

GRADUATES EMPLOYABILITY SURVEY
Six (06) Months After Graduation
of
2015/2016 Batch

Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



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Executive Summary

The Graduates Employability Survey is a comprehensive survey that assesses the employability of recent graduates of the Faculty of Agriculture (FOA). The survey is conducted on a regular basis to track trends in employability and to identify areas where improvement is needed. The key findings of the latest Graduates Employability Survey of 2015/2016 Batch after 06 months of graduation include:

- The total number of students participated in the survey was ninety-six (96). The gender participation percentages of the survey were 72% female and 28 % male.
- Overall employability rate: The overall employability rate for recent graduates is high, at over 80%. However, there is some variation in employability rates between different subject disciplines, generally, the graduates of the Department of Plant Sciences indicate a higher employability rate than the graduates from other departments.
- Time to find a job: The average time it takes for a recent graduate to find a job is around three months. However, this can vary depending on the discipline, the job market, and the individual's skills and experience.
- Job satisfaction: Recent graduates are generally satisfied with their jobs. However, there is some room for improvement, as some graduates report feeling underemployed or underpaid.

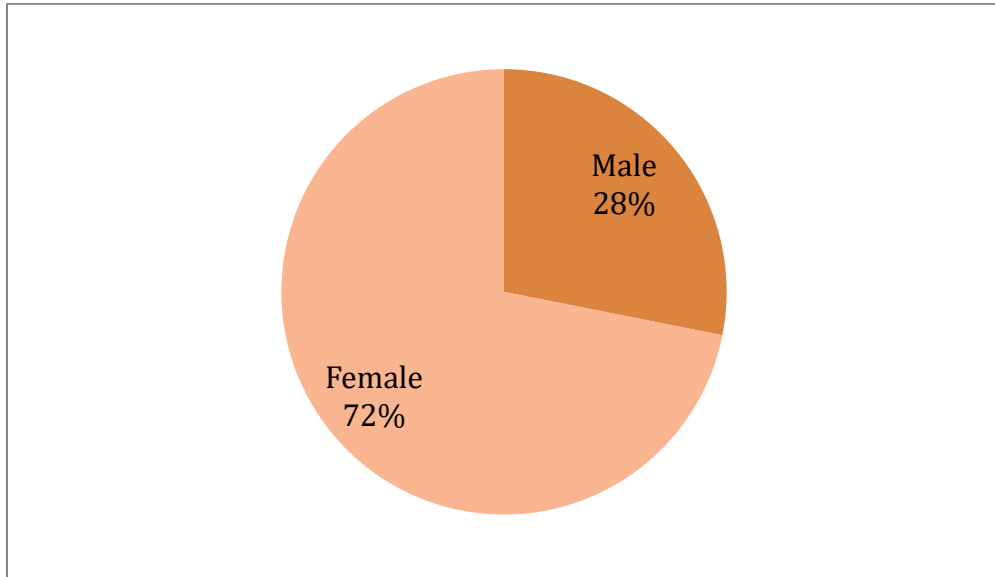
The survey also identified a number of factors that influence graduates' employability, including:

- Academic achievement: Graduates usually have general degrees, especially male students.
- Enrolment in Postgraduate Degrees: The enrolment to local Master's degrees was found, but it is not the choice of the majority.

Overall, the Graduates Employability Survey provides valuable insights into the employability of recent graduates and the direction to improve graduates' chances of finding and keeping good jobs. The survey findings suggest that the 2015/16 batch of FoA graduates' employability is fairly high.

