

Botany Department Profile:

About the Department:

Department of Botany was established in 1963. The post graduate Department was established in 2003. The Botany Department was received a status of recognized research center in affiliation with RTM Nagpur University in 2012. Prof. Damle was the founder Principal and the founder Head of Botany Department. Since its inception, the Department was recognized for teaching and research in the various areas of Botany. A well balanced curriculum having theory and practical and qualified faculty has been the hall mark of this Department since its inception.

In keeping pace with the advances in various aspects of plant science, the Department introduced add-on course in herbs and herbal drugs. The Department offers an undergraduate program and postgraduate program which is in affiliation with Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University. The Department has also implemented the Choice- based Credit System for grading M.Sc. students since the year 2015, which offers flexibility in the structuring and assessment of courses.

The Department has undertaken research projects in the areas of plant physiology, applied mycology and plant pathology, physiology, medicinal plant biology, pale- botany, ethno- botany and taxonomy for which it has received funding from various National agencies. Faculty members have active collaborations with scientists from Institutes in or outside India.

The overall goal of Botany Department has been to impart quality education at junior, senior, post-graduate level along with continuous efforts on basic and applied aspects of plant science research at doctoral and postdoctoral level.

1. Highlights of the Department :

- Faculty members of Botany Department are recipients of various awards, research projects and fellowships. They are reviewers of various research journals as well as resource persons for workshops and training programs.
- Department has well-equipped research lab, for accommodating eight(8) Ph.D. students. Apart from active research work, the Department has functional laboratories for UG and PG teaching purpose. Botany Department has well furnished museum for permanent specimens and two botanical gardens.
- Faculties are specialized in different sub-domains of plant science subjects with three of them are recognized as Ph.D. Supervisor at RTM Nagpur University.

2. Courses:

- UG: Bachelor of Science
- PG: Master of Science in Botany
Specialisations in Botany for MSc-II: a) Applied Mycology and plant pathology
b) Molecular Biology and Plant Biotechnology
- Others: Add-ons/certificates- Herbs and Herbal Drugs

3. Research Programme: PhD in Botany

4. Activities: (Last three years)

- During the session 2015-2016, Botany Department arranged two day workshops in basic understanding of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry in collaboration with National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune in March, 2016. In this workshop, BSc and MSc students had received hands-on experience in protein purification and polymerase chain reaction during two day sessions.
- The Botanical excursion was arranged to Chikhaldara and Melghat forest with 30 BSc students and 03 faculty of Botany Department in the month of September, 2015. BSc students had a real world experience in observing wild plants of different forest strata in this trip. Students observed a broad view of dry, deciduous tropical forest structure. Students also participated in the model exhibition competition organised by our college in the month of August, 2015.
- During session 2016-17, excursions at Pachamarhi and Dhaga Forest were arranged for collections and identifications of various plant life forms.

5. Academic Achievement of the Students:

Students are active through various programs and activities. The Department also recognises its stellar students through awards and achievements:

- In year 2012, our student Trupti Jagtap graduated in M.Sc in Botany. She has earned a gold medal.
- In subsequent year 2013, Chetan Shriwas achieved first merit in Botany in RTM Nagpur University.
- Aarti Pranjale received first prize in research paper presentation in National Conference on Ethnobotany.

6. Teaching Staff:

Dr. K.G. Dube

- Designation: Assistant Professor & Head
- Qualification: M.Sc., Ph.D, B.Ed
- Experience: Jr. College -26 Yrs, U.G.- 12 Yrs., P.G. – 12 Yrs.
- Highlights/Credentials: Ph.D. Supervisor in Botany, National Teacher Awards (By President of India)

Dr. L.P. Dalal

- Designation: Associate Professor
- Qualification: M.Sc., Ph.D, B.Ed
- Experience: 26 yrs

Highlights/Credentials: 1. Ph. D. Supervisor in Botany, RTM, Nagpur University, Nagpur.

2. Ph. D. Supervisor in Botany, S. G. B. Amaravati University, Amaravati.

3. Ph. D. Supervisor in Environmental Science, S. G. B. Amaravati University, Amaravati.

4. Three(3) Students have been awarded the Ph. D. Degree under my supervision.

5. Three(3) students have been awarded the M. Phil Degree under my supervision.

6. Completed one UGC Major Research Projects of cost Rs. 09,06, 300/-

Dr. P.F. Dhabarde

- Designation: Assistant Professor
- Qualification: M.Sc., Ph.D
- Experience: 12 yrs

Highlights/Credentials: 1. Life Member of Gondwana Geological Society

2. Life Member of NUTA
3. Ph.D Supervisor in Botany

Dr. D.D. Naik

Designation: Assistant Professor

Qualification: M.Sc., Ph.D

Experience: 4 yrs teaching; 10 yrs research

Highlights/Credentials:

1. Six years of postdoctoral research in area of forest functional genomics and climate change ecology in USA.
2. Completed two research projects funded by DBT and DST.
3. Mentored two postdoctoral scientists at IIAR, Gujarat.
4. Mentored six junior research fellows which are funded by DBT and DST.
5. Invited resource person for statistics workshops.

Mrs. S. N. Kalode

Designation: Assistant Professor

Qualification: M.Sc., Ph.D

Experience: 6 yrs

Highlights/Credentials:

Non-teaching Staff:

| Name | Designation | Experience |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Mr. P.V. Wankhede | Laboratory Assistant | 18 years |
| Mr. C.S. Chidam | Laboratory Attendant | 10 years |
| Mr. A. D. Girde | Laboratory Attendant | 2 years |

Photo Gallery: