

**"The greatest teacher lies within; seek the
wisdom of your own heart, for it holds the
answers you seek"**

Amma, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi

Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

ASA BIMONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

Volume 5 | Issue 6

November - December 2024



I. COURSE ACTIVITIES

1. Student READY- RAWE Programme ASA 2021 Batch

a. Orientation Programme

With blessings of Beloved Chancellor Amma, the Student READY - Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) program commenced on 6th November 2024 for 2021 batch students. The RAWE orientation programme began with a prayer song by Navya S Nair (2021 Batch), followed by the lighting of the lamp by ASA Dean, Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dr. Sivaraj P, Dr. Sathyapriya E and student representatives. Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, gave insightful explanations of the RAWE principles in his introductory remarks. The RAWE Coordinator, Dr. Sivaraj P, gave an overview of the RAWE program. Later, Dr. E. Sathyapriya, Class Committee Chairperson (VII Semester), gave a briefing on the RAWE course details and its various activities.



b. Village Attachment and Plant Clinic

A week of on-campus training from various faculties was scheduled as part of the RAWE & AIA program Phase I (Village attachment and Plant clinic). The on-campus training included sessions on various topics such as General Orientation, Agronomy and Soil Science, Plant Pathology and Microbiology, Horticulture and Food Processing, Animal Production, Biotechnology, Crop Physiology, Agricultural Entomology, Plant Breeding and Seed Technology, Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Economics, and Remote Sensing. These sessions were led by ASA faculty members, who shared their extensive knowledge and provided hands-on experience to the students. They equipped the students with all the necessities for a successful village attachment and plant clinic, afterwards, students were attached to their allotted village panchayaths from 13th November 2024 onwards

ANDIPALAYAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



ARASAMPALAYAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



KULATHUPALAYAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



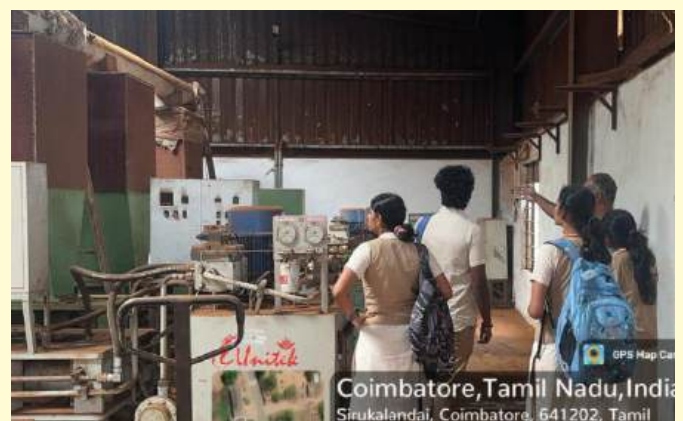
KURUNALLIPALAYAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



MYLERIPALAYAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



SIRUKALANDAI VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



SOKKANUR VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



SOLAVAMPALAYAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



VADAPUDUR VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



VADASITHUR VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



2. Ecotourism visit to Silent Valley National Park

On November 20, 2024, the 2023 batch students visited Silent Valley National Park in Mukkali, Palakkad. The visit was part of their course 19ENV201 - Environmental Science and Disaster Management, where they explored the ecology of plants and animals, along with role of abiotic factors on availability of water, temperature fluctuations, and other environmental elements. Students were taken deep inside the National Park through vehicles, and they observed the different floral species like orchids, rhododendrons, a 400-year-old wild jack fruit tree, and several indigenous species. Similarly, they witnessed some of the faunal species like long-tailed macaques, flying squirrels, deer, etc. inside the national park. Additionally, the students learned the history of Silent Valley and its movement to conserve the National Park, and the climatic conditions inside the park throughout the year.

The visit was organized and accompanied by Dr. Jidhu Vaishnavi S, Assistant Professor (Crop Physiology), and Dr. Sivasabari K, Assistant Professor (Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry).



