

Quality-Related News - 2022
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Summary of Workshops, Seminars, Webinars, Training and Awareness Sessions, important events, etc. - 2022

Virtual Inauguration Ceremony of Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development, FoA, RUSL 2022

Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development is offered by the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka with the help of all Faculties of the University. The first batch of students was enrolled in 2022 and the responsibility of coordinating this programme was taken up by the Faculty of Agriculture. A virtual inauguration ceremony was held on 09.01.2022 using the zoom platform due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation. This ceremony was graced by distinguished guests from the university including Prof. G.A.S. Ginigaddara, the Vice-chancellor of the University, and Mr. Indika Wanninayake, Provincial Rural Development Department in the North Central Province.





Fourth Awareness Session on LMS/VLE at the Faculty

The fourth awareness session on LMS/VLE was held on 11th January 2022 from 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm using the Zoom platform for the academic staff of the faculty. Prof. Hewagamage served as the resource person of the session. Prof. N.S. Abesingha, Department of Agric. Engineering and Soil Science coordinated the session.

Mindfulness Programme

The welfare society of the Faculty of Agriculture has organized a mindfulness programme for academic, non-academic and members of the other services of the faculty on 2022 January 28 from 8.30 am to 11.30 am at the faculty auditorium. Venerable Athurugiriye dammawihari Thero conducted this programme.





Virtual Inauguration Ceremony of Master of Philosophy in Agriculture & Master of Agriculture, FoA, RUSL 2022

Virtual Inauguration Ceremony of Master of Agriculture (3rd intake), FoA, RUSL was held on 29th January 2022.





Training Programme to Improve Soft Skills of Non-Academic Staff Members (Work-aids)

The staff development centre organized a training programme for non-academic staff members on soft skills for career development. It was conducted on 1st, 8th, 22nd February and 2nd March 2022. Dr. (Mrs). K.R.N. Harshani, Dr. Manoj Fernando and Mrs. Mangalika Dissanayake were the resource personnel. The non-academic staff members of the faculty attended it without disrupting faculty activities as scheduled the participation as listed below.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Mihintale

Phone: 025 2266757
Fax: 025 2266757

Email: sdcc@rjt.ac.lk
Web: <http://www.rjt.ac.lk/sdc/>

Dean
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

27th January 2022

Dear Sir,

Workshops for Non-academic Staff Members on “Soft Skills for Career Improvement”

The Staff Development Centre organizes a series of one day workshops to develop soft skills of non-academic staff members of the university. All members of non-academic staff categories; laboratory attendants, work aide and other U-PL level categories (mason, plumber, welder, nursery man, mechanic & machine operator) are the target group of this program.

With a view of providing training opportunity for all staff members of given categories, SDC has planned to conduct four workshops starting from 01st February 2022, on every Tuesday. To minimize the disruption to routine work of faculties and units, a schedule is prepared with expected number of participants from each faculty. Please refer to the table below for the schedule for the Faculty of Agriculture.

Date	Number of Participants(Total staff in relevant categories = 18)
01/02/2022	06
08/02/2022	06
22/02/2022	06

I would be grateful if you instruct relevant officers to provide a list of participants for each workshop by 31st Monday.

The program schedule is attached herewith for your reference and a certificate will be awarded for all participants.

Thank you

Dr. Lalith Senarathna / Director

Contact :

Dr. Lalith Senarathna
Staff Development Centre
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihintale.

S.No.	Name	Date
1	Mr. K.V.C.T.K. Frenando	01.02.2022
2	Mr. J.S. Ranawake	
3	Mr. P.B.N. Udayakumara	
4	Mr. B.M.U.R. Basnayake	
5	Mr. P.E.M.K.G. Ekanayake	
6	Ms. P.H.N.N. Gunasena	
7	Mr. M.N.A.J. Senarathne	
8	Mr. H.D.N.A. Darmadasa	08.02.2022
9	Mr. M.N.A.J. Sanarathne	
10	Mr. S.M.M. Thilakarathne	
11	Mr. U.G.R.C Premarathne	
12	Mr. H.G.S. Galappaththi	
13	Mr. J.A. Jayantha	
14	Ms. P.K.G.H. Dilani	
15	Mr. A.L.G.N. Kumara	22.02.2022
16	Mr. W.G.A.S.K. Wijesinghe	
17	Mr. R.M.T.W. Rathnayake	
18	Mr. K.P.C.I. Kumara	
19	Mr. R.M.A. Ranasinghe	
20	Mr. A.G.J. Kulathunga	
21	Mr. K.M.S. Kumarasinghe	
22	Ms. R.S. Karunarathna	02.03.2022
23	Mr. S.M.P.P.Senanayake	
24	Mr. B.C.P. Bandara	
25	Mr. H.P. Warnasooriya	

Training Programme to Improve Soft Skills of Management Assistants and Technical Officers

The staff development centre organized a training programme for management assistants and technical officers on soft skills for career development. It was conducted on 22nd March, 1st, 5th, 7th April 2022. Dr. Nisala Abeywickrama, Mr. Jaliya Rathnayake, Dr. Manoj Fernando and Mrs. Mangalika Dissanayake were the resource personnel. The non-academic staff members of the faculty attended it without disrupting faculty activities as scheduled the participation as listed below.