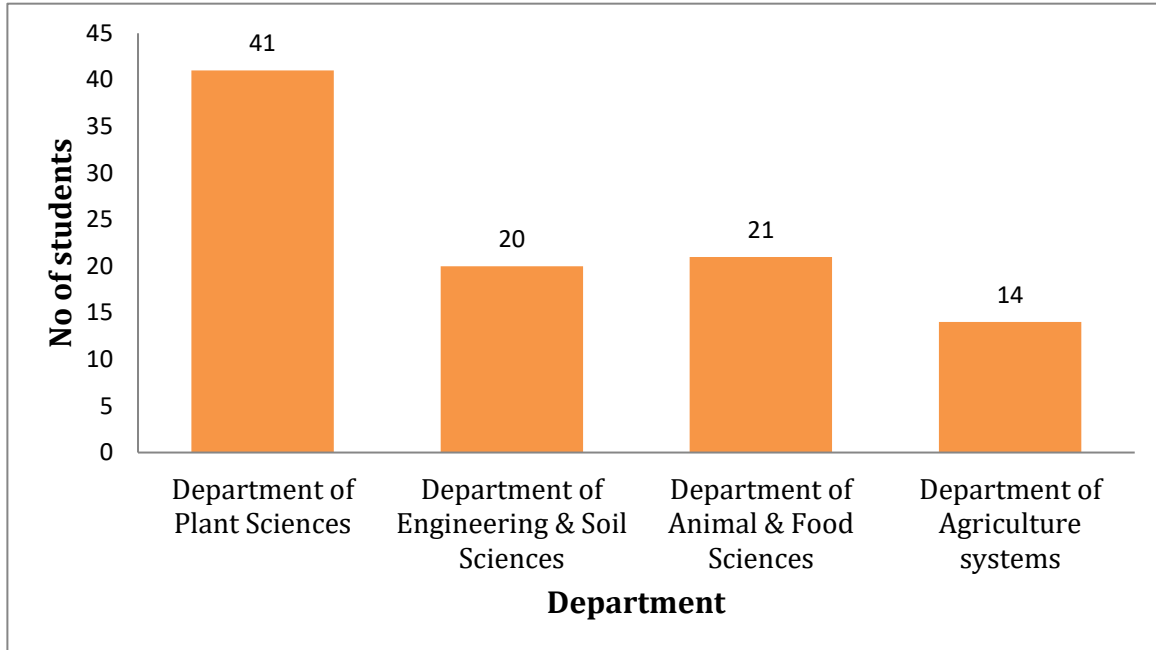
Summary of Analysis

Gender Distribution



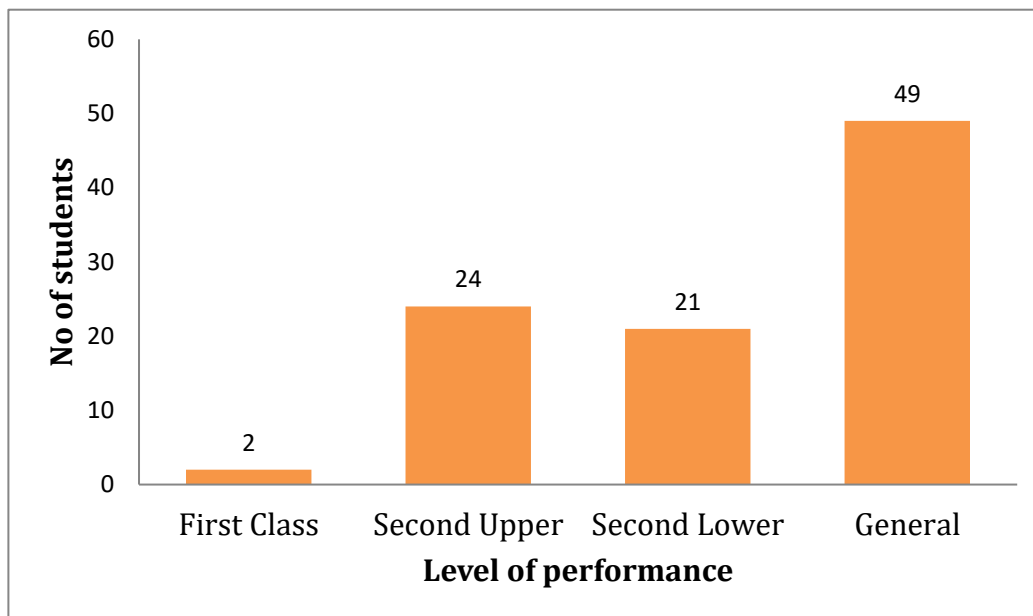
- Total Student Number of the survey was 96. The gender participation percentages of the survey were 72% female and 28 % male.

