

## **KKTM GOVT COLLEGE**

### **DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY**

#### **ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT:2019-2020**

Department of Botany, KKTM Govt College continues to maintain as an active department in organizing and conducting various activities in both academic as well as non-academic level in an aim with overall progress of the students, college as well as the community.

##### **1. ENVIRONMENTAL DAY**

We celebrated World Environmental Day (June 5) on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2019, Friday by giving a class on environmental education and conservation by Dr Nesy E. A., HoD of the department. As usual saplings of various economically useful trees were distributed among students and also made them aware to protect and grow the saplings for the coming generation.

##### **2. GARDEN MAKING**

As a department always encountering with plants, we occasionally made the students to develop gardens with medicinal as well as ornamental plants. Students of second year actively participated in the activities under the supervision of teachers and lab assistants.

##### **3. PLASTIC FREE DEPARTMENT**

As a plastic free department who do not use non-recyclable plastics, encourage students and public to avoid plastics and also promote the usage of cloth bags, steel water bottles and steel glasses etc. Department purchased 50 steel glasses and steel utensils to serve in functions like seminar, association day, practical board meetings, theory valuation camps etc. We promote the reuse of even waste pet bottles by growing plants inside and outside the departments. These pet bottles are made hanging in window panes and varandhas with various plants. We collect pet bottles accumulated after a study tour, function etc to do such green activities. Maintain waste bins for separating recyclable and non-recyclable plastic wastes inside the department and in botany class rooms. Dr Jaseela F and Mrs Rameena K Jamal were working continuously to maintain these practices within the departments and among students.

#### **4. ONAM CELEBRATION**

Department celebrated Onam, the festival of Kerala in more colours on Sept 6, 2019.. Due to flood there will be no “Pookalam competition” but made a common Pookalam for the department in 3<sup>rd</sup> class by students. We had a Onasadhya in the lab arranged by students and teachers.

#### **5. OZONE DAY CELEBRATIONS**

September 16, World Ozone day was celebrated by the department by conducting an inter departmental quiz competition on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Our First year students led the quiz under the supervision of Sri Ajithkumar T G and Mrs Rameena K Jamal. Botany final year students Anagha Rajesh and Daya Balakrishnan won first prize in the competition.

#### **6. GARDEN CLEANING AND FERNERY MAINTENANCE**

As part of new CBCSS syllabus of Calicut University, our students of first year were actively participated in CSS activities. In connection with that we allocated time for students on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 for cleaning garden in front of the main block and also replant the ferns for further propagations. All the students actively participated in the cleaning and at the end they were having a little refreshment.

#### **7. WORKSHOP ON POT TERRARIUM MAKING**

Terrarium is a small ecosystem within a confined area like glass bottles and pots. To study the art of terrarium construction, our second year students under the leadership of Sarath (II B.Sc, student) conducted a small workshop on pot terrarium making for first and second year students on October 11, 2019 during lunch break time. They made three pot terrariums for the department within that stipulated time.

#### **8. NATURE FOOD FEST**

Nature club in association with Department of Botany had conducted a nature food fest under the title “Naturae Foodie” on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019. The main aim of the food fest was to create awareness to students and teachers regarding the importance of naturally available food and also to aware them about the harmful effects of junk foods. The fest also focused to promote

eating of green salads as a measure to improve health. The programme was led by II year BSc Botany students with warm cooperation from first year and final year students. All of them were given proper guidance from teachers of Botany department. Second year students came with prepared organic food from their houses and exhibit the same. The various food includes variety of dosas, Puttu, Adas, boiled tubers like tapioca, yams, various green vegetable thorans. In the center of the exhibition hall the students arranged a microgreen table containing a variety of sprouted seeds like peas, raggi, amaranthus, grams etc. Our beloved Principal Dr. Anitha I, inaugurated the food fest by making a green salad and sharing the same with Mrs Rameena K Jamal. The exhibition also sold a variety of green juices like raw mango juice, emblica juice, Jambose juice as new generation health drinks. For large scale sale, tapioca was donated by Dr Nesy E A, HoD of Botany and it was boiled and supplied along with green chilly-onion chutney. The lab assistants Mr. Umesh and Mrs. Sonia assisted the students for this. Charts were displayed throughout the exhibition hall for enlighten the students regarding the significance of nature food. Most of the Teachers, students and non teaching staff were visited the fest and remarked as a finest activity from the Botany department and nature club. The food fest was over by 1.30pm on the same day.

## **9. GREEN SALE**

Botany department in association with Nature club had conducted a sale of vegetable seedlings under the title “Green Sale”. The sale was conducted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 as a extension wing of food fest. The major purpose of the sale was to promote making of vegetable garden or kitchen garden in each and every houses of the students and teachers of KKTm Govt college and thereby develop sustainable agricultural practices among students and teachers as well as to improve their own health by eating pollution and pesticide free vegetables. The sale includes seedlings of brinjal, tomato, chilli, and winter crops like cabbage and cauli flower. Teachers and students from various departments actively participated and purchased seedlings for their home and some of them give a better feed back after three months of sale by sending photos of fully grown plants in the harvested state.

