

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023



FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA





**STUDENT HANDBOOK
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE**

Fourth Edition

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Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
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WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY

CONTENTS

This Student Handbook outlines the information and standard procedures related to the students studying the Bachelor of Science Honours in Agriculture degree program [BSc Hons (Agriculture)] in the Faculty of Agriculture of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Students should refer to the faculty website (www.agri.rjt.ac.lk), and also the students' prospectus 2021/2025 for further details.

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UNIVERSITY ANTHEM

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VICE CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Rajarata University of Sri Lanka's Faculty of Agriculture.

I want to congratulate you on navigating the extremely challenging admissions procedure to Sri Lanka's university system with such success, my dear students. It should be made clear that you are among the fortunate students admitted to the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka to pursue graduate-level studies in agriculture. Given this exceptional chance, it is your primary responsibility to complete your higher education goals by utilizing all of the resources offered

by Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. In your life, a new chapter is beginning. Uncertainty feelings are common, and some of the challenges you confront on your new journey may leave you feeling overwhelmed. However, I am confident that you will adjust quickly and soon come to see Rajarata University of Sri Lanka as your second home. I also want to express my gratitude to the guardians and parents who have trusted us with their children's further education.

The BSc Agriculture (Hons) Degree program has been created to produce creative, energetic graduates who possess the necessary knowledge and abilities to achieve sustainable development in agriculture and allied industries. The faculty's location offers the ideal learning environment, particularly the dry zone agriculture, which is rich in real-world experiences and offers several opportunities to broaden one's horizons in terms of learning.

I can assure you that the Faculty of Agriculture at RUSL, an organization dedicated to innovation, will help you grow into a graduate with the knowledge, abilities, and, most importantly, the sound intellectual curiosity and self-assurance you need to work as an agricultural professional both domestically and abroad.

Participating in a variety of co-curricular and extracurricular activities, such as sporting, cultural, and religious events, talent shows, outbound training, farmer-day activities, exhibitions, and unique events like the yearly undergraduate research symposium, will help you enjoy your journey.

To make your time at the Faculty and University more convenient and enjoyable, this Handbook has been put together to provide you with the essential knowledge, suggestions, services, and possibilities. Since its creation, I am confident that this Handbook has assisted you in making travel plans. I therefore implore you to fully

utilize all of the faculty's resources and chances in order to fulfill your ambitions.

As a young professional in agriculture with the greatest potential to meet the demands of society, the nation, and the world, I think you will find the Faculty of Agriculture at RUSL to be an exciting, stimulating, supportive, and unforgettable location in your life.

I hope your adventure is successful in every way.

Prof. G.A.S. Ginigaddara
Vice Chancellor
RUSL



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was established in 2001 at Puliyankulama, about three kilometers (03) away from the ancient city of Anuradhapura and about ten (10) kilometers away from Mihintale where the main administration building complex is located. The faculty was established with three departments at the beginning and now it consists of four departments namely,



- Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science
- Department of Agricultural Systems
- Department of Animal and Food Sciences
- Department of Plant Sciences

The faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka is the leading institute responsible for higher education in Agriculture for the Dry Zone of Sri Lanka. The faculty of Agriculture was mainly established at Puliyankulama to develop sustainable agricultural systems particularly focusing on the Dry Zone of Sri Lanka by utilizing rural farm settings and natural resources effectively. Today, we are proud to be one of the dynamic faculties teaching Agriculture in the country. The faculty is today enriched with necessary facilities such as human and physical resources to support the academic programs as well as the outreach activities. The faculty is capable of providing sound practical training in Agriculture through the Faculty Farm. The faculty farm has a land extent of 32 acres located closer to the faculty main premises at Puliyankulama, Anuradhapura and is mainly used for student training programs on crop production, animal production and research works of undergraduates and academic staff. The faculty farm also provides beneficial input to uplift the knowledge on the farming activities of neighboring farmers so as to favor the dissemination of agricultural knowledge. In addition, six acres of land have been developed as the Sustainable Agro-food Production and Value Addition Model Farm.

The faculty presently offers a four-year degree namely Bachelor of Science Honours in Agriculture as a special degree. The annual student intake to the faculty through the UGC is 175 and the total student population in the faculty is about

550. A semester-based course unit system is adopted to run the academic program. The faculty is well empowered with human resources to ensure the best quality of teaching and training. Our graduates are fitted to a wider range of disciplines because of the multi-disciplinary nature of the academic program. In addition to the subject knowledge, a balanced training in communication skills, computer and IT skills and life skills development to meet the needs of the modern society is included in the academic program. The faculty offers formal advisory and counselling programs, financial support for needy students and many other forms of student support. The

employability of our graduates is high because of the versatile curriculum (a wide range of curricular) and the unique training that are offered. According to my experiences, our graduates compete with the other agriculture graduates and always dominate in the job market and do not find much difficulty in finding employment both in private and public sectors. Now, our graduates are employed everywhere in the country covering almost all the sectors.

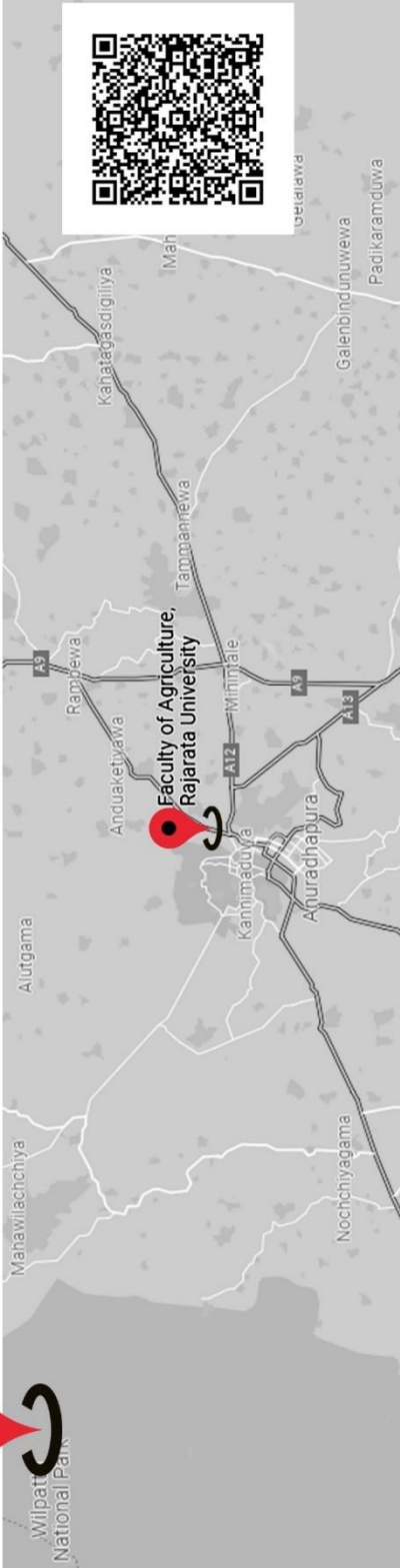
I warmly welcome you all to the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and wish you all the best for your journey in the field of Agriculture and career path ahead.

Prof. G.V.T.V.Weerasooriya
Dean
Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL





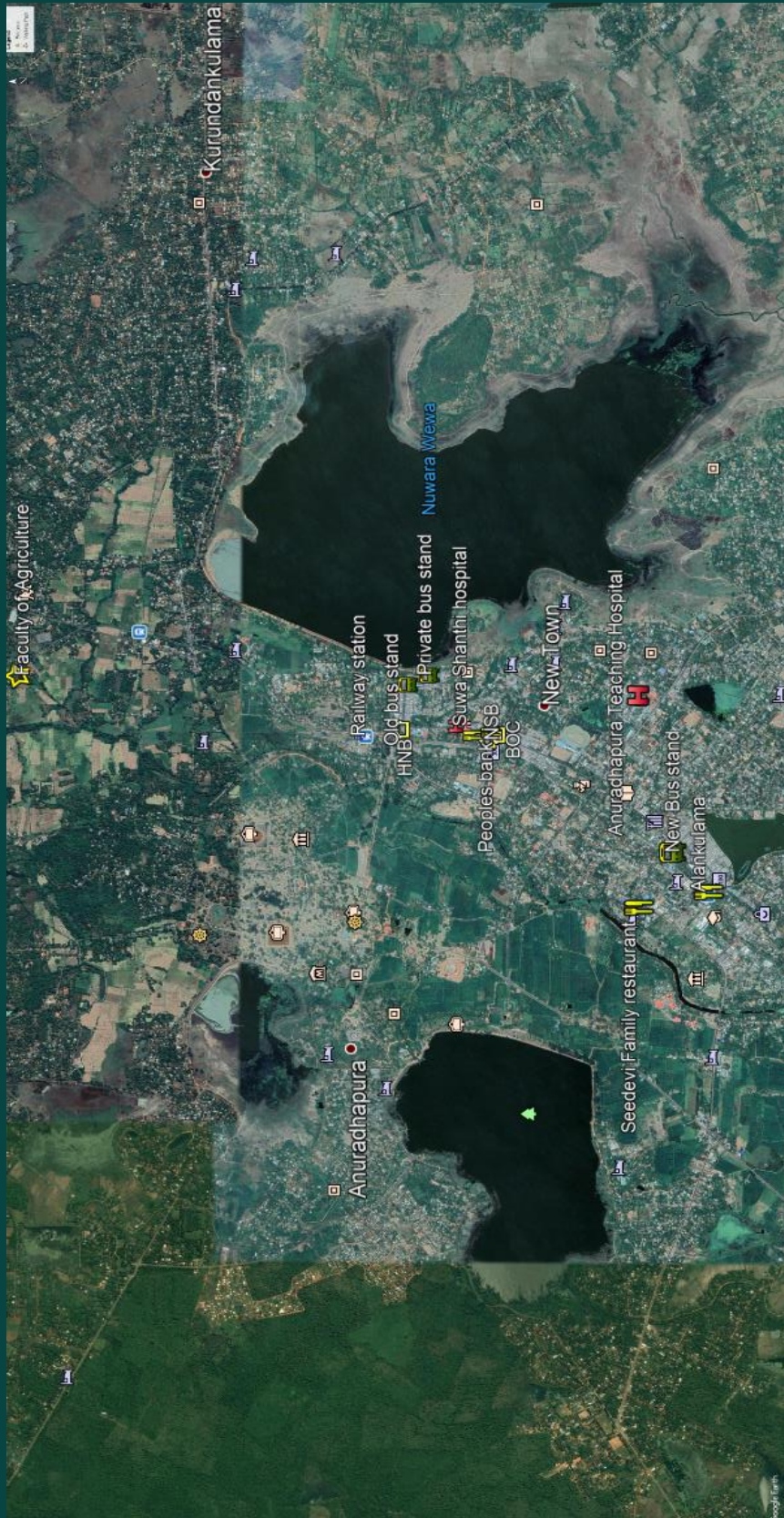
LOCATE ME – FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, RUSL



