



# THE LEAF

## THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF VIT SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL INNOVATIONS AND ADVANCED LEARNING (VAIAL)

**B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture Programme Accredited by ICAR- New Delhi**

**VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1  
2025**

### FROM THE DESK OF DEAN

Dear readers,  
Greetings from the VAIAL family!



I am happy to bring the third issue of “The Leaf”, VAIAL - Newsletter, that highlights academic & research achievements and initiatives within our school. As agriculture continues to evolve amidst challenges of climate change and declining natural resources, our institution remains dedicated to fostering innovation, sustainability, and rural development. This edition showcases ongoing research and academic activities, celebrates the accomplishments of our students and faculties, and highlights extension programs that bridge VAIAL school scientists with farming community. I encourage you all to engage with this newsletter, share your insights, and please contribute to making it a dynamic space for knowledge sharing. Let this be a reflection of our collective passion and commitment to building a more resilient and sustainable agricultural system.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to celebrating our shared successes.

Dr. R. Rajendran

### WHAT'S INSIDE ?

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# ABOUT VAIAL



VIT School of Agricultural Innovations and Advanced Learning (VAIAL) is dedicated to agricultural education, research, and extension. Its core activities include teaching, student training, conducting farmers' training programmes, and implementing outreach and field initiatives. The school places a strong emphasis on integrated and self-sustainable organic farming. It actively promotes research in agriculture and allied sectors while delivering agricultural education using modern technologies both in the classroom and in the field.

## PROGRAMMES OFFERED

- **B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture**
- **Ph.D in**
  - Agronomy
  - Horticulture
  - Plant Breeding and Genetics
  - Microbial Technology
  - Agricultural Entomology
  - Agricultural Extension Education
  - Agri-business Management
  - Agricultural Biotechnology
  - Food Science and Technology
  - Agricultural Engineering
  - Plant Pathology

Hearty welcome to our new Dean



**Dr. R. Rajendran**  
**Dean, VAIAL**



## VAIAL Achieves a New Milestone!

The B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture programme offered by the VIT School of Agricultural Innovations and Advanced Learning (VAIAL) has been granted **accreditation by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**. This prestigious recognition has been awarded in accordance with the guidelines set by the **National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board (NAEAB)**. The ICAR accreditation is a testament to the academic excellence, quality standards, and commitment of VAIAL towards advancing agricultural education and research.



**VIT<sup>®</sup>**  
Vellore Institute of Technology  
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

**B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture  
Programme of VAIAL**  
( VIT School of Agricultural  
Innovations & Advanced Learning )

is now accredited by



**भारत अनुप  
ICAR**  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research

Yet another testimony of  
exceptional standards & practices

Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) | vellore-institute-of-technology | vituniversity | VIT\_univ | Vellore Institute of Technology | vellore\_vit

**“AGRICULTURE  
IS THE  
FOUNDATION  
OF INDIA.  
PROTECTING IT  
IS OUR DUTY”**

—

**Dr. M. S. Swaminathan**

**VELLORE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (VIT)**  
**QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING BY SUBJECT  
CATEGORY 2025**

**‘AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY’**  
**351-400 (World)**  
**11-12 (India)**

# SCHOOL LEVEL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## MoUs Signed

### VIT – Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

MoU Signed on January 27, 2025, at AEC & RI, TNAU, Kumulur, Trichy, to foster education and research through student and faculty exchanges and collaborative projects. (Dr. S. Saravanan)



### VIT – X BOSON AI Pvt. Ltd.

MoU signed on January 23, 2025, in Palakkad, Kerala for submitting a joint proposal to ISRO. (Dr. Sowbiya Muneer)

### VIT – BigHaat Agro Pvt. Ltd.

MoU signed on March 10, 2025, in Bengaluru; karnataka for student internships, placements, and collaborative project submissions. (Dr. Padma Lakshmi G.)

## Farm Establishments

### CROP CAFETERIA

The Rabi season (2024-25) crop cafeteria was raised in the instructional farm, CBMR, to exhibit multiple crops and varieties, allowing for the assessment of their performance under various management practices.



# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

## Funded projects

Congratulation to **Dr. Sowbiya Muneer (PI, VAIAL)** for receiving the **VIN award 2023-25** for the project titled ‘Grafting technique to evaluate drought tolerance mechanism by regulating and mobilizing graft healing and signal transduction pathways under light emitting diodes in okra genotypes.’  
Sanctioned Amount: **Rs. 4,00,000**. Host Institute: Kyoto University Japan



Congratulations to **Dr. Jagan Mohan O. (PI, VAIAL)** and **Dr. Ilanthenral K. (CoPI, SCOPE)** for obtaining the **Google Academic Research Award 2024 for Society-Centered AI** – An amount of **USD 60,000** (INR 50.63 Lakhs) was sanctioned as a gift towards research titled “Personalized Indigenous Rice Recommender System for Enhancing Societal Health and Nutrition using GraphRAG and Explainable AI” on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

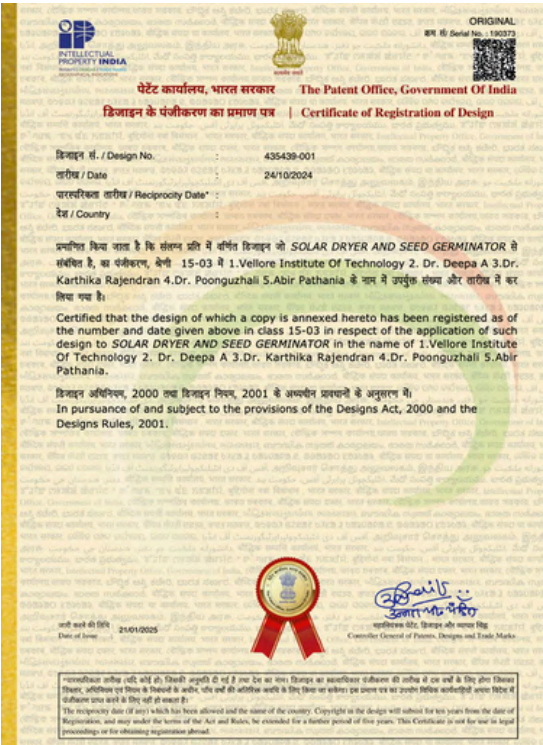
Congratulations to **Dr. Jagan Mohan O., VIT PI**, for receiving the **VIN Award 2023–25** for the project titled ‘Cryo-electron microscopy structure of a Caulimovirid coat protein and movement protein.’  
Sanctioned Amount: **Rs. 5,80,000**  
Host Institute: ETH Zurich & PSI, Switzerland

Congratulations to **Dr. Vidya R. (PI,VAIAL)** and **Dr Priyadharshini B. (Co-PI,VAIAL)** and Dr KalaiChelvan N (Co-PI TIFAC) for getting selected for **Faculty Development Grant** titled "Bio-Electricity: Micro bio-fungal fuel cell Development from Hydrolytic Fungi" funded by FDPG 2025\_TIFAC CORE, VIT, Vellore to the tune of **Rs. 1,60,000** on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025.



## Patents Granted/Published

Title: **IoT- Enabled Solar Dryer and Seed Germinator**  
Inventors Name: Dr. Deepa A, (SMEC)  
**Dr. Karthika Rajendran (VAIAL)**  
**Dr. Poonguzhali (VAIAL)**  
Mr.Abir Pathania (SMEC)  
Application No: 435439-001  
Registered Date: 21-01-2025



Title: **A Bio-AUGmented Filter for Heavy Metal Remediation and Method for Preparing the Same.**  
Inventors Name: **Sathiavelu A (VAIAL), Nikita Gupta (VAIAL)**  
Application No: 202441079448  
Published on: 18.10.2024

Title: **Bio Fungicide Composition for controlling Early Blight Infection in Tomato and Method for Producing the same.**  
Inventors Name: **Sathiavelu A (VAIAL), Karun Wilson (VAIAL)**  
Application No: 20241066856  
Published on: 04.09.2024