Distribution of Students Across Departments



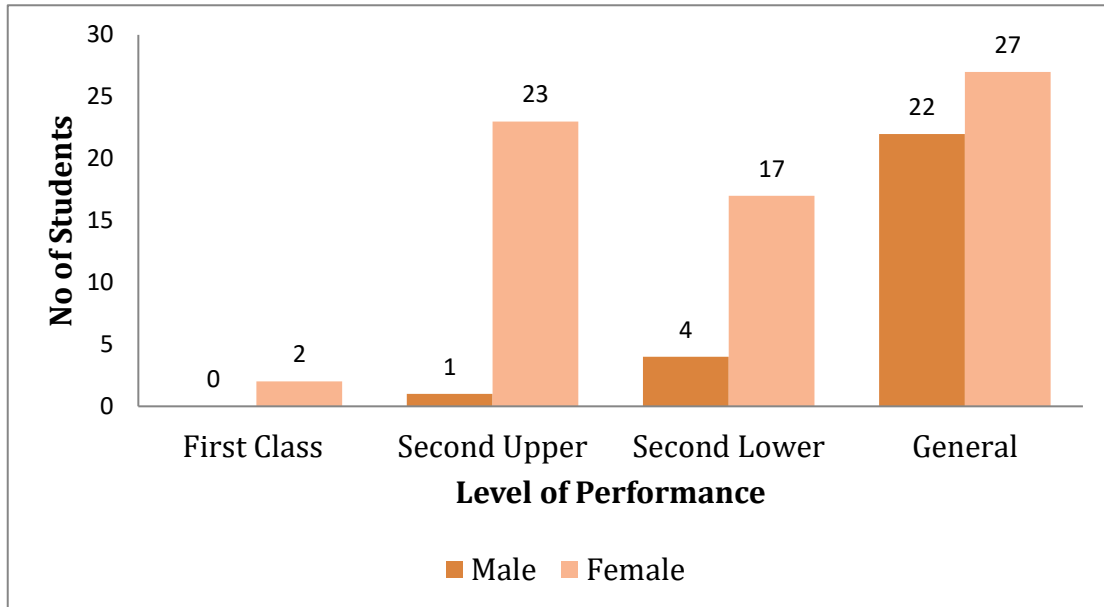
- The department of plant sciences has been selected by the majority to conduct their majoring modules of those who took part in the survey whereas 41 students.

Distribution of Classes



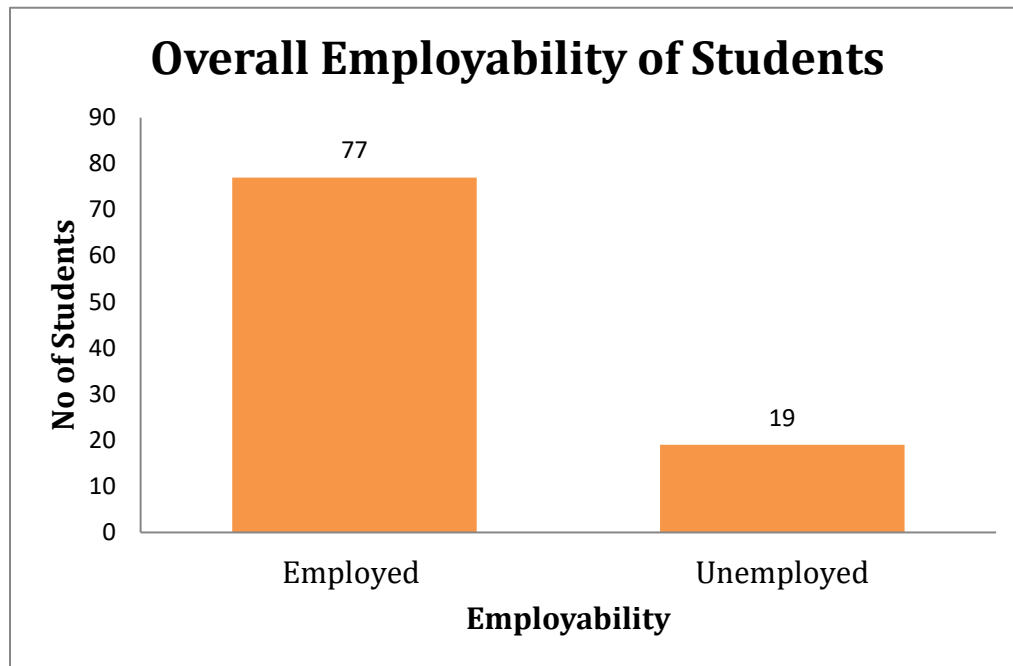
- The majority (51%) had graduated as the general degree holders. Only 0.02% had earned the first classes.