LOCATE ME- THE CITY ANURADHAPAURA







ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

Type	Contact Name	Contact No.
General Enquiries		+94 25 2235103
Emergency	Emergency Hotline	118/119
	Fire Department – Anuradhapura	+94 25 3858583
	Teaching Hospital - Anuradhapura	+94 25 2222261
	Police Station - Anuradhapura	+94 25 2222223
	Main Security – Faculty of Agriculture	+94 25 2236632
	Deputy Proctor – Mr. N. M. K. C. Premarathne	+94 713008384
Faculty of Agriculture	Dean’s Office	+94 25 2235103
	Dean - Prof. G. V. T. V. Weerassoriya	+94 25 2221610
	Senior Assistant Registrar	+94 25 2221613
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	Department of Agricultural Systems	+94 25 2235102
	Department of Animal and Food Sciences	+94 25 2221614
	Department of Plant Sciences	+94 25 2221611
<i>Library</i>	RUSL Agriculture Library	+94 25 2236633
<i>Student Counsellors</i>	Senior Student Counsellor – Prof. M.G.T.S. Amarasekara	+94 714479148
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	Ms. M.M.T.M. Madurasighe	+94 71 2455161
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	Vice Chancellor	+94 25 2266512
	Vice Chancellor’s Office – Mihintale	+94 25 2266644
	Registrar’s Office – Mihintale	+94 25 2266511
	Bursar – Accounts Branch	+94 25 2266749
	Senior Assistant Bursar	+94 25 2266749
	Student Services Branch – Mihintale	+94 60 2256349
	RUSL Main Library – Mihintale	+94 25 2266643
	Students’ Union – Mihintale	+94 25 2266651
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	Suwa Shanthy Private Hospital	+94 25 2223636
	Royal Hospital	+94 25 2224661
	Electricity Board-Customer Service- Anuradhapura	+94 25 2222638
	National Water Supply & Drainage Board – Anuradhapura	+94 25 2220727
	Anuradhapura Main Post Office	+94 25 2222250
	Anuradhapura Depot - Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB)	+94 25 2222325
	Railway station – Mihintale junction	+94 25 2266616
	Railway station – Anuradhapura	+94 25 2222271
	Ambulance Service	1990

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

B.Sc. Agriculture Honours Degree

Local Entrants

Candidate must have obtained at least “S” Grade passes for three subjects in one sitting from any of the following combinations at the G.C.E. [Advanced Level] examination.

- Chemistry, Physics, and Biology
- Chemistry, Physics or Mathematics, Biology or Agricultural Science
- Chemistry, Biology, Agricultural Science or Mathematics

International Entrants

Candidates with impressive results of an examination deemed equivalent to G.C.E. [Advanced Level] examination of Sri Lanka are eligible to apply for admission to the faculty through University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka. [visit <http://www.ugc.ac.lk>] for more information.

Special Entrants

Candidates who followed full time two (02) year diploma course in Agriculture offered by the government or recognized private institution (minimum total credits 60) or equivalent qualifications together with following qualifications are eligible to apply through the special entrance.

- Minimum of three (03) passes for Chemistry, Physics or Agriculture and Biology in one sitting at the G.C.E. (Advanced Level) examination.
- Minimum of five (05) years research, teaching or experience in the field of Agriculture at a government or recognized private sector organization after awarding the diploma certificate.
- Age should be below 40 years as at the closing date of the application.
- Good performance at the written examination and the interview
- The Head of Institution's consent to grant scholarships/study leave for a period of 04 years for the selected person/s to follow the programme on full-time basis.

DEAN'S OFFICE



The office of the Dean is the main administrative body of the faculty which coordinates all academic and administrative activities of the faculty. Each academic department is run under the supervision of the Head of the Department who are under the directives of the Dean of the faculty.

The main task of the office is to provide the administrative mechanism required for coordinating the departments and academic programs. Also, it is responsible for program scheduling, coordinating, and academic advising and maintaining students' records.

The Senior Assistant Registrar or Assistant Registrar is responsible to assist all administrative work in the faculty including all matters regarding the non-academic staff, registration of students, conducting examinations and other academic support activities of the faculty such as certifying studentship, certifying attendance to scholarships, receiving medical certificates for absenteeism on lectures and examination, calling applications for year registration & module/course selection and examinations (proper & repeat), publishing timetables, issuing admissions, releasing examination results, accepting requests on re-scrutinization of results, issuing and certifying results sheets & academic transcripts, reserving lecture halls and auditorium for any events organized by the students with proper approval, coordinating vehicle arrangements, repair and maintenance activities of the faculty. The Assistant Bursar attached to the Faculty of Agriculture helps for the smooth functioning of the finance and supplies activities under the delegated authority.

Under the supervision of the Dean, the Assistant Registrar and the Assistant Bursar, the Dean's Office comprises a supporting crew of clerical and allied staff.

Opening hours: Weekdays from 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m.

Your Journey Begins...





Academic Departments



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING AND SOIL SCIENCE



Currently, we are researching to increase local agricultural production using eco-friendly approaches that strengthen food security and environmental sustainability. The research efforts include soil fertility management, agricultural machine design & automated controls, water resource management, agro meteorology & climate change, energy & waste management, food engineering, GIS and remote sensing, irrigation, and soil microbiology. We have highly qualified staff with a wide range of professional skills, having local and international research experience. The academic staff of AESS has awarded with many research excellence awards during the recent past. Further, AESS students are publishing their research findings in both local and international journals. Also, researchers can obtain patents locally and internationally. Within the AESS department, vibrant student societies offer a wonderful avenue for students to encourage their skills through engaging in extracurricular activities. The ultimate objective of the AESS is to produce a well qualified graduates who can perform under any conditions locally and globally in the fields of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Sciences.

Since 2001, the Department of Soil and Water Resources Management, now the Department of Agricultural Engineering & Soil Science (AESS), has emerged as a pioneering force in the disciplines of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science. We offer twelve courses during the core program related to Farm Machinery, Soil Science, and Water Management. Also we offer two different specialization modules to represent Agricultural Engineering and Environmental Soil Management. Additionally, we offer a comprehensive three-month industrial training program, providing students with an opportunity to gain practical experience within a real-world organizational setting. AESS has sophisticated laboratory facilities with modern analytical instruments. Moreover, our Technology Incubation Center, Engineering Workshop, Engineering Drawing Room, Electronics, and GIS Laboratory provide an immersive environment for students to explore their creative and technical potential. In addition, we provide opportunities to analyze environmental samples through the Analytical Service Laboratory to the researchers of the country.

Core Course

1100	ES 1101 Analytical Chemistry (2/20:20)
	ES 1102 Engineering Physics (2/25:10)
	ES 1103 Farm Power Engineering (2/25:10)
	ES 1104 Hydrology and Climatology (2/25:10)
1200	ES 1201 Introductory Soil Science (2/15:30)
	ES 1202 Soil- Plant- Water Dynamics (2/25:10)
2100	ES 2101 Agricultural Mechanization and Automation (2/25:10)
	ES 2102 Soil Health and Fertility Management (2/20:20)
2200	ES 2201 Irrigation and Water Management (2/25:10)
3100	ES 3101 Engineering Drawing and Land Survey (2/15:30)
	ES 3102 Field Practices in Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science (3/00:135)
	ES 3103 Operation and Maintenance of Two-wheel and Four-wheel Tractors (1/00:30)

Agricultural Engineering Majoring Module	
3200	Compulsory Courses
	ES 3201 Agricultural Engineering Systems Design and Construction (2/20:20)
	ES 3204 Food Process Engineering (2/25:10)
	ES 3207 Irrigation Engineering (2:15:30)
	ES 3221 Water Quality Assessment and Modelling (2/15:30)
	ES 3222 Watershed Management and Modelling (2:25/10)
	CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	ES 3202 Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (2/25:10)
	ES 3203 Computer Programming and Engineering Graphics Design (2/00:60)
	ES 3205 Innovation and Product Development (2/15:30)
	ES 3206 Integrated Management of Water Resources in Sri Lanka (2/25:10)
	ES 3208 Mechatronics and Precision Agriculture (2/25:10)
	ES 3209 Remote Sensing and GIS (2/15:30)
ES 3210 Renewable Energy Technology and Management (2/25:10)	
ES 3219 Thermodynamics (2/25:10)	
ES 3220 Waste Management (2/20:20)	
AS 3209 Human Resource Management (2/25:10)	
4100	Compulsory courses
ES 4101 Advanced Agricultural Engineering (2/20:20)	

Environmental Soil Management Majoring Module	
4100	Compulsory Courses
	ES 3213 Soil and Ecosystems (2/25:10)
	ES 3214 Soil Microbiology (2/20:20)
	ES 3215 Soil Survey and Classification (2/20:20)
	ES 3216 Soils of Sri Lanka (2/20:20)
	ES 3218 Sustainable Soil Management in Agriculture (2/20:20)
	CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	ES 3202 Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (2/25:10)
	ES 3206 Integrated Management of Water Resources in Sri Lanka (2/25:10)
	ES 3209 Remote Sensing and GIS (2/15:30)
	ES 3211 Management of Degraded Lands (2:20/20)
	ES 3212 Rice Soil Management (2/25:10)
	ES 3217 Sustainable Land Use Planning for Agriculture (2/20:20)
ES 3220 Waste Management (2/20:20)	
ES 3222 Watershed Management and Modelling (2/25:10)	
PS 3205 Organic Farming (2/25:10)	
AS 3209 Human Resource Management (2/25:10)	
Compulsory courses	
ES 4102 Advanced Analytical Techniques for Environmental Studies (2/25:10)	

Academic Staff

Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science



Prof. N.S. Abeysinghe
Head/ Professor

Specialty: Climate Change Science, Watershed management, Hydrological modelling

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Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna
Professor in Agricultural Engineering

Specialty: Irrigation and water management, Crop and environmental modelling, Climate change

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Prof. M.G.T.S. Amarasekara
Professor

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Prof. (Mrs.) M. K. N. Kumari
Professor

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Prof. G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya
Dean/ Professor in Agricultural Engineering

Specialty: Farm power and machinery,
Inventions and innovations in agriculture,
Modern technological application in agriculture

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Dr. D.M.S. Duminda
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Mr. P.D. Kahandage (On study leave)
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Management

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Mrs. J.P.H.U. Jayaneththi
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Mrs. K.G.S. Nirmanee
Lecturer (Probationary)

Specialty: GIS and remote sensing, Water management

Contact: kgs.nirmanee@gmail.com
+94 71 101 0748



Mr. E. J. Kosgollegedara
Lecturer (Probationary)

Specialty: Farm power and machinery, Electronics and Precision Agriculture

Contact: eranda@agri.rjt.ac.lk
+94 78 601 4801

Department of Agricultural Systems (DAS) offers an extensive range of agricultural disciplines aimed at nurturing skilled, socially conscious, and globally competitive intellectuals. The department is dedicated to responsive research and advocating for stakeholders' needs. Within DAS, two major modules are available: 1) Agricultural Economics and Extension 2). Agricultural Systems and Management, addressing Agricultural Systems Management, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Extension, Agribusiness and Data Science. These subjects are specifically, designed to cultivate a strong research-oriented approach in students. The intention is to equip them with the capacity to recognize, scrutinize, and apply acquired knowledge and skills to devise innovative solutions for present and future challenges. A key aspect of these modules is the integration of various statistical and analytical tools to address policy and decision-making issues in the agricultural sector.

