



**K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY**  
THE COMPLETE WORLD OF EDUCATION

# SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

# 2025



S.No	CONTENT PAGE
1	From the Editor's Desk..... 4
2	From the Desk of IQAC Coordinator..... 5
3	Words from Leadership..... 6
4	School Vision and Mission..... 8
5	Faculty Achievements..... 9
6	Students Achievements ..... 10
7	Collaborations ..... 21
8	Initiatives by School..... 22
9	Krishi Vikas..... 25
10	Events..... 26
11	Agriculture and Community Connect..... 31
12	Faculty Research Updates..... 33
13	Students Corner..... 35
14	Thoughts from Faculties..... 39
15	<b>Placement</b> ..... 40
16	Alumni..... 41

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to present the new edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter for the October-December 2025 quarter. This newsletter continues to highlight the vibrant academic, research, and outreach activities that define our school's dynamic learning environment.

During the past three months, our faculty, students, and staff have demonstrated remarkable dedication, innovation, and excellence across various domains of agricultural sciences.

In this edition, you will find engaging articles on emerging areas such as the use of drones in agriculture, smart micro farming, and other advancements in agri-tech. We are proud to feature significant research contributions, including research articles in reputed journals."

We are delighted to highlight key achievements, including a patent on a tablet box, capacity development programs, and an academic visit to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), which provided valuable exposure to our students.

Our faculty and students have actively engaged in research, field-based learning, and skill development, reflecting our commitment to advancing agricultural education and practice.

We hope this newsletter not only documents our accomplishments but also inspires and connects our academic community. We trust you will find it informative and insightful.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to bringing you more enriching and thought-provoking content in the coming editions.

Warm regards,

**Dr. Anjali Tomar**

**Editor-in-chief & Assistant Professor**

**School of Agricultural Sciences**

**K. R. Mangalam University**

## FROM THE DESK OF IQAC COORDINATOR



Dear Readers,

I am happy to share this message for the new edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter for October-December 2025. This newsletter reflects the school's continued commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and meaningful community engagement. I extend my sincere appreciation to the editorial team for compiling and presenting the key initiatives and accomplishments of this quarter.

At the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), we remain dedicated to fostering a culture of continuous improvement, institutional integrity, and quality enhancement across the university. It is encouraging to see the School of Agricultural Sciences actively embracing these principles through its dynamic academic activities, research contributions, and capacity-building initiatives, including advancements in emerging areas such as agri-tech and smart farming.

The active participation of students and faculty in research, experiential learning, publications, and academic engagements along with initiatives like educational visits and innovation-driven achievements, demonstrates the school's commitment to nurturing skilled and globally competent agricultural professionals. This edition captures not only the events of the past three months but also the spirit of innovation and progress that defines the institution.

Let us move forward with renewed dedication, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to quality.

Warm regards,

**Dr Shikha Dutt Sharma**

**Editor and IQAC Coordinator**

## WORDS FROM LEADERSHIP



Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to present this edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter for October-December 2025. This issue reflects the continued academic excellence, innovation, and commitment to quality that define our institution.

The school has made commendable progress during this quarter, with active participation from faculty and students in academic, research, and extension activities. The contributions in reputed journals and engagement in emerging areas of agriculture demonstrate our dedication to advancing knowledge and addressing real-world challenges.

It is encouraging to note the growing focus on modern agricultural technologies, interdisciplinary learning, and skill development initiatives. Such efforts not only strengthen our academic framework but also prepare our students to contribute effectively to the evolving agricultural sector.

I congratulate all contributors for their sincere efforts and achievements. Their dedication plays a vital role in enhancing the academic environment and reputation of the institution.

Let us continue to strive for excellence through innovation, collaboration, and a commitment to learning.

**Prof. Varuna Tyagi**

**Dean (Academic Affairs)**

**K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, Haryana**

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Dear Readers,

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to present the October-December 2025 edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter. This publication serves as a reflection of the vibrant academic environment and collective achievements of our faculty and students.

During this quarter, the school has made commendable progress in academics, research, and outreach activities. From insightful articles on emerging agricultural technologies like drones and smart micro farming to significant research publications and innovative achievements such as a patent on a tablet box, this edition highlights our commitment to excellence and innovation.

The organization of capacity development programs, workshops, and the academic visit to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) have further enriched the learning experiences of our students by bridging theoretical knowledge with practical exposure.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our faculty, students, and staff for their dedication and hard work. Their continuous efforts play a vital role in shaping competent professionals ready to address the challenges of modern agriculture.

I hope this newsletter inspires all readers and strengthens our shared commitment to advancing agricultural education and sustainable development.

Happy reading.

**Dr. Joginder Singh Yadav**

**Editor**

**Dean, School of Agricultural Sciences**

**K. R. Mangalam University**

# SCHOOL VISION AND MISSION

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

School of Agricultural Sciences at K. R. Mangalam University is fully equipped with the facilities of laboratories agriculture farms to carry out the Teaching, Practical and Research work. All the faculty members are well qualified (Ph.D. in their respective fields) and well experienced. The faculty remains in constant touch with various experts in the relevant fields and is willing to experiment with latest ideas in teaching and research.

School of Agricultural Sciences imparts students technical knowledge, enhances their practical skill and ability, motivating them to think creatively, helping them to act independently and take decisions accordingly in all their technical pursuits and other endeavours. It strives to empower its students and faculty members to contribute to the development of society and Nation.

### School Vision

To be an internationally recognized Agri-institute for agriculture education, research and innovation, and Agri-entrepreneurship.

### School Mission

- ◇ Interdisciplinary approach, innovative pedagogy, stimulating research to foster Agri-based employability and entrepreneurship.
- ◇ Integrate global needs and expectations through collaborative programs with premier universities, research centers, industries, and professional bodies within India and abroad for global exposure & real-life work experience.
- ◇ Practicing cutting-edge-technologies, tools, techniques, practices, and processes in the field of agriculture
- ◇ Developing leadership, ethical values, and sensitivity to the environment.



# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

## CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION:



Dr. Anjali Tomar participated in a one-day international workshop titled “Defining Research and Innovation Strategy for Excellence,” held on October 30, 2025. The workshop was organized by Maryam Abacha American University of Nigeria (MAAUN) and focused on developing strategic frameworks to promote excellence in global research and innovation.

Her participation reflects a strong commitment to academic advancement and engagement with international research practices.

## CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION FOR DESIGN



The School of Agricultural Sciences extends its heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Anjali Tomar on securing the registration of a design for “A Tablet Box” (Design No. 464467-001), classified under Class 09-03. The design was successfully registered on July 3, 2025, by the Patent Office, Government of India, under the Designs Act, 2000, and the certificate of registration was issued on October 13, 2025.

This notable achievement highlights Dr. Tomar’s dedication to innovation and her contribution to applied research in product design. It reflects the institution’s continued emphasis on promoting creativity, research excellence, and practical problem-solving approaches among faculty members.

# STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

## STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN AGRO-MARKETING STRATEGIES CONTEST

Students of the School of Agricultural Sciences participated enthusiastically in an Intra-University Agro-Marketing Strategy Contest, which provided a vibrant platform to showcase their creativity, analytical abilities, and understanding of agricultural marketing concepts.

Participants presented innovative marketing strategies covering areas such as value addition, branding, supply chain management, digital marketing, and market linkages for agricultural products.

Neetu Sharma secured the First Prize for her outstanding performance, demonstrating originality, clarity, and practical relevance in her presentation. The Second Prize was awarded to Anisha for her well-structured and insightful strategy, while Jack secured the Third Prize with his innovative approach and commendable presentation.

Other participants also displayed great enthusiasm, creativity, and dedication, making the competition engaging and intellectually enriching. Their efforts contributed significantly to the overall success of the event.



