

New Banana Varieties: Kaveri Thangam & Kaveri Nadan

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Why in News?

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research's National Research Centre for Banana (ICAR-NRCB), Tamil Nadu, has officially released two new banana varieties.

Kaveri Thangam

- **Nutritional Enrichment-** It is a biofortified, premium-quality variety rich in **Provitamin A**, offering nearly **10 times higher Vitamin A** than conventional banana varieties.
- **Physical Traits** - Features a characteristic golden yellow pulp, firm texture, and unique aroma.
- **Enhanced Shelf-Life-** Possesses a post-harvest shelf life of **15 days**.
- **Pest Resistance** - Demonstrates natural resistance to banana weevils.

Kaveri Nadan

- **High Yielding Potential** - Capable of yielding up to 75 tonnes per hectare, effectively providing almost **double the yield** of traditional *Nadan* varieties.
- **Farmer Income Security** - Designed to significantly enhance farm productivity and mitigate production risks under fluctuating climatic conditions.



About ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana (ICAR-NRCB)

- **Establishment** - Established in 1993 under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

- **Headquarters-** Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.
- **Mandate**
 - Conducts basic and strategic research on crop improvement, biotechnology, natural resource management, and crop protection for banana and plantain.
 - Develops post-harvest handling technologies, value-added products, and export-oriented protocols (such as export pipelines for *Nendran* bananas).
 - Innovates climate-smart agricultural technology, including AI and sensor-based micro-irrigation systems to conserve water during extreme events like *Super El Niño*.

Reference

[The Hindu | ICAR-NRCB releases two new varieties of banana](#)