S.No.	Name	Date
1	Mrs. R.M.D. Sandya	22.03.2022
2	Mr. U.D.N.S. Ranasinghe	
3	Ms. P.R.G. Rankothge	
4	Mrs. K.M.A.S. Sirisena	
5	Mr. M.K.R.K. Samarasena	
6	Mrs. P.K.D. Mangala	01.04.2022
7	Ms. D.T. De Silva	
8	Mr. H.M.A. Abeyrathna	
9	Mr. P.B. Senevirathne	
10	Mr. Jagath Wijeweera	
11	Mrs. D.A.S.M. Delgahapitiya	
12	Ms. K.H.M. Perera	
13	Ms. B.M.N.T. Kandulawa	05.04.2022
14	Mrs. A.S. Illangasinghe	
15	Mr. J.H. Kodikara	
16	Mr. D.M.L.K. Dissanayake	
17	Mrs. H.M.T.G. Alagalla	
18	Mrs. A.N. Thennakoon	
19	Mr. S.M.G.K. Samarakoon	07.04.2022
20	Mr. S.M.K.A.G.D. Senevirathne	
21	Mr. A.M. Herath Banda	
22	Mr. M.R.N.B. Rathnayake	
23	Mr. W.M.R. Wijesinghe	

Agro Entrepreneurial Experience Sharing Forum 2022

An interactive session with successful farmers and undergraduates of the faculty was held on 18th March 2022 using a hybrid mode (Zoom and Physical). Members of the academic staff and students in all batches participated in the sessions. Dr. N.S. Abeysingha, Senior Lecturer and the coordinator (activity 05) of the AHEAD faculty DP coordinated this event with the support of a team appointed by the Faculty Board.



AGRO-ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPERIENCE SHARING FORUM-2022

Faculty of Agriculture - Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

18th March 2022 | 9AM-12PM



Mrs. M. Kusumalatha
Founder - Prasad Traditional Rice



Mr. J. M. Jayasundara
Managing Director - Sunrise Group



Mr. Thambapillai Premendrarajah
Managing Director - Premendrarajah Tea Export Foundation



Mr. Asanga Wanasinghe
Director - Wanasinghe Holdings (Pvt) Ltd



Dr. Sanjaya Fernando
Visiting Lecturer
Department of Agricultural Systems
Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



Ms. K.M.P.Kulasekara
Assistant Director
Sri Lanka Export Development Board

Sponsored by:  AHEAD Faculty Development Project
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

 Meeting ID: 626 3644 4233
Passcode: Aeeehh2022
<https://bit.ly/366m5ti>



Inquiries
071 4444 849

Prof. N.S. Abeyasingha
Coordinator, AHEAD Faculty Development Project
Senior Lecturer
Department of Agricultural Engineering & Soil Science
Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



AGRO-ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPERIENCE SHARING FORUM - 2022

කාමී ව්‍යවසායකයින් සමඟ පිළිකෙරුම - 2022
සාමාන්‍ය 9:00 - 12:00 පැය 09:00 සිට 12:00 දක්වා

- පෙ.ව 9.00 සමාරම්භය
- පෙ.ව 9.02 පිළිගැනීමේ කතාව - ආචාර්ය එන්. එස්. අබේසිංහ මහතා
- පෙ.ව 9.10 පිටාපිටිකරණයේ කතාව - මහාචාර්ය ඒ. එම්. ඩී. අලිසාන් මහතා
- පෙ.ව 9.20 සෘෂිවංශාසනයේ සත්‍ය අත්‍යය වෙනුවෙන් - ඉදිකරණ
- පෙ.ව 9.30 සෘෂිවංශාසනයේ හඳුන්වා දීමේ පිටිකෙරුම
- පෙ.ව 9.45 සෘෂි වංශාසනයේ සමස්ත සාකච්ඡාව - මහාචාර්ය - ආචාර්ය සංජයා ප්‍රසාද් මහතා
- පෙ.ව 11.45 සමරු සිදුකිරීම
- පෙ.ව 11.50 ස්තූතිය
- ප.ව 12.00 වැඩසටහනේ නිමාව

2022 මාර්තු | 18
පෙ.ව 9.00 - ප.ව 12.00

 Meeting ID: 626 3644 4233
Passcode: Aeeehh2022
<https://bit.ly/366m5ti>

For more info ☎ 071 4444 849 - Prof. N.S. Abeyasingha



Sponsored by:  AHEAD Faculty Development Project
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Mindfulness Programme for Undergraduates

Student Counselling Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture successfully conducted “Mindfulness Programme / Sathi Pasala” on 23rd of March 2022 for the undergraduates of 2017/2018 batch with the participation of Ven. Athurugiriye Dhamma Vihari Thero of Sathi Pasala Foundation as the resource person. The aim of the session was to inculcate mindfulness among undergraduates to enhance their capacity to concentrate the mind to function effectively for a better learning process.



Virtual Career Fair- 2022

Virtual career fair 2022 was held on 29th April 2022 with 160 registered candidates, 85 forwarded CVs and 11 companies namely JB Brothers, Brandix Apparel Ltd, Accessagro Co. Ltd, Chilaw Plantation Limited, PGP Glass Ceylon PLC, CIC Holdings PLC, Browns Agriculture- Brown & Company PLC, Silvermill Group of Companies (Pvt) ltd, Ansell Lanka Pvt Ltd, Galoya Plantation Pvt Ltd, Nuatureb Exports International. This activity was organized by Dr. S.N. Dissanayake under the AHEAD Faculty DP activity 4, the personal and professional development intervention.

Training Programme for Executive Officers on Leadership & Workplace Productivity Skills

The following staff members attended a workshop on productivity enhancement on 05th May 2022 at the staff development centre. Prof. G.A..S. Ginigaddara Dr. Manoj Fernando and Mr. Tharaka Amarasena were the resource personnel.

1. Mrs. K. Nathiparan, Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture
2. Mr. B.W.N.J. Samaraweera, Farm Manager, Faculty of Agriculture



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Phone: 025 2266757

Fax: 025 2266757

Email: sd@rjt.ac.lk

Web: <http://www.rjt.ac.lk/sdc/>

The Registrar

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

26th April 2022

Dear Mr. Abeysinghe

Training Program for Executive Staff on Workplace Productivity Enhancement

Staff Development Centre organizes one day training program to develop leadership and workplace productivity skills of executive officers of the university.

The program is designed to cover following topics

- Leadership and productivity
- Managing positive attitude and interpersonal skills in workplace
- Career and professional development

This workshop is planned on 05th May (Thursday) from 09.00 am to 04.30 pm at the SDC auditorium. Participation of all Executive Officers for the program on 05th is essential as only one program on this topic is organized and as this program has been recognized by the Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee as compulsory. A certificate will be issued for participants who completed the program.