## **10. EXHIBITION ON TERRARIUMS & CACTARIUMS**

To create an understanding among students about the life cycle pattern of varied plants, to know how they are interacting each other and finally to develop an empathetic mind for caring the earth, Botany department in association with Nature Club conducted a miniature model exhibitions on pot terrariums and cactariums on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019 along with Naturae Foodie. By watching these tiny models of ecosystems raise the awareness on earth and how importance is maintaining harmony among organisms. Students of Botany department made both by getting inspiration from the teachers of the department. The viewers admired and encouraged the students behind this.

## **11. TWO DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR CUM HANDS ON TRAINING**

Department of Botany, KKTU Govt College conducted a two day National Seminar cum workshop under the topic Thallophyta: Diversity, Conservation and Natural Products on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. The seminar was financially supported by Directorate of Collegiate Education, Govt of Kerala. In the inaugural session, Dr. Nesy E A, HoD and Convenor of the seminar welcomed the gatherings. College principal Dr Anitha I. presided the function and delivered presiding address and wishes. Dr, J G Ray, Professor, School of Biosciences inaugurated the seminar by planting a gymnosperm plant with a background delivery speech of Dr Jaseela F, Assistant professor Botany. He addressed the gatherings by saying the importance of topic selected for the seminar and how relevant it is in the present scenario. Seminar was felicitated by Dr Sindhu S L, Assistant Professor of Hindi and IQAC coordinator of KKTU Govt College. Vote of thanks for the entire crew was given by Dr. Ajithkumar T G, Assistant professor and Coordinator of the seminar. Rameena K Jamal, Assistant Professor of Botany moderated the session. Technical session in the Two day seminar were handled by Dr Tessy Paul, Associate Professor and HoD, Christ College (Autonomous), Irinjalakuda, Dr Ramesh V, Assistant Professor and HoD, Department of Botany, Vivekananda College, Thiruvudakam, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, Dr Stephan Sequeira, Assistant Professor, Maharajas College (Autonomous) Ernakulam and Dr Shyamkumar S, Assistant Professor, Maharajas College (Autonomous) Ernakulam.

## **12. STUDENTS VISIT TO THANAL – AN OLD AGE HOME**

As a part of CSS activity, our first year students visited nearby old age home named “THANAL” in Pullut on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Dr. Ajithkumar T G led the students to old age home. The students are having an introduction session there by the authorities of the old age home. After that they become four groups and participated in various activities. Most of the students participated in making a land suitable for vegetable cultivation for the people of the old age home. They cleaned the land and made pits and channels for vegetable planting. Some students had friendly talks with inmates of the old age home by providing them a pleasure environment through songs, stories, dance performance etc. The visit was really grateful to students for getting awareness for protecting their parents and other old helpless people and thereby develop a positive attitude towards society.

## **13. HORTICULTURAL TRAINING CLASS**

A hands on training of various horticultural practices like budding, grafting and layering were demonstrated to students of various departments by the first year botany students Arya T C and Aiswarya P M in the AN of November 16, 2019. These students were well practiced in doing these in their VHSE agricultural classes. Dr Nesy E A, HoD and Mrs Rameena K Jamal coordinate the programme. These type of activities greatly helping Botany students in their final year practical examinations. The viewers practiced the same under their guidance so that it will be helpful them in doing these practices in their home also. It developed a talent and attitude towards gardening and horticulture among students.

## **14. STUDY TOUR**

As per the regulations of the University of Calicut, a mandatory study tour was conducted from December 10-13 of 2019 for the B.Sc Botany final year students. The tour was meant for the vegetation study and for Institute visit related to plant breeding and biotechnology. We selected the most favourable and suitable place as Ooty for our study tour. The Ooty region composed of its major attractions such as Tea and chocolate factory, central potato research station, Ooty lake, Karanatik siri horticulture Garden, Doddapetta peak, pine forest, shooting point, and also Government Botanical Garden at Ooty. The tour team consist of 28 students (26girls and 2boys), two teaching staff, Dr, Nesy E A miss, Dr Ajithkumar T G and lab assistant

Mr Umesh. The tour imparted most memorable moments to the of life of students. Overall the study tour was very informative. It helps to create awareness about diversity of plant group. It also reminded the students about the need of conservation of nature.

#### **15. PEN STAND FROM WASTE PAPER**

As a part of waste redemption practices of the department, the department conducted a class on pen stand making by waste paper on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 after botany association inauguration. Second year students Neha B. Azim led the class as she was best treated in this activity and is her hobby too. She made a wonderful pen stand with waste paper and donated to the department. She made other students and teachers get practiced in the activity by demonstrating and helping the stand making.