Gender Based Distribution of Classes

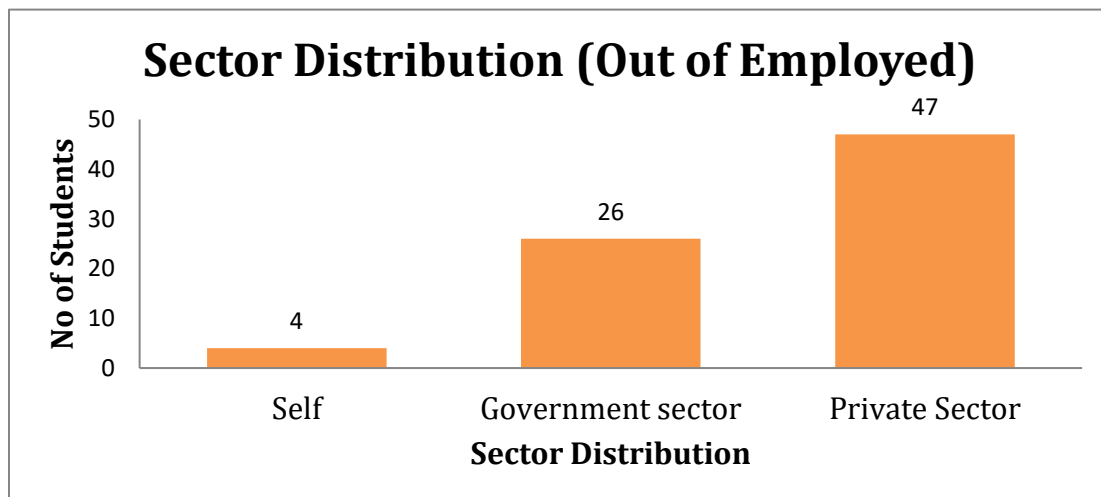


- The notable observation was that almost all first-class holders and 23 of the 24 second-upper holders were female students.

Distribution of Employment

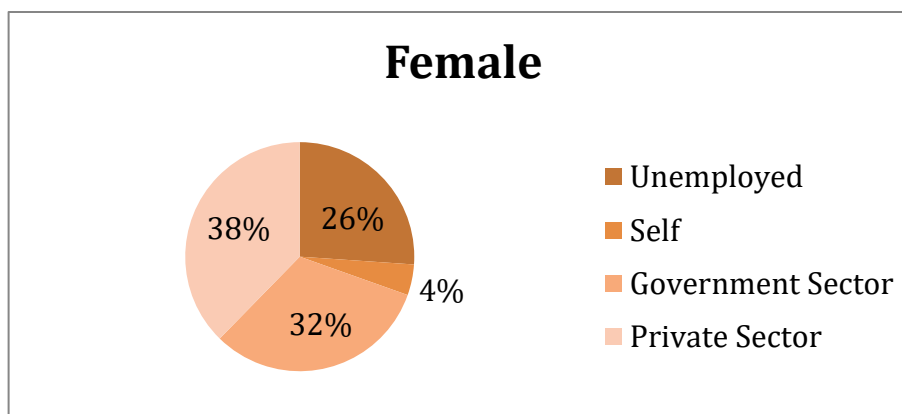
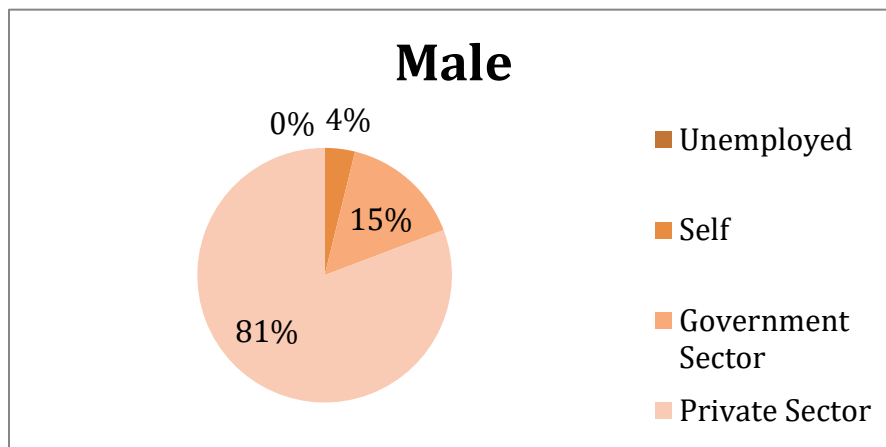