Please circulate this information to relevant Executive officers.

Thank You,

Dr. Lalith Senarathna

Director / SDC

Director
Staff Development Centre
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihintale

Training Programme for Handling Photocopiers and Printers

The training programme was organized by the staff development centre on 18th May 2022. A team from Metropolitan trained the participants. The following participants received the training.

1. Mr. K.H.M. Perera

2. Mr. P.E.M.K.G. Ekanayake

3. H.G.S. Galappaththi

4. Ms. P.K.G.H. Dilani

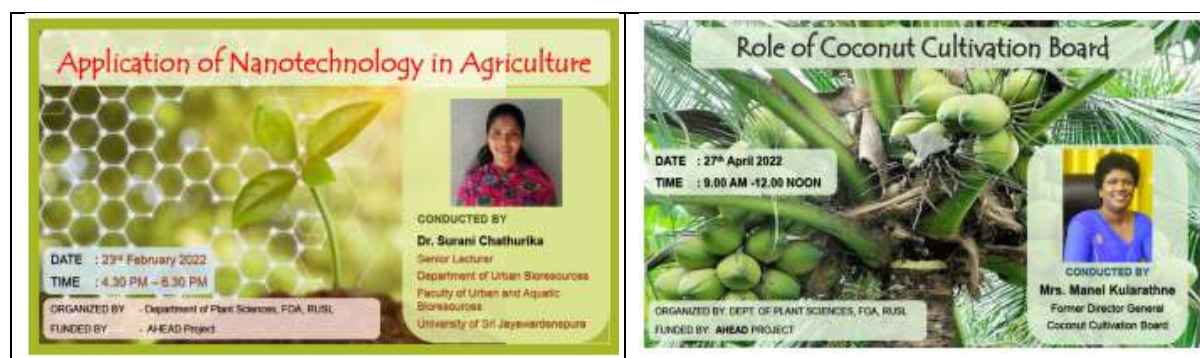
IT Training Programme for Executive Staff Members

This training session was organized by the staff development centre on 16th June 2022. Mrs. K. Nathiparan, Assistant registrar of the faculty of Agriculture attended the programme.

Workshop Series for Majoring Students of the Department of Plant Sciences, FoA, RUSL

A series of workshops were organized for the majoring students (2016/2017 batch) of the Department of Plant Sciences to expand their knowledge base related to different disciplines by hearing from the experts in an online platform. The workshops were coordinated by Mrs. W.M.R.S.K. Warnasooriya and the Ms. Umali Herath of the Department of Plant Sciences. The workshops were funded by the AHEAD department DP.

	Topic and Resource Person	Date
1.	Present & Future of Coconut Industry Mrs. Sumudu Withanage Director General Coconut Development Authority	23.04.2022
2.	Role of Coconut Cultivation Board Mrs. Manel Kularathne Former Director General Coconut Cultivation Board	13.06.2022
3.	Use of Nano Technology in Agriculture Dr. Surani Chathurika Department of Urban Bioresources University of Sri Jayawardhanapura	23.02.2022





Plant Disease Clinic: Awareness Sessions for the Farming Community

Productivity of crop cultivation for human consumption is always at risk due to harmful organisms like pathogens, animal pests, and weeds. These crop losses have to be reduced or prevented by crop protection measures. In case of limited understanding of the science behind the disease processes and ineffective disease management; most farmers face substantial difficulties in managing plant diseases. It is required for farmers to access timely advice and actionable information on pests and diseases that affect their crops, in order to secure a more productive yield.

A similar approach to human health clinics, Plant disease clinics have been established in many countries as a novel extension approach to provide demand-driven advice for farmers to deal with pests and diseases affecting their crop production. At the plant clinic, farmers bring in “sick” plants, and plant doctors diagnose the problem using visual symptoms and the questionnaires answered by the farmers. Most of the time, the recommendations for plant diseases are mainly based on Integrated Disease Management (IDM) principles as the basis for sustainable agriculture intensification. In addition to solving Plant health problems, data gained through the Plant disease clinics are always useful in supporting pest surveillance and alerts, identifying extension and research needs and priorities, testing farmers’ indigenous concepts, and identifying knowledge gaps and training needs.

With the purpose of initiation step to establish this kind of Plant Disease clinic in local setup, three awareness programmes on plant diseases were conducted on 11th March 2022 at Weherathanna village and 17th June 2022 at Athawetunuwewa and Kirilbbanwewa villages, Mahaweli system “L”, Anuradhhapura, Sri Lanka by the Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka with the collaboration of Mahaweli Authority. The entire programme was sponsored by the AHEAD Project of the university.

Those programmes were comprehended through presentations, discussions as well as visualizations of posters. The special focus was drawn to discuss pests and diseases of Rice, Fruits, Vegetables, and floricultural plants, post-harvest diseases, Nutrient management, biological control of Plant diseases, Pesticides application, etc. During

the programme, discussions were centered on identifying the plant problems encountered by the farmers. Further, soil samples of their fields were tested for pH and gave the required guidance to maintain proper soil health. In addition, disease-infected or pest-attacked plant parts were collected for further clarification through laboratory testing.

The participants expressed interest in learning more about disease management and adopting the given recommendations. The novel knowledge and the research findings were disseminated to the participants. Mainly research findings related to biological control agents: *Trichoderma virens*, plant disease control, and nutrient management in paddy cultivation were discussed. The farmers were enthusiastic about adopting biological disease control products that we introduced to them. Moreover, the participants were impassioned to observe the provided plant pathogens including culture plates that cause plant diseases. Those clinics were conducted with the financial assistance through AHEAD / RA 2 / ELTAEELST / RUSL / SOA / DPS / OVAA / 7 department project. Mrs. TDC Priyadarshani, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sciences took the responsibility of organizing this event with the support of teaching assistants at the Department of Plant Sciences. Some of the photographs of the sessions are presented below.