**Neetu Sharma**  
Student of B.Sc. (Hons.)  
Agriculture- 1st Year





**Anisha**

B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture I Year







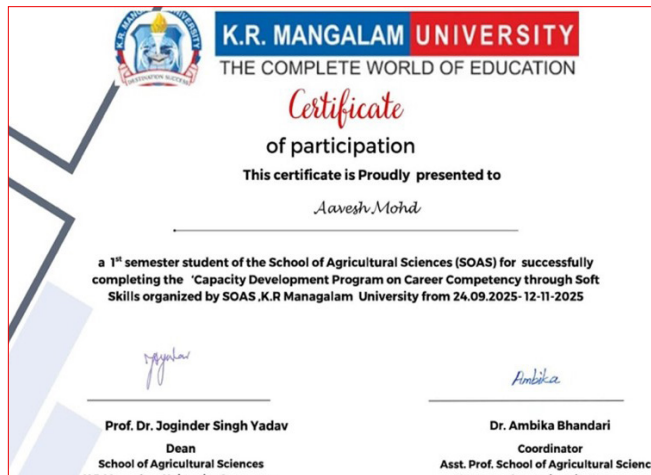
## STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ON CAREER COMPETENCY THROUGH SOFT SKILLS

Students of the School of Agricultural Sciences at K.R. Mangalam University actively participated in the Capacity Development Program on Career Competency through Soft Skills organized by the university. The program was conducted over a period from 24 September 2025 to 12 November 2025 and was specifically designed for first-semester students to enhance their overall personality and professional development.

Through this program, students were provided with a comprehensive platform to strengthen essential soft skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, and interpersonal abilities. The initiative focused on improving career competencies, preparing students to meet industry expectations, and building confidence for future professional challenges. The enthusiastic participation of students reflects their commitment towards self-improvement and readiness to excel in their academic as well as professional journeys.







## STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Neetu Sharma and Pulkit Jain, Students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture II Year actively participated in a one-day online International Workshop on Defining Research and Innovation Strategy for Excellence, organized by Maryam Abacha American University of Nigeria. The workshop was conducted virtually on October 30, 2025, providing an international platform for academic interaction and knowledge sharing.

Through this workshop, both participants gained valuable insights into research planning, innovation strategies, and approaches to achieving academic and professional excellence. The program emphasized the development of critical thinking, analytical abilities, and innovative problem-solving skills. Their participation in this global academic initiative reflects a strong commitment to continuous learning and the enhancement of research-oriented competencies.



**Pulkit Jain**  
Student of B.Sc. (Hons.)  
Agriculture- 1st Year



**Neetu Sharma**  
B.Sc. (Hons.)  
Agriculture II Year



## STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN IDEAS 3.0

Students from the School of Agricultural Sciences at K.R. Mangalam University were awarded Certificates of Appreciation under IDEAS 3.0, the flagship innovation and ideathon fest of the university, held on 6th–7th November 2025. The recognition was conferred for their valuable contribution, commitment, and active support towards innovative projects.

Their participation in this innovation-driven event reflects a strong orientation towards the application of modern technologies in agriculture and the development of practical, solution-based approaches. This achievement highlights students' dedication to creativity, teamwork, and excellence, while fostering innovation and real-world problem-solving skills in the field of agricultural sciences.









## COLLABORATIONS

### MOU SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN SOAS, K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY AND ARAVALI DAIRY & AGRO PRODUCTS PVT. LTD.



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Aravali Dairy & Agro Products Pvt. Ltd on 6th November 2025, to strengthen industry-academia collaboration and provide practical exposure to students.

The MoU was formally signed by Dr. Rahul Sharma, Registrar and Dean SOAS Dr. J. S. Yadav of K.R. Mangalam University, in the presence of faculty members and representatives from the partnering organization. This collaboration aims to bridge the gap between theoretical learning and real-world agricultural practices by facilitating hands-on training, field exposure, and industry-oriented projects.

Under this MoU, students of SOAS successfully undertook two projects in collaboration with Aravali Dairy & Agro Products Pvt. Ltd., gaining valuable practical insights into dairy and agri-based enterprise operations. These projects provided students with experiential learning opportunities and enhanced their understanding of value chains, processing, and agribusiness management.

The partnership reflects the university's commitment to promoting skill-based education, industry engagement, and employability among students. It is expected to open new avenues for internships, training programs, and collaborative research in the field of agriculture and allied sectors.



# INITIATIVES BY SCHOOL

## EMPOWERING FUTURE AGRI-ENTREPRENEURS: A NEW INITIATIVE ON MICROGREENS AND HYDROPONICS

The School of Agricultural Sciences has always remained committed to imparting innovative, skill-based, and future-oriented education to its students. In line with this vision, the School has taken a progressive step by introducing practical learning and awareness initiatives on microgreens and hydroponics. These emerging areas in agriculture not only promote sustainable food production but also open new avenues for entrepreneurship among students.

Microgreens are young, tender greens harvested at an early stage of plant growth, typically within 7-21 days after germination. Despite their small size, they are packed with intense flavors, vibrant colors, and significantly higher concentrations of nutrients compared to their mature counterparts. Commonly grown microgreens include radish, mustard, fenugreek, broccoli, sunflower, and pea shoots.

Recognizing their immense nutritional and commercial potential, the school initiated hands-on training sessions to educate students about the cultivation, harvesting, and marketing of microgreens. Students were guided through the entire process, from seed selection and growing media preparation to irrigation techniques and harvesting practices.



Microgreens: Small Plants, Big Impact



A major milestone of this initiative was achieved during IDEAS 3.0 in November 2025, where students

proudly showcased freshly grown vegetables and a variety of microgreens. The display attracted significant attention from visitors, faculty, and industry experts, highlighting not only the quality of produce but also the students' practical skills and innovative thinking. This event served as a platform to demonstrate how small-scale agricultural practices can be transformed into viable business models.

Since then, the School has been continuously working towards spreading awareness about the benefits of microgreens. Students are being encouraged to understand their role in improving nutritional security, especially in urban and peri-urban areas where space is limited. Training sessions now also focus on cost-effective production methods, packaging, shelf-life management, and marketing strategies.

Importantly, microgreens cultivation has been introduced as an entrepreneurial opportunity for students. With minimal investment, limited space requirements, and quick returns, it provides an ideal startup model for young agri-entrepreneurs. SOAS is actively mentoring students to develop business plans, explore local markets, and even initiate small ventures within and beyond the campus.

## HYDROPONICS: REDEFINING MODERN AGRICULTURE



Alongside microgreens, The School of Agricultural Sciences has also initiated practical exposure to

Hydroponics, a soilless method of growing plants using nutrient-rich water solutions. Hydroponics represents a revolutionary approach to agriculture, especially in the context of shrinking arable land, water scarcity, and the increasing demand for high-quality produce.

Through this initiative, students are introduced to the principles and systems of hydroponic farming, including nutrient film technique (NFT), deep water culture (DWC), and vertical farming systems. They gain hands-on experience in setting up hydroponic units, managing nutrient solutions, monitoring plant growth, and maintaining optimal environmental conditions.

The integration of hydroponics into the curriculum has enabled students to explore advanced agricultural technologies and understand their practical applications. This exposure is particularly relevant in today's context, where urban farming and controlled environment agriculture are gaining rapid popularity.

The School's emphasis on hydroponics also aligns with sustainability goals. This method uses significantly less water compared to conventional farming, eliminates the need for soil, and reduces the use of pesticides. Students are trained to appreciate these environmental benefits while also learning about the economic feasibility of hydroponic systems.

Building on the success of the microgreens initiative, hydroponics is also being promoted as an entrepreneurial venture. Students are encouraged to analyze market demand, assess cost structures, and develop scalable business models. The School is fostering an ecosystem where innovation, technology, and business acumen come together to shape the next generation of agricultural leaders.



### A Step Towards Sustainable and Entrepreneurial Agriculture

This initiative on microgreens and hydroponics reflects the School's commitment to experiential learning and skill development. By combining theory with practical exposure, students are not only gaining knowledge but also developing confidence to implement innovative agricultural practices.