- The employability was reported as high since 77 out of 96 had secured jobs which is almost 80%



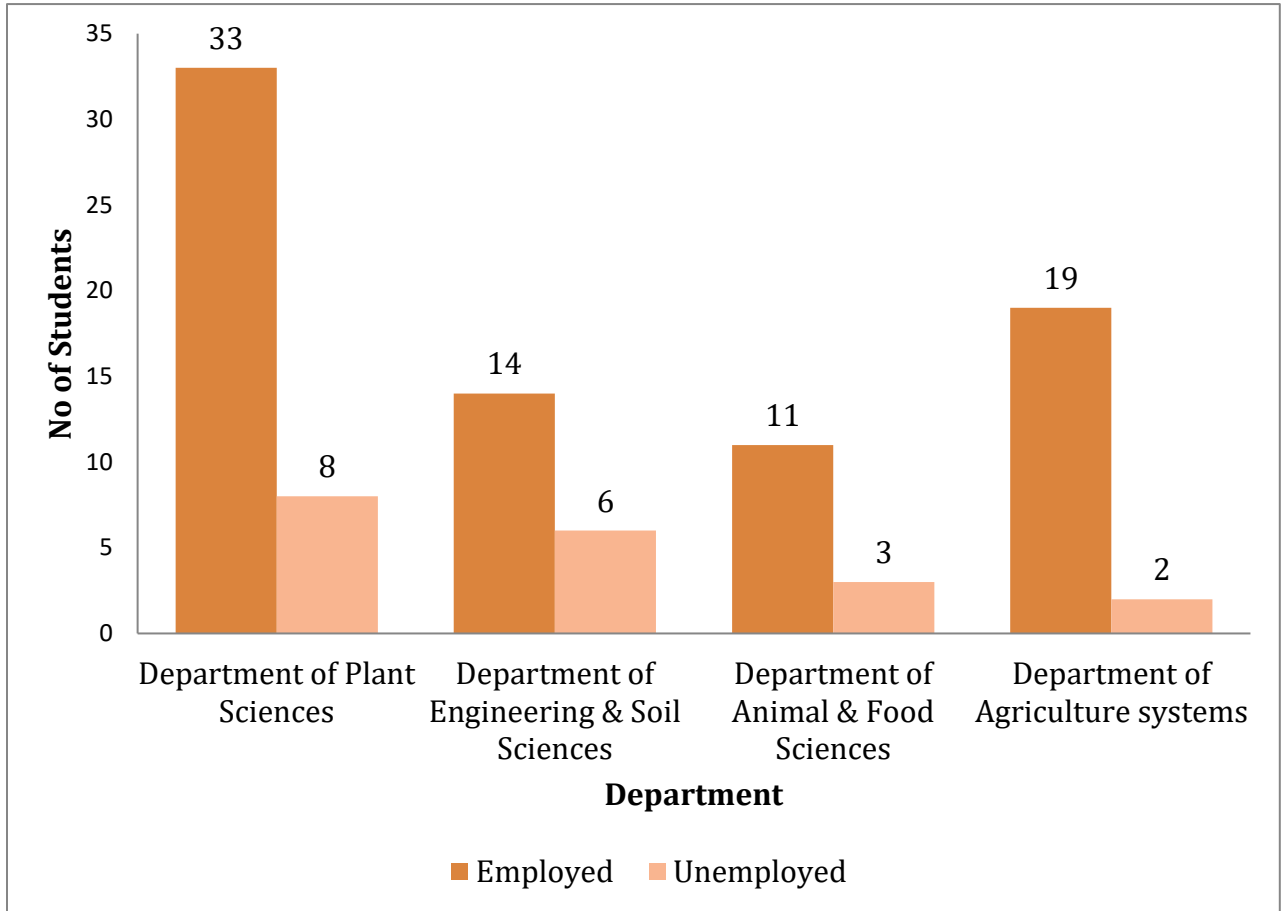
- The private sector employment (48%) was found to be higher than the government sector.