Workshop on “Crafting Research Proposals and Presentations”

The workshop titled “Crafting Research Proposals and Presentations” was organized for the final year research students (2016/2017 batch) of the faculty by the Department of Plant Sciences using funds received from the AHEAD grant under the ELTA-ELSE. The first session of the workshop on “Crafting research proposals” was conducted by Dr. Nalaka Geekiyange, Senior Lecturer, Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 20th May 2022. This session aimed to aware the students about the components of a research proposal and how each component should effectively be developed. The second session titled “Crafting Scientific Presentations” was conducted by Dr. Dushan Kumarathunge, Senior Lecturer, Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna on 08th July 2022 to discuss preparing a scientific presentation and delivering it successfully. Ms. Malika Piyarathne at the Department of Plant Sciences coordinated this workshop.

Workshop on
CRAFTING RESEARCH PROPOSALS AND PRESENTATIONS

By Agriculture experts:

On
20th of May 2022
at
1.30 p.m.
Via
Zoom

You all are invited to participate in and gain experience !!!

Organized by: AHEAD Project
 Department of Plant Sciences
 Faculty of Agriculture
 Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Dr. Nalaka Geekiyange
 Senior Lecturer
 Department of Plant Sciences
 Faculty of Agriculture
 Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Dr. Dushan Kumarathunge
 Senior Lecturer
 Department of Agricultural Biology
 Faculty of Agriculture
 University of Ruhuna

CRAFTING RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Nalaka Geekiyange (BSc, MSc, PhD)
 Faculty of Agriculture
 Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

How to prepare and deliver a scientific presentation

Dushan Kumarathunge (PhD)
 Senior Lecturer
 Department of Agricultural Biology
 Faculty of Agriculture
 University of Ruhuna
 dushank@agri.ruh.ac.lk

Workshop on “How to conduct a Coherent Literature Review”

The workshop titled “How to conduct a Coherent Literature Review” was organized for the final year research students (2016/2017 batch) of the faculty by the Department of Plant Sciences using funds received from the AHEAD grant under the ELTA-ELSE. The first session of the workshop was conducted by Dr. A.P.S. Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Department of Agriculture systems, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 20th May 2022. In this session, the students were made aware of the process of conducting a successful literature review from the fundamental steps to the advanced ones along with the sources for getting information for a literature review. The second session of the workshop was conducted by Dr. Sriyan Jayasuriya, Senior Environmental Scientist, Canterbury, New Zealand on ‘Organized Reasoning in Literature Review’. In this session, the topics such as key components of a literature review, arguments, mind map, references, and plagiarism were discussed. Ms. Malika Piyarathne at the Department of Plant Sciences coordinated this workshop.



Awareness Programme on Commercializable TMR briquettes

One day workshop on commercializable TMR briquettes for farmers involved in the dairy business was successfully organized by the Research team under AHEAD DOR 39. The training session was held at farm premises, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 8th of June 2022, mainly focusing on enhancing awareness of the importance of continuous feeding of quality feed in order to obtain continuous

and higher milk production. Farmers were educated on the importance of animal nutrition, preparation of TMR briquettes and potential market for commercialization. Prof. W.A.D. Nayananjalie, Prof. A.M.J.B. Adikari, Prof. S.C. Somasiri, Mrs. M.A.A.P. Kumari and Mr. W.V.V.R. Weerasinghe served as the resource persons of the programme.



Awareness Session on the Management Information System of the Faculty

An awareness session on MIS was held on 17th June 2022 for the student in 2017/2018, 2018/19 and 2019/20, of the faculty via the Zoom platform from 2.00 p.m. onwards. Prof. Hewagamage the consultant for the MIS was the resource person of the session.

MIS

For (2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020) batches

**AWARENESS SESSION ON
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (MIS)**

Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

June 17, 2022 02:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bit.ly/3b0eZbq>
Meeting ID: 658 4684 6629
Passcode: NGZ?kcT1

Prof. K. P. Hewagamage
School of Computing
University of Colombo

Session on Empowering Students for a Bright Future

Student Counselling Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL has organized a motivational talk on “Empowering the Students for a Bright Future: A positive Psychological Approach” for the 2019/2020 batch on 4th August 2022 from 9 am to 11.30 am Prof. Daya Rohana Athukorala, University of Colombo has conducted the session in an online mode. This session was coordinated by Dr. R.H.G.R. Wathsala, Senior Lecturer, Department of Animal and Food Sciences.

Empowering the Students for a Bright Future
A Positive Psychological Approach

DATE: 04th August 2022
TIME & ZOOM LINK WILL BE NOTIFY LATER

ORGANIZED BY: STUDENT COUNSELING UNIT, FOA, RUSL
COORDINATED BY: DR. RASIKA WATHSALA

MOTIVATIONAL TALK BY:
PROF. DAYAROHANA ATHUKORALA
SENIOR LECTURER
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Library Awareness Session on Effective use of Library Facilities

The library of the Faculty of Agriculture conducted an awareness session on “Effective use of library facilities” on 08th August 2022 for the undergraduates of 2019/2020 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture. The programme has consisted of a demonstration on the use of Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), Electronic database searching, useful Web links for academic needs and Digital Library. Mrs.W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture served as the resource person of the session.

Learning Camp for the Students in the 2019/2020 Batch

The learning camp for the students in 2019/2020 batch was held on 10th and 12th August 2022 from 10 am to 4 pm to help students to tackle challenges and develop skills for successful university life. Mr. J. Rathnayake and Mrs. A.M. Dissanayake were the resource persons of the sessions. Dr. Sumali Dissanayake, activity coordinator, activity 4, AHEAD faculty DP and Mr. Sampath Dissanayake, coordinator - CGU coordinated these sessions.