## Consultancy Projects

Sl. No	Collaborating industry	Project title	Amount & duration	PI /Co-PI
1.	Coromandel International Ltd., Chennai	Develop Neem Harveting Machine	<b>Rs. 4,55,775</b> 2024 - 2025	PI: <b>Dr. Paul Mansingh J &amp; Co-</b> PIs: <b>Dr. Bala Murali (SMEC)</b> <b>Dr. K. Balaji (SMECH)</b>
2.	Lakshmi Precision Technologies Ltd, Coimbatore	Smart Manipulator	<b>Rs. 14,75,000</b> 2025	PI: <b>Dr. Paul Mansingh J &amp; Co-</b> PIs: <b>Dr. Bala Murali (SMEC),</b> <b>Dr. K. Balaji (SMECH), Dr. P. Suresh Kumar (ARC)</b>
3.	Mohina Eco Solutions, Chennai	Propagation of Saffron in Controlled Environmental Conditions in Hot Climatic Areas	<b>Rs. 8,30,000</b> 2024-2025	PI: <b>Dr. Sowbiya Muneer;</b> Co-PIs: <b>Dr. Immanuel Selvaraj C, and Dr. Lincy Kirubhadarsini B</b>
4.	Proto 9 Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	Morpho-physiochemical Based Characteristics, Mitigation of Oxidative Stress, Signaling pathways for Different Nano particle Formulations, Nano P, Nano Zn, Nano NPK, Nano Micro mix, and a Botanical Bio stimulant, on Paddy, Mung Bean, and Tomato Crop	<b>Rs. 12,00,000</b> 2024-2026	PI: <b>Dr. Sowbiya Muneer</b>
5.	String Bio Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru	Evaluating the Potential Impact of CleanRise™ on Mitigating Greenhouse Gas Emission and Yield improvement in Paddy - Phase IV	<b>Rs. 12,54,564</b> 2024-2025	PI: <b>Dr. T. Parthasarathi,</b> Co-PI: <b>Dr. Saiyyeda Firdous</b>

## Awards & Recognitions



### Eminent Scientist Award 2024

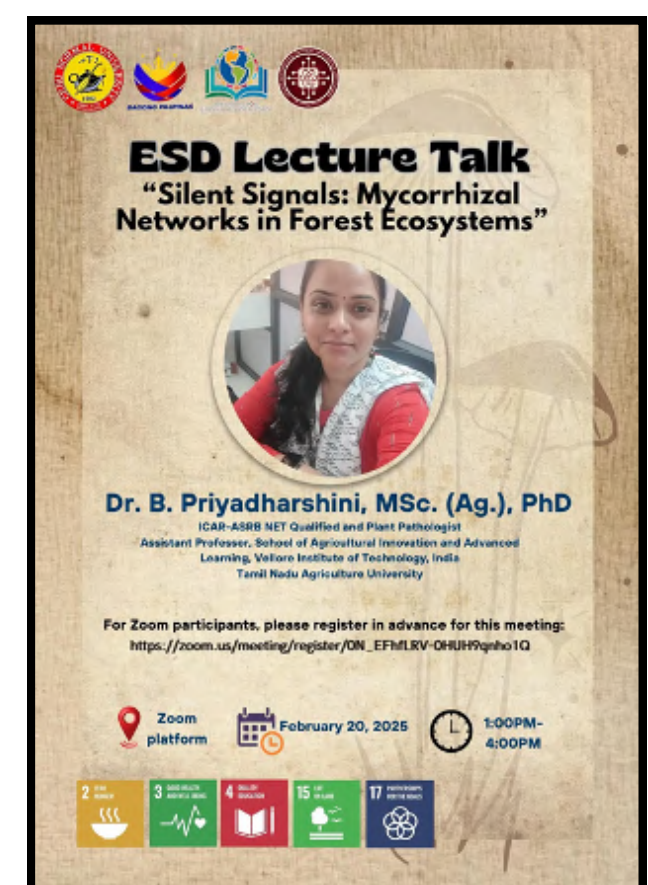
**Dr. Sowbiya Muneer** received Eminent Scientist Award 2024 given by ICAR-Indian Society of Agricultural Sciences and Technology for her contribution in the field of horticulture. Award was presented by Indian Commissioner of Agriculture at Guru Kashi University, Punjab on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### International Lecture Series



**Visiting Professor, Kyoto University - Japan  
(Dr. Sowbiya Muneer)**

The Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Lecture Series by Cebu Normal University, Philippines, led by Dr. Jake Joshua Garces, featured a talk titled “Silent Signals: Mycorrhizal Networks in Forest Ecosystems” by **Dr. B. Priyadharshini** on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 via Zoom.



### Chairperson - SWEMf Nexus 2025

**Dr. Saravanan. S** participated in the International Conference on Sustainable Food - Water - Energy - Mechanisation - Nexus and whole grain (SWEMf Nexus 2025) held at Agricultural Engineering College & Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Kumulur, Trichy, Tamil Nadu on January, 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

### ICAR-CAFT short course training programme

**Dr. T. Pradeesh Kumar** attended the ICAR-CAFT short course training programme at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Kashmir from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2025



# STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

## Best Oral Presentation Awards



**Mr. R. Jayasoorya (23PHD0776)** won the best paper presentation award in the National Seminar on “Plant Science and Nanotechnology - A Perspective on Recent Trends” organized by the Adhiparasakthi Agricultural College and Adhiparasakthi Horticultural College, G. B. Nagar, Kalavai, Ranipet, on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2024.