Percentage Distribution of Employments: Female vs Male



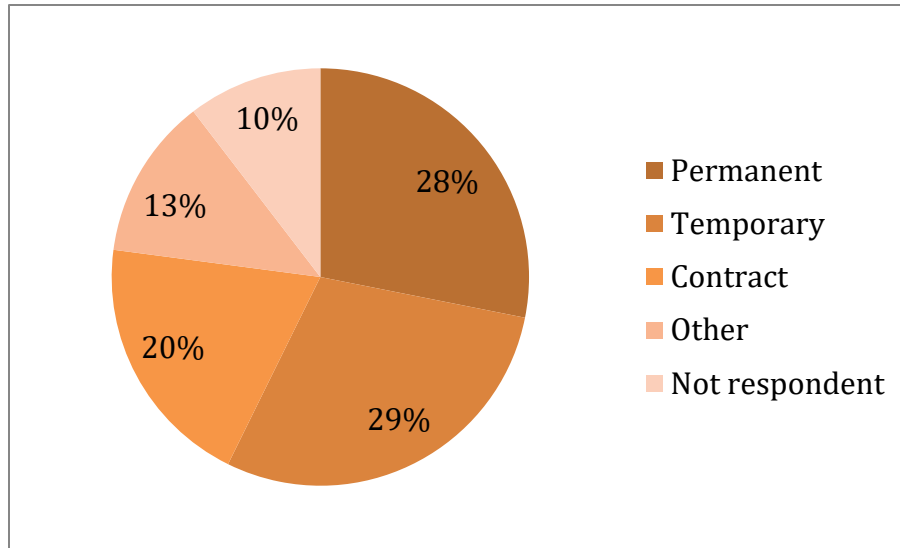
- Both male and female employment in the private sector was found as comparatively higher than the employment in the government sector. The male students' unemployment was zero but female students' unemployment was reported as 26%.

Distribution of Employment Across Departments



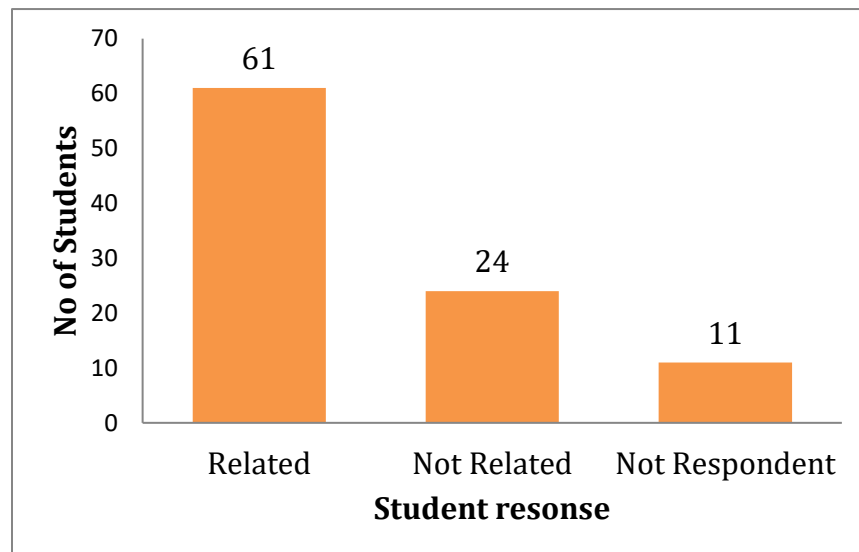
- The students of the department of plant sciences have shown higher employability than the other departments. However, the unemployment student count of all departments as a cumulative value was found as less than 20.

