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

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
Arasampalayam, Coimbatore Campus

ASA BIMONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

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"Learn to be thankful to everyone, to the entire creation, even to your enemy and also to those who insult, because they all help you to grow".

Amma, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi
Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

I - COURSE ACTIVITIES

1. Student READY – RAWE Programme ASA 2022 Batch

a. Orientation Programme

The Student READY: Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) Programme for the 2022 batch was formally inaugurated on 3rd October 2025. The orientation programme commenced with a prayer song by Ms. Harsha V (2022 Batch), followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the Dean of ASA, Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, along with faculties and student representatives.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, ASA, highlighted the objectives, guiding principles, and significance of the RAWE programme. This was followed by an overview of the programme structure and implementation presented by the RAWE Coordinator, Dr. Sivaraj P. 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

As part of Phase I of the RAWE Programme, a one-week, on-campus training was organized prior to the village attachment and plant clinic activities. The training comprised theory and practical sessions delivered by faculty members from various disciplines, including General Orientation, Agronomy, Soil Science, Plant Pathology and Microbiology, Horticulture and Food Processing, Animal Husbandry, Agricultural Entomology, Genetics, Plant Breeding and Seed Technology, Agricultural Biotechnology, Crop Physiology, Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Economics, and Remote Sensing.

The faculty members provided comprehensive theoretical inputs along with practical exposure to prepare students for effective field engagement. This intensive training equipped the students with essential technical and diagnostic skills required for successful village attachment and plant clinic operations. Following the completion of on-campus training, students were attached to their respective assigned village panchayats from 12th October 2025 onwards. The students were attached to villages in the Kinathukadavu, Pollachi (North), and Madukkarai blocks of Coimbatore district. The attachment covered twenty village panchayats, namely Arasampalayam, Kondampatty, Vadasithur, Kurunelipalayam, Andipalayam, Kappalankarai, Devanampalayam, Kulathupalayam, Chettikapalayam, Kothavadi, Myleripalayam, Solavampalayam, Vadapudur, Kuthiralayampalayam, Sokkanur, Pottaiandipurambu, 10 No. Muthur, Govindapuram, Sulakkal, and Devarayapuram.

ARASAMPALAYAM & KONDAMPATTY

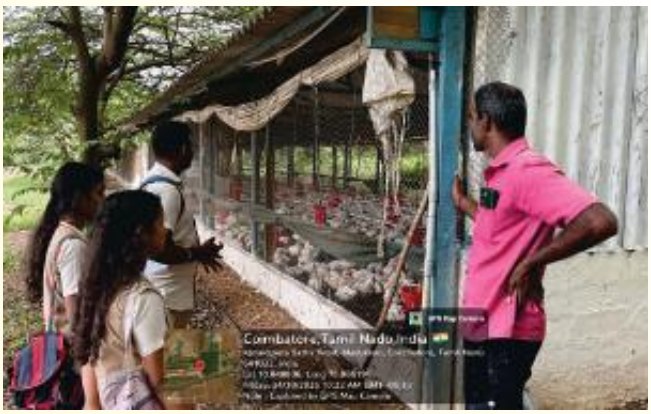
VADASITHUR & KURUNELIPALAYAM

ANDIPALAYAM & KAPPALANKARAI

DEVANAMPALAYAM & KULATHUPALAYAM

CHETTIKAPALAYAM & KOTHAVADI

MYLERIPALAYM & SOLAVAMPALAYAM



VADAPUDUR & KUTHIRALAYAMPALAYAM

SOKKANUR & POTTAIANDIPURAMBU

10 NO. MUTHUR & GOVINDAPURAM

SULAKKAL & DEVARAYAPURAM

2. Student Exposure Visit on Paddy Harvesting and Rice Processing

As part of the course 19AGR316 – Practical Crop Production II (Rabi Crops), students of the 2023 batch undertook an exposure visit to a farmers' field and a conventional rice mill in Palakkad on 23–24 October 2025. The visit was organized to provide hands-on learning on modern paddy harvesting practices and post-harvest rice processing techniques. During the field visit, a live demonstration of paddy harvesting using a combine harvester was conducted in the Alathur region of Palakkad, helping students understand the efficiency and importance of mechanization in paddy cultivation. The students also visited a conventional rice mill, where they observed the major stages of rice processing such as parboiling, drying, de-husking, and sorting. The exposure visit enabled students to gain practical insights into both mechanized harvesting methods and traditional post-harvest processing operations involved in rice production. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, along with faculty members Dr. Sureshkumar R, Dr. Mageshen V. R, and Dr. Manonmani K.

II. COLLEGE EVENTS

1. Amrita Varsham 72- ASA Participation

Students and faculty of the Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences (ASA) actively participated as volunteers during Amrita Varsham 72 from 26-28 September 2025, contributing wholeheartedly to various food seva activities throughout the event. As part of the celebrations, ASA students also organized a general exhibition on agriculture, showcasing a rich collection of indigenous seed varieties, with special emphasis on traditional rice cultivars. The exhibition also featured several native banana varieties collected from farmers and growers across Thrissur, Palakkad, and Kollam districts. The display received wide appreciation from visitors for its scientific relevance, unique collections, and strong message on biodiversity conservation and preservation of traditional genetic resources.

2. New Student Admissions at Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences

On 14th October, it was a significant day for the Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences as four Ph.D. students and ten postgraduate students joined the institute. With these new admissions, the School now hosts a total of 18 M.Sc. students and four Ph.D. scholars in Agricultural Sciences. The School currently offers B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. programs in Agricultural Sciences, and this academic expansion is expected to enhance research output, strengthen publications, and foster greater research collaborations and activities.

