasing economic losses and livelihood challenges.



Key Challenges Faced by Livestock Keepers

- The spread of *Prosopis juliflora* (Seemai Karuvelam) has reduced available grazing areas;
- Dense *Prosopis* growth prevents grass and other fodder plants from growing, reducing grazing resources;
- Inadequate water storage in tanks has increased water scarcity for livestock;
- Access to tank water for livestock has become increasingly difficult;
- Dense *Prosopis* thickets and thorny growth make it difficult to move livestock to grazing areas; and
- The discharge of sewage and wastewater into tanks is increasingly affecting water quality.



What can we do?

The seminar will explore practical ways to restore tanks as productive and accessible common resources for livestock keepers and rural communities.

The discussions will focus particularly on:

- How can *Prosopis juliflora* be removed and grazing lands restored?
- How can tanks, village ponds and drainage channels be restored?
- How can safe and adequate drinking water be ensured for livestock?
- How can the discharge of sewage and wastewater into tanks be prevented?
- How can common lands and grazing resources be developed and protected?



Participants

- Livestock Keepers
- Personnel and Organisations Engaged in Tank Restoration
- Officials and Officers of the Department of Animal Husbandry
- Villagers who have eradicated *Prosopis* from Tank beds



About the Seminar

The seminar will bring together livestock keepers, government officials, tank restoration practitioners and other stakeholders to discuss:

How can we create a better future for our tanks and, through them, improve the livelihoods and well-being of livestock keepers?



Better Tanks!



Better Livestock!



Better Livelihoods!


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INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
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