#### **16. ORGANIC FARMING CLASS**

As a part of Botany association day, the department conducted a class on Organic farming for students on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The class was led by Mrs Vandana, an Alumini as well as external ASAP coordinator in the college. She took a wonderful class on organic farming relating to the recent trends in agriculture, methods of organic farming, natural methods of pest avoidance, biofertilizers etc. She cleared the doubts arose by students and teachers. As a mean of gratitude the department gave an orchid plant to our speaker.

#### **17. CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Department celebrated Christmas by cutting cakes and students participation in Crib making, Christmas Carol competitions organized by College Union on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

#### **18. ENCOUNTER WITH CAMPUS FLORA**

Botany department and Nature club jointly conducted an Encounter with Campus Flora to familiarize the interested students about plants of the KKTm College Campus on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Dr. Nesy E A, HoD, Department of Botany pleaurably accepted our invitation to coordinate the programme. The main aim of the activity was to know the biodiversity existing in the flora of the campus and there by aware the students about the importance of conservation and preservation of plants for the well being of us and also for future generation. Students were

actively participated in the activity with curiosity and learnt the diversified campus plants, their significance and role in the various fields of biology and medicine.

## **19. FIELD VISIT TO MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM**

As a part of wet land day on February 2, Botany department and Nature club conducted a field visit to nearby mangrove flora of Kombathukadavu near pullut. A group of students led by Dr Nesy E A, Dr Ajithkumar T.G. a and Sri Umesh (lab assistant, Botany Department) visited the place on 10th February 2020. Students explored the land and familiarize various mangrove plants like *Avicennia officinalis*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Acanthus ilicifolius* and mangrove associates like *Acrostichum*, *Derris trifoliata* etc. Students entered the vegetation created by mangroves and its associates to see the adaptations of mangroves like vivipary, pneumatophores, salt excretion etc. By visiting the place the students gathered awareness regarding the flora and fauna of this wetland and species richness in the selected area. A short study class and discussion was conducted on the way explaining the significance of mangroves in the area like absorption of pollutants, mitigating flood in coastal areas, improving water quality and breeding area for various aquatic fauna. After spending two more hours in the area, we returned to the college by 3.30pm.

## **20. AWARENESS CLASS ON BIODIVERSITY LOSS AFTER FLOOD IN KERALA**

Botany department in association with Nature conducted a class on “**BIODIVERSITY LOSS AFTER FLOOD IN KERALA**” on 24<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 1.30pm in Botany lab. The class was led by Dr Amitha Bachan, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, MES Asmabi College, Kodungallur. Dr Nesy E A, HoD, department of Botany welcomed the chief guest. Around 40 students of various departments participated in the class and clarified their doubts regarding reason for biodiversity loss, production loss and reduction in soil fertility after flood. Bachan sir handled all the doubts and scientifically explained the reason behind all such situations. Mrs Rameena K Jamal gave vote of thanks and class was over by 3 pm.

## **21. PTA MEETINGS**

Botany department regularly conducted Class wise PTA meeting with parents of all students in various dates of the academic year. The teachers gave a detailed report of students’

achievements in studies, activities and present status. We also encourage the parents to give more care in their ward's studies and advised them to frequently visit the college. We also made individual parents meeting in certain special or emergency situation either directly or over phone. The parents gave suggestions in their feedback and the department accepts the fruitful suggestions through discussions.

### **OUR FUTURE PERSPECTIVES**

- To construct and maintain a vegetable garden and tapioca garden the campus
- To uplift the existing medicinal plant garden with rare and more plants of immense medicinal properties.
- Celebrate Earth Day and Water day in a more constructive manner by Public awareness meeting and classes.
- To collaborate with other Colleges in their activities of promoting sciences especially Biological sciences.
- Making drip irrigation strategies in green houses.
- To start initiatives for making biogas plant and solar panel for the college
- Making the college pond more productive in association with Zoology department.
- Organizing seminars and workshops in advanced sciences like Nanotechnology and Molecular Biology to make students more ambitious in such fields and stepping them towards such areas of science.
- Planting fruit trees in the campus in association with KFRI and Mannuthi Agricultural University.
- To make our students more Nature loving and result oriented.



**Environmental day Celebrations**



**Garden making**



**Garden Cleaning**



**Making Fernery**



**Onam celebrations**

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**Horticultural practices**



**Vegetable Garden making  
at THANAL**



**Ozone day Quiz**



**Pot Terrarium making**



**Class PTA**



**NATURE FOODIE- Food fest on Organic and Natural Food**



**GREEN SALE- SALE OF VEGETABLE SEEDLINGS**



**CACTARIUM & POT TERRARIUM**



**ENCOUNTER WITH CAMPUS FLORA**



**National seminar**



**Study Tour**



**Class on organic farming**

**Christmas Day Celebrations**



**Mangrove visit-Wetland Day**