3. Field Visit to ARS, Bhavanisagar

On November 26, 2024, ASA 2022 batch students visited the Agriculture Research Station, TNAU, Bhavanisagar. The visit was jointly organized as part of course 19GPB301 Crop Improvement -I (Kharif crops), 19PAT301 Diseases of Field and horticultural Crops and Their Management Crops – I, and 19AGR301 Practical Crop Production -I (Kharif Crops) during their V semester and it helped them to learn about different aspects of Kharif crops. Dr. Sathish, Entomologist, Agriculture Research Station (ARS), explained the ongoing research activities of this research station. The stages of seed production and evaluation of new crop varieties and hybrids in rice and pulses were explained in a detailed manner. Students gained knowledge on various pests and disease surveillance and recommendations on various crops grown in this station. This visit was organized and accompanied by the course teachers Dr. Dhivyapriya D, (Genetics and Plant Breeding), Dr. S.Parthasarathy (Plant Pathology), Dr. V.Marthandan (Seed Science and Technology), and Dr. Sureshkumar R. (Agronomy).



4. Educational visit to Ooty

An educational visit to Ooty was organized for the first-year students (2024 batch) on 26th December 2024. The visit was conducted as part of the courses; 24BIC101 Fundamentals of Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology and 24HOR101 Fundamentals of Horticulture. Dr. Reena S, Assistant Professor (SG) Biotechnology, and Dr. Kumaresan S, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) coordinated the educational visit to Ooty. Students visited Central Potato Research Institute, where Mrs. Divya K. Lekshmanan, Scientist (CPRI), explained about various activities conducted at the station such as varietal development programs, and micropropagation of virus-free plants. Students visited potato fields and observed the nematode infestation occurring in potatoes. Further, they visited the tissue culture facility available on the campus and the hardening area. They observed different stages of micropropagation in potatoes. Students also visited the nursery and botanical garden at Ooty to explore various horticultural crops. Students were explained about plant propagation of different horticultural crops.



II. COLLEGE EVENTS

1. Sargamitham 2024

Sargamitham 2024, the inter-campus cultural extravaganza, brought students together from across Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham to celebrate their talents and creativity. The Ettimadai campus hosted the event on Nov 30, 2024. Students from Agricultural Sciences participated in Sargamitham 2024 in various events like tribal/folk dance, classical instrument solo (percussion), quiz, cartooning, mehendi, clay modeling, and poster making. The students of ASA from the 2021, 2022, and 2024 batches joined together and performed a group tribal/folk dance, and it was selected to represent Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham for the 38th Youth Festival AIU-South Zone competition.



2. ASA World Soil Day 2025 Celebration

Every year on December 5th, World Soil Day is celebrated with a unique theme on soil. "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage" was the theme of this year's celebration, which emphasized the significance of precise soil data and information to make well-informed decisions regarding soil management. In this connection, the Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences organized a World Soil Day celebration at ASA Auditorium. Dr.K.Sivasabari, Assistant Professor (Soil Science), welcomed the gathering and briefed about Soil Day and its importance. Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences delivered a special lecture on "Conserving Soil Health and its Correlation with a Sustainable Environment". He captivated the audience with his profound insights into the multifaceted importance of soil and also emphasized the role of soil in food security, carbon sequestration, and water management while advocating for eco-friendly practices to mitigate soil degradation. The lecture was both enlightening and inspiring, leaving attendees with actionable takeaways for sustainable agricultural management.



Following the lecture, the spotlight shifted to the Dept. of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, where a Quiz Competition tested students' knowledge on soils. The quiz witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, creating an engaging and interactive learning environment. Simultaneously, an Essay Competition provided a platform for budding writers to express their thoughts on different soil topics. The creative and thought-provoking submissions reflected a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities in soil preservation. The event concluded with a message of collective responsibility toward soil conservation and a commitment to adopt sustainable practices. Dr.K.Sivasabari, Dr.V.Sabareeswari, and Dr. Mageshen V. R Assistant Professors (Soil Science) coordinated the entire event successfully.

