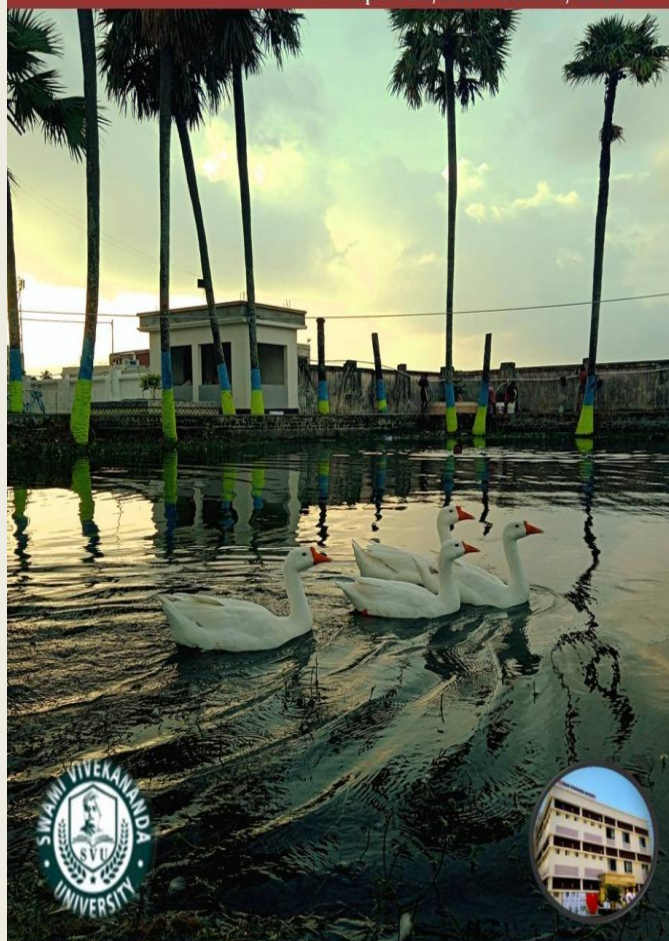


Green Harvest

Agriculture Newsletter

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About School of Agriculture

The School of Agriculture, established in 2020, aims at achieving excellence in academics and research. Bachelor's degree courses in Agriculture, Agricultural engineering and Master's degree courses in Agribusiness management are offered by the School. The school has designed dynamic and focused curricula as per the guidelines of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to develop well-trained manpower for academics, agro-based industry and extension oriented applications.

Workshops/ Conference/ Invited Talks

The School of Agriculture have organised one invited talk and one national conference with eminent scientists during this period. On 23/04/2022, Mr. Riasen Mondal, Assistant Director of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal provided a talk to about 80 student participants of SVU on the topic "Agriculture: Backbone of Society and Economy". Further from 19/05/2022 to 24/05/2022, a National Conference on "Technological Interventions in Life Science, Food, Agriculture and Allied Science- a paradigm shift towards a better future" was organized by the School of Agriculture in collaboration with Life Sciences and Allied Science. A galaxy of renowned scientists



in the concerned fields was invited and the audience were enchanted by their deliverables. In the field of agriculture the speakers were Prof. Pinaki Acharya, Calcutta University and Dr. Mitali Chatterjee, Assistant Botanist, Govt. of West Bengal, who delivered their talk on hydroponics and arsenic contamination respectively. An astonishing 212 participants from numerous institutes had nice interaction with the speakers and was benefited from the knowledge.

Boot Camp Orientation and Hands-on-training

The School of Agriculture have arranged a Boot Camp Orientation and Hands-on-training with Smart Management Consultancy to provide real-life field related experience in various industrial sectors, with the aim of increasing their communication skills, discover various career paths



for desired job profile as well as hands-on activity to promote group and team work, leadership skills, improve skill



orientation of preparation of assets etc. The students actively participated in such programme and were largely benefited from such activities.

Internship and placement

The school has offered an opportunity for aspiring students for internship/ summer training to increase their awareness on the agricultural scenario of the state and gain hands on experience. Nearly 15 students of B.Tech in Agricultural Engineering were placed as interns/ summer trainee in the companies



like Sonalika International Tractors Ltd., Spade and InGreens. Further the students of MBA in Agribusiness Management were placed in different companies like Pan Seed Pvt Ltd., Arogyam Medisoft Solution Pvt. Ltd., Lila Agrotech Pvt Ltd., and DeHaat.