LEARNING CAMP FOR 1200 BATCH STUDENTS



**“HELPING STUDENTS TO
TACKLE CHALLENGES AND
DEVELOP CRITICAL SKILLS FOR
A SUCCESSFUL
UNIVERSITY LIFE”**

On 10th and 12th August 2022

9.00 am – 4.00 pm

**At
Mihintale premises
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**

Contents

1. Day one

- Group forming
- Confidence building activities
- Communication skills development activities
- Problem solving activities
- Leadership development activities
- Public speaking - Educational session
- Learning technology - Educational session

2. Day two

- Team building activities
- Leadership development activities
- Creativity building activities
- Relaxation techniques, academic and personal life balance
- Learning technology - Educational session

RESOURCE PERSONS

RUSL Career Guidance Counselors



Mr. J. Rathnayake Mrs. A. M. Dissanayake

Contact:

**Dr. Sumali Dissanayake,
Activity Coordinator, AHEAD 0776 671 716**

**Mr. Sampath Dissanayake,
Coordinator-CGU - 0713 624 133**

**Organized by AHEAD Faculty DP and
Career Guidance Unit, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL**

Inauguration Ceremony for New Entrants (2020/2021 Batch)

The virtual inauguration ceremony to welcome the new intake of students in the 2020/2021 batch (22nd batch of students) to the faculty was held on 16th August 2022.

AGENDA

- 1.30 pm - Traditional Lighting of the Oil Lamp
- 1.35 pm - Faculty Anthem
- 1.40 pm - University Anthem
- 1.45 pm - Welcome Address by Prof. A.M.J.B. Adikari, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture
- 1.55 pm - Address by Mr. H.M.D.P. Daskara, President, Student Union, Faculty of Agriculture
- 2.05 pm - Address by Mrs. W.M.R.S.K. Warnasooriya, Senior Student Counsellor, Faculty of Agriculture
- 2.15 pm - Address by Mr. A.M.G.B. Abeysinghe, Registrar, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
- 2.25 pm - Address by Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
- 2.40 pm - Vote of Thanks by Mrs. K. Nathiparan, Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture
- 2.45 pm - National Anthem

INVITATION

The Dean & Staff of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Cordially Invite
All Members of the Academic Staff, Faculty of Agriculture
for the Virtual Inauguration Ceremony of 2020/2021 Batch
On **Tuesday 16th August 2022**
at **1.30 pm**
Register in advance for this meeting

INAUGURATION 2020/2021

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
PULYANKULAMA
ANURADHAPURA

<https://zoom.us/j/950793553?pwd=ZlR1aDZlbnR1bWZkdz09d05lbnZkdz09>

Participants (134)

- UD Udeni Devasinghe Devas... (Me)
- FD Faculty of Agriculture (Host)
- AV Audio Visual Unit (Co-host)
- DS Dandhari Somaratne (Co-host)
- (AG/2021/100)
- AG / 2021 / 089
- AG / 2021 / 027
- AG / 2021 / 097
- AG / 2021 / 055
- AG / 2021 / 057
- AG / 2021 / 059
- AG / 2021 / 065

Prof. (Mrs.) G. A. S. Ginigaddara
Vice Chancellor, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Prof. A. M. J. B. Adikari
Dean, Faculty of Agriculture

Prof. K.G.P.B. Jayathilaka
Dean, Faculty of Technology

Prof. Ranjith Edirisinghe
Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences

Prof. D. Thusitha Mendis
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake
Dean, Faculty of Management Studies

Dr. Janaka Pushpakumara
Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences

Mr. A.M.G.B. Abeysinghe
Registrar, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Mrs. A.S. Sirwardana
Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Mr. S. S. K. Godakumbura
Acting Director, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Dr. G. V. T. V. Weerasooriya
Head, Dept. of Agric. Engineering & Soil Science

Dr. A. M. K. R. Bandara
Head, Dept. of Agricultural Systems

Dr. U. G. A. I. Sirisena
Head, Dept. of Plant Sciences

Dr. (Mrs.) N.W.I.A. Jayawardana
Head, Dept. of Animal & Food Sciences

Mrs. W.M.R.S.K. Warnasooriya
Senior Student Counsellor, Faculty of Agriculture

Snr. Prof. (Ms.) P.A. Weerasinghe
Programme Director, Postgraduate Program

Ms. K. Nathiparan
Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture

Mr. H.M.D.P. Daskara
President, Student Union, Faculty of Agriculture

Following sessions were conducted by University Business Linkage Cell and Career Guidance Unit in parallel to the Orientation Program of 2020/2021 batch for the capacity building of newly enrolled undergraduates.

UNIVERSITY BUSINESS LINKAGE CELL
Introduction session

with
Dr. Manoj Samarathunga
Director University Business Linkage Cell

*On November 2nd
At 2.00 pm
Via Zoom
For 1100 batch*

University Business linkage Cell
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

For 2020/2021 Batch **LIVE WEBINAR**

"Belief Power Gets Powerful Results"

Mr. Wilson Gunaratne
International Acclaimed Actor,
Professional Trainer
Senior Lecturer

14th Sep. 2022 | 2.30 pm - 5.30 pm

zoom Meeting ID: 647 6576 1182
Passcode: dN=L?V4&
<https://zoom.us/j/64765761182?pwd=SNFhUjZleHNSZjYyZWVWQjBkRmRlc00>

Organized by
Career Guidance Unit
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Contact
Mr. Sampath Dissanayake
(Coordinator - Career Guidance Unit, FoA)
071 362.4133

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Mrs. Mangalika Dissanayaka

PGDE, Dip in Psychology, Dip in Counselling
MIPC, Member of NASSC, Member of
Professional Counselors Association PCA,
Widya Keerthi, Career Guidance Counselor,
Career Guidance Unit,
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Program on...

