



College of Agriculture

# Newsletter

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## An year of soil-less cultivation: Students' story of Hydroponics

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B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



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**A**griculture can never be limited within four walls of classwork. It has always been science of the field and practical work. Under the umbrella of Innovation and Incubation Centre of IDP-NAHEP, students of College of

Agriculture were given opportunity to work in Hydroponics-Aeroponics polyhouse units. On October 27, 2021 the second year students of B.Sc. Agriculture were oriented regarding the whole project by Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and further on October 29, 2021 briefings regarding all the work were provided by Mr. Siddhant Chaddha and Mr. Hemendra Bisht who are the head of this project in Pantnagar. The students have been divided into three teams working on different segments- hydroponics-aeroponics, plant propagation and mother plant development. Dr. VP Singh, Professor, Horticulture and Dr. JP Purwar, Associate Professor, Entomology are coordinating it.

Working in hydroponics is so exciting. We have become more familiar with the environment of the plants and their requirements. Agriculture in theory never seemed so precise. Hydroponics made us learn to take care of our plants more delicately. Within limited time and a hectic schedule, taking out some time for the activity was manageable only because of the team work. It gave us an exposure and a practical overview of what agriculture really is. Hydroponics brought interest in learning agriculture and made it more exciting.

*Priyanshu Dixit, B.Sc. Agriculture II<sup>nd</sup> year*

Isn't it peculiar if we talk of a plant without soil? Yes, it is made possible by the technique of hydroponics and aeroponics. It feels so lucky for being a part of such advanced agriculture unit which enables you to grow a plant without soil. We provide ideal conditions for the growth of plant which in turn increases the productivity. Overall, it has been a great experience being part of something productive.

*Sparsh Jain, B.Sc. Agriculture II<sup>nd</sup> year*

Our lives took a turn for the better, once we chose to be extraordinary and not just ordinary students. The initial days at polyhouse were a little apprehensive. These days were spent in making ourselves familiar with the plant requirements, nutrient type, availability of light to grow, EC and pH. It is the most awesome and satisfactory feeling to see germinate a plant grown by our own hands. It is overwhelming to see them thrive, to see them grow. We are so grateful and blessed to get our hands on such an effective plantation method.

*Neha Bora, B.Sc. Agriculture II<sup>nd</sup> year*



"No one can prosper till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem."

- Booker T. Washington

## Dr. N.K. Singh honored with Late Dr. P.S. Khankhoje Gold Medal

*Kirtika Tiwari*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



*Stuti Lavania*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



The College of Agriculture feels immense pleasure in notifying that Dr. N.K. Singh, Professor, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding has recently been honored with the prestigious late Dr. P.S. Khankhoje Gold Medal on October 29, 2021 for his outstanding research work in the disciplines of agriculture including Animal Sciences, Fisheries and Agricultural Engineering during the year 2019-2020. He received this award during the 35<sup>th</sup> convocation ceremony of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth University, Akola under the virtual presence of Shri Bhagat Singh Koshiyari who is currently serving as Governor of Maharashtra.



Sharing his insights, Dr. Singh said this is all because of his constant hardwork and dedication toward his work. He further added that we all should not think about the result rather should work constantly to achieve our goal. The award for him is a promotional scheme and appreciation setting example for other people to work hard. Furthermore, he also advised that everyone should work selflessly for the welfare of society and advancement of science.



## Campus to Corporate: 4 days training organized by Coromandel International for college students

*Arpit Jain*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



*Saurabh Goswami*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



A four days training cum interaction programme was organized by Coromandel International Limited for the students of College of Agriculture, Pantnagar. The programme was titled as 'Campus to Corporate' and was held from October 18-21, 2021. The training was conducted in hybrid mode with few sessions being in online mode and few in offline mode. The training programme was led by the executives of Coromandel International and included Mr. NK Rajavelu, EVP and Business Head; Mr. Arun Leslie George, Executive Vice-President and Head of Retail Business; Dr. Rajul Edoliya, VP, Business Development and Regulatory Affairs; Mr. Roshan Mammen, Sr. AVP, Innovation and Strategy and Head Exports (Americas); Mr. Tushar Joshi, AVP and Head-HR; Mr. K. Narasimha Rao, Sr. AVP and Head Exports-Bio and B2B; Mr. R. Karthikeyan, AVP, Customer Engagement and Branding; Mr. K. Muralikrishna, GM, e-Learning and Training; Mr. Anurag Bhatnagar, AGM, Regulatory Affairs and Ms. Ashima Sehgal, Dy. Manager, HR.