The journey that began with a successful showcase at IDEAS 3.0 has now evolved into a continuous effort to educate, innovate, and inspire. Through workshops, demonstrations, and student-led activities, the School is creating awareness

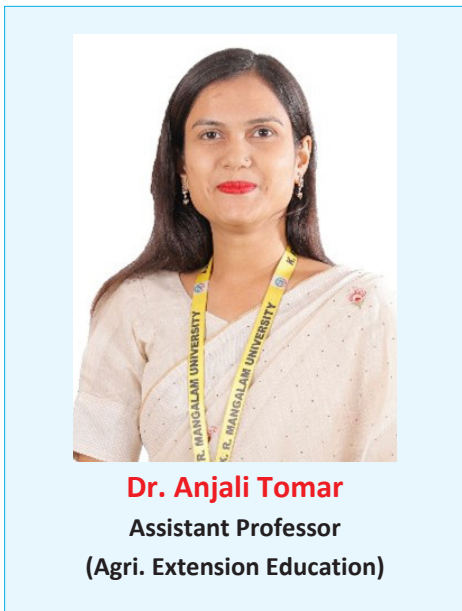
about sustainable agriculture and empowering students to become job creators rather than job seekers.

As we move forward, the School of Agricultural Sciences remains dedicated to nurturing creativity, promoting sustainability, and building entrepreneurial capacities among students. These initiatives mark a significant step towards transforming agricultural education into a dynamic, future-ready discipline that addresses both local and global challenges.



# KRISHI VIKAS

## USE OF DRONES IN AGRICULTURE AND THE ROLE OF EXTENSION SERVICES



### Introduction

The integration of advanced technologies in agriculture is transforming traditional farming into a more efficient, precise, and sustainable system. Among these innovations, drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have emerged as a powerful tool. Their use is expanding rapidly in India, offering new opportunities to enhance productivity and improve farm management practices.

### Applications of Drones in Agriculture

Drones are widely used for crop monitoring, soil and field analysis, irrigation management, and spraying of fertilizers and pesticides. Equipped with cameras and sensors, they provide real-time data that helps in identifying pest infestations, nutrient deficiencies, and water stress at early stages. This enables farmers to take timely corrective measures and improve crop health and yield.



### Advantages of Drone Technology

Drone technology promotes precision agriculture by allowing targeted application of inputs, thereby reducing wastage and environmental impact. It ensures uniform spraying, saves labor costs, and minimizes human exposure to harmful chemicals. Additionally, drones save time and improve efficiency, especially in large and difficult-to-access fields.

### Challenges in Adoption

Despite their advantages, the adoption of drones in agriculture faces several challenges. High initial investment, lack of technical knowledge, regulatory issues, and limited accessibility in rural areas restrict their widespread use. Small and marginal farmers, in particular, may find it difficult to adopt this technology independently.

### Role of Extension Services

Agricultural extension services play a vital role in promoting the adoption of drone technology. They act as a link between researchers and farmers by creating awareness through training programs, demonstrations, and workshops. Extension professionals provide hands-on experience and technical guidance, helping farmers understand the practical use of drones.

They also assist farmers in accessing government schemes and subsidies related to drone usage. Extension services encourage the formation of farmer groups and custom hiring centers, enabling shared use of drones to reduce costs. Moreover, they offer localized solutions and continuous support, building farmers' confidence in adopting new technologies.

### Conclusion

Drones have the potential to revolutionize agriculture by making it more efficient, data-driven, and sustainable. However, their successful adoption depends largely on the effectiveness of extension services in disseminating knowledge and building capacity. Strengthening extension systems alongside technological advancements will be essential for maximizing the benefits of drones in agriculture.

## SMART MICRO-FARMING: AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



**Dr. Ambika Bhandari**

Assistant Professor (Horticulture)

In the face of shrinking landholdings and increasing population pressure, agriculture is rapidly evolving toward more efficient and technology-driven practices. One such innovative concept gaining attention is Smart Micro-Farming, a system designed to maximize productivity in small spaces using modern techniques and smart resource management.

Smart Micro-Farming integrates methods like vertical farming, drip irrigation, hydroponics, and IoT-based monitoring to cultivate crops in limited areas such as rooftops, backyards, or small plots. This approach is especially beneficial for urban and peri-urban regions, where land availability is limited but the demand for fresh produce is high.

A key feature of this system is the use of sensor-based irrigation, which ensures that plants receive water and nutrients precisely when needed. This not only reduces water wastage but also enhances crop growth and yield. Additionally, the use of organic inputs and controlled environments minimizes pest attacks and reduces dependency on chemical pesticides.

Another innovative aspect is crop diversification in compact spaces, where farmers can grow vegetables, herbs, and even medicinal

plants simultaneously. This helps in improving income stability and ensures year-round production. Integration with mobile applications allows farmers to monitor crop health, temperature, and moisture levels in real time.

Smart Micro-Farming also promotes sustainable practices, reducing the carbon footprint associated with transportation and excessive resource use. It empowers small farmers, students, and agri-entrepreneurs to adopt modern agriculture with minimal investment and higher efficiency.

In conclusion, Smart Micro-Farming represents a promising solution for the future of agriculture, combining innovation, sustainability, and profitability. By adopting such approaches, we can move towards a more resilient and food-secure world.

## EVENTS

### LEARNING BEYOND CLASSROOMS: A VISIT TO IARI, NEW DELHI



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University organized an educational visit to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi on 6th October 2025 for B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture students. The visit was convened by Dr. J. S. Yadav and coordinated by Dr. Anjali Tomar and Dr. Ambika Bhandari, aligning with SDG 4 (Quality Education) to promote experiential learning.

The program featured an expert lecture by Dr. Girijesh Mahra, who highlighted the evolution of Indian agriculture and the contributions of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and Dr. Norman E. Borlaug during the Green Revolution. Students also visited the Indo-Israel Project, where they observed advanced technologies such as protected cultivation, micro-irrigation, and precision farming.



The visit provided valuable hands-on exposure, bridging the gap between theory and practice, and enhancing students' understanding of modern agricultural innovations. It also fostered awareness about sustainable farming practices and encouraged interest in research and agri-entrepreneurship.

Overall, the visit was an enriching learning experience that strengthened students' practical knowledge, research orientation, and commitment to sustainable agricultural development.

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ON CAREER COMPETENCY THROUGH SOFT SKILLS

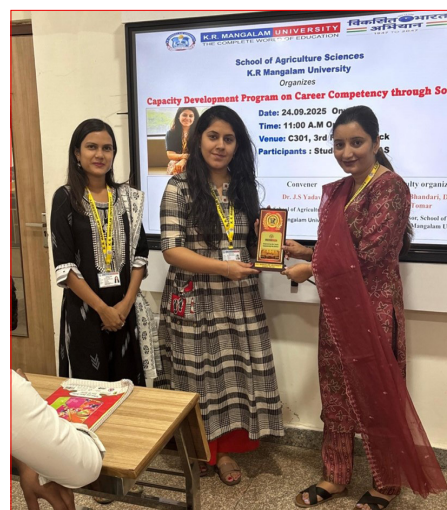
The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, successfully organized a Capacity Development Program on "Career Competency through Soft Skills" starting from 24th September to 12th November 2025. The program was conducted for first-year B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture students, with active participation of 25 students.

The sessions were delivered by Dr. Shivani Wadhwa, who provided valuable insights into communication, presentation, interpersonal skills, and professional development. The program was coordinated by Dr. Ambika Bhandari and Dr. Anjali Tomar.