Undergraduates opting for the Agricultural Economics and Extension majoring module will develop proficiency in applying advanced insights from Economics, Extension, Business, Management, and Statistics. This proficiency empowers them to identify and analyze the social, economic, and environmental challenges faced by agricultural stakeholders. Consequently, they can craft strategies to enhance competitiveness and sustainability. The module's multidisciplinary content positions undergraduates exceptionally well to assume leadership roles in agricultural business, the public sector, and society as a whole.

The Agricultural Systems and Management module provides comprehensive learning and training opportunities for undergraduates across diverse aspects of ecological agriculture, regenerative agriculture, sustainable agriculture, agro-ecotourism and global agri-food systems management. This prepares them to effectively confront managerial challenges on both local and global scales. The module also promotes undergraduates to apply their theoretical and practical knowledge to diverse agricultural systems by facilitating agricultural system's research through the agroecology laboratory.

Further, department facilitates undergraduates to observe and assess issues within agricultural and food systems and apply suitable management strategies to address them through field exposure visits, providing top-quality industrial training, research, and consulting. The department ensures that its teaching remains at the forefront of academic advancement, driven by the diverse expertise of its faculty.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

Core Course

1100	AS 1101	Basic Mathematics (2/30:00)
	AS 1102	Fundamentals of Organizational Management And Behaviour (2/25:10)
1200	AS 1201	Principles of Entrepreneurship and Agribusiness (2/25:10)
	2100	AS 2101 Agricultural Communication (2/25:10)
2200	AS 2102	Basic Statistics (2/30:00)
	AS 2103	Principles of Economics (2/25:10)
	AS 2201	Applied Farming Systems (2/25:10)
3100	AS 2202	Experimental Methods in Agricultural Research (2/30:00)
	AS 2203	Principles of Agri-food Marketing (2/25:10)
3100	AS 3101	Community Development and Developmental Extension (2/15:45)
	AS 3102	Farm Finance and Resource Management (2/15:30)

Agricultural Economics & Extension Majoring Module

3200

Compulsory Courses

AS 3201 Applied Econometrics (2/25:10)
AS 3202 Extension Education (2/25:10)
AS 3203 Food Value Chain Analysis (2/25:10)
AS 3204 Industrial English (2/15:30)
AS 3205 Project Management (2/20:20)
AS 3206 Social Research Methodology (2/20:20)
CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)

Optional Courses

AS 3207 Agricultural Development and Policy (2/20:20)
AS 3208 Human Ecology (2/25:10)
AS 3209 Human Resource Management (2/25:10)
AS 3210 Macroeconomics (2/25:10)
AS 3211 Natural Resource Economics (2/25:10)
AS 3212 Nonparametric and Categorical Data Analysis (2/15:30)
AS 3213 Rural Development and Development Communication (2/25:10)
AS 3214 Rural Sociology (2/25:10)
AS 3215 Time Series Data Analysis (2/15:30)

4100

Compulsory Courses

AS 4101 English for Scientific Communication (2/15:30)
AS 4102 International Trade and Development (2/25:10)
AS 4103 Statistical Software for Data Analysis (2/15:30)

Agricultural Systems & Management Majoring Module

3200

Compulsory Courses

AS 3216 Climate Smart Agricultural Systems (2/25:10)
AS 3217 Food Security Assessment (2/20:20)
AS 3218 Global Food Systems (2/25:10)
AS 3219 Evolution of Technologies in Agricultural Systems (2/25:10)
AS 3220 Sustainable Agriculture (2/20:20)
CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)

Optional Courses

AS 3221 Agro-ecotourism (2/15:30)
AS 3222 Designing and Analysis of Agricultural Systems (2/15:30)
AS 3223 Quality Management in Agricultural Systems (2/25:10)
AS 3224 Regenerative Agriculture and Innovations (2/20:20)
AS 3225 Risk Management in Agricultural Systems (2/25:10)

4100

Compulsory Courses

AS 4104 Contemporary Developments in Agricultural Systems (2/20:20)

Academic Staff – Department of Agricultural Systems



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+94 77 271 1486



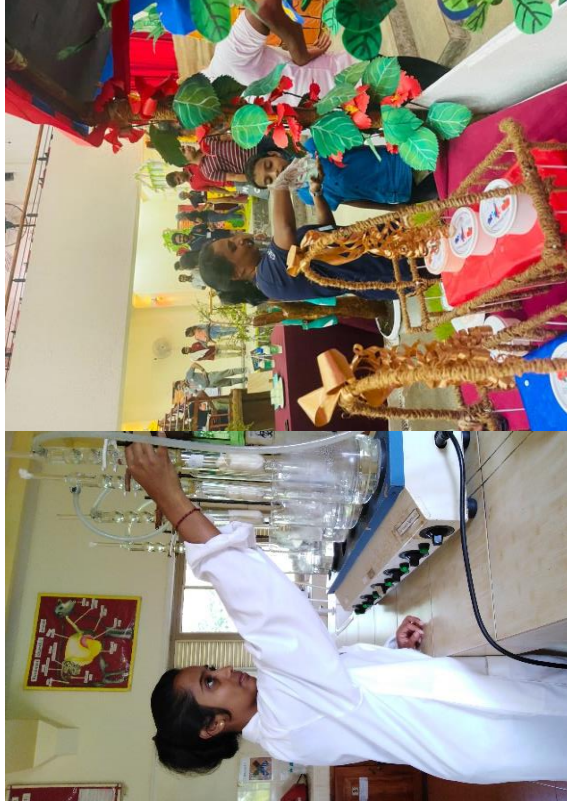
Ms. A.N.Kodithuwakku
Lecturer (Probationary)

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DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL AND FOOD SCIENCES

The Department of Animal & Food Sciences was established on the 27th of March 2014. The focus of the Department is to produce competent and innovative graduates with sound theoretical and practical knowledge of Animal and Food Sciences. This is a full-fledged academic department that offers many learning and development opportunities across a wide array of disciplines for undergraduates to improve their knowledge and skills in different fields such as livestock production and technology, dairy production and technology, meat processing technology, food quality control and assurance, food processing technology, postharvest technology and many more through two specialization modules: **Animal Production and Technology, Food and Postharvest Technology**. The Department provides a unique academic package, consisting of both theoretical and practical courses which have been carefully blended with field level exposure that enables the undergraduates to achieve social, economic and sustainable development in the animal & food science sectors.



Core Course

1100	AF 1101 Introduction to Animal Production and Aquaculture (2/25:10)
1200	AF 1201 Anatomy and Physiology of Farm Animals (2/25:10)
	AF 1202 Animal Nutrition and Feeding (2/25:10)
2100	AF 1203 Biochemistry (2/20:20)
	AF 2101 Poultry and Swine Production (2/25:10)
	AF 2102 Principles of Food Science and Technology (2/25:10)
2200	AF 2201 Ruminant Management (2/25:10)
	AF 2202 Principles of Postharvest Technology (2/25:10)
3100	AF 3101 Practical Animal Production (3/00:135)
	AF 3102 Training on Postharvest Technology of Agricultural Food Crops (1/00:30)

Animal Production & Technology Majoring Module	
Compulsory Courses	
3200	AF 3201 Animal Genetics and Breeding (2/25:10)
	AF 3202 Dairy Processing Technology (2/20:20)
	AF 3203 Meat and Egg Product Technology (2/20:20)
	AF 3204 Applied Animal Nutrition (2/20:20)
	AF 3205 Inland Fisheries and Ornamental Fish Culture (2/20:20)
	CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	AF 3206 Micro-livestock and Integrated Systems (2/25:10)
	AF 3207 Wildlife Conservation and Management (2/25:10)
	AF 3208 Disease Management in Farm Animals (2/25:10)
	AF 3209 Fish Processing Technology (2/25:10)
	AF 3210 Advances in Animal Production (2/30:00)
	AF 3217 Food Microbiology (2/20:20)
	AF 3218 Food Packaging Technology (2/25:10)
	AS 3209 Human Resource Management (2/25:10)
	ES 3220 Waste Management (2/20:20)
	PS 3205 Organic Farming (2/25:10)
	Compulsory Courses
4100	AF 4101 Farm Animal Welfare (2/25:10)
	AS 4103 Statistical Software for Data Analysis (2/15:30)
	EG 4101 English for Employment (2/15:30)

Food & Postharvest Technology Majoring Module	
Compulsory Courses	
3200	AF 3211 Food and Nutrition (2/25:10)
	AF 3212 Food Chemistry (2/25:10)
	AF 3213 Postharvest Technology of Perishable Crops (2/20:20)
	AF 3214 Postharvest Technology of Grains, Oil Seeds and Spices (2/20:20)
	AF 3215 Food Preservation (2/25:10)
	CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	AF 3202 Dairy Processing Technology (2/20:20)
	AF 3203 Meat and Egg Product Technology (2/20:20)
	AF 3209 Fish Processing Technology (2/25:10)
	AF 3216 Food Product Development and Sensory Evaluation (2/20:20)
	AF 3217 Food Microbiology (2/20:20)
	AF 3218 Food Packaging Technology (2/25:10)
	AF 3219 Food Analysis (2/15:30)
	PS 3213 Biotechnology (2/20:20)
	AS 3209 Human Resource Management (2/25:10)
	ES 3204 Food Process Engineering (2/25:10)
	Compulsory Courses
4100	AF 4102 Food Safety, Regulation and Quality Management (2/25:10)
	AS 4103 Statistical Software for Data Analysis (2/15:30)
	EG 4101 English for Employment (2/15:30)

Academic Staff - Department of Animal and Food Sciences



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Prof. A.M.J.B. Adikari
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Prof. W.A.D. Nayananjalie
Professor in Animal Science

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Professor

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Specialty: Food Science and Technology
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DEPARTMENT OF PLANT SCIENCES

The Department of Plant Sciences is committed to realize the vision of the faculty that is to be a dynamic, innovative and renowned center for excellence in Agriculture. The department offers courses on in fields of Crop Science and Agricultural Biology to produce competent and innovative graduates with a sound theoretical and practical knowledge in the agricultural sector with special emphasis on regional, national and international needs. The department is a gateway to specialize in sub-disciplines of Agronomy, Horticulture, Forestry, Field Crops, Plantation Crops, Biotechnology, Tissue Culture, Crop Protection and Improvement. A recent survey of the graduates specialized in the department indicates that 92% of them secure employment in less than six months: 18.5% in the private sector, 59.2% in the public sector and 22.2% of them follow full-time postgraduate degrees. This has been made possible by the students in two specialization modules; crop science and agricultural biology, and sixteen-strong academic staff, of whom eight are Ph.D. holders. The department excels in teaching, research and innovation in crop science and Agricultural Biology

Core Course

1100	PS 1101 Principles of Agronomy (2/25:10)
	PS 1102 Plant Systematics (2/20:20)
1200	PS 1201 Principles of Horticulture (2/15:30)
	PS 1202 Principles of Entomology (2/20:20)
	PS 1203 Plant Physiology (2/20:20)
2100	PS 2101 Perennial Crop Production I: Tea and Rubber (2/25:10)
	PS 2102 Commercial Horticulture (2/25:10)
	PS 2103 Genetics and Plant Breeding (2/25:10)
2200	PS 2201 Field Crop Production (2/30:00)
	PS 2202 Perennial Crop Production II: Coconut, Spice and Beverage Crops (2/25:10)
	PS 2203 Forest Ecosystems Management (2/25:10)
	PS 2204 Agricultural Microbiology and Phytopathology (3/30:30)
3100	PS 3101 Crop Production and Management Technologies (5/15:180)
	PS 3102 Pest and Disease Management (2/15:30)