Nature of Positions in Jobs



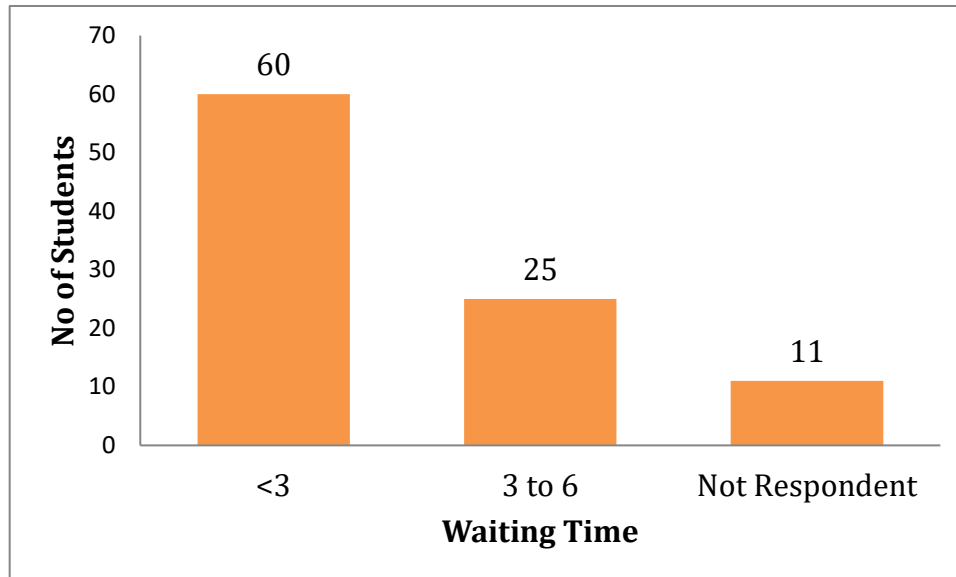
- The temporary jobs were in the highest job category where 29 % of the surveyed students while permanent job positions were 28%.

Whether the Job relates with the Degree



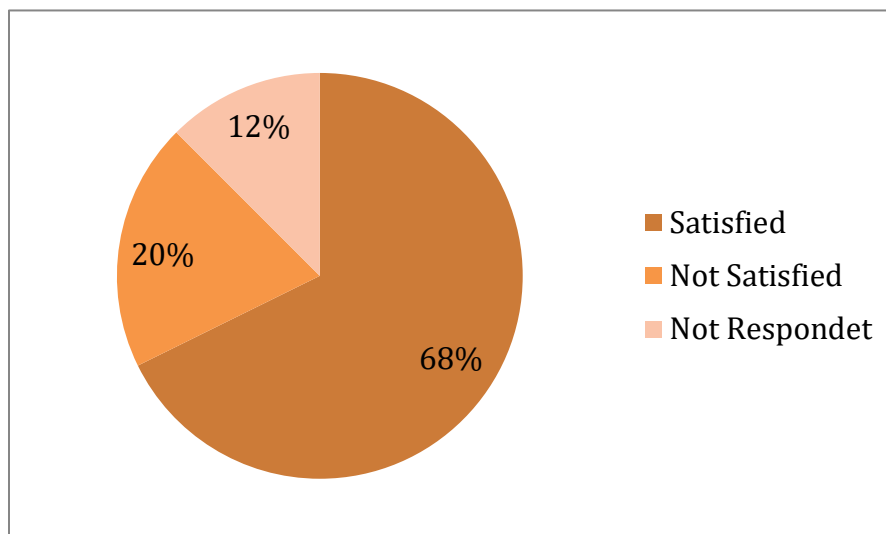
- The relatedness of the degree to the present job was found as high since 61 of the respondents expressed the usefulness.

Waiting Time for The First Job



- The majority of the students (n=60) has waited less than three months to obtain the first job. Importantly, only 25 students have waited more than three months to find the job.

Satisfaction Level of the Job



- The majority of the students (68%) were satisfied with their job.