3. Visit by Amrita Vidyalayam Students, Kalapatti

Students from Amrita Vidyalayam, Kalapatti visited the Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences to explore the campus facilities on 29th October 2025. They spent time at the Instructional Farm, which has a wide variety of crops. The visit gave them a good opportunity to learn about different crops, observe farming practices, and experience hands-on activities in the field.

III. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1.Visit to ICAR–CTCRI, Sreekaryam, Thiruvananthapuram

Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean of the School of Agricultural Sciences, visited ICAR– Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI), Sreekariyam, Thiruvananthapuram, on 10th October 2025. The visit involved detailed discussions with scientists and officials, laying a strong foundation for sustained institutional collaboration.

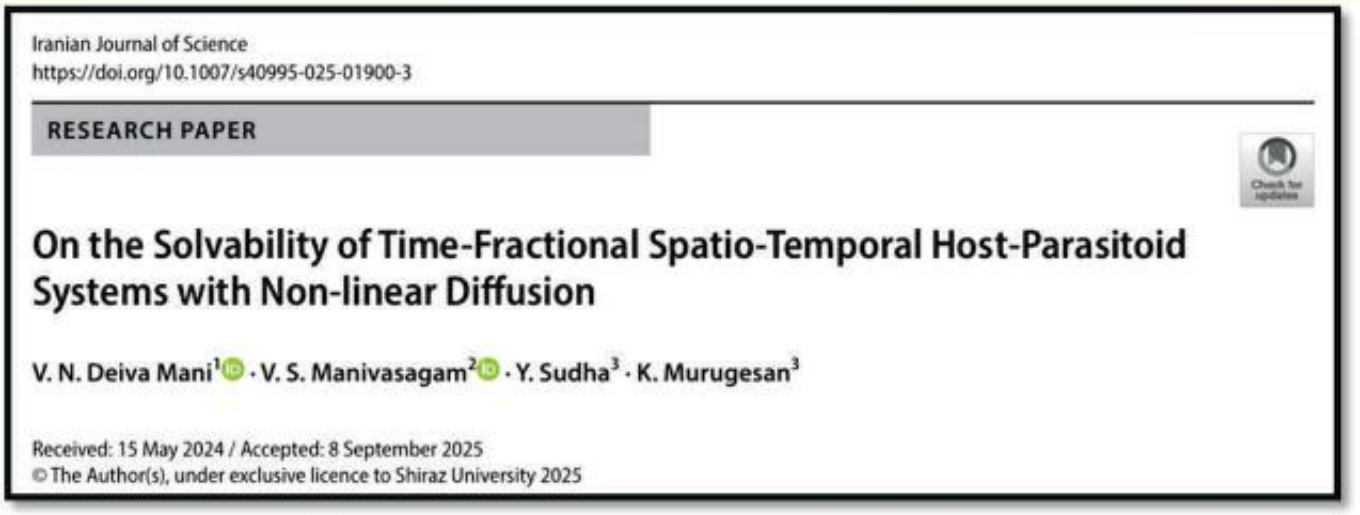
2. ICSSR Project on Abiotic Stress Tolerance in Rice

An ICSSR-funded research project worth ₹80 lakhs is currently being implemented at the School of Agricultural Sciences, focusing on abiotic stress tolerance in rice. The project aims to evaluate different rice genotypes under salinity, submergence, and drought conditions to identify resilient varieties suitable for stress-prone environments. Seeding activities are presently underway, and the project has been initiated in the Ramanathapuram, Cuddalore, and Nagapattinam regions. The research team conducted a field visit on 25 October 2025 to review progress and assess field conditions. The project is coordinated by Dr. Reena (Principal Investigator) along with Dr. Manivasagam, Dr. Sathyapriya, and Dr. Sudheesh Manalil.

IV. PUBLICATIONS AND ACHIVEMENTS

1. **Dr. Manivasagam V S**, Assistant Professor (Agriculture Informatics), **Ms. G. V. Saai Shreyaa**, and Ms. Shri Dharsini Ganesh, 2020 batch undergraduate students, have published a research article entitled "Food-energy-water sustainability in urban spaces: insights from open geospatial datasets in Coimbatore, India" in Computational Urban Science, 2025. https://doi.org/10.1007/s43762-025-00213-w

2. **Dr. Manivasagam V S**, Assistant Professor (Agriculture Informatics), has published a research article entitled "On the Solvability of Time-Fractional Spatio-Temporal Host-Parasitoid Systems with Non-linear Diffusion" in the Iranian Journal of Science, 2025. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40995-025-01900-3



3. **Dr. Parthasarathy S, Mr. M. Kannan, Dr. G. Gopakumar, Dr. V.S. Manivasagam,** and **Dr. Sudheesh Manalil** have published an IEEE conference proceedings chapter entitled “Comparative analysis of pretrained CNN architectures for mobile-based early detection of brinjal little leaf disease” as a part of ANRF-SURE Project (SUR/2022/004268). https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.1201/9781003642886-15

4. **Dr. Parthasarathy S** has published a Springer Nature book chapter entitled “Digitalization in Smart Farming”. In: Chouhan, S.S., Patel, R.K., Singh, U.P., Jain, S. (eds) Agri Tech Revolution. Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-95-1268-3_16

5. Karma Shreshta Puraskaram Award

The Nedumbassery Grama Panchayat honoured Dr. Sudheesh Manalil, Dean, Amrita School of Agricultural Sciences (ASA), with the prestigious Karma Shreshta Puraskaram Award in recognition of his valuable contributions to the field of Agricultural Sciences. The award was presented by Shri Hardik Meena, IPS, during a special function organized by the Panchayat, in the presence of district representatives and senior officials.

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