**"LIFE SKILLS:
PROBLEM SOLVING"**

FOR THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE: 1ST YEAR

RESERVE YOUR DATE AND TIME

**27th October 2022
at 01.30pm**

Organized by:
Career Guidance Unit,
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Awareness session on LMS for the New Entrants in 2020/2021 Batch

A virtual awareness session was conducted for the newly recruited students of the 2020/21 batch on 18th August 2021 from 9.00 am onwards. The students were inculcated on the basic features and the operations of the faculty LMS since the academic programme continues in line with the learning management platforms at present. This was conducted as a part of the orientation programme for the new entrants to the faculty. Mrs. E.D.T. Somarathne, computer instructor of the faculty served as the resource person for conducting this session.

Library Orientation Programme – Agriculture Library

The Library Orientation programme on 'Introduction to the Agriculture Library' was held on 01st September 2022 using the Zoom platform for the undergraduates of the 2020/2021 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture. Mrs.W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian served as the resource of the session.

Guest Lecture on Innovation in Aquaculture

Mr. Davide Sorella, Junior Aquaculture Consultant from AquaBioTech Group, Malta conducted a guest lecture on Innovation of Aquaculture for year 2 semester II students under the course Principles of Aquaculture (AF 2202) on 22nd September 2022.

The image shows a Zoom meeting interface and a LinkedIn post. The Zoom meeting features a slide titled "Innovation in aquaculture" by AquaBioTech Group, Malta, presented by Davide Sorella. The slide includes the AquaBioTech logo and the website www.aquabiof.com. A Zoom meeting card on the right provides details for the "Novel Aquaculture Techniques" session on 22 September at 1:30 PM, with Meeting ID 631 9936 3060 and Passcode EU8H&ywt. The host is Mr. Davide Sorella, and the organizer is Dr. R. H.G. R. Wathsala. The LinkedIn post, dated 4 days ago, is from Davide Sorella, an Aquaculture Consultant. It expresses gratitude to Rasika Wathsala for organizing the lecture and shares a detailed text about the importance of innovation in aquaculture, mentioning Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS) and the need for knowledge transfer and training. The post includes hashtags: #knowledgetransfer, #students, #teachingandlearning, and #researchanddevelopment.

Workshop on Academic Auditing for Academic Staff Members

The workshop was organized by the staff development centre and held on 23rd September 2022. The resource person was Mr. Dhammika Perera. The following participants participated from the Faculty.

1. Dr. G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya
2. Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena
3. Dr. A.P.S. Fernando
4. Dr. N.W.I.A. Jayawardena
5. Ms. P.N.M.S. Piyarathne
6. Ms. U.S. Herath

Training Programme for Probationary Lectures on How to become an Effective and Productive Academic

The following staff members attended a workshop on “How to become an effective and productive academic” on 23rd September 2022 at the staff development centre. Prof. Sena Nanayakkara, Prof. Sanjeevani Ginigaddara, Prof. Anjana De Silva and Dr. Manoj Fernando served as resource persons.

1. Mr. S.P. Dissanayake
2. Mrs. K.G.S. Nirmanee
3. Dr. H.R.M.G.C. Thilakarathna
4. Mr. N.M.K.C. Premaratne
5. Mr. A.I.Y. Lankapura
6. Ms. P.M.N.S. Piyarathne
7. Ms. U.S. Herath

Training Programme for Student Counsellors of the University

The training programme was conducted by the staff development centre on 27th September 2022. Dr. Manoj Fernando Served as the resource person. The following participants attended the training session.

1. Prof. S.C. Somasisri
2. Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe
3. Dr. D.M.D. Dissanayaka
4. Mrs. W.M.R.S.C. Warnasooriya

Training Programme for Management Assistants on Office File Management System

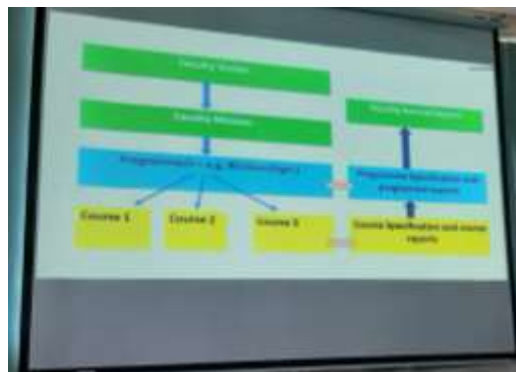
The training programme was organized by the staff development centre and Mr. U.D. Dodamwala was the resource person. This training session was held on 29th September 2022. The following members attended the session.

1. Ms. R.M.D. Sandya
2. Ms. P.K.D. Mangala
3. Ms. S.M.G.K. Samarakoon
4. Ms. B.M.N.T. Kandulawa
5. Ms. D. Thamara de Silva
6. Ms. A.S. Illangasinghe
7. Ms. U.D.N.S. Ranasinghe
8. Ms. P.R. Gayani Rankothge

Awareness on Preparation of Course Specifications

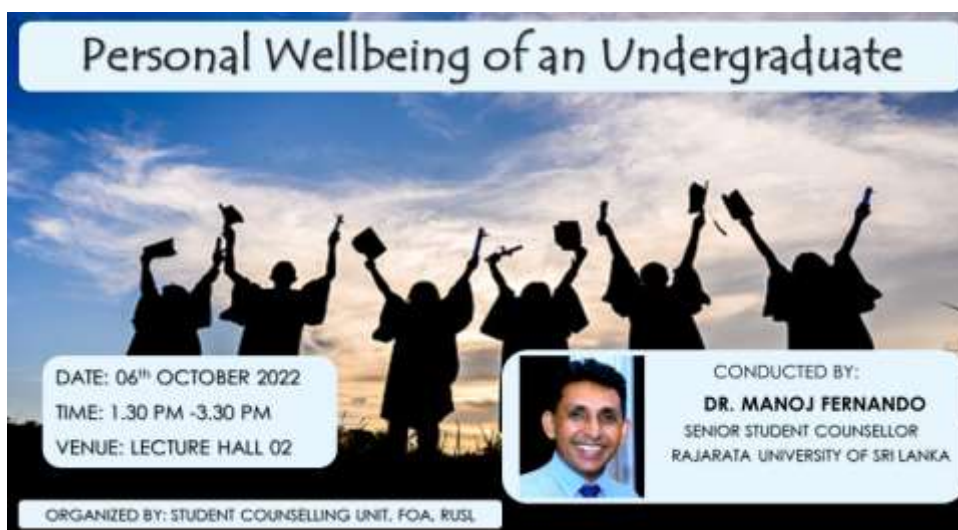
An awareness session on formulating course specifications was conducted by Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe and Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena on 6th October 2022. Twenty six academic staff members participated representing four departments; Animal and Food Sciences, Plant Sciences, Agricultural Systems and Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, Computer unit and DELT.