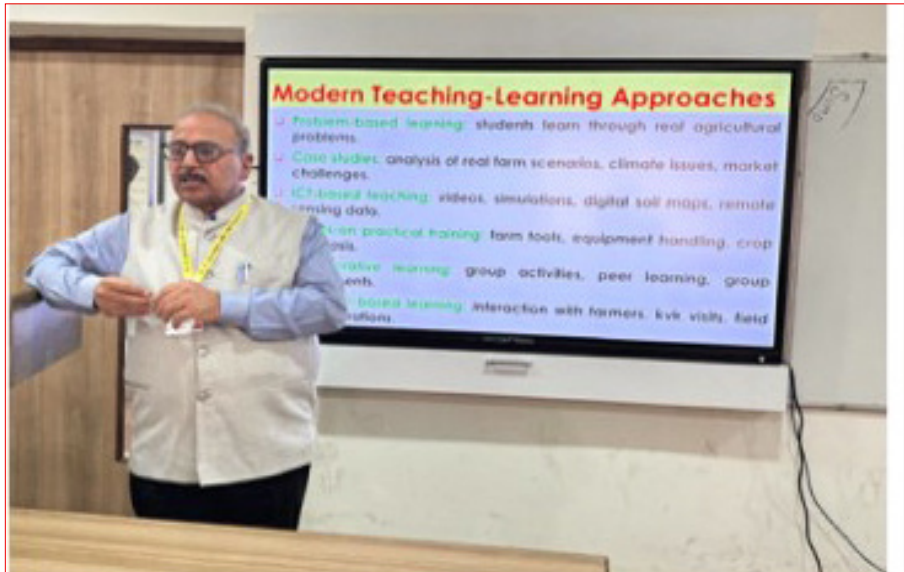
Spread across multiple sessions, the program covered key areas such as effective communication, public speaking, workplace behaviour, precision writing, active listening, and career-oriented skills including resume building and personal branding. Interactive activities, group discussions, and practical exercises enabled students to enhance confidence, clarity, and professional competencies.

The program had a significant positive impact, improving students' communication skills, critical thinking, teamwork, and career readiness. Participants appreciated the engaging and practical approach of the sessions.

Overall, the initiative successfully contributed to holistic student development and aligns with SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), preparing students to become confident and future-ready professionals.



## ORIENTATION PROGRAMME ON QUALITY IN AGRICULTURE EDUCATION FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS IN COLLABORATION WITH IQAC



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), organized an insightful Orientation Programme on quality in Agriculture Education for Educators and Students in collaboration with IQAC on November 26, 2025. The programme was designed to sensitize students and educators towards quality benchmarks in agricultural education and to foster a culture of continuous academic improvement.

The highlight of the programme was an engaging and thought-provoking session delivered by Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, who served as the resource person. Through an interactive lecture, he emphasized the importance of quality assurance in higher education and its growing relevance in the field of agriculture.

The programme provided participants with a deeper understanding of academic quality frameworks and encouraged them to align their learning with evolving industry expectations. It highlighted the need for continuous improvement, innovation-driven education, and the adoption of advanced teaching methodologies to meet the challenges of modern agriculture.

This program was organized by Dr. Jay Nath Patel, School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS) and was efficiently coordinated by Dr. Anjali Tomar, along with student co-coordinators Neetu and Neeraja. Their collective efforts ensured the smooth execution and interactive nature of the session.

Overall, the Orientation Programme emerged as a meaningful initiative that not only enhanced awareness about quality in agricultural education but also inspired students to strive for excellence in their academic and professional journeys.



## AGRO-MARKETING STRATEGY CONTEST



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, successfully organized an Agro-Marketing Strategy intra-university event on November 28, 2025.

Participants from various schools like: SOAS, SOMC, SOET presented well-researched and creative marketing strategies aligned with contemporary agricultural trends.

The program commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Jay Nath Patel, Assistant Professor, SOAS, who organized & coordinated this contest under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav, (Dean, SOAS) emphasized the growing importance of strategic marketing in agriculture. The Chief Guest, Shri Kashi Ram, an entrepreneur and founder of Sahjal Farms, shared valuable insights into agri-

entrepreneurship, innovation-led startups, and the need for market-oriented production systems.

Participants showcased a wide array of innovative concepts, including marketing strategies for mushroom products, millet-based value-added goods, natural honey branding, nano capsule technologies, and the “Grow Smart” model. Each presentation demonstrated a thoughtful blend of market research, creativity, and sustainability, highlighting the participants’ ability to address real-world challenges.

The contest concluded with Neetu Sharma (SOAS) securing the first position, followed by Anisha (SOAS) in second place and Priya (SOET) in third. The winners were awarded certificates and cash prizes in recognition of their outstanding performance.

In the closing remarks, the Dean of SOAS, Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav, lauded the participants for their creativity and research-driven approach. He highlighted the importance of such initiatives in preparing students for the evolving agri-business landscape and acknowledged the efforts of the organizing team in making the event a success.

Overall, the Agro-Marketing Strategy Contest emerged as a meaningful academic initiative that promoted experiential learning, innovation, and strategic thinking. It not only empowered students with practical insights into agricultural marketing but also inspired them to become future-ready professionals and entrepreneurs in the agri-business domain.



## INTER-INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY ENHANCEMENT WORKSHOP ON BEST PRACTICES IN TEACHING–LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT (26–27 NOVEMBER 2025)

The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University organized an Inter-Institutional Quality Enhancement Workshop on “Best Practices in Teaching–Learning and Assessment” on 26–27 November 2025 in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and G. D. Goenka University, Gurgaon. The workshop was convened by Dr. J. S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, and organized by Dr. Rabiya Basri (SOAS, KRMU) and Dr. Vinod Jatav (SOAS, GDU). The program aimed to promote innovative teaching practices, outcome-based assessment, and inter-institutional collaboration among faculty members and academic leaders.

Dr. J. S. Yadav, Dean (SOAS), highlighted the importance of collaborative learning and quality enhancement in higher education. He emphasized that sharing institutional best practices and adopting learner-centric approaches are essential for improving teaching–learning processes and ensuring academic excellence.

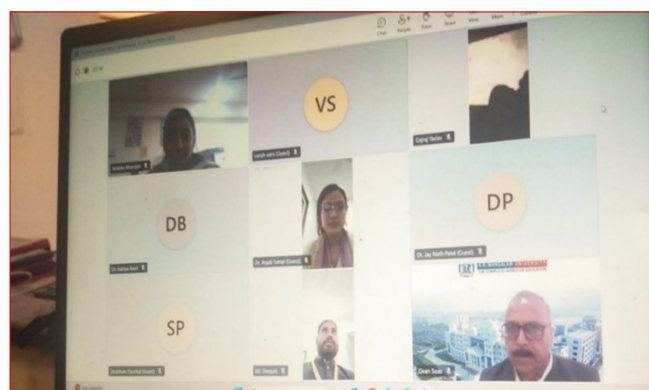
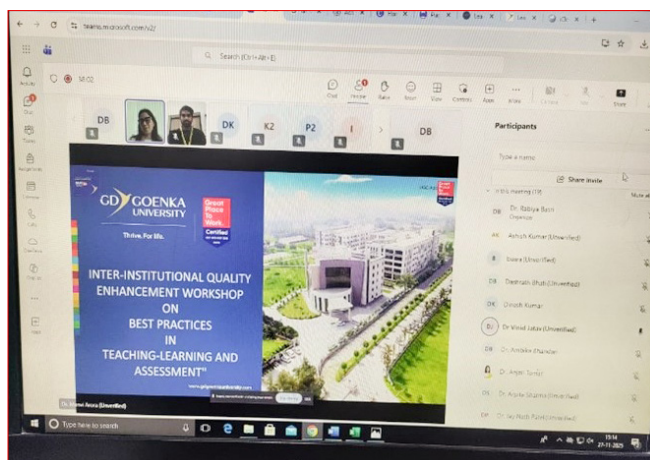
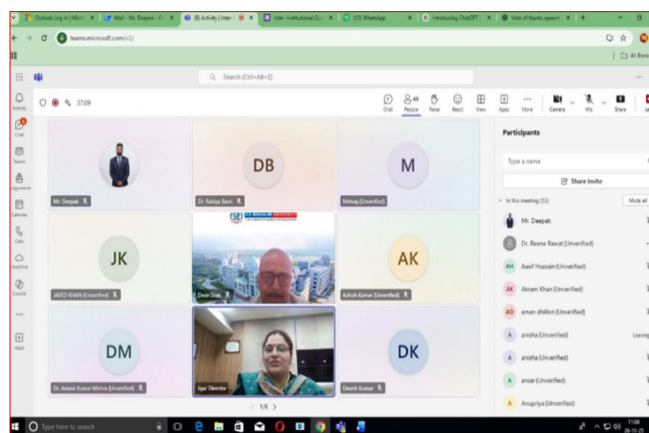
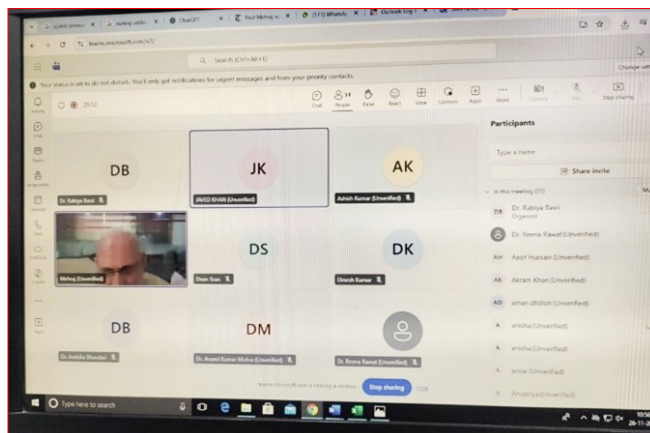
The Guest of Honor, Prof. Mehraj Uddin Mir, shared valuable insights on the relevance of Indian culture and the traditional education system in modern pedagogy. He emphasized how indigenous knowledge systems and value-based education can strengthen contemporary teaching, learning, and assessment practices.