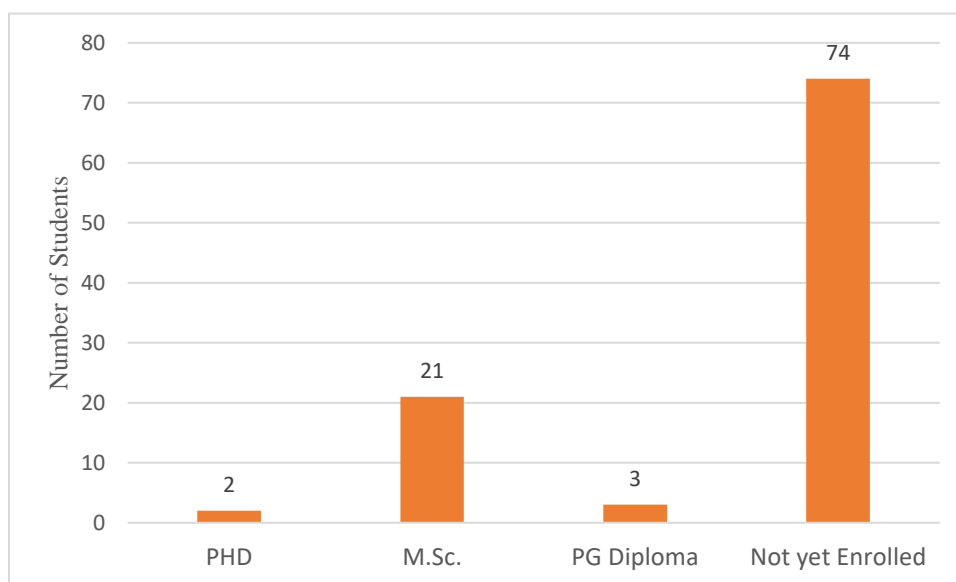
Employers

Sector	Employer	Student Number
Government Sector	Sri Lanka Cashew Corporation	1
	Lanka Sathosa	1
	Provincial Department of Agriculture	1
	Bodhiraja Collage Embilipitiya	1
	University of Peradeniya	1
	Rice Reseaerch and Development Institute	1
	Rajarata university of Sri Lanka	12
	Open University of Sri Lanka	1
	Range forest office, welimada	1
	CSIAP project, UVA province, Ministry of agriculture	1
	Climate smart irritated agriculture project, UVA province, Wellawaya	1
Private Sector	Bairaha Farm PLC	1
	Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum	1
	Diana Chocolate (Pvt) Ltd.	1
	Nature solution	1
	Dole Lanka pvt Ltd	1
	Nestle Lanka PLC	1
	Lassana flora	2
	Tution	1
	Synthite Lanka Private Limited	1
	Biofoods pvt Ltd	1
	Eco Friendly Volunteers	1
	Dilmah Conservation	1

Kelun life Sciences	1
Lanka Organic Agriculture Movement	2
Healthy Foods Lanka Export (pvt) Ltd	1
Taprobane Seafoods	1
Browns regional center	1
Windsor Trading	1
Jafferjee and sons	1
Oasis bay bed and Cafe	1
Bio Extracts (PVT) Ltd	1
Silkport International Pvt Ltd	1
Seafood House PVT LTd	1
Maliban Biscuit Manufactories	1
MAS holdings	1
Cargills Ceylon PLC	1
Dialog Axiata PLC	1
NDC Exports (Pvt) Ltd	1
Celon cold store	1
FMJ Holdings	1
Samtessi Brush Manufacturer (Pvt) Ltd.	1
S&S wickramasingha holdings	2

- The job opportunities have been offered by various public and private institutes. Among them, the single highest recruitment was reported with the Faculty of Agriculture, since it recruits temporary demonstrators annually.

Enrollment to the Postgraduate Degree Programs and Type of the Postgraduate Degree



- The engagement in higher studies found as not so popular among the students, whereas 21 students enrolled into local master programs.

Field of Study in the Postgraduate Degrees

Field of Study	Student Number
• Chemistry	1
• Diploma in Food Quality Management	1
• Environmental Soil Science	2
• Food Science and Technology	2
• Management	1
• Natural Resource Management	1
• Agricultural Biology and Biomedical Engineering	1
• Agricultural Extension	1
• Community Based Forest Management	1
• Crop Science	8
• Entrepreneurship and innovation	6
• Molecular Microbiology	1

Selected Institutes for Postgraduate Degrees

Institute	Student Number
• Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture	21
• University of Kelaniya	1
• Sri Lanka Standards Institute	1
• Colombo University	1
• Rajarata University of Sri Lanka	1
• University College Dublin, Ireland	1

Suggestions to Improve the Degree Program

S. N.	Suggestion	Number of Respondents	As % from the total (96) respondents
1	Increase the practical aspects	9	9.4
2	Increase the duration for the industrial training program	11	11.5
3	Have to network with international universities and organizations to gain more opportunities to the students	2	2.1

- The most important students' suggestion was to increase the duration for the industrial training program. However, this has been almost addressed in the new curriculum.