Crop Science Majoring Module	
3200	Compulsory Courses
	PS 3201 Crop Physiology (2/25:10)
	PS 3202 Floriculture and Landscape Gardening (3/30:30)
	PS 3203 Controlled Environment Agriculture (2/15:30)
	PS 3204 Advanced Field Crop Production (3/40:10)
	PS 3224 Academic and Business English (1/00:30)
	CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	PS 3205 Organic Farming (2/25:10)
	PS 3206 Forest Conservation and Restoration (2/25:10)
	PS 3207 Agroecology (2/25:10)
	PS 3208 Weed Management (2/25:10)
	PS 3209 Cottage Farming Enterprise (2/15:30)
	PS 3210 Plantation Forest Management (2/15:30)
PS 3211 processing and value addition of Rubber, Spice & Beverage Crops (2/15:30)	
PS 3213 Biotechnology (2/20:20)	
PS 3214 Plant Tissue culture (2/15:30)	
ES 3212 Remote Sensing and GIS in Agriculture (2/15:30)	
4100	Compulsory Courses
	PS 4101 Processing and Value Addition of Tea and Coconut (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	AS 4103 Statistical Software for Data Analysis (2/15:30)
	EG 4101 English for Employment (2/15:30)

Agricultural Biology Majoring Module	
3200	Compulsory Courses
	PS 3212 Plant Breeding Techniques (2/25:10)
	PS 3213 Biotechnology (2/20:20)
	PS 3214 Plant Tissue Culture (2/15:30)
	PS 3215 Applied and Economic Entomology (2/20:20)
	PS 3216 Clinical Plant Pathology (2/15:30)
	PS 3224 Academic and Business English
	CC 3201 Research Methods and Scientific Writing (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	PS 3217 Applied Microbiology (2/20:20)
	PS 3218 Advanced Techniques in Molecular Biology (2/20:20)
	PS 3219 Bioinformatics (2/20:20)
	PS 3220 Germplasm Conservation (2/20:20)
	PS 3221 Stored-product and Structural Pest Management (2/15:30)
PS 3222 Advanced Phytopathology (2/25:10)	
PS 3223 Insect Ecology and Behavior (2/25:10)	
PS 3209 Cottage Farming Enterprise (2/15:30)	
PS 3208 Weed Science (2/25:10)	
ES 3212 Remote Sensing and GIS in Agriculture (2/15:30)	
4200	Compulsory Courses
	PS 4102 Integrated Plant Protection Technology (2/15:30)
	Optional Courses
	AS 4103 Statistical Software for Data Analysis (2/15:30)
EG 4101 English for Employment (2/15:30)	

Academic Staff - Department of Plant Sciences



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Department of English Language Teaching (DELT)

The Department of English Language Teaching at the Faculty of Agriculture, a branch of the Mother Department at Mihintale, provides Intensive English Programme, Remedial English Programme and Internal Diploma Programme along with the ongoing General English courses and Professional English course with the undergraduates of the faculty.

The English Language Laboratory, which comprises of computers and other audio-video equipment, is open for students on all five working days and self-learning software such as “Study Skills Success”, “It’s Your Job” and “Road to IELTS” have been installed into the computers and the students are free to use the facilities for self-study to enhance their knowledge of English.



Coordinator, DELT

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'English Night' is an annual event organized by the Department of English Language Teaching to enhance the capabilities as well as the talents of the First-Year students of the faculty at the end of the Intensive English Programme. 'Talent Show' is another annual event of the faculty organized by the Department of English Language Teaching with the participation of all the students in the faculty to create a wonderful platform for students to showcase their talents. With the purpose of improving the students' writing skills in English, the Department of English Language Teaching publishes an English e-magazine; "Mindspark", biannually.

The staff of the Department of English Language Teaching are always at hand to support the undergraduates of the faculty to enhance their knowledge of English.



VIRTUAL ENGLISH NIGHT - 2021
Department of English Language Teaching





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Information and Communication Technology Unit

The Information and Communication Technology Unit, (ICT Unit) of the Faculty of Agriculture caters to both students as well as staff members of the faculty. It functions under the supervision of the Dean of the faculty. ICT Unit consists of a local area network of around 50 computers and laptop computers. The ICT unit maintains the whole network of the faculty which enables free internet access for students and the staff. It maintains a local area network to facilitate all the staff and the students with free internet access via wired as well as a wireless network throughout the faculty covering the hostel area too.

The unit offers two ICT courses (ICT I - IT1101, ICT II - IT1201) for undergraduates during their first academic year.

Students are allowed to use computer facilities for data analysis in their final year research projects as well as computer applications in the other subjects offered by the departments such as Computer Programming, Engineering Drawing and Land Survey, Experimental Methods in Agricultural Research and GIS.

ICT unit provides its service to all the departments and other units including lecture halls in the faculty. All the audiovisual arrangements of the faculty events will be organized and arranged by the ICT unit. Moreover, all the online programs will be monitored by the ICT unit including the faculty Management Information System (MIS) and Learning Management System (LMS). The LMS is administered, and the faculty websites are maintained by the ICT unit.

Instructor,
ICT Unit



Mrs. E.D.T. Somarathne
+94 71 8608 903

Navigate the LMS via
<https://lmsagri.rjt.ac.lk/>



Wi-Fi facilities

Wi-Fi zone is available in the Department Complex, Library, Lecture Halls, Laboratories, Student Centre and Upasena Girls' hostel and Dhathusena Boys' hostel. Students have free access to Wi-Fi facilities for their academic purposes.

Opening hours: Weekdays from 8.00 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.

Agriculture Library

The Agriculture faculty has its own library in addition to the three faculty libraries and the central library is at Mihintale. The resource collection consists of more than fifteen thousand books related to the courses offered in the BSc Hons Agriculture degree program. The library is rich in print, non-print and electronic media. Materials that can be found in the library consist of textbooks, journals, magazines, newspapers, government documents, special collections, reference materials, dissertations, past questions papers and e-resources. All these materials have been acquired based on the subjects in the curriculum.

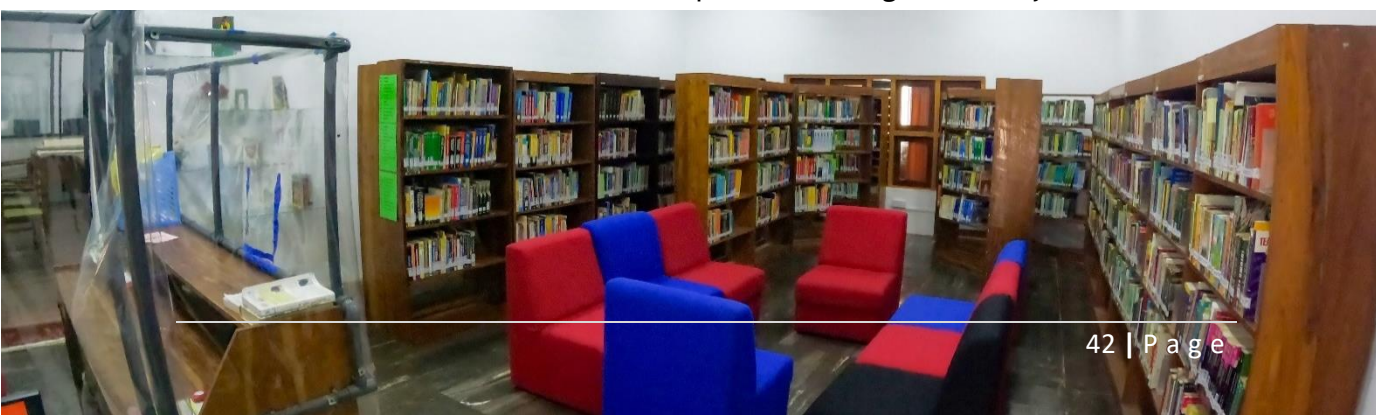
The library provides services to the university community including undergraduates, postgraduates, academic staff members, administrative and non-academic staff members. Services of the library include a lending facility, reference facility, interlibrary loan facility, document delivery service, user awareness programs, and information literacy programs.

All library resources are orderly accessioned and recorded in the catalog for easy access. The library catalogs can be accessed through Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC). In addition to that, an Institutional Repository is maintained by the Library. This open-access Institutional Repository preserves and makes available scholarly research by University and its faculties, students, institutes, centers, journals, and organizations. The Repository includes conference papers, scholarly articles, technical reports, theses and dissertations, research datasets and many more.

The Electronic Databases Subscribed through UGC Library Consortium are as follows:

- [Emerald Insight](#) Abstracts / Full Text Engineering, Accounting, Management, HRM, Marketing, Librarianship, Social Sciences and Education
- [Oxford University press](#) Abstracts/ Full Text Multi-disciplinary
- [Taylor and Francis](#) Abstracts/Full Text Multi-disciplinary

Useful links for online resources are also provided through the library website.





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300 Natural Sci
510 Mathemat
512 Algebra, m
515 Analysis
519.5 Statistical
526 Mathemat
580 Physics
580 Chemistry
547 Organic ch
547.3 Analytical

SERVICES & FACILITIES

▪ Access

The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, is in the most convenient place for you. The Faculty is accessible through Anuradhapura-Rambewa highway (A20) which you have 24 hrs bus service. The faculty is 7 km away from the new bus station and 4 km away from the Anuradhapura railway station. The faculty is approximately 7 km away from the ancient city of Anuradhapura and about 10 km away from Mihintale, where the administration building complex is located.

▪ Living Accommodation

Living on-campus is so much more than a room!!

The faculty provides free on-campus accommodation to all the undergraduates during your period of studying with us.

Location - Be close to lecture halls, food, friends and fun.

Friends - Someone's always around to study, chat or just hang out with.