The distinguished speaker, Prof. (Dr.) Tania Gupta, Dean, School of Education and IQAC Director, K. R. Mangalam University, discussed the alignment of curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment with special reference to Bloom’s Taxonomy. She also explained the significance of assessment rubrics and proper documentation in ensuring transparency, quality assurance, and effective accreditation processes.

Another eminent speaker, Dr. Manvi Arora, shared practical perspectives on quality enhancement, compliance, and best practices in teaching–learning and assessment. Her session provided valuable guidance on institutional quality frameworks and continuous improvement strategies.

As part of the workshop activities, participants were given assignments related to lesson plan development and designing formative assessment tools. Dr. Dashrath Bhati (ITM University, Gwalior) was recognized for developing the best lesson plan, while Dr. Shubham Singh (IIMT University, Meerut) was awarded for designing an effective formative assessment tool for experiential learning.

Overall, the workshop proved to be highly enriching and impactful, reinforcing the importance of innovative teaching methods, transparent assessment practices, and collaborative initiatives in enhancing the quality of higher education.



# AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY CONNECT

## ECO-AWAKENING DRIVE: REDUCING PLASTIC FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



The School of Agricultural Sciences with Environment Club, KRMU successfully organized an impactful community connect event on “Eco-Awakening: Reduce Plastic for a Better Tomorrow” at Village Daulah, on 4th November 2025, aiming to promote environmental consciousness and sustainable living practices among young minds.

The programme was led by the Hon’ble Dean, SOAS, Dr. J. S. Yadav, along with faculty member Dr. Jay Nath Patel, who actively engaged with students at the local school. Through interactive sessions, demonstrations, and discussions, the team highlighted the harmful effects of plastic pollution on the environment, agriculture, and human health. Students were sensitized about the importance of minimizing single-use plastics and adopting eco-friendly alternatives in their daily lives.

They addressed the gathering and emphasized the collective responsibility of society in protecting the environment. Faculty members further reinforced the message by sharing practical solutions such as reuse, recycling, and the use of biodegradable materials. The students enthusiastically participated, making the session lively and impactful.

This initiative proved to be a significant step towards strengthening community connect activities, bridging the gap between academic institutions and rural communities. It not only created awareness but also inspired young students to become responsible citizens and environmental stewards.

## EXPERT LECTURE ON NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT FOR ENHANCED CROP PRODUCTIVITY

The School of Agricultural Sciences proudly highlights a significant outreach initiative wherein Dr. J. S. Yadav Dean, SOAS delivered an expert lecture on “Nutrients and Their Role in Better Crop Production and Productivity” on 27th December 2025 at IFFCO.

The session was attended by a large number of farmers, who actively participated and benefited from the valuable insights shared during the programme. Dr. Yadav emphasized the critical role of essential plant nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in achieving optimal crop growth, higher yields, and improved soil health. He also highlighted the importance of balanced fertilization, integrated nutrient management, and the judicious use of fertilizers for sustainable agriculture.

During the lecture, practical recommendations were provided to farmers regarding nutrient deficiency symptoms, soil testing, and the efficient application of fertilizers. The interactive nature of the session encouraged farmers to discuss their field-level challenges, making the programme highly engaging and solution-oriented.

This initiative reflects the continuous efforts of the School of Agricultural Sciences in strengthening farmer outreach and promoting scientific agricultural practices. Such programmes play a vital role in enhancing farmers’ knowledge, improving productivity, and ensuring long-term sustainability in agriculture.



# FACULTY RESEARCH UPDATES

## RESEARCH PAPER:

The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, applauds the notable research contributions of Dr. Jaynath Patel, Assistant Professor, in the domain of agronomy.

Dr. Patel has co-authored two research papers focusing on pest resistance and crop improvement in green gram (mungbean). One of his research papers titled “Screening of Green Gram Genotypes for Resistance to Spotted Pod Borer (*Maruca vitrata*) under Field Conditions” was published in the Journal of Entomological Research in December 2025.

Additionally, another research paper titled “Impact of Biochemical Constituents Responsible for Resistance against *Maruca vitrata* in Different Genotypes of Mungbean” was published in Legume Research – An International Journal in October 2025 .

I.R. 5452  
[1-4]

**RESEARCH ARTICLE**

Legume Research: An International Journal

**Impact of Biochemical Constituents Responsible for Resistance against *Maruca vitrata* (Fabricius) in Different Genotypes of Mungbean**

Sushant Kumar<sup>1\*</sup>, D.V. Singh<sup>1</sup>, B. Shashikala<sup>2</sup>, Bipasha Datta<sup>3</sup>, Jay Nath Patel<sup>4</sup> 10.18805/LR-5452

**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Green gram also known as mung bean (*Vigna radiata* L.) which is a versatile and drought resistant pulse crop widely grown for its high nutritional value and play a vital role in crop rotation. It can be cultivated in the diverse climates and soil types which makes it important cash crop for farmers.

**Methods:** The experiment was conducted during the summer 2021 and 2022 at the Crop Research Centre of S.V.P. University of Agriculture and Technology to investigate the presence of *M. vitrata* on the various genotypes and genotypes mungbean. Samples were collected from the immature plants. The experiment was conducted to estimate the biochemical constituents viz. total soluble sugar, phenols, proteins and reducing sugar.

**Result:** Among all genotypes, Phenol content varied between 6.38 to 8.94. The maximum protein content was recorded in IPM-2 (4.140884 mg/g). Studies on the correlation between genotype's phenol content, *M. vitrata* damage (r=0.7377) and number of larvae (r=-0.8007) had a significant negative correlation. The amount of protein content ranged between 11.09 to 18.95. KM-2328 (11.09 mg/g) had less amount of protein. The protein content with the number of larvae (r=0.5817) had a significant positive correlation. The percentage of pod damage was connected with protein content (r=0.5007) showed a similar pattern and had the significantly positive correlation. Sugar content of various genotypes varied between 10.52 to 19.76 mg/g. The maximum sugar content was recorded in SM-668 (19.76 mg/g) followed by the KM-2241 (19.41 mg/g), IPM-202 (19.01 mg/g), T-44 (18.43 mg/g) and K-861 (17.66 mg/g). The minimum range of reducing sugar content was 6.78 to 14.39 mg/g. The maximum reducing sugar was estimated in KM-2241(14.39 mg/g) and MH-421 (6.76 mg/g) had less amount of reducing sugar. The sugar was positively correlated with number of larvae and damage percentage done by *M. vitrata*.