The same session was repeated by Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe on 22nd December 2022 and 12 academic staff members of the faculty participated.



Workshop on “Personal Wellbeing of an Undergraduate”

Student Counselling Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture has organized a workshop on "Personal Wellbeing of an Undergraduate" for the undergraduates of the 2019/2020 batch on 06th October 2022 at lecture hall 02. The workshop aimed to prevent substance use in university and to promote ethical behaviour among undergraduates. Dr. Manoj Fernando, Senior Student Counsellor, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has conducted the session with great interest of students.



CTHE programme conducted by Staff Development Center, RUSL

Ms. P.N.M.S. Piyarathne and U.S. Herath successfully completed CTHE programme which was conducted by the staff development centre, RUSL. It was conducted from 9th May 2022- 8th October 2022 and different sessions were conducted by 25 resource personnel.

Farmer Training Programme (NRC 20-079)

A farmer training programme was organized by the research team of NRC grant no 20-079 on 28th October 2022 at the farm premises, School of Agriculture, Puliyankulama, Anuradhapura. This programme was funded by National Research Council. The aim of organizing this event was to disseminate knowledge and demonstrate the field practices on “Rearing village chicken in a semi-intensive system for meat purpose”. This training programme was mainly focused on poultry farmers and people who are willing to engage in the poultry sector. 25 poultry farmers from Thambuttegama, Nochchiyagama, Mihinthale and Anuradhapura areas participated in the event. In addition, 38 students from the School of Agriculture also participated in this training programme. All participants were welcomed by the Project Research Assistant and explained all management practices of rearing village chicken for meat purpose under semi-intensive system. This discussion has consisted of brooding management, housing management, feeding management and disease management. In the end, the principal investigator, Prof. S.C. Somasiri thanked the participants for their participation and discussed their issues.



Workshop for Academic Staff Members "Internationalization of Higher Educational Institutes"

The workshop organized by the staff development centre was held on 28th October 2022. The resource person was Prof. G.A.S. Ginigaddara. The following staff members attended the workshop.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. Nalaka Geekiyanage | 3. Dr. S.M.C.B. Karalliyadda |
| 2. Dr. R.H.G.R. Wathsala | 4. Mr. E.J. Kosgollegedara |

14th Annual Research Symposium – 2022

The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka held its 14th Annual Research Symposium on the 9th and 10th of November 2022, themed "*Agriculture for Transforming Challenges into Opportunities*". As Chief Guest, the vice chancellor, Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara graced the event. Researchers, executives of the university, non-academic staff, students of the faculty, sponsors, and other invited guests attended the event. The inaugural ceremony commenced at 8.30 a.m. on the 9th of November with the lighting of the oil lamp. The 14th Annual Research Symposium's coordinator, Dr. (Mrs.) N.W.I.A. Jayawardana, gave a warm greeting to everyone in attendance and Dr. G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, explained the significance of the day. The Vice Chancellor's remarks accorded the event even greater significance. Proceedings of the symposium were symbolically launched by the Editor-in-chief, Prof. (Mrs). W.A.D. Nayananjalie to the Vice Chancellor intensifying the academism of the moment. The announcement of the Faculty of Agriculture's Research Excellence Awards for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021 was the most exciting moment of the event. The Research Excellence Awards went to Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, Dr. L.K.W. Wijayarathne and Dr. (Ms.) A.J. Fernando. The emeritus Prof. Kazuo Ogata, Chief advisor to the PRECIDA – University of Jaffna collaboration delivered the keynote speech on the topic "International Collaboration

in Agricultural Higher Education Institutes: Lessons Learned from Experience in Japanese Universities” steering undergraduates for a better ambition. The ceremony of inauguration was wrapped up after delivering the vote of thanks by Mrs. C.A.K. Dissanayake, the secretary of the 14th Annual Research Symposium.

The pre-symposium workshop activities commenced after the inaugural session. This workshop featured an industrial speech, a 3-minute thesis competition, a session for postgraduate research presentations, and a session for international undergraduate experience sharing. Anuradha Ceramics (Pvt) Ltd and Pottery Shop Chief Executive Officer Ajith Mohan Perera delivered the industrial speech on “How to be an entrepreneur. During the international undergraduate experience-sharing session, five foreign undergraduates studying for their agriculture-related degrees from Australia, Japan, Turkey, and Canada and an undergraduate of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka shared their experiences online via zoom.

The technical sessions of the symposium commenced on the 10th of November and consisted of 146 oral presenters representing 8 majoring modules under the four academic departments of the faculty. The programme ended with the presentation of certificates and medals to the top presenters of the technical sessions, postgraduate speakers, and winners of the 3-minute thesis competition. The 14th Annual Research Symposium coordinator officially expressed gratitude to all the parties who helped make it a success before the Dean of the Faculty completed the remarks and denoted the end of the day.





Guest Lecture on “Fungal Biological Clocks”

Dr George Littlejohn, Associate Professor of Plant and Fungal Biology, School of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Plymouth was conducted a guest lecture on “*Fungal Biological clocks*” for year 3 semester II students under the course Advanced Phytopathology (PS 3214) on 21st of November 2022. Mrs. TDC Priyadarshani, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sciences took the responsibility of organizing this with the support of teaching assistants at the Department of Plant Sciences.





