



A Horticulture e-Newsletter

Department of Horticulture and Floriculture

Faculty



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COVID-19 has toasted everyone's life upside down. Made us to stay indoors, paralyzing all our immediate activities and leaving a scar on our long term goals. It has made to postpone all our essential activities. Though the pandemic has not come to an end, we through our collective consciousness definitely came out of shock and fear it instilled upon us. Fortunately, through the guidance of our leaders we were holding the bare minimum activities even during the lock down period. Now it is time to plan and reorganize ourselves to continue our dreams and goals from the point we left behind. It not only should be well organized but also at the Gods speed to cover the time lag.

Department of Horticulture, one of the toddlers of the CUTN, being in the establishing stage needs lot of energy to cover up the lost time. Biggest solace is most of the plantlets maintained by the department have survived the lockdown due to proper care by our maintenance workers. Though practical classes were the biggest sufferers all our faculty worked and conducted online classes and completed the syllabus. Faculty has come out with four publications in this time period, one published and three accepted.

As we have missed the first season of planting due to COVID-19, whatever we planned for first season has to be executed along with the second season field activities. We are also planning for the forthcoming semester. Apart from the existing batch a new batch of M.Sc. and for the first time Ph.D. research scholars will be joining our department. Let us not forget there won't be any let up from COVID-19 in near future. At least part of the semester, if not whole semester, needs to be carried out in online mode only. Let us be prepared for that. Hopefully this year ends in a fruitful note and collectively we can make it to happen.

Departmental activity

Before



After



Development of field for vegetable, fruit and flower planting



Interaction with students



Online classes and interaction with students

Conference and Visits



Dr. K. Rama Krishna, Assistant Professor, receiving certificate and prize money from the hands of Honorable VC sir, on the occasion of World Hindi Day programme on 18-02-2020



Mr. Allwin, M.Sc 1st year student, giving incite on the importance of integrated farming to the farming and fisheries community of Thiruvarur, Thanjavur and Pudhukottai districts of Tamil Nadu at a conference conducted by Tamil Nadu science forum(TNSF) Thiruvarur district.

Dr. Moumita Malakar, Assistant Professor 'Participated' and served as 'Co-Chairperson' in the International Conference on "Recent Trends in Agriculture Towards Food Security and Rural Livelihood" held on 3rd -4th January 2020, conducted by the Faculty of Agriculture, Annamalai y University, Tamil Nadu- 608002.

Dr. Moumita Malakar, Assistant Professor Participated in the Webinar on "Production & Processing of Horticulture Crops", conducted by Mizoram University on 26th May 2020 & obtained certificate.

Student Activities



Students getting instructions for preparation of mixed fruit jam by KVK specialist



Preparation of jam under process



Understanding the principle of preservation behind jam preparation



Students preparing seed balls



Seed balls: It contains red soil and tree seeds embedded in the soil ball.



Seed balls ready, kept for drying.



Development of vegetable crop nursery



Seedlings of chilly, brinjal, tomato



Seedlings of wild almonds

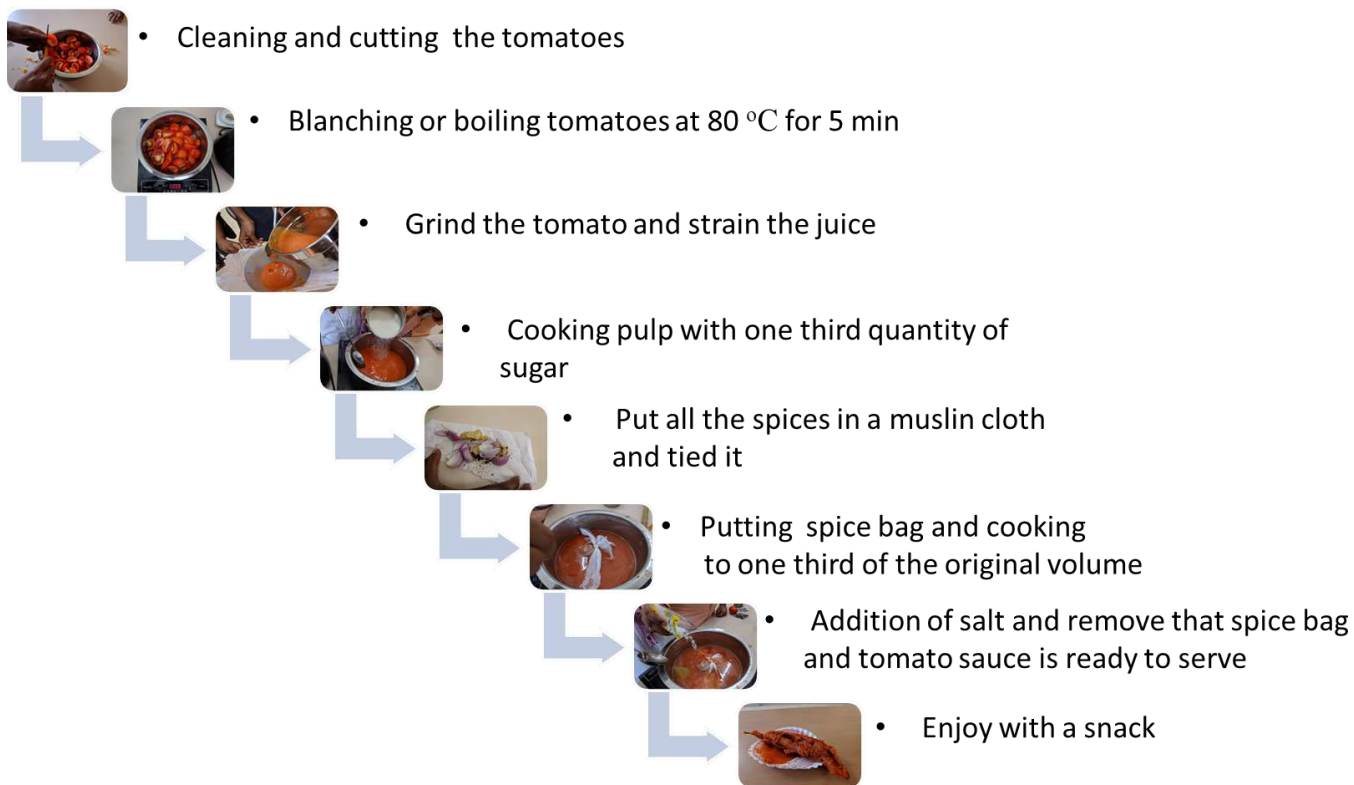
PREPARATION OF HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE

- Divya Bharathi



Materials required:

- Tomato
- Red chilli powder
- Black pepper
- Nutmeg
- Clove
- Cinnamon
- Cumin
- Onion
- Garlic
- Cardamom
- Sugar
- Salt



The activity was carried as a practical for the course HORT522. Detailed preparation of the tomato sauce/ketchup can be obtained from the below link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKab_q2Dac8

MIXED FRUIT ALOE JAM PREPARATION



-Vijaya Lakshmi

We have prepared pineapple aloe jam combined with community college on 25.01.2020. Here the step wise aloe mixed fruit jam preparation procedure.

<p>1. Chopped pieces of fruits (pineapple & papaya) and aloe jell (freshly extracted from loaf) weigh about 1kg (1/2kg each in fruits and aloe)</p>
<p>2. Grind and extract juice from fruits and aloe separately</p>
<p>3. Boil the fruit extract, add 1 kg sugar (or jaggery) and then add aloe juice extract. Sugar and fruit proportion for jam is 1: 1</p>
<p>4. Stir continuously then check for optimum TSS (65° Brix) for jam with refractometer.</p>
<p>5. Mixed fruit aloe jam .</p>
<p>6. Practical session on mixed fruit aloe jam</p>

Processing outline for Jam and Jelly (source: <http://www.fao.org/3/a1549e/a1549e00.pdf>)

COVID Thoughts



The corona pandemic has made a global impact from the past few months and continues to hit most of the sectors, with education being the most important affected ones. Because of this quarantine we can't go to college but the online classes conducted by our faculty members were very useful for us.

-Lavanya



University is always in communication with students and faculties through E-mails and E-meetings gave adequate advice and reassurance during this difficult time. The crisis has also indicated that kitchen garden is one of the important aspect in our life. The real solution to this virus is behavioural change, stay safe at home and salute to essential workers who are real hero's fighting against pandemic Corona virus.

-Ranjith



First thing in my mind is online classes, all the students are engaging in this online learning, the scale is mind-boggling. My personal experience with those classes has its ups and downs. One positive thing is that mute & hide button which helps dissolve all the background noise and allows one to listen clearly and hide button helps to screen us from teacher , he can't see us whether we eating snacks are not ! lol .

-Sivabalan



Live classes help to clear the doubts of the students then and there. While video recorded classes can be used whenever the students wish to revise it. Providing only reading materials will not be as effective as taking live classes. The connectivity also becomes an issue for the online classes. Since students who reside in rural often receives poor connectivity. The amount spent for the internet per month have also been increased due to a high usage which is mainly due to online classes. This also can be an issue since everyone can't afford to pay high for the internet.

-Sankavi

Do You Know...



-Jinto James

Square or cube watermelon is a purely ornamental type of watermelon grown in Japan.

Mushrooms are considered scientifically as fungi but according to the U.S.D.A, They are considered in the category of vegetables

The flowers from this plant *Berlandiera lyrata* emit an aroma closely resembling that of cocoa.

Publications and Training

S.No	Publication	Publisher/Indexed	Impact Factor
1.	Rama Krishna, K., Sharma, R. R., & Srivastav, M. (2020). Physiological and biochemical attributes associated with jelly-seed disorder in mango (<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.). <i>Acta Physiologiae Plantarum</i> , 42(6).	Springer/Scopus	1.6
2.	Tamang, D.L., & Manivannan, S. (2020). Next Generation Organic inputs on softrot disease, growth, yield and quality of ginger <i>Zingiber officinale</i> L. grown in Sikkim Himalaya. <i>Journal of Applied Horticulture</i> (Accepted)	Scopus	-
3.	Malakar, M., Acharyya, P., & Biswas, S. (2020). Discernment of pollen grain fertility and stigma receptivity plying hasty-easy techniques of Heliconia. <i>Acta Horticulturae</i> . (In press).	UGC listed	-
4.	Malakar, M., Acharyya, P., & Biswas, S. (2020). Molecular characterization of ten Heliconia (Heliconiaceae) genotypes by means of RAPD markers. <i>Acta Horticulturae</i> . (In press).	UGC listed	-
Training (FDP)			
1.	Dr. K. Rama Krishna, Assistant Professor participated in the ‘One week online multi-disciplinary faculty development programme on “MOOCs E-Content Development and OER” from 28 th May to 3 rd June 2020 and obtained the Grade –A, conducted by Government First Grade College, Hunguda-587118, Karnataka.		



Farewell to Ms. Anadhana Sen, Guest Faculty



Dr. A. Ramesh Kumar

Associate Professor
(Newly appointed)

*Department of Horticulture and
Floriculture Welcomes you.*

Department of Horticulture and Floriculture, School of Life Sciences, CUTN, Thiruvavur