



ASA BIMONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

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"There are two types of education: education for a living and education for life. When we study in college, striving to become a doctor, a lawyer or an engineer, that is education for a living. But education for life requires an understanding of the essential principles of spirituality; it is about gaining a deeper understanding of the world, our minds, our emotions and ourselves"

Amma, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi
Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

I - COURSE ACTIVITIES

ELP – Commercial Sericulture and Bee Keeping

As part of the Experiential Learning Programme, final-year students of ASA specializing in the Commercial Sericulture and Beekeeping (0+10) course handled by Dr. J. Aravind (Agri.Entomology). Students gained practical knowledge of mulberry cultivation, silkworm rearing, and value addition in sericulture. They demonstrated silkworm rearing techniques and learned about various aspects of sericulture operations. The students visited commercial silkworm farmers in Coimbatore, where they observed grading procedures and gained valuable hands-on experience in post-harvest silkworm management.



Preparing Shahtoot Malai, a rich and decadent Indian dessert

The students also engaged in value addition of sericulture byproducts like Sadhooth Malai, (Mulberry drinks) and Seri tea bags. Made from mulberry leaves, Seri tea bags are increasingly popular as a functional beverage with health benefits like blood sugar regulation and cholesterol reduction. Under hands-on training in commercial sericulture, students prepared these sericulture byproducts and visited the District Sericulture Centre in Coimbatore to enhance their practical understanding.



The harvested cocoons in the District Sericulture Centre

II - COLLEGE EVENTS

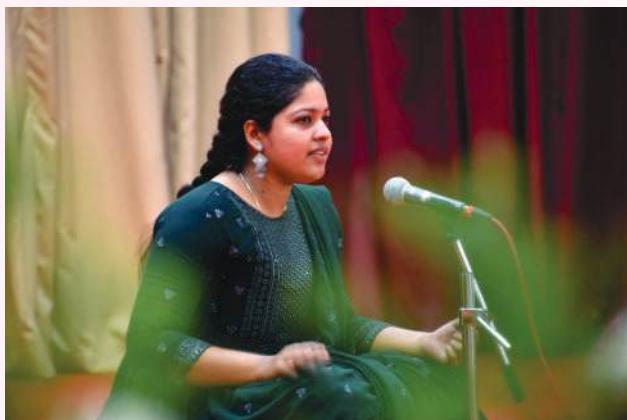
1. Amritholsavam 2025

Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences was delighted to host our school's cultural festival, Amritholsavam 25, which took place with great excitement and joy on May 20th and 21st, 2025. This two-day extravaganza brought together the creativity, energy, and passion of our students, attracting more than 250 participants across 30 diverse events. The celebrations for the first day commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp by Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, ASA, who also delivered a speech emphasizing the significance of cultural events and set the tone for the lively competitions to follow. Day one was energized with soulful musical performances, including Amma's Bhajan, Carnatic, Light, and Group Music. Literary events such as essay writing, poetry writing, and quiz added a thoughtful touch, while the on-stage sessions of elocution and debate showcased powerful words and diverse perspectives. A special highlight of the day was the orchestra performance Saptha Band, which added a lively festive charm to the evening.

Day two shifted focus to artistic and media expressions. From vegetable carving, rangoli, mehandi, and bouquet preparation to poster making, reels, memes, and short films, students displayed exceptional imagination and innovation. The grand finale featured mesmerizing classical solo and group dance performances, which brought the audience to their feet and marked a fitting conclusion to two days of celebration.

Amritholsavam 25 was not just a fest but a beautiful reminder of the rich cultural spirit of our campus, uniting everyone in joy, talent, and togetherness.





2. International Yoga Day Celebration

“Yoga is the means of awakening the infinite strength within, by training the body, mind, and intellect properly, and of realizing one's full potential. Yoga helps us become more efficient in worldly life. It enhances our health, sense of well-being, and sensitivity to values.” - AMMA.

International Yoga Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the Arasampalayam campus of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham on June 21st, 2025. The event emphasized the importance of yoga for both personal well-being and collective harmony, resonating with the year's theme, “Yoga for One Earth, One Health.” Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has a longstanding tradition of promoting yoga, with regular classes and a curriculum that encourages a yogic approach to life for all students. The event aligned with the global initiative to promote yoga for holistic health and well-being, reflecting the ongoing commitment to integrate yogic practices in day-to-day life. Dr. Sudheesh Manalil (Dean), faculties, and around 140 students took part in the celebration, demonstrating strong interest and unity in embracing yoga to enhance physical and mental wellness. The program featured a comprehensive yoga session that included stretching exercises to warm up the body and prepare for deeper practices, followed by a series of yoga asanas (tadasana, vrksasana, pada-hastasana, and many more), performed under the guidance of our student demonstrators. Following that, Pranayama (breathing exercises) was practiced to achieve breath control, helping to calm the mind and boost vitality. This was then followed by a guided meditation, which enabled participants to experience profound relaxation and mindfulness.