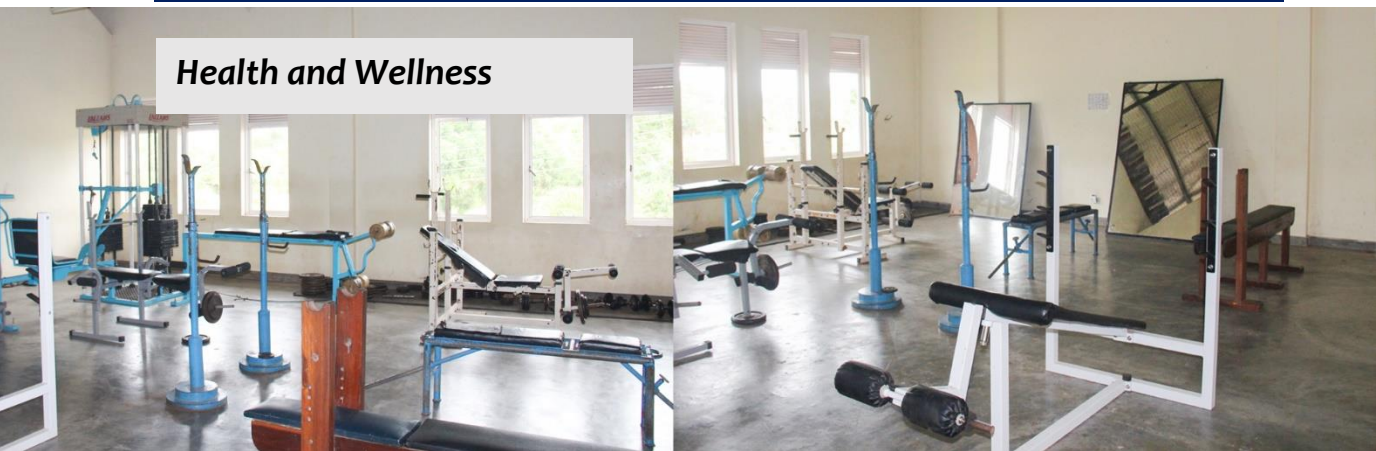
The hostels are well facilitated with food and beverages, safety and security, pastoral care, and disability support to take you to your accommodation. Further, you get daily newspapers, access to televisions, and playing indoor games such as table tennis, chess, carom etc. in common rooms. Halls are managed by a Warden who is a senior member of the academic staff assisted by residential Sub-wardens. Cooking facilities are not provided but foods and beverages are available in the cafeteria at subsidized prices. All the three hostels are facilitated with 24x7 internal security system. Further, the faculty offers a maintenance service for students in the hostels.





Student Centre

The faculty Student Centre is a popular place for gatherings and to spend your leisure time. You can enjoy free Wi-Fi access, a canteen with a purified water system (RO plant), indoor stadium and a gymnasium. This is an ideal place to enhance your social relationships.



Health and Wellness


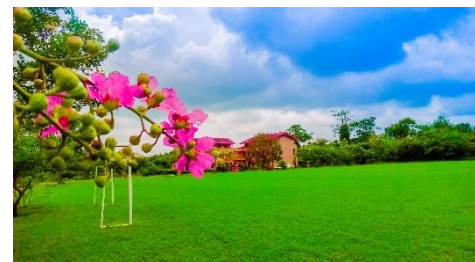
Health Centre

The university health service provides medical care to the university community. The health centre opens for services from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM every Wednesday. A doctor and a nurse from the Anuradhapura teaching hospital have been appointed for medical examinations and treatments in the faculty. The other services provided by the health centre are preventive health services, health education, and environmental health, which include the monitoring of water and food supplies to the university.



Student Wellness

Indoor and outdoor sports facilities are available for the faculty and at Department of Physical Education, Mihintale. These sports facilities include basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rugby, tennis, volleyball, and a ground for athletics. The playground is on faculty close to the hostels. You can relax and maintain a healthy life style!

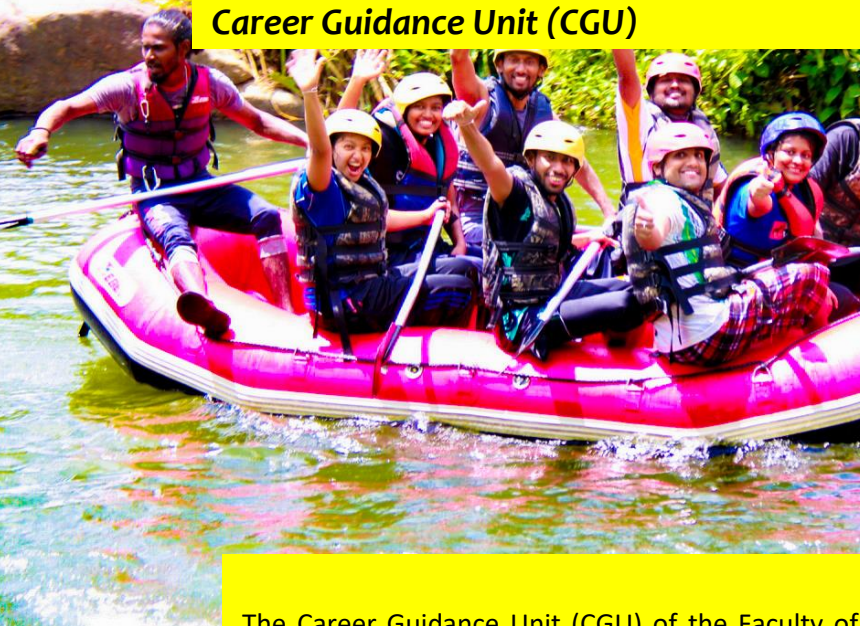


The Faculty of Agriculture has an indoor stadium and a gymnasium. Indoor facilities are available for students including badminton, basketball, carom, chess, and table tennis. Also, weightlifting, wrestling, taekwondo, and other martial arts activities are available. Other than these facilities, the Department of Physical Education of the Rajarata University provides indoor and outdoor facilities including the main ground and volleyball court at the main campus at Mihintale having all the types of indoor and outdoor sports facilities and a swimming pool. Students are provided with all the sports facilities and equipment free of charge. The Department of Physical Education provides opportunities for talented athletes to participate in national and international level competitions.

The unit also coordinates events and supervises all sports activities. Experienced physical education instructors are attached to this unit to improve the skills of the players. The university also supports financially for athletes who represent the university at national and international level tournaments.



Career Guidance Unit (CGU)



Coordinator, CGU

Mr. Amila Lankapura,

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Tel: 0772711486

The Career Guidance Unit (CGU) of the Faculty of Agriculture plays a crucial role in preparing students for their prospective careers. Operating under the umbrella of Rajarata University's CGU, this specialized unit is tailored to meet agriculture students' career aspirations and needs. Methodically organized workshops, training sessions, and programs enhance essential career skills such as communication, leadership, teamwork, and entrepreneurship. Overseen by the university's CGU and the faculty coordinator, the unit adopts a holistic approach, whereby the CGU fosters vital soft skills and provides hands-on insights, effectively connecting the academic program with the real-world employment prospects.





Audio Visual Unit

Contact:

+94 25 223 5102

The Audio-Visual Unit is dedicated to realizing the vision of the faculty that is to be a dynamic, innovative, and renowned Centre for excellence in Agriculture to support the agriculture undergraduate curriculum of the faculty, by means of producing audio video materials to supplement the regular teaching and learning activities. Over the last few years, the unit has produced video films and documentaries on various themes to facilitate the learning activities of undergraduates and to disseminate information to relevant stakeholders. Apart from preparing teaching material for undergraduate studies, the unit also produces educational material for the public of broadcasting quality and covers social events of the university.



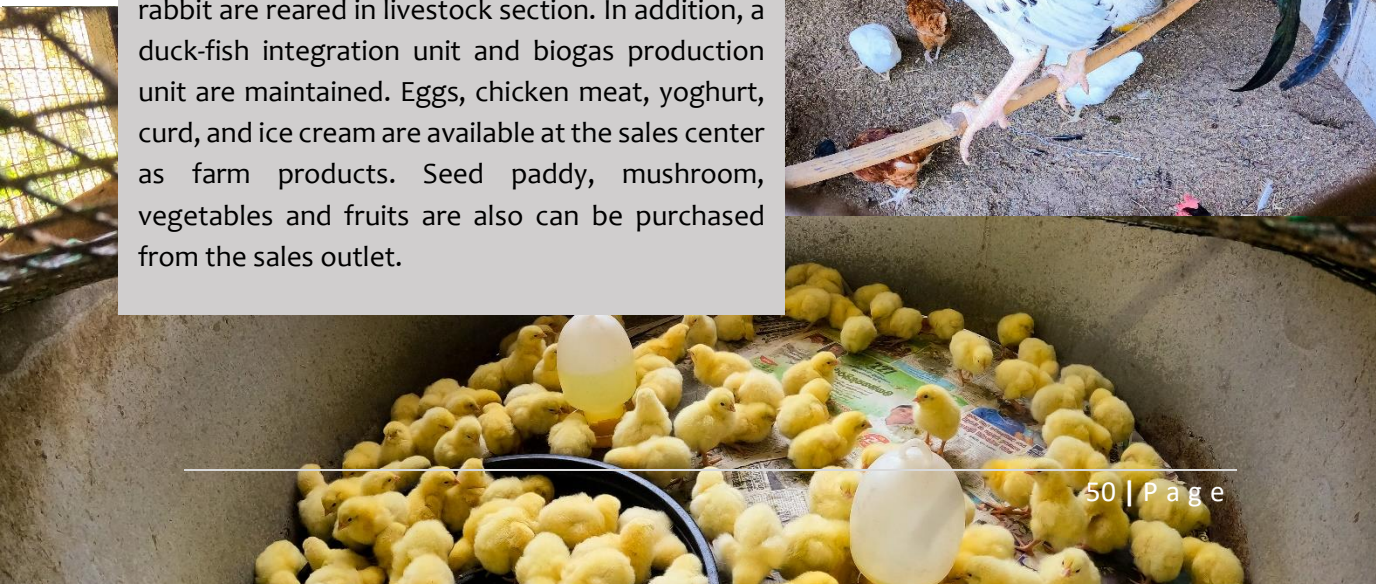


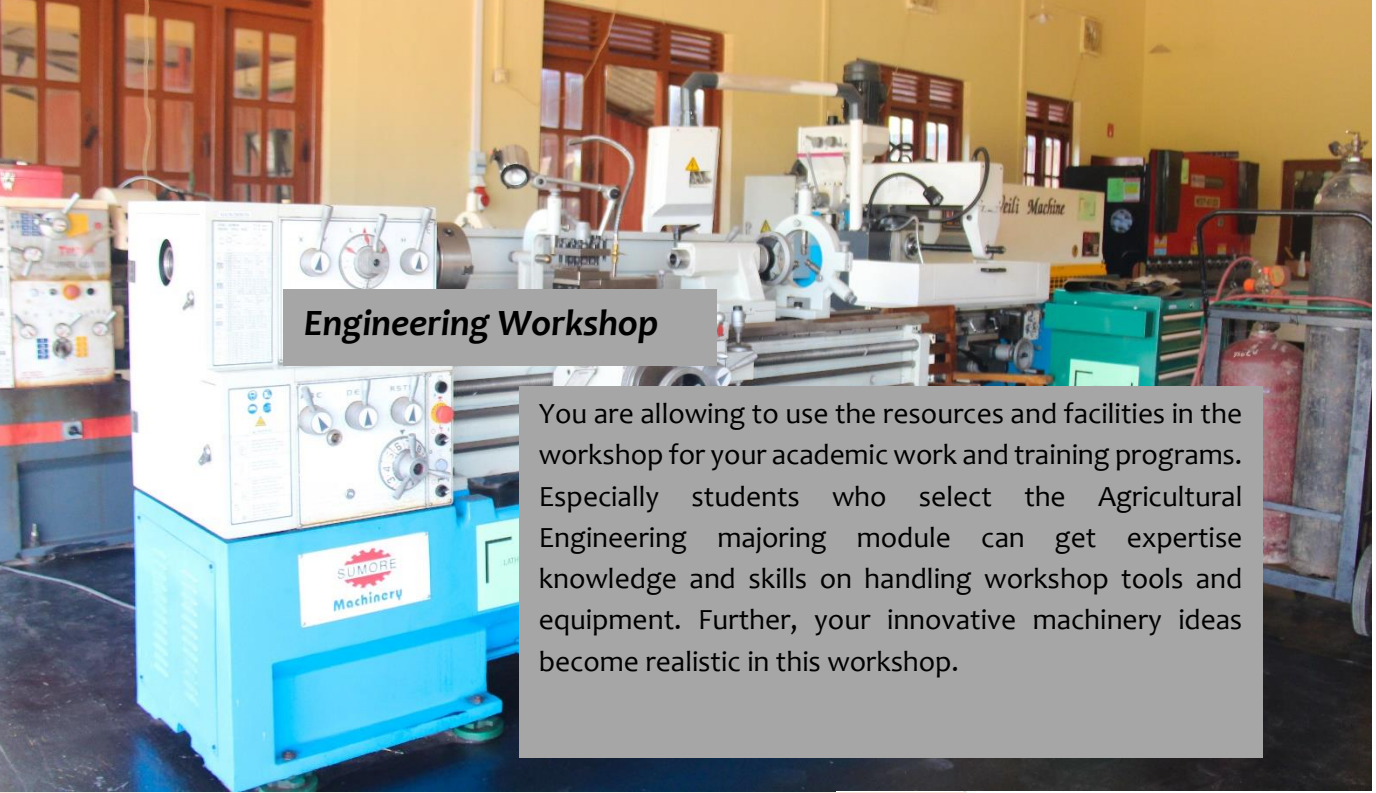
Acting Farm Manager
Mr. W. M. R. Wijesinghe
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Faculty Farm