**Ms. G. Jennifer Flora (23PHD0765)** participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on "AgriNext: Future Trends in Agriculture" (ICANFTA-2025) held from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, organized by the Department of Agriculture, Brainware University, Kolkata. She was honoured with the Gold Medal Award for her outstanding contribution.

**Mr. Atsu Frank Yayra Iho (22PHD0457)** secured second position in oral presentation in 3 days International conference on ‘Global Research Initiatives for Agriculture, Science and Technology’ organised by IGKV, Raipur, Chattisgarh and NADCL, Baramulla, UT of J & K held at IGKV Raipur during 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2025.



**Mr. Sushilkumar S (22PHD0746)** received Best Oral Presentataion Award- in IARI (Rice Breeding and Genetics Research Centre, Aduthurai, TN and CUTN (Central University Tamil Nadu), Thiruvavarur held on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.

**Preethika Suresh (23PHD0010)** won the best oral presentation award during the International conference organised by AC&RI TNAU (Tamil Nadu Agricultural University) Coimbatore, held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2025



# FACULTY/SCHOLARS PUBLICATIONS

- Antibacterial effect of *Dracaena indivisa* leaf extracts. Sundar R.D.V.; Arunachalam S., Bangladesh Journal of Pharmacology 10.3329/bjp.v19i3.75447.
- Antibacterial, cytotoxicity, and seed germination studies of strontium hexaferrite nanoparticles. Rosarian Joy S.J.; Kumar T.P.; Kalaivanan N.S.; Poonguzhali S.; Vidya R.; Babu D.R., Inorganic Chemistry Communications. 10.1016/j.inoche.2025.113895
- Synthesis and characterization of CuO nanoparticles from bioleached copper through modified and optimized double precipitation method. John A.S.; Gurumurthy K., ACS Omega. 10.1021/acsomega.4c09064
- Strategic choices in bioprocessing of L(+)Lactic acid: Homo-fermentative Lactobacilli monocultures with novel agro-residue combination enhances economic production., Stephen J.M.; Saleh A.M., Heliyon. 10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e41532
- Functional diversification and mechanistic insights of MYB transcription factors in mediating plant growth and development, secondary metabolism, and stress responses. Mariyam S.; Kumar V.; Roychoudhury A.; Ghodake G.S.; Muneer S.; Duhan J.S.; Ahmad F.; Sharma R.K.; Singh J.; Seth C.S., Journal of Plant Growth Regulation. 10.1007/s00344-025-11622-w
- Circadian-mediated regulation of growth, chloroplast proteome, targeted metabolomics and gene regulatory network in *Spinacia oleracea* under drought stress. Venkat A.; Muneer S., Agriculture (Switzerland). 10.3390/agriculture15050522
- Decrypting proteomics, transcriptomics, genomics, and integrated omics for augmenting the abiotic, biotic, and climate change stress resilience in plants. Choudhary R.; Ahmad F.; Kaya C.; Upadhyay S.K.; Muneer S.; Kumar V.; Meena M.; Liu H.; Upadhyaya H.; Seth C.S., Journal of Plant Physiology. 10.1016/j.jplph.2025.154430
- Harnessing microbes for heavy metal remediation: mechanisms and prospects. Deo L.; Osborne J.W.; Benjamin L.K., Environmental Monitoring and Assessment. 10.1007/s10661-024-13516-y
- Breaking barriers: innovative approaches and technologies for climate resilience: A case study from European countries Bharathy N.; Kowsalya P.; David E.M.; Choudhury M.; Khan P.A.; Aidoo M.K.; Firdous S.; van Hullebusch E.D.; Parthasarathi T., Climate Change Management. 10.1007/978-3-031-77957-2\_12
- Effect of sprouting on reduction of anti-nutritional factor in pearl millet and its potential application in food industry. Senthil M.; Indhu S.M.; Iyyanar K.; Vellaikumar S.; Rajendran K., Journal of Phytochemistry. 10.25081/jp.2024.v16.9347.
- Entrepreneurial self-efficacy among students: a bibliometric mapping and topic modelling approach. Anton S.; Mansingh P., Entrepreneurship Education. 10.1007/s41959-025-00138-9
- Ethno veterinary practices followed by Attappadi tribal farmers of Kerala. Nisha A.; Rajkumar N.V.; Mansingh J.P., Agricultural Science Digest. 10.18805/ag.D-6036