The International Yoga Day celebration at Arasampalayam further reinforced these values, offering students practical tools for stress management, concentration, and overall health. Participants reported feeling rejuvenated and more focused after the session, highlighting the positive impact of incorporating yoga and meditation into daily routines. The event also fostered a sense of community and collective well-being among the students. The International Yoga Day celebration at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Arasampalayam, was a resounding success, marked by enthusiastic participation and a well-structured program. The event not only promoted physical fitness and mental clarity but also strengthened the institution's commitment to holistic education and wellness.



Flowing with mindfulness at Arasampalayam campus



III - Research and Outreach

Live-in-Labs Intern Conducts Field Study on Poultry Health and Epidemiological Risks

Live-in-Labs, a flagship initiative of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, is an experiential learning program that allows interns to live in rural communities ("labs") to gain firsthand knowledge of community needs. The interns then work towards sustainable development in these rural communities by developing and implementing viable solutions through participatory methods.



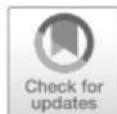
From June 20th to June 25th, 2025, Ms. Emma, a Live-in-Labs intern from Central Queensland University, and Mr. Vysakh from the Amrita School for Sustainable Futures (ASF) at Amritapuri, Kollam, visited the Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences. Ms. Emma is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Public Health, specializing in epidemiological risk assessment at human-animal interfaces.

During their visit, Dr. Pran M., Assistant Professor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, provided guidance on poultry farming. Dr. Pran accompanied them to the institutional livestock and poultry farm in Arasampalayam, as well as to nearby large-scale and small-scale poultry farms in Palakkad and Coimbatore. During their visit, they conducted an observational study of the farms and distributed questionnaires to veterinarians and farm workers, aiming to assess farming practices, biosecurity measures, and potential zoonotic disease risks.

IV - PUBLICATIONS AND PARTICIPATION

1. **Dr. Parthasarathy S**, has published a book chapter entitled Parthasarathy S, Thangaraj P, & Pandita D (2025). *Hemileia. Compendium of Phytopathogenic Microbes in Agro-Ecology: Vol. 1, Fungi*, pp 407–430. Springer, Cham. (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-81770-0_18).

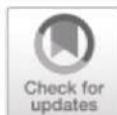
Hemileia



Parthasarathy Seethapathy, Praveen Thangaraj, and Deepu Pandita 

2. **Dr. Parthasarathy S**, has published a book chapter entitled Parthasarathy S. (2025). *Rhizopus*. In: Amaresan, N., Kumar, K. (eds) *Compendium of Phytopathogenic Microbes in Agro-Ecology: Vol. 1, Fungi*, pp 683–707. Springer, Cham. (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-81770-0_29).

Rhizopus



Parthasarathy Seethapathy

3. **Dr. Parthasarathy S**, has published a book chapter entitled Parthasarathy S, N. Boopathi & T. P. Mayurikka (2025). *Stemphylium. Compendium of Phytopathogenic Microbes in Agro-Ecology: Vol. 1, Fungi*, pp 799–821. Springer, Cham. (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-81770-0_33).

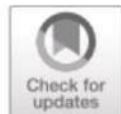
Stemphylium



Parthasarathy Seethapathy, N. Boopathi, and T. P. Mayurikka

4. **Dr. Parthasarathy S**, has published a book chapter entitled Thangaraj P, Muthusamy, N, & Parthasarathy S. (2025). Taphrina. Compendium of Phytopathogenic Microbes in Agro-Ecology: Vol. 1, Fungi, pp 837–854. Springer, Cham. (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-81770-0_35).

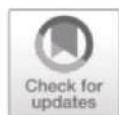
Taphrina



Praveen Thangaraj, Nivedha Muthusamy, and Parthasarathy Seethapathy

5. **Dr. Parthasarathy S**, has published a book chapter entitled Parthasarathy S (2025). Tilletia. In: Amaresan N, Kumar, K. (eds) Compendium of Phytopathogenic Microbes in Agro-Ecology: Vol. 1, Fungi, pp 855–872. Springer, Cham. (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-81770-0_36).

Tilletia



Parthasarathy Seethapathy

6. **Dr. Parthasarathy S**, has published a book chapter entitled Parthasarathy S, Thangaraj P, Muthusamy N, & Pandita D. (2025). Venturia. Compendium of Phytopathogenic Microbes in Agro-Ecology: Vol. 1, Fungi, pp 927–956. Springer, Cham. (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-81770-0_39).

Venturia



Parthasarathy Seethapathy, Praveen Thangaraj, Nivedha Muthusamy, and Deepu Pandita

7. Master Class Programme

Dr. P. Naveen Kumar, Dr. Radhika A.M., Assistant Professors (Agricultural Economics) and Dr. E. Sathyapriya, Assistant Professor (Agricultural Extension), have attended the master class on Performance Monitoring and Impact Assessment on projects- an intensive, practice-driven experience co-organized by ICRISAT Dryland Academy and Australian Consulate-General, India. The Masterclass was held at ICRISAT, Hyderabad, from 16-27 June 2025.



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