

Dr. Arayathinal Michael Michael



Dr. Arayathinal Michael Michael was born on June 17, 1930 at Pathampuzha, Poonjar, Dist. Kottayam, Kerala. He studied at the Allahabad Agricultural Institute when Prof. Mason Vaughn was the Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering. He obtained the degree of B.Sc. Agril. Engg. from the University of Allahabad in 1953 and M.Tech. and Ph.D. degrees in Agricultural Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in 1962 and 1968, respectively, specializing in Soil and Water Conservation Engineering. In 2007, the N.D. University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad awarded the degree of D.Sc. (*h.c.*) to Dr. A. M. Michael in recognition of his outstanding professional contributions.

Dr. A. M. Michael served the Rajasthan Agricultural University, Jobner campus from 1953 to 1966 as Lecturer, Reader, and Professor. From 1966 to 1968 he served the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. Subsequently, he joined the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, as Senior Research Engineer – Professor in 1968. He served as Professor, Water Technology Centre from 1971 to 1974. He took over as Project Director, Water Technology Centre, I.A.R.I., New Delhi in 1975 and continued till 1983. He took over as Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi in 1984 and continued till 1990. In 1992 he joined as Vice-Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur for a five-year period. From 1997 he has been working as a Consultant in Soil and Water Conservation.

Dr. Michael has served as a Consultant to World Health Organization, World Bank, United States Development Agency, Winrock International, Asian Institute of Technology, International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) Hyderabad, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Educational Consultants (India).

Dr. Michael is Fellow of Institution of Engineers (India), Indian National Academy of Engineering, Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers and Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservation.

Dr. Michael has made immense contributions in Agricultural Engineering education, research and development, with emphasis to Irrigation and Soil and Water Conservation. He is the author of a large number of research papers, monographs, handbooks and text books including Irrigation Theory and Practice, Principles of Agricultural Engineering, Water Wells and Pumps and Land Drainage Principles, Methods and Applications. In recognition of his outstanding professional contributions he has been honoured with many awards and recognitions. These include the Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Award and the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Award of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Engineer of the Year 1995 Award of Institution of Engineers (India), Palakkad Chapter, Gold Medals of Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers and Soil Conservation Society of India and Eminent Engineer Award of Institution of Engineers (India) in 2014.

Dr. Michael is an institution builder of high repute. During his tenure as Vice-Chancellor, there was all-round development of academic and infra-structural facilities in all the campuses of Kerala Agriculture University. As Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi the establishment of the Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre for Biotechnology and the immense progress in research, higher education and large -area agricultural technology transfer are land-mark achievements under his leadership.

In recognition of his Contribution to the profession, the Society confers the Mason Vaughn Award to Dr. A. M. Michael.