3. AIU - Youth Festival 2024

Our ASA students participated in the 38th Association of Indian Universities Youth Festival 2024- South Zone, representing Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (AVVP) held at SRM Institute of Science and Technology in Chennai from December 26 to 30, 2024. Students from AVVP enrolled in clay modeling, cartooning, and tribal/folk dance competitions. The folk-dance group of ASA bagged second place in the South Zone competition and also became the first runner-up in the dance category. This dance team will represent the AIU National UNIFEST—a national-level competition to be held between March 3 and 7, 2025, at Amity University Uttar Pradesh.



4. Amrita Alumni Meet- 2024

The Annual Amrita Alumni Meet was held at the Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences on Saturday, December 28, 2024, from 4.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. The event brought together alumni, faculty members, and current students for a memorable evening of sharing stories, experiences, and celebrations. Alumni from the batches of 2019-2023 and 2020-2024, now spread across the globe, joined the event both in person and virtually. The meeting provided a platform for lively conversations, networking, and reconnecting with the Amrita community. Alumni shared their cherished memories from campus life, current experiences, and reflections on how their time at Amrita helped them navigate real-world challenges.

The highlight of the event was an engaging interaction session with Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences, who addressed the alumni both in person and virtually. He shared profound insights and words of wisdom, encouraging alumni to continue excelling and making meaningful contributions in their respective fields. The sunset also featured cultural performances by ongoing students at the school auditorium, creating an atmosphere of joy and nostalgia. The event was caringly organized at the school level by Dr. Parthasarathy S and Dr. Dhivyapriya D, ensuring it was a truly memorable occasion. The celebrations concluded with a gala dinner at the main campus, fostering deeper connections among alumni.

The Amrita Alumni Meet was a resounding success, strengthening the bond between alumni and their alma mater while celebrating the spirit of the Amrita community.



5. Organizing Amrita Inter Campus Volleyball (Women) Tournament and Prize Distribution

The Amrita Inter Campus Volleyball (Women) Tournament was held at ASA, Arasampalayam, Coimbatore, on December 30th and 31st, 2024, with great enthusiasm. The event commenced with a prayer song, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries. The Dean, ASA, Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, warmly welcomed the gathering, whose guidance contributed to the event's success. The introductory address was delivered by Dr. O.J. Kumaresan, Physical Education Director at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore Campus, who played a key role in ensuring the smooth conduct of the matches. The Dean, ASA officially inaugurated the tournament.

Teams from various campuses, including Amritapuri, Arasampalayam, Coimbatore, and Chennai, displayed remarkable skill and sportsmanship. Enthusiastic spectators cheered on the players as they competed with great spirit. On the second day, after a series of day matches and intense floodlight matches, the Coimbatore campus emerged as the champions, while the Chennai campus secured the runners-up position.

During the Valedictory Ceremony, the Dean, ASA, delivered the felicitation address and gave away the prizes to the winners. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. V. Karthik Raja, Physical Education Director, ASA, followed by the national anthem.



III. PUBLICATIONS AND PARTICIPATION

1. **Mr. Estone Jiji Habanyati**, PhD Scholar, **Dr. Sivaraj P**, **Dr. Parthasarthy S**, **Dr. Sureshkumar R**, **Dr. Aravind J** Assistant Professors, and **Dr. Sudheesh Manalil**, Dean, ASA have published a research article entitled “A synergy of participatory design and indigenous knowledge to address rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) cultivation challenges of Sadivayal village, Tamil Nadu, India”. *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, 2024, 1-26.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/21683565.2024.2434653>