# FACULTY/SCHOLARS PUBLICATIONS

- Assessment of suitability of ber (*Ziziphus mauritiana* L.) cultivars for value addition through dehydration technology Das U.; Nidoni U.; Kurubar A.; Prasad S.S.; Balaji M., Plant Science Today. 10.14719/pst.5124
- An integrated MCDM-based mathematical modeling approach for sustainable practices of vermicomposting in educational institutions. Bhakuni M.S.; Das U.; Bhakuni P.; Ramesh Kumar S.; Das A., Process Integration and Optimization for Sustainability. 10.1007/s41660-025-00487-x
- Ginger cultivation in India: Impact of climate change and sustainability strategies? a potential review. Praveen Kumar R.; Ramesh Kumar S.; Mohanraj K.; Anbarasan P., Cogent Food and Agriculture. 10.1080/23311932.2024.2446653
- Unveiling the pharmacological potential of guava (*Psidium guajava* L.): A review. Rajesh M.; Kumar R.S., Plant Science Today. 10.14719/pst.5758
- Cultivating under-utilized vegetables using organic resources: unlocking nutritional security and sustainable agriculture. Priya K.; Ramesh Kumar S., International Journal of Vegetable Science. 10.1080/19315260.2025.2466493
- Determination of the factors influencing adaptation strategies of tank-irrigated farmers: Empirical evidence from Tamil Nadu. Mohanraj K.; Karthikeyan C.; Paramasivam R.; Tamilarasu A.; Malaiarasan U.; Anbarasan P.; Rajasekaran R.; Kumar T.P., Agricultural Science Digest. 10.18805/ag.D-6090
- El Sabagh, A., Iqbal, M. A., Wasaya, A., Irfan, M., Rajendran, K., Zahid, R., Yasmin, H., Zahan, T., Younis, U., Rehman, A., Nagarajan, D., Sivarajan, S., Theivasigamani, P., & Islam, M. S. (2025). Strategies to Enhance Biomass Production in Forage Crops Under Challenging Environments. In Forage Crops in the Bioenergy Revolution: From Fields to Fuel (pp. 157-182). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.
- Nagarajan, D., Veeraraj, S. D., Jasmin, A., Suresh, A., Palanisamy, A., Govindarajan, P. L., & Rajendran, K. (2025). Economics, Intellectual Property, and Environmental Aspects of Bioenergy and Their Commercial Utilization in Forage Crops in the Bioenergy Revolution: From Fields to Fuel (pp. 385-405). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore
- Structural Analysis and Value Chain Mapping of Sheep Farming in the Sahel. Yaya, A.F., & Ihou, A. F. Y. (2025). International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Scope,. <https://doi.org/10.47857/irjms.2025.v06i01.02805>.
- Characterizing diverse maize varieties under organic cultivation: phenotypic, yield, and canopy data from VIT Vellore, Prakash S.; R.S.; B.V.; Kumar T.P., Data in Brief, Vol: 59, DOI: 10.1016/j.dib.2024.110367 (28-02-2025)
- Optical biosensors for rapid detection of foodborne pathogens in agricultural Products. Choudari S.; Subha L.; Rashmi N.; Chandrakar M.K.; Pradeesh Kumar T.; Singh A.; Yadav H.S., Journal of Applied Bioanalysis, Vol: 10, Issue: 3, Pg. No (33-38), DOI:10.53555/jab. v10i3.042
- Integrative remote sensing approaches using generative adversarial networks for urban heat island analysis and mitigation, Sundar G.; Patchaiammal P.; Venkateshwarulu B.V.; Kumar T.P.; Rajamannar K.; Tripathi R.K., Remote Sensing in Earth Systems Sciences, DOI: 10.1007/s41976-024-00156-6
- Utilization of biodegradable carrier-based nano herbicide formulations for sustainable weed management in agriculture, Jayasoorya R.; Kumar P., Frontiers in Agronomy, Vol:6, DOI: 10.3389/fagro.2024.1497041
- Entrepreneurial behavior of farmers: A bibliometric analysis and systematic literature review. Mansingh J.P.; Madhumithra M.; Ihou A.F.Y.; Nisha A.; Sri Vidhya A.P.; Anbarasan P., Multidisciplinary Reviews. 10.31893/multirev.2025202

# UG STUDENTS' PUBLICATIONS



Congratulation to **Mr. Vedant Bahrgawa (21BAG0141)** and **Dr. Immanuel Selvaraj** for publishing the article in high impact journal (IF: 13.2)