The training programme initiated in the presence of Dr. A.K. Shukla, Registrar, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar; Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture, Pantnagar, Dr. A.S. Nain, Director Research, G.B.



Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar; and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The four days of churning was one of a kind experience for the college students with lots of insights about the world of agriculture in its corporate form. The students were enlightened about the structure of agriculture industry in India, evolution of agriculture sector companies and emerging career opportunities. Several technical issues associated with agriculture sector were also discussed which included crop protection chemical industry, organic and biopesticides industry, agri input retail sector, retail sector growth, customer engagement, e-learning and training. An open house interactive session was also organized with the students especially focused on Coromandel as an organization and the prospects of working at Coromandel. Indeed, the four days training was a learning treat for the students of College of Agriculture and a different kind of corporate exposure.



## 110<sup>th</sup> Farmers' Fair held at Pantnagar

**Diksha Shahi**  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



**Riya Bisht**  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



**P**antnagar University was established in 1960 on the Land Grant Pattern with the three mandates of teaching, research and extension. The Farmers' Fair organized by the University is one of the most significant extension activities and recently, the University had organized the 110<sup>th</sup> Farmers' Fair from 8<sup>th</sup> October to 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. The four days exhibition attracted a large number of farmers and agro industrial firms. Shri Ravi Kiran Saini, a progressive farmer from Haridwar inaugurated the fair as the Chief Guest.

In the fair, more than 200 stalls were placed in physical mode out of which 8 stalls related to crop improvement, crop production, horticulture, food technology, agricultural economics, agricultural extension and communication were set up by College of Agriculture. The different departments of the college participated in the fair with utmost zeal. The departmental models were presented in college stall, looked after by respective coordinators. Dr. R.M. Srivastava, Professor, Department of Entomology coordinated the stalls overall, assisted by Dr. V.C Dhyani, Associate Professor, Department of Agronomy. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and all the Head of Departments visited the departmental exhibition and interacted with students to get acquainted with their innovative ideas and



inputs. A competition was held among all the stalls to identify the best stall and the stalls were judged by a team of experts. The crop improvement stall of the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding was declared first among all the stalls while the horticulture and crop protection stall were declared second and third respectively. Various live samples were demonstrated in the stalls so that the farmers could get familiar with them. On having conversation with Dr. R.M. Srivastava, he revealed the objective of organizing the stalls and how was it beneficial for students. The basic theme for all the stalls was Emerging Global Warming and Agriculture and by looking into that perspective all other stalls were linked to it.

In nutshell, Farmers' Fair provided a platform to students to interact with the farming community and they got good exposure to various agro-industries present over there. Information regarding latest technology were also given to farmers. It is really a unique chance to have a delightful interaction with farmers with cheerful surroundings around.



## Dr. P.K. Joshi, Former Director IFPRI delivered the World Food Day lecture

**Diksha Mathpal**  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



**Himani Panwar**  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



The October 16 is celebrated worldwide every year as World Food Day to mark the establishment of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations which happened in 1945. The College Academic Committee of College of Agriculture in collaboration with Department of Food Science and Technology, organized a Guest Lecture on October 16, 2021. Dr. P.K. Joshi former director of International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi is also an alumnus of Pantnagar and delivered the guest lecture with the main theme *Transforming Agri Food System in India*. He talked

about how agri food system is transforming in India and the key future challenges to Indian food agricultural system. He also focused on the need of accelerated agri food transformations which ensures that the food is available especially to the weaker and marginalized sector of the society. The Registrar of Pantnagar University, Dr. A.K. Shukla and Dean, College of Agriculture, Dr. S.K. Kashyap also marked their presence in the event and enlightened the audience with their words of wisdom.

This year World Food Day marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FAO's efforts directed at promoting global awareness and actions towards eradicating hunger and poverty and ensuring a healthy diet for all, especially amongst the disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the society. The students of College of Agriculture and Food Science had an active and enthusiastic participation in the event and added to the success of this entire event. It was an enriching learning experience for the students and the faculty members alike.



## Dr. J.P. Jaiswal takes the responsibility of General Secretary of 4A

*Rajnish Pandey*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



*Smrutirekha Pati*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



The Alumni Alma mater Advancement Association (4A) is the collective alumni body of different colleges of G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar. Dr. J.P. Jaiswal, Professor, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, College of Agriculture recently took the responsibility of General Secretary of 4A. Dr. Jaiswal is an eminent plant breeder and recipient of Dr. B.B. Singh Outstanding Researcher Award also. Earlier to taking this responsibility, he was instrumental in Alumni activities as Coordinator of Alumni Society of Agriculture College and member of 4A.