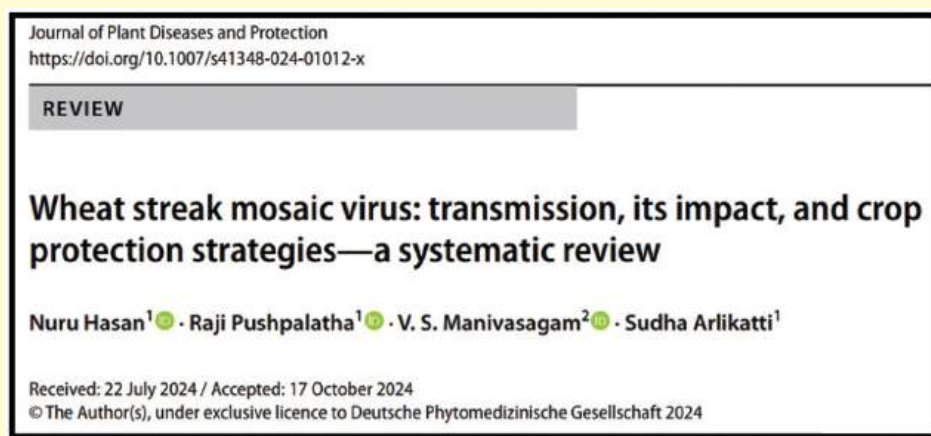


2. **Dr. Dhivyapriya D**, Assistant Professor (GPB) has published a research article entitled “Marker-assisted pseudo-backcrossing for developing climate-resilient rice”. *Scientific Reports*, 2024, 14, 30219.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-024-81598-2>



3. **Dr. Manivasagam V S**, Assistant Professor (SG) (Agriculture Informatics), has published a review article entitled “Wheat streak mosaic virus: transmission, its impact, and crop protection strategies—a systematic review” Journal of Plant Diseases and Protection, 2024. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s41348-024-01012-x>



4. **Dr.V.Vanitha** and **Dr. D. Vinodhini**, Assistant Professors, have presented a research paper entitled “Linguistics of Sacred Semantics: Exploratory Data Analysis of Shri Bhagavad Gita” in the 2024 First IEEE International Conference for Women in Engineering (INCOWOCO 2024) held at Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies and Research (SICSR), Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune, Maharashtra, India during 14 - 15, November 2024. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10863733>



5. **Dr. P. Naveen Kumar** attended two weeks ICSSR Sponsored Capacity Building Programme on Academic Writing and Nuances of Research Publications for Faculty Members in Social Sciences from 6th November to 17th, 2024 at Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur.



IV. ASA Students' Sports Achievements



AMRITA
VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY UNDER SECTION 3 OF UGC ACT, 1956

**SCHOOL OF
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES**
Arasampalayam, Coimbatore Campus

Hearty Congratulations



Mr. J. Adinan

(2021 Batch)

Selected for

South Zone/All India Inter-University Football Men Tournament.

They are representing

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Football Team

held at University of Calicut, Calicut, Kerala

on 16.12.2024 to 24.12.2024



Hearty Congratulations



Adhya A K
(2022 Batch)



Anjana N
(2022 Batch)



selected for
South Zone/All India Inter-University
Basketball Women Tournament.

They are representing
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Basketball Team
held at Mahatma Gandhi University,
Kottayam, Kerala
on 20.12.2024 to 24.12.2024.

Hearty Congratulations

I Place
Discus Throw



Raja Sekar A
(2022 Batch)
School of Agricultural Sciences

I Place
10,000 m



Namitha Pramod
(2024 Batch)
School of Agricultural Sciences

I Place
1500 m



Jehathis V
(2024 Batch)
Master of Social Work

II Place
10,000 m



Nandana S
(2024 Batch)
School of Agricultural Sciences

**II Place - Discus Throw
&
III Place - Shotput**



Amritha R Nair
(2023 Batch)
School of Agricultural Sciences

III Place
200 m



V B Aju
(2024 Batch)
School of Agricultural Sciences

for securing above places in **Amrita Inter Campus Athlete Meet 2024**
held at Ettimadai Campus during 24.12.2024 & 25.12.2024

ASA e-Newsletter Committee

Advisory Board Member

Dr. Sudheesh Manalil

Dean and Head Research, ASA

Chief Editor

Dr. P. Sivaraj

Assistant Professor (Agricultural Extension), ASA

Editorial Members

Dr. V. Vanitha

Assistant Professor (English), ASA

Dr. E. Sathyapriya

Assistant Professor (Agricultural Extension), ASA

Dr. S. Jidhu Vaishnavi

Assistant Professor (Crop Physiology), ASA

Dr. V. S. Manivasagam

Assistant Professor (SG) (Agriculture Informatics), ASA

Dr. R. Sureshkumar

Assistant Professor (Agronomy), ASA