Exploring *Moringa concanensis* nimmo mediated Bio-preparation of Ag doped MgO nanoparticles for biological activity and chromium (VI) remediation

Vedant Bhargava<sup>a</sup>, Nayan Kumar Sishu<sup>b</sup>, Chirasmitha Mohanty<sup>b</sup>, Vrushali Manoj Hadkar<sup>b</sup>, Arunagiri Sharmila<sup>b</sup>, Binita Nanda<sup>c</sup>, H.C. Ananda Murthy<sup>d,e</sup>, Chinnadurai Immanuel Selvaraj<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Dept. of Genetics and Plant Breeding, VIT School of Agricultural Innovations and Advanced Learning, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore 632 014, Tamil Nadu, India

<sup>b</sup> Dept. of Biotechnology, School of Bio Sciences and Technology, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore 632014, Tamil Nadu, India

<sup>c</sup> Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering and Technology (ITER), Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University), Bhubaneswar 751030, Odisha, India

<sup>d</sup> School of Applied Sciences, Papua New Guinea University of Technology, Lae, Morobe Province, 411, Papua New Guinea

<sup>e</sup> Department of Prosthodontics, Saveetha Dental College & Hospital, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Science (SIMATS), Saveetha University, Chennai 600077, Tamil Nadu, India

## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

- Sharmila, A., **Darshan, A. R.**, Hadkar, V. M., Sishu, N. K., & Selvaraj, C. I. (2025). Green fabrication of Hildegardia populifolia (Roxb.) derived MgO nanoparticles exhibiting potential antioxidant, antibacterial, and photocatalytic properties. Inorganic Chemistry Communications, 172, 113730. (IF- 4.4)
- **Kumaran, A. V.**, Sharmila, A., Hadkar, V. M., Sishu, N. K., Mohanty, C., Roopan, S. M., & Selvaraj, C. I. (2025). Sustainable production of ZnO/MgO nanocomposite for effective photocatalytic degradation of Rhodamine B and their other properties. Materials Science and Engineering: B, 313, 117866. (IF- 3.9)
- Sishu, N. K., **Karunakaran, M. K. R.**, Hadkar, V. M., Mohanty, C., Sharmila, A., Selvaraj, C. I., & Babu, N. G. (2025). Phyto-mediated synthesis of SnO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles using Croton malabaricus Bedd. for its antioxidant, antibacterial, hemocompatibility properties and photocatalytic activity. New Journal of Chemistry, 49(2), 536-552. (IF- 2.7).
- Senthil, M., Indhu, S. M., Iyyanar, K., Vellaikumar, S., & Rajendran, K. (2024). Effect of sprouting on reduction of anti-nutritional factor in pearl millet and its potential application in food industry. Journal of Phytology, 16, 239–245. <https://doi.org/10.25081/jp.2024.v16.9347>

## Popular Articles

- **Varshini, M. H.**, Mansingh, J. P., & SriVidhya, A. P. (2025). Interlinking of rivers: Boon or bane for agriculture? Innovative Agriculture, 1(4), 35–37.
- SriVidhya, A. P., **Priya K., L.**, & Mansingh, J. P. (2025). Sowing innovation, reaping transformation: Empowering farmers through social media networks. Agrigate, 5(1), Article ID: AG-VO5-I01-79. ISBN 978-81-965582-9-1.
- **Priya K., L.**, & Mansingh, J. P. (2025). Carbon credits: The key to sustainable agriculture. Agrigate, 5(1), Article ID: AG-VO5-I01-75. ISBN 978-81-965582-9-1.
- **Indhra Prakash S. G., Cibi Sai Dhadhan U. N.**, Pradeesh Kumar. T and R. Jayasoorya. (2025). Plant-derived benzoxazinoids mediated crop protection for sustainable crop production. AgriGate, 5 (3), Article ID: AG-VO5-I03-09. 978-81-965582-9-1.

# EVENTS ORGANIZED



Model fish pond



Model farm pond



Paddy cultivation demo plot



Celebration with farm team

Highlights of Pongal Vizha, 09.01.2025

## Farmers Seminar

Farmers Seminar organized by **Dr. Paul Mansingh J. and Dr P. Anbarasan** on **Native Vegetable Cultivation** engaged 173 participants, offering insights into pest management, soil nutrient optimization, and sustainable farming practices.