Industrial Training Visit

The School of Agriculture is grateful to Mr. Brijendra Singh for allowing and providing the



opportunity to the students of B. Sc. in Agriculture (Hons.), to visit BSK Agro Farm on

April 22, 2022. BSK Agro Farm was incorporated in the year 2013, based in Barasat (North 24 Parganas, West Bengal). In West Bengal, it is the first and only commercial unit running at present. Button Mushroom is the most popular mushroom variety grown and consumed the world over. In India, its production earlier was limited to the winter season, but with technology development, these are produced almost throughout the year. Likewise, BSK Agro Farm has the production capacity of 70 tons per annum. The species being grown is the white button mushroom (*Agaricus bisporus*) belonging to Class Basidiomycetes and Family Agaricaceae. The students experienced all the phases of button



mushroom production, such as, compost preparation through phase I and II bunkers, spawning, spawn run and casing,

fruiting and packaging.

Practical experience in the field

To improve the students' practical and field expertise, crops such as Bhindi, Chilli, Tomato, Brinjal, Cucumber, Pumpkin, and Spinach



were grown on a distinct plot. Under the supervision of the faculties, the students established a papaya plantation. Bed preparation of dragon fruit was also accomplished, and B.Sc. and B.Tech agriculture students

actively participated in these activities.

Landscaping and campus beautification

Research shows that someone can decide whether to attend a university within the first 15 minutes of a visit, which is why campus beautification is so vital.

Landscaping and ground maintenance are vital to the



occupant experience on campus. School of Agriculture is actively involved in this campus beautification and maintenance process. Sunflower, duranta, iresine, muraiya, thuja, diffenbacia etc. made the campus sensational. To initiate the concept of integrated farming system at the university campus in near future duck farming has been initiated recently. Planting of forest trees, ornamental plants, flowers and clean green lawns are converting our dearest campus more attractive and lovable day by day.

Novel Technological Nuances

School of Agriculture is continuously striving and trying to bring forward novel agro-technologies for social upliftment.

Potentiality of Bio-floc Technology in Aquaculture

As the global population and demand for animal protein is increasing day by day, it is a challenge to provide quality protein by safeguarding its natural resources for future generations. In this context, aquaculture plays a key role in providing animal protein as well as generating employment and economic growth. Biofloc Technology (BFT) is considered as new “blue revolution” since nutrients can be continuously recycled and reused in the culture medium, benefited by the minimum or zero-water exchange. It is mainly based on the principle of waste nutrients recycling, in particular nitrogen, into microbial



biomass that can be used in situ by the cultured animals or be harvested and processed into feed ingredients. Water requirement in BFT is extremely less and it is advantageous than the conventional system. Conversely, many challenges are there in



bio-floc, as it requires frequent monitoring by the technical manpower. The choice of carbon source should be made wisely and correctly as the performance of fish and water quality in the bio-floc depend highly upon carbon source. The practice of bio-floc technology will prove worthwhile for farmers in West Bengal.

List of publications

Faculty members of School of Agriculture have published articles of international repute and also in newspaper under the SVU affiliation.



1. **Sengupta, S.,** Bhattacharyya, K., Mandal, J., & Chattopadhyay, A.P. (2022). Complexation, retention and release pattern of arsenic from humic/fulvic acid extracted from zinc and iron enriched vermicompost. *Journal of Environmental Management*, **318**, 115531. (ELSEVIER, IMPACT FACTOR: 8.910)

2. Patra, S.K., Poddar, R., Brestic, M., Acharjee, P.U., Bhattacharya, P., **Sengupta, S.**, Pal, P., Bam, N., Biswas, B., Barek, V., Ondrisik, P., Skalicky, M., & Hossain, A. (2022). Prospects of Hydrogels in Agriculture for Enhancing Crop and Water Productivity under Water Deficit Condition. *International Journal of Polymer Science*, **2022**, 4914836. (HINDAWI, IMPACT FACTOR: 2.973)
3. Panda R., Patra, S.K. & **Sengupta, S.** (2022) Assessment of the Potassium Supplying Capacity of Coastal Entisols and Inceptisols under Intensive Cropping and Fertilization, *Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis*, 1-14. DOI: 10.1080/00103624.2022.2094943 (TAYLOR AND FRANCIS, IMPACT FACTOR: 1.580)

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