



Welcome to Kovalam Experimental Station (KES) of ICAR-CIBA

The experimental station established at Muttukadu consists of shellfish and finfish hatcheries, feed mill, broodstock holding ponds, nursery rearing facilities, farmer's training facility and farmer's rest house. This experimental station is instrumental in developing seed production technology of Asian seabass, milk fish, mullet, snappers and ornamental fishes, development of indigenous and cost effective feed, seed production of mud crab, shrimp farming technologies etc.

There is a growing need to have facilities to take up research in emerging technologies viz. diversification of species for aquaculture, culture system diversification such as Recirculation Aquaculture (RAS), biofloc based farming, selective breeding for brackishwater aquaculture, development of indigenous cost effective feeds and health management in emerging areas. Hence, a second experimental farming facility, which spreads around 64.55 acres near Kovalam, Chennai has been added during 2021.

Kovalam Experimental Station (KES) of ICAR-CIBA is located adjacent to the brackishwater resources located between the East Coast Road (ECR), and Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) on the Kovalam-Kelambakkam road, around 30 km from the Headquarters at Chennai. This land was previously under the Salt Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and has been handed over to ICAR-CIBA on 20th August 2020. The newly acquired ICAR-CIBA land is located in the revenue villages Thiruvidanthai, Kelambakkam, and Thaiyur as adjacent plots consists of four parcels as shown in Fig. 1. The area details of the 4 parcels of land are given below in Table 1. The boundary of the land boundary has been delineated using cadastral map, total station, and Differential Global Positioning System survey (DGPS). The layout of the CIBA boundary is given in Fig. 2.

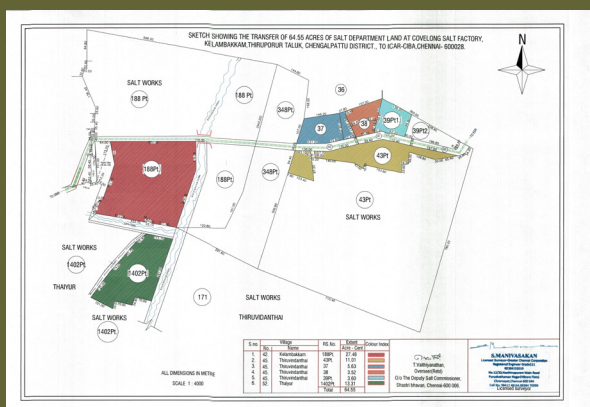


Fig. 1. Layout of Kovalam Experimental Station KES



Fig. 2. Satellite imagery of Kovalam Experimental Station KES

Table 1. Land area details

Sl. No.	Place	Survey number	Total area (in acres)
1	Thiruvidadanthai	37, 38, 39 pt1	12.75
2	Thiruvidadanthai	43 pt	11.01
3	Kelambakkam	188 pt	27.48
4	Thaiyur	1402 pt	13.31
Total area			64.55



Proposed Developmental Plan for KES

The Kovalam Experimental Station land is proposed to be developed in the following manner for various research and developmental activities to meet the growing technology needs of the farmers.

Plot: 1

Earthen ponds for nursery rearing trials and growout farming trials have to be developed with uniform size for both the categories.

Multipurpose utility hall with officers/workers toilet, Farm produce handling shed, Vehicle parking area, fresh water storage tank, Feed storage room, Rainwater harvest tank, Harvesting yard etc.

Plot: 2

Land based farming units such as Recirculation Aquaculture Systems, Biofloc farming tanks, Broodstock development facilities and nursery rearing tanks will be developed.

Infrastructure facilities such as Laboratory-cum-Office buildings, Staff quarters, Training centre, Trainee's hostel, Auditorium, Exhibition Hall cum Public Aquarium, Eco-aqua tourism with boating and fishing facilities inside the reservoir, Playground, Gym, Canteen etc.

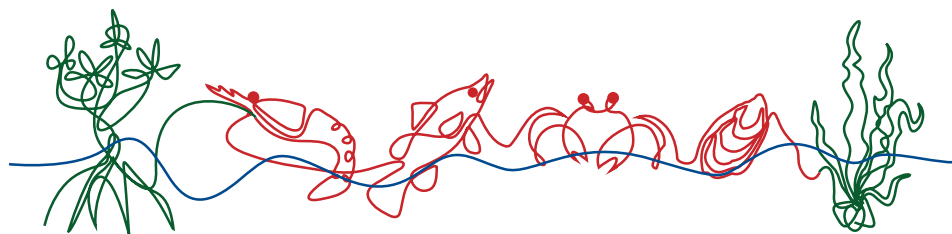
Plot: 3

Development of model aquaculture farm for different fish/shell fishes with required infrastructure viz., ponds, approach road, peripheral bund, electrification, sea water intake system, bore wells, water pumping and reservoirs, ETP ponds, labour rest area and multipurpose hall with feed storage etc.

Plot: 4

Cage culture demonstration units, Pen culture facility, Model shrimp/fish farms, brackishwater Crab culture ponds with mangrove plantation and adequate infrastructure, this farm complex will be developed and it can be operated under Public Private Partnership (PPP mode) to generate revenue to the institute.





"Brackishwater aquaculture for food, employment and prosperity"

Officer In-Charge

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