## Farmers Awareness Training Programme

**Dr. Paul Mansingh J., Dr. P. Anbarasan and Dr. Merlin Mathew** jointly organised the farmer's awareness training programme. Focused on coconut cultivation technologies for 44 participants, covering topics such as intercropping and soil monitoring.

## Workshop - on Drone Application

The workshop on "Drone Applications in Precision Farming" was held on 04<sup>th</sup> March, 2025. Workshop offered a hands-on training experience on drone technology, providing students with practical experience in assembling and flying drones for agricultural applications. **Mrs. Dhurga Venugopal, Mr. Surendar, and Mrs. Kotteswari, the experts from RISAYA Academy** were the resource persons. The Programme was organised by **Dr. Thirumalaikumar R. and Dr. S. Saravanan.**



## National Farmers' Day



National Farmers' Day was celebrated at VAIAL, Agri Clinic on with participation from About 50 farmers representing nearby districts participated the events. The event was graced by the esteemed Vice President, **Mr. Sankar Viswanathan**, who felicitated the farmers for their valuable contributions. The programme was organized by the Department of Agricultural Extension and Economics, VIT, Vellore.

## Agri Ideathon III

The third chapter of Agri ideathon was jointly organized by **VAIAL**, **VIT-TBI** and **VIT-IST** on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025. A total of 23 teams participated. Top three winners were awarded with cash prizes by TBI. **Dr. Merlin Mathew** and **Dr. T. Parthasarathi** organized the Programme.



## Quality Week Celebrations



Quality Week 2024-25 was celebrated from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February with a **workshop, seminar** on quality in agricultural research and extension by **Dr. G. Venkateshwaralu**, Former ICAR-ADG (Edn.), Joint Director, ICAR-NAARM Hyderabad , and an **Agri Hackathon**. The programme was coordinated by **Dr. Padma Lakshmi G.**, IQAC Coordinator.

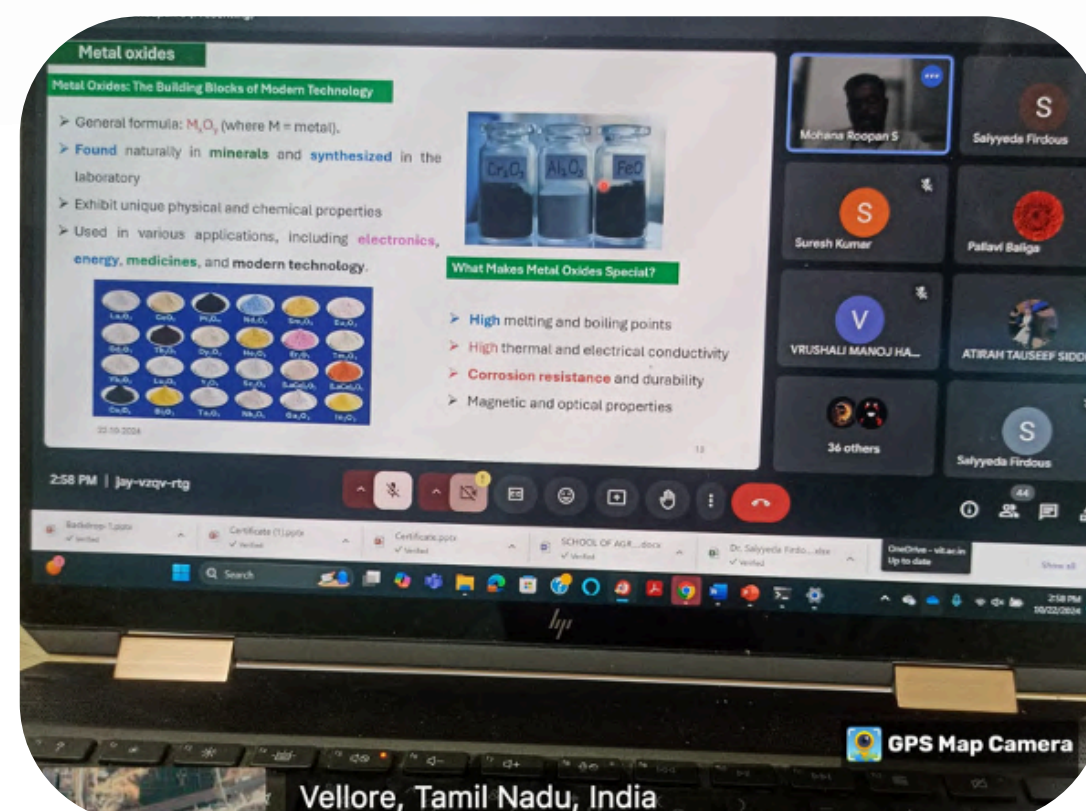
## World Pulses Day

As a part of the world pulses day an **Entrepreneurship Development Programme** on 'value added products of pulses' was organized in VAIAL school by **Dr. Karthika Rajendran** and **Dr. Parthsarathi T.** from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025. The programme aimed at raising public awareness of numerous advantages of pulses, encouraging their inclusion in diets, and supporting efforts to create more resilient and diverse agrifood systems.