In conversation with the Editorial Team, Dr. Jaiswal said

that he is overwhelmed and grateful for the responsibility and the trust bestowed upon him, and he will take all possible measures to emerge upto the expectations of his role. He further shared that 4A has a very evident role in utilising the alumni strength of the University in various forms such as student mentoring, policy making, networking, brand building, advisory roles, infrastructural strengthening and many more to count. He also added that the University possesses huge alumni strength with a series of legendary contributors who have supported the technology, the industry, the institutions and the development process of the country in vast ways. Thus, for the University to emerge as a global educational leader, it is must to mobilize the alumni strength of the University in favour of present generation of students across into different colleges as well as for overall welfare of the University. Dr. Jaiswal is committed to strengthen and invigorate the activities of 4A in the University through different initiatives and we are hopeful that he will fulfil his responsibilities in the best possible way.

## Gandhi Jayanti celebrations took place with fervour and festivity in Gandhi Bhawan hostel

*Riya Goswami*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



*Shruti Singh*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



The inmates of Gandhi Bhawan hostel of Pantnagar University organized a series of events to mark the auspicious occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. A series of events titled Samman Samaroh were organized from September 27 – October 02, 2021 to pay tribute to the Father of the Nation on his 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary. The entire fraternity of Gandhi Bhawan hostel showed enthusiastic participation.

The six day long Samman Samaroh initiated with the Sadbhavana Daud (Harmony Run) in the presence of Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and Dr. Vineeta Rathore,



Warden, Gandhi Bhawan hostel, other hostel staff members and student inmates of the hostel. The other events of the Samman Samaroh included various cultural programmes like patriotic singing, dancing, painting, mehendi competitions and numerous sport competitions such as badminton, chess, sac race, treasure hunt, volleyball, yoga, table tennis, tug of war and many more.

The valedictory session had the presence of hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap, Dean Student Welfare Dr. Brijesh Singh, Dean Post Graduate Studies Dr. K.P. Raverkar and Dean, College of Agriculture Dr. S.K. Kashyap. This celebration infused a spirit of harmony among the hostel inmates and all paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi for his unforgettable contribution to the Indian freedom struggle movement. The six day long event generated an enthusiastic wave among the inmates of Gandhi Bhawan hostel. These type of event helps the students to inculcate team spirit and strengthen bonds among themselves and it also plays an important role in their personal and professional growth.



## Ray of hope, energy, jubilance: New batch of UG, PG, PhD joins the college

*Mukul Giri Goswami*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



*Sagar Bhatt*  
B.Sc Agriculture, III<sup>rd</sup> Year



The new batch of Undergraduate, Masters and PhD students for academic year 2021-22 have been admitted into the College of Agriculture and have reached to the campus. After the earlier year which everyone was confronting due to the pandemic, Pantnagar University could organize proper entrance examination in offline mode for the new academic year and it could lead into the entry of the new batch. At the onset, the Undergraduate students of the College were invited collectively in the mini auditorium of the College of Agriculture to have a formal reception in the College premises in the presence of Dean, College of Agriculture Dr. S. K. Kashyap and the executive body of Agriculture Society including Staff Counselor Dr. V.C. Dhyani,

and Co-Staff Counselor Dr. Rashmi Panwar. Dean Kashyap welcomed the freshers in the College and earmarked the versatility of prospects for graduating students in every walk of life including entrepreneurship, banking, provincial services, private sector, non-government organizations (NGOs), farming and other possible areas emphasizing upon the great prospects of Agriculture graduates as has been earmarked through hundreds of examples in last 60 years. Dean Kashyap said that there is no doubt about brilliant future for graduating agriculture students with a precondition that they should give their best to emerge as excellent performers. During the event, the executive committee members shared their insights and experiences about agriculture education and the future prospects for agriculture graduates. They also demonstrated a slideshow on some of the salient features of the college and profile of some illustrious alumni. The fresher students also shared their views and insights about the college and the University, and also raised some interesting queries. A similar session was also organised for the Masters and PhD students of the college.





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### Official Youtube Channel of the College

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPMw8k8\\_iO5zeor\\_LQx6VFg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPMw8k8_iO5zeor_LQx6VFg)