The Human Library Event 02

The 2nd 'Human library event' was organized by the Library system, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 25th November 2022 from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm using the Zoom platform successfully. This programme aimed to enhance the positive thoughts and attitudes of readers by accessing personal experiences of human books, creating positive thoughts and attitudes in human books, readers solve the problems and difficulties encountered in the personal lives, encouraging experience sharing among the readers and repeating interesting past experiences with novelty. The Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka served as the resource person of this programme. Mrs.W.P.T.Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture and Ms.Malithi Jayasooriya, Assistant Librarian, Main Library coordinated this programme.

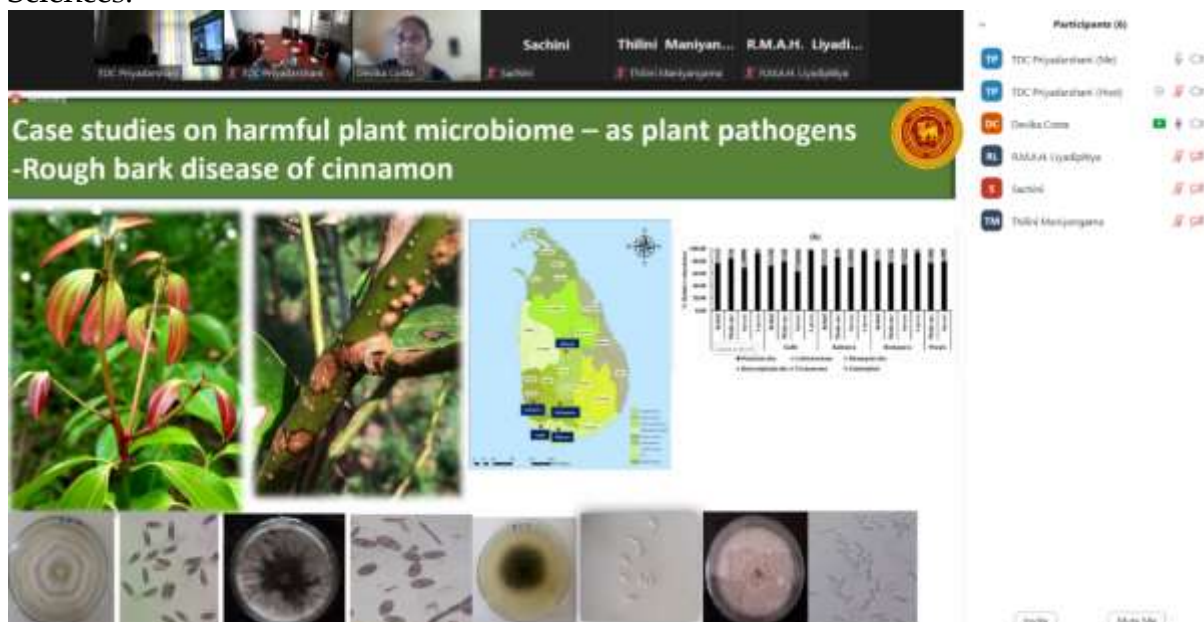


Guest Lecture on “Plant Parasitic Nematodes and Their Control”

Dr Matthew Back, Reader in Nematology, Department of Agriculture and Environment, Harper Adams University, Newport, Shropshire conducted a guest lecture on “Plant parasitic nematodes and their control” for year 3 semester II students under the course Advanced Phytopathology (PS 3214) on 29th of November 2022. Mrs. TDC Priyadarshani, Senior Lecturer, Department of Plant Sciences took the responsibility of organizing this with the support of teaching assistants in the Department.

Guest Lecture on “Eco-friendly Crop Protection using Microbes”

Prof. D.M. De Costa, Professor (Chair), Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya was conducted a guest lecture on “*Eco-friendly crop protection using microbes*” for year 3 semester II students under the course Advanced Phytopathology (PS 3214) on 6th of December 2022. Mrs. T.D.C. Priyadarshani, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sciences took the responsibility of organizing this with the support of teaching assistants at the Department of Plant Sciences.



Training of Trainers (ToT) Session on the Course Titled “Learning to Live with Diversity”

The workshop organized by staff development centre was held on 6th December 2022. The resource persons were Prof. Hemamalie Gunatilaka, Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, and Dr. Prabha Manurathna. The training was focused on Gender Equity and Equality (GEE). The following staff members attended the workshop.

1. Prof. N.S. Abeysinghe
2. Asso. Prof. D.M.S.H. Dissanayake
3. Dr. R.H.G.R. Wathsala
4. Dr. A.J Fernando
5. Dr. S.M.C.B. Karalliyadda
6. Ms. P.M.N.S. Piyarathne

Workshop on Standard Procedure for Improving Quality of Documentation

The workshop organized by the staff development centre was held on 19th December 2022. The resource persons were Mr. Vajira Perera, Former Director of Registration, Accreditation, Quality Management System Division, Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) and Mr. H.G.K.N. Bandara, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Social Sciences, RUSL. The following staff members attended the workshop.

1. Prof. W.A.D. Nayananjali
2. Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathne
3. Dr. S.M.C.B. Karalliyadda
4. Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi
5. Mrs. K. Nathiparan
6. Mr. B.W.N.J. Samaraweera

Workshop on Technical Aspects of the Equipment

The workshop organized by the staff development centre was held on 21st December 2022. The resource person was Mr. P.S. Palliyaguruge, Lecturer, Faculty of Applied Sciences, RUSL. The following staff members attended the workshop.

1. Mr. A.G.J. Kulathunga
2. Mr. R.M.T.W. Rathnayake
3. Mr. H.G.S. Galappaththi
4. Mr. M.N.A.J. Senarathne
5. Ms. P.K.G. Hasintha Dilani

Library Awareness session on How to use Library Resources Effectively

An awareness session on How to use Library Resources Effectively was conducted on 14th & 21st December 2022 for the undergraduates of the 2020/2021 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture. Use of the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), Digital Library service, Electronic Databases, and Online resources were demonstrated. Further, students visited the library collection physically. Mrs. W.P.T.Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture served as the resource person of the session.