On-faculty farm facility is one of the unique benefits that you get from the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL. The classroom theory can be practiced in the farm. We have both uplands and lowlands for you to cultivate and area for rearing animals.

At present lowlands are used for seed paddy production while medicinal plants, orchards, protected culture and pasture can be seen in uplands. Poultry, cattle, buffalo, goat, sheep, and rabbit are reared in livestock section. In addition, a duck-fish integration unit and biogas production unit are maintained. Eggs, chicken meat, yoghurt, curd, and ice cream are available at the sales center as farm products. Seed paddy, mushroom, vegetables and fruits are also can be purchased from the sales outlet.





Engineering Workshop

You are allowing to use the resources and facilities in the workshop for your academic work and training programs. Especially students who select the Agricultural Engineering majoring module can get expertise knowledge and skills on handling workshop tools and equipment. Further, your innovative machinery ideas become realistic in this workshop.

Technology Incubation Center at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL), in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Inventor's Commission (SLIC), established a Technology Incubation Center (TIC) at the Faculty of Agriculture, Puliyankulama, Anuradhapura for the commercialization of invented products.

The main activities conducted by the TIC are;

- Study market requirements and provide consultancy on product marketing
- Provide technical knowledge and business skills to the inventors
- Support to develop business plans with Return on Investment
- Conduct workshops, seminars, and training programs
- Link inventors to the ministries, government agencies, and non-government organizations, including banks, to obtain the required servers.
- Provide an opportunity to the undergraduates/postgraduates to exchange knowledge and experience with inventors
- Advice on issues related to Intellectual Property



Rajarata University Controlled Environment Facility – RuCeF

Our newest addition to the faculty's research and teaching infrastructure is Rajarata University Controlled Environment Facility – RuCeF, which is a fully-automated climate-controlled greenhouse capable of simulating the combinations of temperature, relative humidity and soil moisture stress conditions of the future. The RuCeF's climatic conditions can be monitored with a state-of-the-art Internet-Of-Things (IOT) system. The RuCeF, Sri Lanka's only and first such facility, enables the next generation of plant scientists to undertake cutting-edge climate change adaptation and simulation research along the soil-plant-atmosphere continuum, which was once possible only in developed countries.





ORC

OUTREACH CENTRE
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



Outreach Center

The Outreach Center of the Faculty of Agriculture is established to disseminate sustainable initiatives including research, extension, development, and awareness programs to relevant communities. The center is prepared to provide high quality, high standard technology, and services to the community.



Your Safety is Important to us!

The faculty main security office is located near the main gate of the faculty. This service is headed by a Chief Security Officer and several security male and female personnel workers. The security personnel operates regular security patrols in the campus, providing security to students, staff, buildings, and university properties. In addition to the main security office, there are security points in several places, especially in entering gates, next to the railway crossing, and in front of hostels.

Main Security

+94 25 223 6632

Need Safe Drinking Water?



The faculty provides safe drinking water to all the students through Reverse Osmosis (RO) water purification units installed at different locations of the faculty.



Sales Outlet

You are benefited with low price printing, photocopying, binding, laminating facilities, and stationaries at the faculty photocopy centre. You can taste faculty-produced ice-cream, yoghurt, and curd at the sales outlet. Other farm products such as eggs chicken meat, milk are also available at reasonable price.

You are benefited with low price printing, photocopying, binding, laminating facilities and stationaries at the faculty photocopy centre. You can taste faculty-produced ice-cream, yoghurt, and curd at the sales outlet. Other farm products are also available at reasonable price.



* Student Counselling

You are not alone! We are here to support you.

Student Counselling Services assist you with a variety of concerns such as stress management, adjusting to university life, difficulties in relationships and other social and psychological matters that occur during your stay at the faculty.

Faculty of Agriculture has several student counsellors to help the students who are in various difficult situations, personal, health or financial.

Senior Student Counsellor
Prof. M. G. T. S. Amarasekara
+94 71 447 9148

Female Student Counsellors
Dr. (Ms.) D. A. U. D. Devasinghe
+94 71 445 8619
Mrs. J. P. H. U. Jayaneththi
+94 71 214 5439

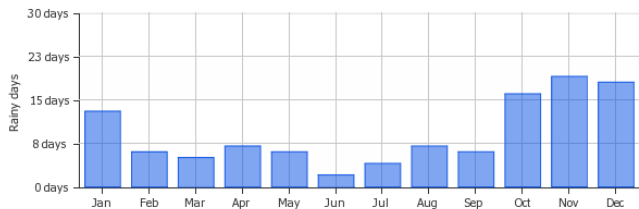
Male Student Counsellors
Mr. A. I.Y. Lankapura
+94 77 271 1486
Dr. Gayan Thilakarathna
+94 77 941 2997

STUDENTS' LIFE

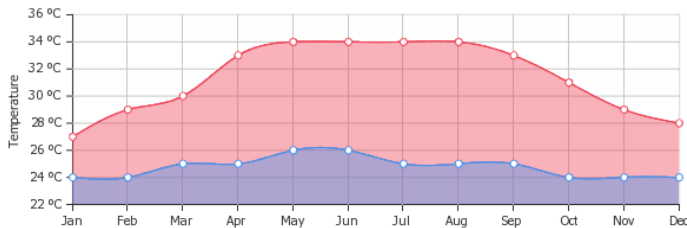
The office of the student services branch of the university oversees all activities related to students' life on campus, including student activities, leadership, multicultural outreach, counseling, and health services. As the Faculty of Agriculture is in the vicinity of Anuradhapura you may enjoy an array of on- and off-campus activities.

Weather

The city of Anuradhapura is located at the heart of the central dry zone of the island where it experiences over eight months of rainless period.



The showers late in the year transform the campus premises to a carpet of greenness and invite a variety of animals among them many species of birds and butterflies.



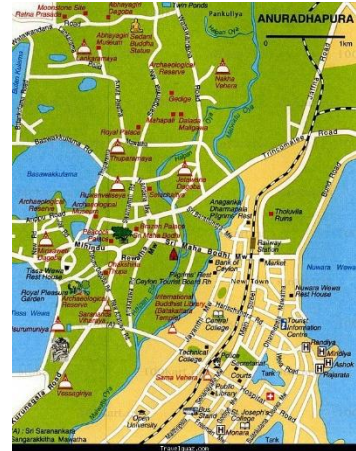
During the months of January, February, November and December you are most likely to experience good

weather with pleasant average temperatures. On average, the temperatures are always high. A lot of rain (rainy season) falls in the months of October, November and December. On average, the warmest month is July and the coolest month is January. December is the wettest month.



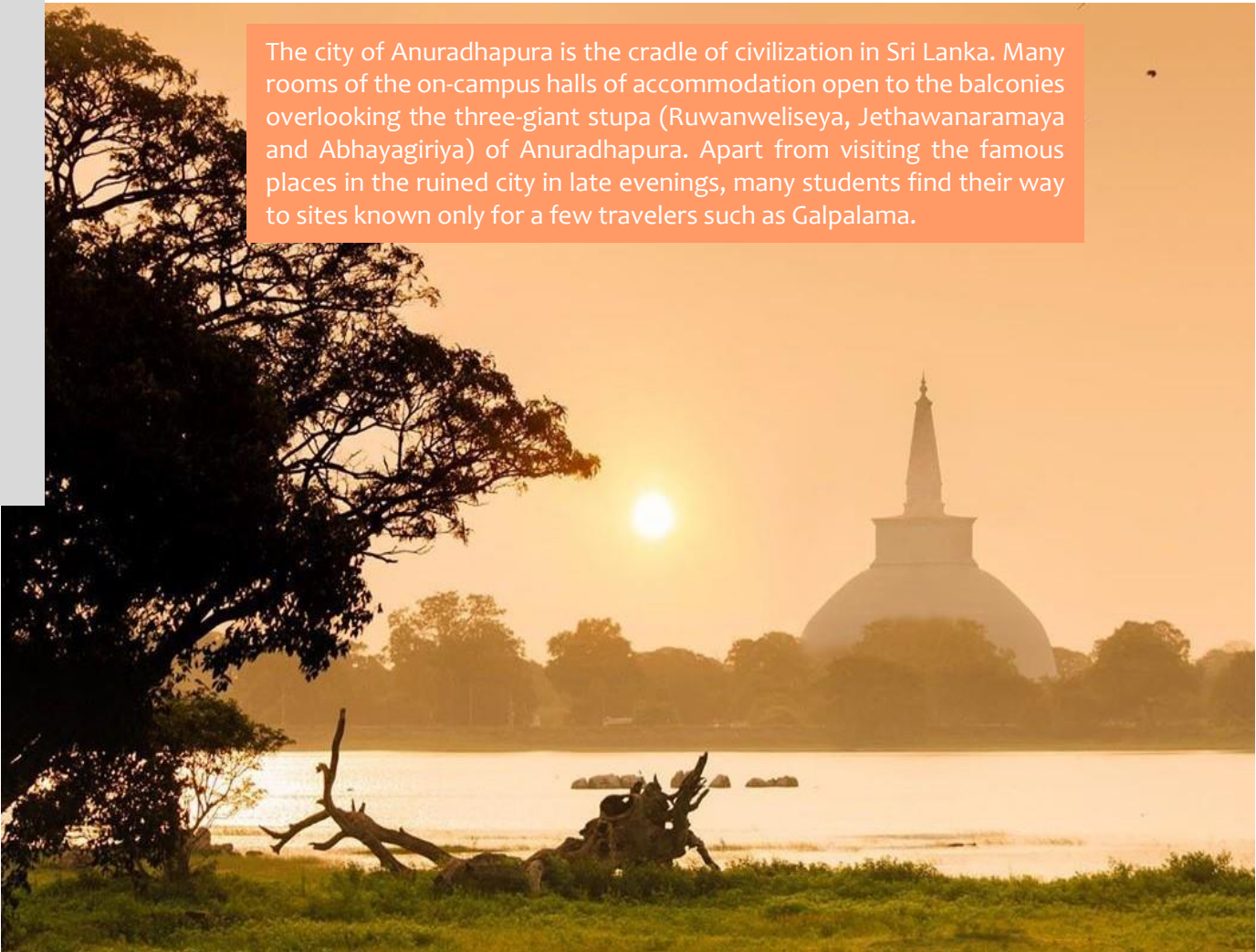
✿ Daily life

As all the students of the Faculty of Agriculture are given on-campus full-time accommodation facilities, prospective students might assume living in Anuradhapura to be relatively cheap. It is about 10 mins bus ride for you to explore what the city has to offer.



