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Registration Fee: Rs. 1000

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National Workshop on Seed Collection and Conservation

Department of Botany

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National Workshop on Seed Collection and Conservation

March 8-10, 2017

Organized by

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA
Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram

Sponsored by

UNIVERSITY OF KERALA
&
KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD



Govt. of Kerala

About the workshop

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) of Convention on Biological Diversity has targeted to conserve 20% of RET plants by the end of 2020. To meet this target various agencies and institutions all over the world has initiated hectic activities through various conservation programmes. Among various *ex situ* conservation programmes, seed collection and its conservation is most promising and easy to adopt. However, this strategy seems neglected while considering wild plants and underutilized fruits and crops. Seed collection and conservation through seed banks essentially facilitate medium to long term conservation of our plant resources and also support researchers and growers by supplying seeds for their research and re-establish cultivation trials. The seed banks can serve as a repository of native seed resources thus save them from extinction. The activity of seed banking involves techniques and know-how the process of storage of different types of seeds. Collection of seeds may require special attention and tools, also sampling in the wild is to be made scientific for representation of gene pool of a particular population. In brief, various aspects involved in seed collection and conservation through storage require well defined, foolproof strategy. In view of this Department of Botany, University of Kerala is organizing a three day workshop on 'Seed Collection and Conservation'. The workshop will be beneficial to researchers of both government and non-governmental organizations engaged in plant conservation activities in the country.

The organizers have invited a galaxy of eminent scientists from reputed institutions to lead training and demonstrations on various sessions. It is a matter of great pleasure to invite faculty members, scientists, researchers and those who are interested in seed collection and storage to participate in the workshop.



About the Department

Department of Botany, University of Kerala, established in the year 1959 by Late Prof. (Dr.) A. Abraham, a visionary, an institution builder and a doyen in Cytogenetics and Plant Breeding. The Department actively serves the society through dissemination of knowledge and training the younger generation through unique courses and offering training in frontier areas of Plant Sciences. The Department is internationally known for its major contributions in Cytogenetics and Cytotaxonomy and for running a novel postgraduate programme in Genetics and Plant Breeding. The Department is also active in Plant Biotechnology research and has well established Cell/Tissue culture and Molecular Biology Laboratories. Very recently the department has started a PG Diploma course in Biodiversity and Conservation. More than 190 students/teachers have taken PhD from the Department on diverse topics and more than 280 students have successfully completed their M. Phil programme in Advanced Botany. Recently through a joint effort by the University of Kerala and Kerala State Biodiversity Board, a seed bank has established in the Department to conserve wild crop relatives, medicinal plants and underutilized plants.

HOW TO APPLY

We invite applications from junior faculty and senior research scholars in Botany and Agriculture and allied subjects with interest in seed collection, processing and storage. Participation for the workshop will be by invitation only. The number is limited to 15 participants. Details and registration form are available in;

<http://www.keralauniversity.ac.in/news>. Applications including address, area of specialization/ area of interest and reason for participation in the workshop may be submitted to unikerbot@rediffmail.com on or before 28.2.2017.