**Key words:** Biochemicals, Correlation, Damage, Genotypes, *Maruca vitrata*

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**INTRODUCTION**

India is one of the leading producers, consumer and exporter of pulses globally. The major pulses cultivated in the country are Chick peas, Mung bean, Pigeon peas, Black gram, field pea and Peas. Among these, mung bean or green gram (*Vigna radiata* (Linn.) Wilczek) belonging to the family Leguminosae and sub-family Papilionaceae is a significant cash crop and hold substantial importance for farmers (Kumar et al., 2023). It ranks third after chickpea and pigeon peas in terms of production. The primary mung bean producing state in India are Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, where it is predominantly grown as a rabi crop in arid and semi-arid regions (Kumar et al., 2024a). In North India, it is primarily cultivated during the summer and kharif seasons. Due to its short duration, adaptability to a wide range of soil types, suitability for crop rotation, brought tolerance and lower susceptibility to pest compared to soyabean (Joshi and Prasad, 2012), mungbean can be cultivated throughout the year.

The productivity and production of crops are influenced by various factors that vary depending on the climatic condition of different regions. However, the primary determinants of yield reduction in crop are disease and

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**How to cite this article:** Kumar S., Singh D.V., Shashikala B., Datta B. and Patel J.N. (2025). Impact of Biochemical Constituents Responsible for Resistance against *Maruca vitrata* (Fabricius) in Different Genotypes of Mungbean. Legume Research: 1-6. doi: 10.18805/LR-5452.

Submitted: 21-10-2024 Accepted: 01-10-2025 Date: 08-10-2025

Insect pest, which cause significant damage. Over 200 insect spp. from 48 families have been reported to infest

J. ent. Res., 49 (4) : 937-941 (2025)

DOI : 10.5958/0974-4576.2025.00158.7

### Screening of green gram, *Vigna radiata* (L.) genotypes for resistance to spotted pod borer, *Maruca vitrata* Fabricius under field conditions

Sushant Kumar<sup>1\*</sup>, D.V. Singh<sup>1</sup>, Shashikala B.<sup>2</sup>, Jay Nath Patel<sup>3</sup> and Prince Sahu<sup>4</sup>

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, GLA University, Mathura - 281 406, Uttar Pradesh, India

#### ABSTRACT

In this study 15 green gram genotypes were screened for resistance to *M. vitrata* under field condition. Among 15 genotypes screened against *M. vitrata*, IPM-2-K-14-9 and IPM 99-125 showed highest resistance with minimal larval infestation of 0.59 larvae and 0.54 larvae, respectively to pod damage which led to the highest yields of 5.197 and 5.098 q/ha, respectively. SM-668 was found most susceptible, exhibiting 23.24% seed damage and yield of 2.855 q/ha. The result revealed significant genetic variability among the genotypes.

**Key words :** Damage, genotypes, green gram, *Maruca vitrata*, resistance and yields.

#### INTRODUCTION

Green gram or mung bean, *Vigna radiata* (L.) Wilczek (Family: Leguminosae, Sub-family: Papilionaceae), is a vital legume crop cultivated extensively in tropical and subtropical regions. It is a cash crop and one of the important crops for the farmers (Kumar et al., 2023; Kumar et al., 2024b). Renowned for its nutritional richness, particularly its high protein content, green gram plays a crucial role in dietary requirement and sustainable agriculture systems due to its nitrogen fixing ability. A.P., Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, M.P., U.P. and Punjab is an important state of India where this pulse crop can be grown in all three season viz., kharif, rabi and zaid (Summer) (Kumar et al., 2025). Globally, mungbeans are cultivated on around 7.3 million hectares, with an average yield of 721 kg/ha. Between India and Myanmar, 5.3 mt of output are generated worldwide, accounting for 30% of the total (Kumar et al., 2024a). Despite its significance, green gram productivity is often constrained by biotic stresses, among which the spotted pod borer (*Maruca vitrata* Fabricius) is a major insect-pest of economic importance (Sharma et al., 2020). The larvae of *M. vitrata* cause severe damage by feeding on flower, buds and pods, leading to direct yield losses and compromise seed quality. The economic impact of *M. vitrata* infestation is considerable with yield losses ranging from 20 to 84% under favorable condition for this pest (Kumar and Verma, 2022). Pod damage often ranges between 20 and 60% depending on the environmental factor and pest pressure (Patel et al., 2021). The insect is polyphagous in nature and having high fecundity including concealed larval feeding habits pose significant challenges for the management, making it one of the most destructive insects of green gram (Singh

and Gupta, 2018). Conventional management strategies rely heavily on chemical insecticides, which is effective initially but often lead to environmental, health concern and development of resistance in pest populations. To address these challenges, breeding for host plant resistance has emerged as a sustainable and ecofriendly approaches. Genotypes offer reduced larval establishment, decreased pod damage and stable yield while reducing dependence on chemical pesticides (Mishra et al., 2014).

This study focuses on evaluating the resistance of green gram genotype to *M. vitrata* under field condition during the summer season of 2021 and 2022. By assessing larval population dynamics, pod damage and yield performances, the research aims to identify genotypes with enhanced resistance to *M. vitrata*. The result of the study is intended to support breeding program and integrated pest management (IPM) strategies, contributing to sustainable green gram cultivation and improved productivity in regions prone of pest infestation.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted during the summer seasons of 2021 and 2022 at the Crop Research Centre (C.R.C.) of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut, U.P. Total 15 green gram genotypes were screened for the resistance against Spotted pod borer (*Maruca vitrata*) under field condition. The details of genotypes screened and their source are presented in Table 1.

The experimental plots were prepared by ploughing, harrowing and leveling to ensure uniform soil conditions. Each genotype was sown in two lines which was 3 m long,

The studies identified resistant genotypes with lower pest infestation and higher yields, and further explored the role of biochemical constituents such as phenols, proteins, and sugars in imparting resistance. These findings contribute significantly to the development of sustainable pest management strategies and improved crop productivity.

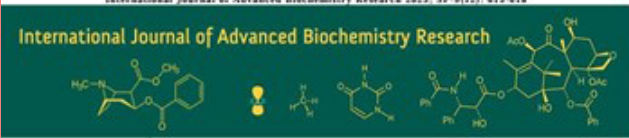
The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, proudly highlights the research contribution of Dr. Ambika Bhandari, Assistant Professor, in the field of plant pathology and sustainable agriculture.

Dr. Bhandari co-authored a research paper titled “Field Evaluation of the ICAR-IIHR Arka Microbial Consortium for Managing Phytophthora and Rhizome Rot in Small Cardamom Production,” which was published in the International Journal of Advanced Biochemistry Research in December 2025 .

The study focused on evaluating eco-friendly disease management practices in small cardamom cultivation. The results demonstrated that the combined application of potassium phosphonate and Arka Microbial Consortium significantly reduced disease incidence, including capsule rot and rhizome rot, while improving crop yield and benefit-cost ratio. The research emphasizes sustainable and cost-effective solutions for farmers, reducing dependency on chemical fungicides.

She has also contributed to research on “Autonomous Tractors and Agricultural Machinery,” highlighting the role of artificial intelligence and robotics in enhancing precision, reducing labor dependency, and promoting sustainable agriculture.

International Journal of Advanced Biochemistry Research 2025; 5P:9(12): 615-618



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**Madhu J**  
Ph.D. Scholar, Division of

**Field evaluation of the ICAR-IIHR Arka microbial consortium for managing Phytophthora and rhizome rot in small cardamom production**

**Sharanabasav Huded, Sudhakar S, Ramachandra Naik M, Rashmi Nigam, Ambika Bhandari, Madhu J and Gayatri Sinha**

DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.33545/26174693.2025.v9.i12sh.6573>

**Abstract**  
For five years, from 2016 to 2021, farmer's fields in Santhapura, Udumbanchola, Vandamedu, Nedumkandam, Kattapana, Rajakudi, and Rajakumari village of Idukki District in Kerala were used for field trials on the management of Phytophthora and rhizome rot diseases in small cardamom using various treatments of chemicals, biological agents, and biofertilizer. The treatments included spraying of 1% Bordeaux mixture (T<sub>1</sub>), spraying with Bordeaux mixture and drenching of Fomelyl AI 80% WP (T<sub>2</sub>), soil application of Trichoderma along with FYM (T<sub>3</sub>), spraying of Potassium Phosphonate 3ml/l and drenching of Arka Microbial Consortium(AMC) 10 g per lit (T<sub>4</sub>) and untreated control (T<sub>5</sub>). For each treatment, 600 small cardamom plants were taken. AMC was drenched four times, during May-June, August-September, November-December and January-February months. The observations on percent capsule rot, rhizome rot and root rot (%) were recorded. The percent was calculated at five areas (1.0 square meter) randomly selected in the area of small cardamom. The least capsule rot (4.23%), rhizome rot (5.14%), leaf infection (3.15%) was observed in the treatment involving spraying of Potassium Phosphonate and drenching of Arka Microbial Consortium. The highest capsule rot (85.1%), rhizome rot (31.8%), leaf infection (42.3%) of Phytophthora and Rhizome rot was observed in untreated check which was followed by the treatments T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub>.