✿ Land of Lakes and Temples

The city of Anuradhapura is the cradle of civilization in Sri Lanka. Many rooms of the on-campus halls of accommodation open to the balconies overlooking the three-giant stupa (Ruwanwelisaya, Jethawanaramaya and Abhayagiriya) of Anuradhapura. Apart from visiting the famous places in the ruined city in late evenings, many students find their way to sites known only for a few travelers such as Galpalama.





Life off the books within the campus

Student-driven activities such as Vadiya Nilla, Padura, and Vesak, Poson, Christmas festivals are organized each year. The faculty offers the hands-on experience on crop and livestock farming. The faculty also offers exclusive opportunity to students to learn from student-to-famer interactions during farm family visits, farmer day programs, and other outreach activities. Among other student driven activities, poson dansala, blood donation camp and various school programs have been organized over the past years.





COPING UP WITH FINANCIAL NEEDS

Mahapola

Financing your undergraduate career is challenging for both you and your parents. The Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship from the Mahapola Trust Fund now offers an online application facility. Recipients of this scholarship are informed to the University before commencing your academic program, and those qualified will receive Rs. 5000 per month.

See

www.mahapola.lk
for more details

Visit

www.ugc.ac.lk/en/policy/commission-circulars/25-circulars-published-in-1994/519-commission-circular-no-613.html

for a complete list of eligibility criteria.

Bursary

Students ineligible to receive Mahapola Scholarship have the opportunity to apply for the university bursary scheme (Rs. 4000 per month). Eligibility criteria for bursaries are given in the same website indicated here.

Needy scholarships

The Faculty also administers a Needy Scholarship Fund. Each year about three to five students are awarded this scholarship.

Eligibility criteria

The student who;

- Suffers from extreme poverty.
- Experiences serious financial difficulties owing to a loss of family wealth, illness, death of the guardian and high expenses on siblings.
- Demonstrates the minimum Grade Point Average requirement of the degree program.
- Is not qualified either to “Mahapola” scholarship and Bursary but deemed really necessary of financial assistance on the evidence acceptable to the scholarship committee.
- Maintains good conduct and discipline.

Self-financing

Many students choose to sustain their four years of study through self-financing as dependents from their families. Should you choose to self-finance your program full-time, accommodation and dining facilities within the campus premises aim to bring your costs down.

REWARDING EXCELLENCE

Students are awarded gold medals in their respective convocation for the excellence in academic work during the study program according to the criteria given below.

Medal		Awarding Criteria
1	Prof. Aruni Weerasinghe Gold Medal	Gold Medal for Overall Highest FGPA
2	Mr. Vincent Subasinghe Gold Medal	Gold Medal for Highest GPA in Core Programme
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING AND SOIL SCIENCE		
3	Dr. D.M. Jinadasa Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in the Department of Agricultural Engineering & Soil Science
4	Prof. K.D.N. Weerasinghe Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Agricultural Engineering Specialization Module
5	Prof. K.A. Nandasena Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Environmental Soil Management Specialization Module
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS		
6	Prof. S.L. Ranamukhaarachchi Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in the Department of Agricultural Systems
7	Prof. G.A.S. Ginigaddara Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Agricultural Systems & Management Specialization Module
8	Dr. L.P. Rupasena Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Agricultural Economics & Extension Specialization Module
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL AND FOOD SCIENCES		
9	Prof. Vijay Jayasena Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in the Department of Animal & Food Sciences
10	Prof. A.M.J.B. Adikari Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Animal Production & Technology Specialization Module
11	Prof. P.H.P. Prasanna Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Food & Postharvest Technology Specialization Module
DEPARTMENT OF PLANT SCIENCES		
12	Dr. Sena Yaddehige Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in the Department of Plant Sciences
13	Prof. Abhaya Balasuriya Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Performance in Agricultural Biology Specialization Module
14	Prof. U.R. Sangakkara Memorial Gold Medal	Most Outstanding Student in Crop Science Specialization Module

LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Graduation is an exciting experience, but life after graduation may be stressful when you think about beginning a career.

Do not worry.....

- The knowledge and experiences plus a wide range of extracurricular activities at FOA will be helpful for you to succeed in your life here in the FAO and beyond.
- Seventy percent of RUSL Agros get employment opportunities within the first six months after the graduation according to the survey reports obtained on the convocation day.
- Some of our graduates continue their education in Sri Lanka or around the world.
- Most of the graduates have great pay rates in their working places.

Explore the opportunities, with empowering your skills with following extra courses such as IT, Professional English and HRM



✳️ **Join with ALUMNI.....**

Become a member.

- Obtain an application form from the secretary, Mr. Janaka Wijesinghe
- Contact details Phone: (+94 76 75 73 770/ +94 71 651 6179),
Email: janakamd10@gmail.com
- Visit the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FAAAR/>



...So far, around 1000 graduates from 16 batches, everywhere in Sri Lanka and around the World...

They are willing to give a hand whenever you want.....



DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

Student life interacts with students, staff and the surrounding community. Day to day, we all experience different things with this diverse group. We are here from different parts of the country, different ethnic groups, different religion, and different cultures.

Student life is more cheerful with these diverse interactions. Whoever you are you belong to the University community. We are following one vision, one mission sharing the existing facilities equally.

If you feel any grievances (discrimination/harassment on the basis of gender, race, sexuality, disability, age, family/carer's responsibilities, political affiliation).....

Meet your adviser or student counselor or batch mentor or inform the administration.

You will receive the justice.

Deputy Proctor

Mr. N. M. K. C. Premarathne

+94 71 300 8384

Reach UGC

+94 11 212 3700

Contact through the UGC link

www.ugc.ac.lk/rag

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

The university administration believes every single student receives equality and freedom to stays as his/her own and dedicated to maintaining a peaceful environment by creating dignity of every person, understanding, and mutual respect. Hence, FOA admin strongly observes any issues regarding the physical or mental harassments. To prevent harassment within the faculty community and to provide a process for addressing all forms of harassment if and when it occurs, the deputy proctor of the faculty is working hard. Sexual misconducts, violence in the university premises, or annoyance involving of students, as well as harassment based on other factors are seriously concerned and such involvements will be punished according to the set rules and regulations. To prevent such bad environment, FOA adheres to the country law, human

rights, and anti-ragging act (Act No. 20 of 1998). Moreover, the administration strictly follows the guidelines set by UGC (Circular 946) and RUSL on student discipline. If you face such instance, shall we give the mobile app here, you can directly contact online Voice Response System of UGC which is available 24 hours of the day.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health

The university is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for the university community. University health care centre (HCC) opens 24 hrs in 365 days in a year. A full range of primary health care services are offered to university students and staff. Apart from the facility available at Mihintale premises, doctor and his crew visit the FOA every Wednesday. In serious situations, patient is directed to the Teaching hospital, Anuradhapura which is only 2 km away from the faculty.

Get registration at the centre...

- Go to the HCC.
- Staff will help you to register in the centre.
- You will be benefitted throughout your student life.

Safety

Laboratory manuals are available in each labouratory and during the first labouratory practices you will be demonstrated about safety measures.

- Use a lab coat when you are in the labouratory.
- Use gloves, goggles etc. when necessary.
- Familiarize with other safety protocols.
- Fire distinguishes are fixed in all the labouratories and read and familiarize to face an emergency.

Apart from that, security points are located on the faculty premises. In hostels, 24 h security serves are available. Please adhere to the safety rules established by the hostel administration for your own safety (read hostel rules and regulations doc.)

ACADEMIC CALENDER

Visit <http://www.rjt.ac.lk/agri/studentsnotice.php?noid=30>

Students' Success Stories



Hey there, I'm Kasun S. Bandara, and I'm thrilled to share the incredible expedition that has defined my academic journey. Emerging from the esteemed Department of Agriculture Engineering and Soil Science at the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL, I carved my path in Soil Science. Right now, I'm a Research Assistant at the Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka, and let me tell you, it's been an incredible ride. My passion for soil science and agriculture led me to major in Environmental

Soil Management. I dived deep into soil chemistry and all things related. But I didn't just stick to textbooks. I rolled up my sleeves and collaborated with HAYLEYS Agriculture Holdings LTD to develop an organic fertilizer using pelleted poultry manure under supervision of Dr. D.M.S. Duminda and Mrs. J.P.H.U. Jayaneththi. It's an eco-friendly and cost-effective way to provide nutrients to *Capsicum annum* L, and I'm proud to be part of this sustainable solution.

Recognition came my way when I received the Prof. K.A Nandasena Gold Medal in 2020 for my outstanding performance in Environmental Soil Management. Right after graduation, I seized an amazing opportunity to work on a research project funded by the National Research Council of Sri Lanka. It's been eye-opening and has given me a taste of the real impact research can have. Currently, I'm pursuing an MPhil Research degree at the Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture, Uva Wellassa University. My research focuses on soil carbon dynamics and physicochemical properties in tropical rainforests across different altitudes. I've completed all the lab work, and now I'm in the exciting phase of writing my thesis. I've also been lucky to contribute to the field through research articles. But my journey doesn't stop here. In January 2024, I'm taking a big step and starting my PhD at Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Lincoln University, New Zealand. There, I'll be exploring the role of trace elements and nutrient dynamics in soil-plant interactions for sustainable agriculture.

My story is proof that the Department of Agriculture Engineering and Soil Sciences at the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL opens doors to incredible opportunities. To those aspiring minds poised at the cusp of educational discovery, I extend a heartfelt invitation. If you're curious, passionate about the environment, and ready to make a difference, this could be your journey too. It all starts here, where knowledge and curiosity collide.

Mr. Kasun. S. Bandara
Majoring – Environmental Soil Management



I am honoured to have the opportunity to pen some words of insight as a former student to hopefully inspire some of you in your journey through the faculty. Browsing through the student handbook, you will discover many exceptional academic staff with courses explicitly curated to enhance your agricultural knowledge and skills. The core courses are designed to methodically delve deeper and deeper into all aspects of agriculture with hands-on experience in field and lab work. The structure and pace of the

program were helpful to me as someone who had little exposure to farming. The specialization modules offered are unique, intensive, and innovative, with research focused on issues in global agricultural systems. I specialized in agricultural engineering, intending to learn the technology and skills needed for a modern agriculturist.

