

# Green Harvest

## Agriculture Newsletter

April-June, 2024 Volume -3, Issue II



School of Agriculture  
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### About School of Agriculture

The 2020-founded School of Agriculture strives for academic and scientific excellence. The school offers bachelor's degree programs in agriculture, agricultural engineering, and master's degree programs in agribusiness management. In accordance with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research's (ICAR) requirements, the school has created dynamic and targeted curricula to produce skilled workers for academics, agro-based industries, and extension-oriented applications.

### Workshops/ Conference/ Invited Talks

On June 20–21, 2024, respectively, the School of Agriculture organized one international conference: the International Conference on Scientific Advances in Life Sciences, Agriculture and Food & Nutrition (ICSA2024). Numerous distinguished scientists from the agricultural area attended both conferences, and more than 100 research and review publications were presented. Both occasions acted as inspiration boosters, encouraging a great deal of invention and research. An enriching interaction session with distinguished guest speakers was held at the end of each conference to further increase the participants' understanding. The School of Agriculture's mission to promote cooperation, expand knowledge, and boost the agricultural industry is demonstrated by its commitment to hosting such significant international conferences.

### Hands-on Training on Vermicompost: Nature's Gold for Healthy Soil

A hands-on training program on vermicompost production was conducted for the students to impart practical knowledge and skills in organic waste management.

The training aimed to teach sustainable techniques for producing nutrient-rich compost to enhance soil fertility and promote eco-friendly agricultural practices.

The program began with an introduction to the principles and benefits of vermicomposting, highlighting its role in reducing organic waste, improving soil health, and supporting sustainable farming systems. The students learned about the biology of earthworms, particularly species like *Eisenia fetida* (red wigglers), which are ideal for composting. The practical sessions covered the step-by-step process of setting up a vermicomposting unit. Students prepared compost beds using organic materials like crop residues, kitchen waste, and animal dung. The training concluded with harvesting and sieving the compost, ensuring it was ready for agricultural use. Discussions on vermicompost's applications in crop production, its economic potential, and environmental benefits reinforced its value.



### Student Activity

#### Mushroom Cultivation

Mushroom cultivation is the process of growing mushrooms for food, medicine, or other uses. The B.Sc. Agriculture students were actively engaged in cultivating oyster mushrooms in an efficient and eco-friendly process.

It began with preparing a substrate, typically straw, sawdust, or agricultural waste, pasteurized to eliminate contaminants. Oyster mushrooms are easy to grow, highly nutritious, and sustainable, making them a popular choice for small-scale farmers and urban growers.



### Food processing

Food processing is the transformation of raw ingredients into finished food products through physical, chemical, or biological methods. It aims to improve food safety, shelf life, flavor, texture, and nutritional value while meeting consumer demands for convenience and variety. Our B.Sc. Agriculture students did the processing of raw fruits to prepare guava jam and jelly, ash gourd murabba, orange marmalade and did the packaging of the products for their sale



## Research Trial

### Orchid Plantation

A research trial on rooftop orchid cultivation at the Swami Vivekananda University campus under the School of Agriculture has shown promising results, paving the way for sustainable gardening in cities.

The project studied how unused rooftop spaces can be turned into productive areas for growing orchids.

Researchers focused on methods like controlling the rooftop climate, using water efficiently, and applying eco-friendly fertilizers. By combining nature with urban living, the project shows how rooftops can become beautiful, functional spaces. This initiative reflects the university's commitment to promoting sustainable agriculture and urban greenery. It encourages future projects to explore creative ways of blending aesthetics with practicality in urban environments.

## Social Outreach

### Soil Testing

Soil samples were collected from farmers' fields in *Selampur village*. The samples underwent laboratory testing for various parameters, including pH, electrical conductivity (EC), organic carbon, soil nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Detailed reports were prepared based on these analyses, providing insights into soil health and fertility. These reports were shared with the farmers, along with recommendations for enhancing soil productivity derived from the results.

## Felicitation and Higher Education

Swami Vivekananda University was named one of the top 10 promising agricultural colleges in India for 2024 by HIGHER EDUCATION Review. This designation highlights the university's focus on agricultural education excellence, innovative research, and sustainable practices. As a renowned institution that encompasses a comprehensive curriculum with a blend of advanced agricultural

technologies with practical training, the aim is to empower future leaders in agriculture. This endorsement validates its crucial role in changing the agricultural landscape of India and solving global food security challenges.



## List of publications

Faculty members of School of Agriculture have published 14 articles of international reputed journals, 1 book chapter and also in the newspaper under the SVU affiliation.

## Committee & Editorial Board

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