**Keywords:** Disease management, Arka microbial consortium, cardamom, Phytophthora and rhizome rot

**Introduction**  
Food is essential for human life and consists of edible plant material such as fruits, nuts, corns and leaves and animal tissues that may be eaten raw or cooked depending on cultural traditions (Sharma *et al.*, 2002) [6]. Whether consumed raw or prepared as a dish, food provides the energy and nutrients needed for bodily maintenance, tissue repair and growth. Preferences for particular foods are shaped by cultural values as well as sensory qualities like taste, texture, appearance and mouthfeel. In food-service settings, seasonings, flavorings and

**Chapter 6**

**Autonomous Tractors and Agricultural Machinery**

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**Ambika Bhandari<sup>1</sup>, Robin A. Patel<sup>2</sup> and Dixitkumar Yogeshbhai Mistry<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Agricultural Sciences, K. R. Mangalam University, Sohna, Gurugram, Haryana

<sup>2</sup>(M.TechAgril. Engg.), Navasari Agricultural University, Navasari, Gujarat

<sup>3</sup>Assistant professor, Department of Agricultural engineering, Parul Institute of technology, Parul University, vadodara, Gujarat

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**Abstract**

Autonomous tractors and agricultural machinery are rapidly redefining the landscape of modern agriculture by integrating advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, computer vision, and real-time data processing. These systems are delivering tangible improvements in operational efficiency, reducing labor dependency by enabling round-the-clock operations and minimizing human error through precise, automated control. From variable-rate applications to intelligent path planning, autonomous machines enhance precision, resulting in optimized resource use, higher yields, and reduced environmental impact. The integration of autonomous machinery with farm management systems has further improved data-driven decision-making, allowing farmers to analyze, forecast, and act with greater confidence and speed. Across different regions, diverse deployment models from large-scale fleet operations in North America to compact, modular systems in Asia and Africa demonstrate the scalability and adaptability of these innovations to local needs. At the same time, adoption continues to be shaped by critical factors such as initial investment costs, lack of standardization, connectivity limitations, and the need for upskilling the agricultural workforce. Addressing these challenges requires a robust ecosystem of policy support, cross-sector collaboration, and education to ensure that technology adoption is inclusive and beneficial to farms of all sizes. Ethical considerations around data governance, liability, and AI transparency are equally important as machines take on more autonomous decision-making roles. As global agriculture confronts urgent pressures related to food security, climate resilience, and resource conservation, the role of autonomous systems will only grow more central.

# STUDENTS' CORNER



Digital Poster on “Benefits of Agroforestry” Prepared by:

**Bhanu Pratap Singh,**

Student of B. Sc. (Hons.) Ag. III year

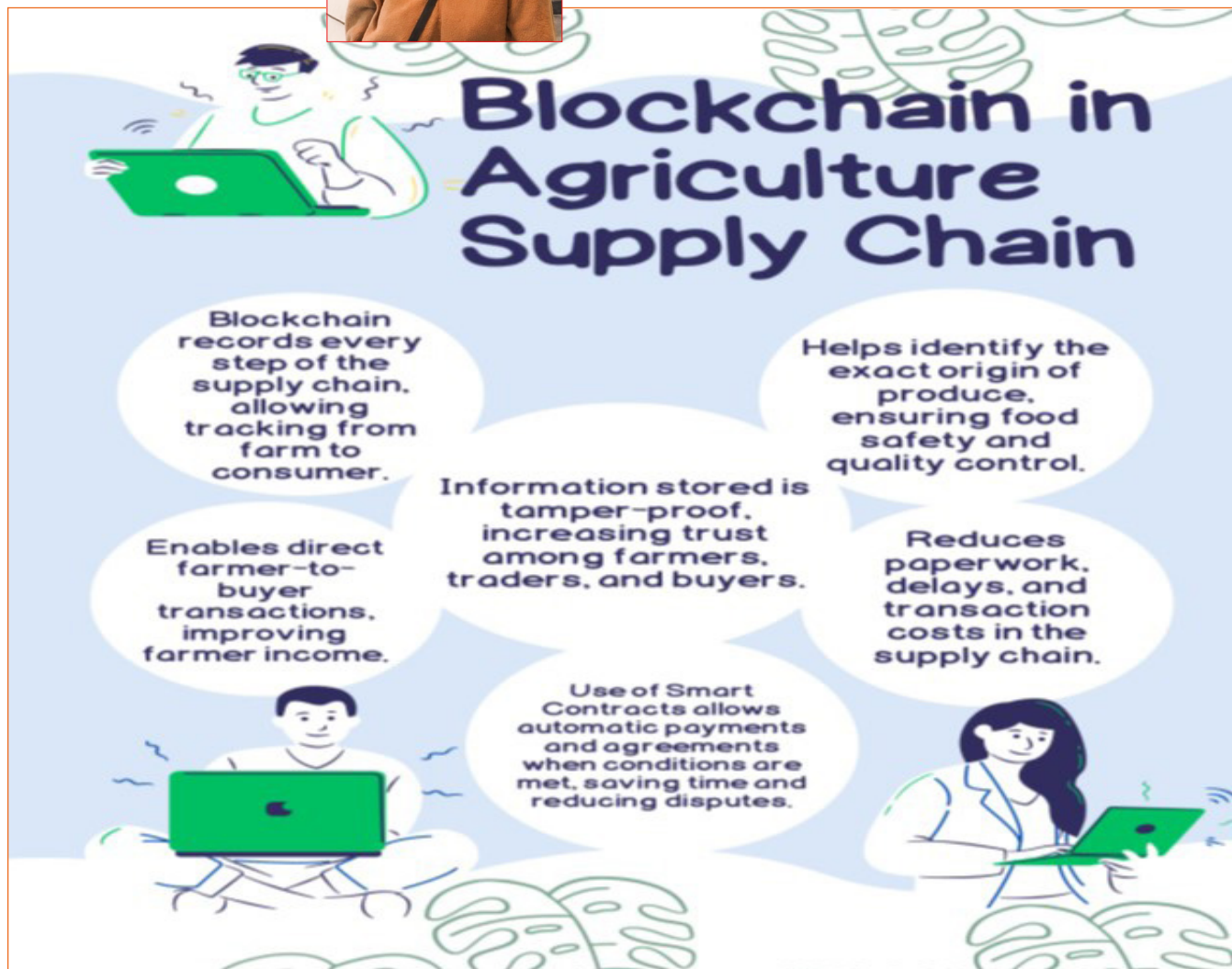




Digital poster on “Block Chain in  
Agriculture Supply Chain”:

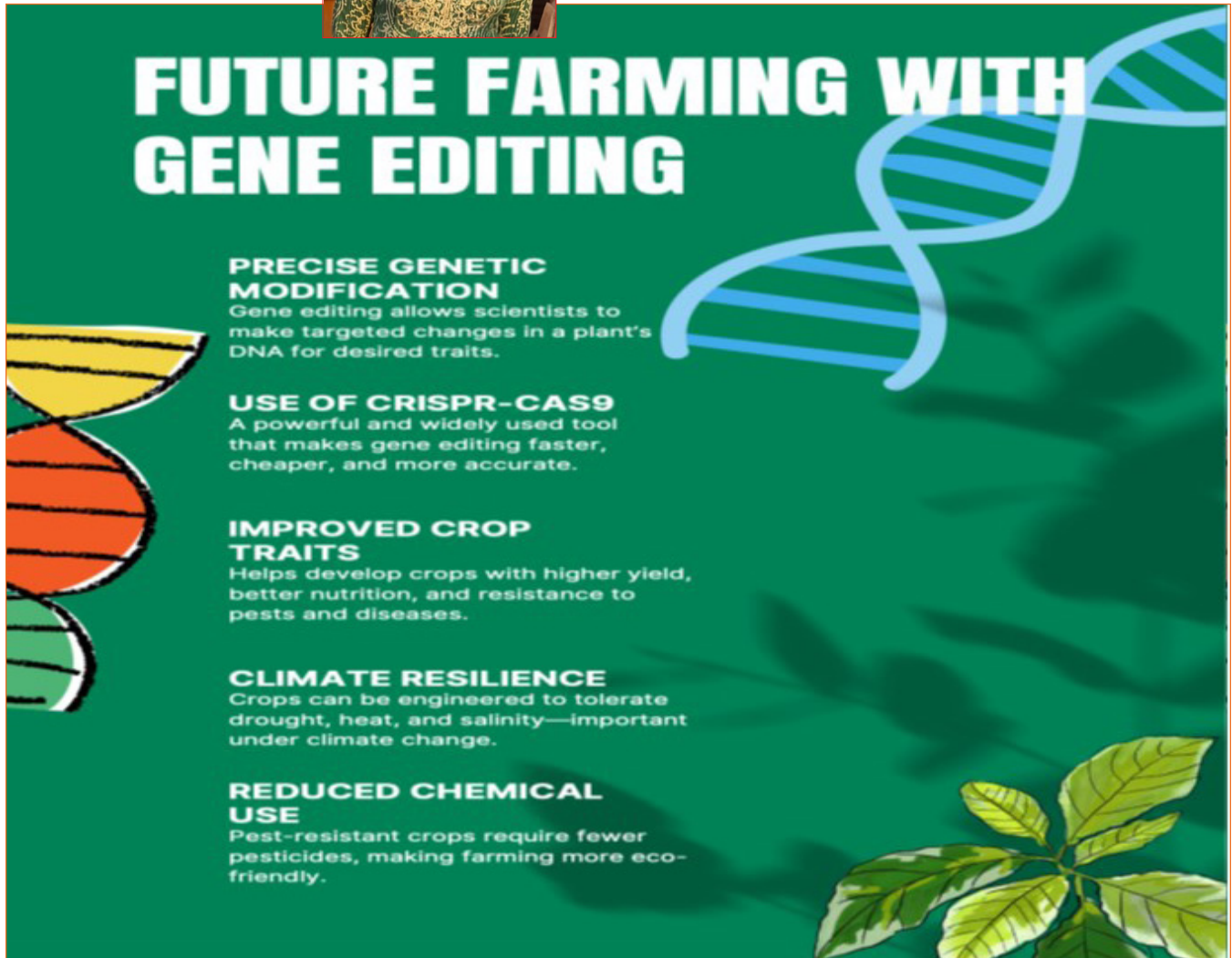
**Harshita,**

Student of B. Sc. (Hons.) Ag. III year





Digital poster on “Future Farming with Gene Editing”:  
**Surabhi Dubey, ,**  
Student of B. Sc. (Hons.) Ag. III year



## SLOGANS WRITTEN BY STUDENTS OF B. SC. (HONS.) AG. KRMU



“Agriculture is not just about growing crops, it is about nurturing life, sustaining economies, and securing the future.”

“Agri minds today, food secure tomorrow.”

“आज की टिकाऊ खेती ही आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए सुरक्षित और समृद्ध भविष्य की गारंटी है।”

**Aayushi**

B.Sc. (Hons.)

Ag. III Year



“From scientific research to sustainable farming, agriculture connects innovation with the nourishment of the world.”

“Code the soil, upgrade the harvest.”

“कृषि केवल फसल उगाने का माध्यम नहीं, बल्कि जीवन, अर्थव्यवस्था और भविष्य को संवारने का आधार है।”

**Harshita**

B.Sc. (Hons.)

Ag. III Year



“विज्ञान और परंपरा का संगम ही आधुनिक कृषि को मजबूत बनाकर दुनिया का पोषण करता है।”

“Empowering agriculture with technology today ensures food security and environmental balance for tomorrow.”

**Gourav Saini**

B.Sc. (Hons.) Ag. III Year

# THOUGHTS FROM FACULTIES



**Dr. Anjali Tomar**  
Assistant Professor,  
SOAS

I am pleased to share my reflections in this edition, highlighting the significant role of extension education in advancing sustainable and inclusive agricultural development.

Extension education acts as a crucial bridge between scientific research and the farming community, facilitating the effective transfer of knowledge, innovations, and technologies to the field. It focuses on empowering farmers through capacity building, participatory learning, and need-based advisory services, enabling them to adopt improved and locally relevant agricultural practices. In the current era of climate uncertainty and resource limitations, approaches such as digital extension services, farmer field schools, and community engagement have gained increasing importance.

The real strength of extension education lies in converting knowledge into practical outcomes. By enhancing awareness, skills, and decision-making abilities among farmers, it contributes to improved productivity, better livelihoods, and sustainable resource management.

Moving forward, it is essential to strengthen linkages between research, extension, and farmers, while embracing innovation and farmer-centric approaches. This will play a key role in ensuring agricultural sustainability, resilience, and long-term food security for our nation.



# PLACEMENT

## PLACEMENT SUCCESS AT GREEN CROSS PHARMA



**Waseem**

**Alumni, Batch: 2020-24s  
SOAS, KRMU**

We are proud to share a moment of achievement for our students as Mr. Waseem has successfully secured a placement with Green Cross Pharma, a reputed pharmaceutical distribution company based in Faridabad.

Mr. Waseem has been offered the position of Marketing Executive, marking an important milestone in his professional journey.

This accomplishment reflects not only Mr. Waseem's dedication and hard work but also the continuous efforts of the institution in nurturing industry-ready professionals. His selection highlights the growing opportunities in the pharmaceutical and marketing sectors for our students.

The School of Agricultural Sciences extends heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Waseem and wishes him great success in his future endeavours.



# ALUMNI



**Sonal**

Alumni, Batch: 2021-25

SOAS, KRMU

My journey at K.R. Mangalam University has been enriching and transformative, with the School of Agricultural Sciences providing a strong academic foundation along with practical exposure through field visits, laboratory work, and internships. The continuous support and guidance from faculty helped me build confidence, analytical thinking, and problem-solving skills, while exposure to real-world agricultural practices prepared me for professional challenges. The knowledge and experience gained here continue to guide me in my career.

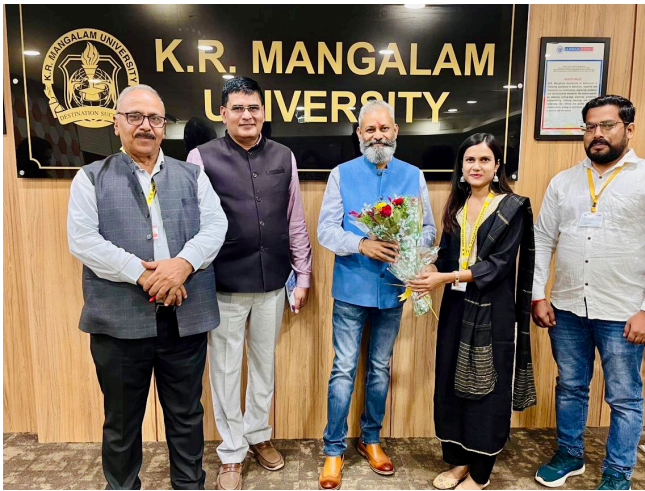


**Khushi Kalra**

Alumni, Batch: 2021-25

SOAS, KRMU

The School of Agricultural Sciences at K.R. Mangalam University adopts a holistic learning approach by combining academic knowledge with practical exposure. This helped me build a strong foundation in agriculture while developing critical thinking, leadership, and innovation skills. The continuous support from faculty, along with opportunities like workshops, research, and industry interaction, enhanced my professional readiness. The learning gained here continues to guide my growth in the agricultural and agritech field.







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