There are many opportunities on campus for students willing to go the extra mile. I participated in Traveling University, a program in partnership with a German university, where students collaborated to find green technology solutions to local issues. Apart from my studies, I participated in many sports activities, including badminton, rugby, volleyball, hockey, and swimming.

Once I graduated in 2020, I joined the department as a temporary demonstrator, working closely with the academic and support staff to conduct practicals and discussion classes as required. I presented my undergraduate research at an international conference and published my results in a journal. I then secured a scholarship for my Master's at the Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador. My graduate thesis would be in the sphere of isotope hydrology, which I was scarcely aware of at the time. However, my supervisor arranged for me to work at the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board as a trainee to obtain the additional skills I would require.

The knowledge and skillsets I developed as an undergraduate have been the foundation for my graduate studies. Because of these, I am confident in working independently in the labs, field or even the library, learning an entirely new subject. The faculty of agriculture is not just a stepping stone but rather a trampoline you could use to reach new, unimaginable heights! I am incredibly grateful to the faculty for moulding me into what I am today. I wish you all the best in starting your academic journey!

Mr. Lanthika Dhanapala
Majoring – Agricultural Engineering



"I consider myself to be extremely fortunate to be a part of the Department of Agricultural Systems, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Selecting agricultural economics and extension specialization stream paved me the way to endless opportunities. First I received an opportunity from the department of Agricultural systems to do a research internship at Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) while I was conducting my final year research project. It helped me to start my career as a Project officer at IPS and then continue as a researcher with LIRNEasia. My job

roles in research space in not-for-profit sector helped me to gain experience working with major funding bodies like UN, World Bank and IDRC. It also provided me with a vast knowledge about the sector and gave me numerous networking opportunities locally and internationally. Less than 4 years into my career, the exposure and experience I received by selecting Agricultural Economics and extension specialization directly helped me in securing permanent residency in Australia as a skilled migrant under Agricultural consultant category.

The transferable skills and knowledge I received through my specialization also helped me immensely to set my foot on not-for-profit sector in Australia and gradually excel in my professional career up to a leadership position.

I am forever grateful to all my lecturers for providing me with quality education and helping me understand my true potential. I will always cherish the experience and lifetime memories I gained from the department as it was the stepping stone to all my achievements today. I cannot recommend enough of the quality of education you receive from the Department of Agricultural Systems. If you are a big dreamer like me who believe even sky is not the limit, this is exactly where you need to be"

Mrs. Piyumi Gamage
Majoring – Agricultural Economics and Extension

Ms. Nisansala Lakmali Gunawrdena is currently employed at Imperial Tea Exports (PVT) Ltd as an Executive of International Marketing. She graduated with a Bsc in Agriculture (Special) from Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University in Sri Lanka, where she specialized in Agricultural Systems and Management. She was also a past pupil of Vishakha Vidyala Colombo.



Experience and knowledge gained during her academic years greatly aided her in becoming the person she is today. Not only academic qualifications, but also extracurricular activities, such as being a member of the university's toast master club, have helped her to develop a personality, which has proven to be very useful in surviving in the cooperative world.

She started her professional career as a management trainee immediately after finishing her degree, and she is now an Executive in international marketing. The job of a marketer in the Tea Export Industry entails satisfying global customers. Ms. Nisansala's job responsibilities initially include planning and executing the conception, pricing, following up on the designs, material, production, and shipment until the products reach the customer. These tasks required a thorough understanding of customer needs, strong communication skills, creative thinking, attention to detail, and current knowledge of the subject, all of which she believes she obtained during her degree program.

Her responsibilities have grown over time to include digital marketing, and she is now a member of the firm's social media team, where she can further develop her knowledge and skills to better serve the company. In her new role, she is primarily responsible for updating website content and managing the company's brand site's Facebook pages in Chile and Australia. She also participates in the social media development programs of the Spices Company and Ceylon Tea Bags (Pvt) Ltd, both of which are subsidiaries of the group of companies. With the career advancement she has achieved in such a short period of time, she is determined to make a name for herself in the global tea market in the future.

"I've built my life through commitment and dedication to self-development." Every small step I've taken has made me a better person. In my professional life, every day is a new learning experience and a new challenge. "The most important thing in my life that gave me the strength and courage to work harder was defeat."

"Never give up and never lose hope. Work hard and smart, and you will be successful one day."

Mrs. Nisansala Lakmali Gunawrdena
Majoring – Agricultural Systems and Management



I am Lakshan Sathyajith Beligala, a graduate student at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, United States, and I am currently pursuing my postgraduate studies in the field of biological sciences.

The onset of my academic journey goes back to 2018 when I started my undergraduate degree at the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. I specialized in the module of Animal Production and Technology in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, and I was able to graduate with a Second-Class Upper

Division in 2022. During my time at the Rajarata University, I was able to achieve academic accomplishment. I became a finalist in the Undergraduate Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition which was conducted along with the 14th Annual Research Symposium in 2022. Beyond the academics, I participated in a variety of extracurricular activities, such as being a member of the champion rugby team at the Inter Faculty Championship 2018 and winning third place in the weightlifting (category 106+) competition at the Inter Faculty Championship, 2019. Additionally, I had the chance to emcee in English at a number of Faculty functions that took place while I was an undergraduate student.

Soon after graduation, I was recruited as a Farm Manager trainee at the Veterinary Teaching Farm at the University of Peradeniya. Later, I obtained the chance to join the academic staff as a Temporary Lecturer in the Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science at the University of Peradeniya, where I served until, I moved to the USA to pursue my graduate studies. I am proudly sharing my story to emphasize that by promoting your expertise and abilities in your own unique style, you can establish yourself as an expert in your field.

Mr. Lakshan Sathyajith Beligala
Majoring – Animal Production and Technology

I'm Nethmini Silva from the recently graduated batch of 2016/2017 of Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL. I am thrilled to be graduated with a second class upper division in BSc. Agriculture specialized in Food and Postharvest Technology, which I have always been passionate about. From the beginning itself I was keen to do my majors in Food Science, so I quite had an idea about what and where I want to be in future. I was enrolled to FOA in 2018 as a fresher, I must say being a fresher in a state university is not easy. Getting out of your comfort zone, being far away from home with lot of unknown people and inexperienced situations and must mention the Covid 19 Pandemic and Economic crisis of the country, it was one hell of a roller coaster ride, quite an eventful one at that with so many experiences. I can say I was able to find my true self, true friends, on top of all simply I learnt what life is in these 4 years.



During my academic years I was able to have an extensive academic knowledge handful of practical exposures which helped me to excel in my grades. The Department of Animal and Food Sciences was the place where I could chase my dreams, with the tremendous support of the outstanding academic staff. To be an outstanding graduate its not only academics that counts, even with the limited chances we had I was always keen on participating to the outreach activities such as sports and mostly aesthetic activities of the university. I wish if I could do more extracurriculars during that time. With all these privileges, I was awarded as the best presenter of the final year research presentations in Food and Postharvest Technology module and the runners up position at the 3MT competition at the 14th Annual Research Symposium. Further I was able to win the “Top Pitch Award” at the Food Innovator Huddle organized by Dilmah Conservation representing FOA. I was fortunate to be a presenter at the “Research Findings and Innovations Forum” organized by ministry of Industries. Currently I am in process of obtaining patent and commercialization of my undergraduate research findings. Soon after graduation I got the opportunity to obtain the industry exposure at Fonterra Brands Lanka, a reputed multinational organization, as an intern and where I'm currently working as well. The message I want to give through my own experience is that you must dream big to achieve success, do not doubt your capacity and your abilities, find your strengths and work on them. Set goals and achieve them one by one. There are plenty of opportunities out there for you if you are smart enough to grab them. **Be an explorer, and be full of self-love, admire you self and be proud of your achievements, live your life to your fullest, Be your own muse of life.**

Mrs. Nethmini Silva
Majoring- Food and Postharvest Technology



“I am humbled to write this message to the undergraduate student handbook of the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL, first as a former student of the department and second as a Senior Lecturer in Agriculture and Environmental Technology at the Faculty of Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

I earned my B.Sc. (Hons) in Agriculture, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka in 2010 and subsequently received my M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Crop Science,

*Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya in 2012 and 2017, respectively. I did Plantation Crop as my specialized area and I reported a technique to rescue inter-specific hybrids of *Camellia sinensis* x *Camellia sasanqua*, when I was a final year research student in the Department of Plant Sciences, FOA, RUSL. Just after graduation I joined to the FOA, RUSL as a temporary demonstrator and then joined as a temporary lecturer. At the department I contributed to courses on Plantation crop management, Plant tissue culture, Horticulture, Mushroom Culture and Organic Farming. Meantime, I joined different farmer training programs as a resource person.*

I have published more research articles and conference papers in indexed journals. I serve as a review board member in several SCI-indexed journals that are highly reputed among agriculture researchers. I received presidential award for best scientific publication in 2018. My current research focuses on urban agriculture techniques and Plant micro-propagation techniques. Recently, I focused more on mitigation approaches for Human-Elephant Conflict by introducing bio-fence to most vulnerable areas in Sri Lanka.

The initial training, I received as a student specializing in plant sciences at the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL has enormously benefitted to become who I am today.

Dr. Ruvini Abhayapala
Majoring: Crop Science



“Being entrusted with contributing to the 2023 Student Handbook is a significant honour that brings back memories of my own academic beginnings in 2008. I earned a B.Sc. (Hons.) in Agriculture, specializing in Crop Protection and Improvement, from the Department of Plant Sciences in 2012. Subsequently, I achieved a M.Sc. in Plant Protection Technology from the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture at the University of Peradeniya in 2014. My research and academic path were strongly affected

by my positions as a Demonstrator and Temporary Lecturer at the Department of Plant Sciences and as a Casual Investigator at the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI).

In 2016, I took a significant step in my academic path by pursuing a Ph.D. in Applied Microbiology at the Faculty of Science, Chiang Mai University (CMU), Thailand, in collaboration with China. Throughout my Ph.D. journey, I worked with renowned researchers, particularly in bioinformatics, evolutionary biology, mycology, and plant pathology. After completing my Ph.D. in 2021, I transitioned into an academic role as a Lecturer in Plant Pathology at the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Faculty of Agriculture, CMU.

My research journey began with a seminal article in the *Pakistan Journal of Biological Sciences*, resulting from my undergraduate research at the Horticultural Crop Research and Development Institute (HORDI). This focused on 'Molecular detection, characterization, and biological studies on Tomato yellow leaf curl virus (TYLCV) in Sri Lanka'. Today, I have authored over 60 research articles and serve as Associate Editor and Review Editor for esteemed journals.

I am grateful to the Plant Sciences Department for the transformative experiences and valuable knowledge I gained during my time there. The profound impact of lessons learned, meaningful relationships built, and opportunities provided have all contributed to my growth from student to accomplished alumnus.

In closing, I extend to you my sincere wishes for all your passionate aspirations to come true. Always know that there is a supportive network standing with you, ready to help whenever needed. Never doubt that you are not alone on this journey. Good luck!”

Dr. Milan C. Samarakoon
Majoring: Agricultural Biology

Enjoy Your Journey.....