## Management Development Programme (MDP)

A Five day online **Management Development Program (MDP)** on "Risk Management in Agriculture" was organized from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, focusing on equipping professionals with skills to identify, assess, and mitigate agricultural risks. The programme was coordinated by **Dr. Saiyyeda Firdous**, (VAIAL) and **Dr. Mohd. Afzal SR** (VITBS)



## Faculty Entrepreneurship Development Programme (FEDP)

SBST and TNSCST, organized a FACULTY ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (FEDP) on “**Bio fertilisers and Bio-pesticides**” from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 in VIT. The programme was coordinated by **Dr. S. Babu, Professor (HAG)**, from VAIAL. Over the course of three days, the participants engaged in in-depth sessions covering laboratory-scale mass production techniques of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides, crop-specific application methods, hands-on training modules, and interactive sessions with farmers, fostering practical understanding and field-level insights. All the sessions were handled by Professors from VAIAL school.

## Online Workshop - R Programme

**Dr. Saiyyeda Firdous** and **Dr. Parthasarathi T.** organised a one day workshop on the topic ‘Basic statistics with R programme’. The event saw participation from UG, PG, and PhD students, as well as researchers. **Dr. Saurav Guha**, an expert in the Department of Statistics, Mathematics & Computer Application, Bihar Agricultural University, Bihar, shared his valuable insights and experiences.

## World Water Day 2025



World Water Day is observed on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2025, to emphasize water conservation. VAIAL organized a Farmers’ Training Program to promote awareness on efficient water use, with active participation from farmers in and around Vellore. The event was graced by **Er. Britto Raj**, Assistant Executive Engineer, Special Project Implementation Department, Tamil Nadu, Chennai. **Dr. Annie Jennifer** and **Dr. T. Pradeesh Kumar** coordinated the event.

# RAWE exhibition 2024

The Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) Exhibition for final year students was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 at Anna Auditorium, VIT Vellore. Student teams presented innovative ideas and practical solutions to enhance the agricultural sector of Tamil Nadu, drawing from their experiences during the Village Stay Programme. The event was graced by the Hon'ble Chancellor, **Dr. G. Viswanathan**.



## CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES



**Series 1:** 'Harvesting Success: a guide to building a rewarding career in Agriculture' by **Dr. A. S. Mailappa**, Associate Professor, Department of Natural Resource Management CHF Central, Arunachal Pradesh was the resource person on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.



**Series 2:** 'Inventing your way to be successful' by **Mr. M.R. Suresh**, Agri Inputs Consultant & Corporate trainer in sales & marketing, Bengaluru on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2024.

**Dr. K. Mohan Raj, Dr. Utpal Das and Dr. Padma Lakshmi G.** coordinated the events.

# VAIAL- PRACTICAL INSIGHTS



**‘Seeding change, one transplant at a time’**



**‘Golden fields, a bountiful yield’**



**‘Sown smart, reap sustainability’**



**‘Quality of corn, grown with care’**

## Extended Learning



**Horticultural Research Station (HRS),  
Yercaud, Salem, 04.02.2025**



**Tapioca and Castor Research Station  
(TCRS), Yethapur, Salem, 04.02.2025**



**ICAR-IISWC, Ooty, 25.03.2025**



**Vegetable Research Station  
(VRS), Palur, Cuddalore,  
18.02.2025**



**Agricultural Research Station  
(ARS), Paramakudi,  
Ramanathapuram, 06.03.2025**



**Regional Coffee Research  
Station, Kodagu, Karnataka,  
28.02.2025**

# VAIAL NEWS GALLERY



(<https://vit.ac.in/a-novel-harvest-vits-rabi-season-surprise>)



News link for details:

(<https://neosciencehub.com/automated-fogponics-for-high-efficiency-crop-growth/>)

YouTube link for details

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?vz00hHTIXc9-Q>)



Date: 26.02.2025



Date: 31.03.2025



Date: 01.03.2025

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