

Editorial

The University is banking upon to present its fourth issue of UBKV newsletter as Volume 4 No.2. This issue of the UBKV News letter attempts to offer myriad hues of the University's academic, research, extension, administrative and extra-curricular life. A feature and perspective of new faculty members have been added. Only a selected list of publications, projects, research achievements, extension activities has been included here due to the constraint of space. The editorial team remains grateful to the members of the University community for supplying the information and photograph to make this newsletter more information enriched. While we have made a sincere effort, any error is deeply regretted. We look forward to your comments and suggestions. Our thankful acknowledgement goes to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor for his constant motivation and able guidance.

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UTTAR BANGA KRISHI VISWAVIDYALAYA Newsletter

NSS Cell organized UBKV Marathon- 2014

A marathon race in the campus premises was held on 02.12.2014 with the theme 'HEALTHY NATION – WEALTHY NATION'. The



race was inaugurated by Prof. A.K. Singha Roy, Head, Department of



Agronomy. Number of participants were near about 100.

Endeavor Fellowship

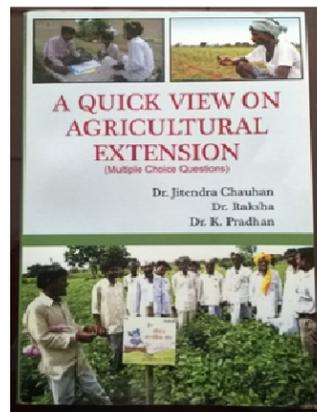
Dr. S. S. Gantait, Assistant Professor, Department of Floriculture, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants is awarded with Endeavour Fellowship and participated in post-doctoral research programme in School of Agriculture & Food Science, University of Queensland, Australia.

Celebration of "ARANYA SAP- TAHA 2014" By Darjeeling KVK

Darjeeling Krishi Vigyan Kendra celebrated Aryana Saptaha 2014 by planting in its office campus. A good number of farmers, farmwomen and

Books Published

During the 7th National Extension Education Congress, 2014 at Barapani, Meghalaya, organized by Society of Extension Education, Agra, a book on extension education entitled "A Quick View on Agricultural Extension" authored by Dr. J. Chauhan, Dr. Raksha and



Dr. Kausik Pradhan was released. It is a multiple choice questions and answers type of book on Extension Education and will help the students of Extension Education for preparing National level competitive examinations like ARS, JRF, SRF etc.

Innovative Horticulture: Concepts for sustainable development, recent trends. New Delhi Publishers (ISBN No:978-93-81274-85-9) Edited by Partha Sarathi Munsli, Swapan Kr. Ghosh, Nilesh Bhowmick, Prahlad Deb.

village headman participated in the programme. In addition to this, training on "Effect of Climate Change on Agriculture" was organized for the villagers of Dalapchand.



International Exposure

Dr. S. Maitra, Associate Professor, Department of Floriculture, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants participated in the 3rd International Course on Gene Bank Management and Biodiversity Conservation at International Agricultural Research and Training Center (UTAEM) organized by UTAEM and AARI and sponsored by Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock, Republic of Turkey at Izmir, Republic of Turkey.



Dr. Rupak Sarkar has been awarded the International Travel Support (ITS) grant as a young scientist by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) for presenting a research paper at the 7th Global FRIEND-Water Conference on 'Hydrology in a Changing World: Environmental and Human Dimensions' held at Montpellier, France.

Training Imparted

Training on Farmer's Participatory Seed Production of Mustard" under "Tribal Sub Plan of MEGA-SEED Project at Pashim Barachowki (Alipurduar) trained 67 tribal on importance of quality seed production of mustard, use of organic inputs in crop production, use of organic inputs in insect pests and disease control of mustard, mustard as relay crop in rice field.

Obituary



Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya was mournfully observed the obituary day due to the sad demise of Veteran Emeritus Agricultural Scientist and Former Vice Chancellor of Visva Bharati, Prof Sisir Kumar Mukhopadhyaya on 6th August, 2014 at University campus.

25th Annual Workshop of "All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Spices"

The three days National level 25th Annual Workshop of "All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Spices" was held on 25th September, 2014 at Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Hon'ble Assistant Director General (Horticulture) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in presence of Prof. Biswanath Bandhyopadhyay, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Dr. M. Anandaraj, Director, Indian Institute of Spices Research, Dr. Homey Cheriyan, Director, Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, 11 other national level dignitaries and 75 scientists from 35 coordinating centers from different corners of the country. One progressive farmers-Scientists interaction was there. Spice research programmes on black pepper, cardamom, ginger, turmeric, nutmeg, cinnamon, clove, coriander, cumin, fennel, fenugreek and others conducted last year and also



future plan for all the centers of the country was discussed, evaluated and formulated.

Krishi Mela-2015

Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya is going to organise its Krishi Mela -2015 during January 17-19, 2015. Hon'ble MIC, Department of Agriculture, Govt. West Bengal will inaugurate and chair as Chief Guest. In the Krishi Mela, there shall be different stalls enriched with live demonstration, modern machines, equipments, exhibits of seed production, fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides and contemporary farm skills.



Vice-Chancellor's Desk ...

Agricultural Universities in India have a great scope to contribute to the human resource development in agricultural sector, whereby imparting skill and knowledge transformation to help in the holistic improvement in the human livelihoods. Thus agricultural education and extension play a vital role in strengthening Indian economy both through production and productivity, and also education and research. Higher education is the most important sector for the growth and development of human resource, which can take responsibility for social, economic and scientific development of the country. Institutions of higher education are emerging as centres of innovation and excellence in the global scenario. The primary task of a higher education institution is to provide world class quality education, while opening the portals of higher education to students from rural and backward areas and marginalized families. The talents and skills in our youth should be recognized to equip and enable them to meet the emerging challenges and demands. Providing urban amenities to rural areas is a prerequisite to achieve a 'Developed India'. Higher education should empower the rural population on par with the urban community. UBKV is aimed to develop the knowledge of the students in consonance with the saying of the sage Uttar Banga "Lead them to lead". I am pleased to welcome you to UBKV and let us work together to learn and lead the nation.

As Vice Chancellor of this esteemed University, I take this assignment as an opportunity to raise the system to

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greater heights during my tenure. My past experience has enabled me to understand the importance of science research and its value to the human kind. I am optimistic of bringing about a turn around that will make the University much more relevant from a socio-cultural perspective. It will be my first priority to concentrate on science research. Our researchers require more facilities and need all round support to carryout cutting edge research in agriculture, horticulture and agricultural engineering. Great achievements have never been possible without the combination of scientific knowledge and knowledge from humanities or soft sciences which facilitate team spirit, synergizing of human minds, commitment and motivation. I am especially impressed by the efforts made in countries like the USA to fuse the scientific and humanistic knowledge. With the help of the University's faculty, I hope to create the system a vibrant professional space where solutions will be available to the society. The administration needs to be fine tuned and introduction of e-governance is being seriously contemplated. I have already started the process of interacting with the different strata of administration in this regard. The infrastructural facilities for class rooms and hostels will be augmented in quick time so that students do not suffer.

I am happy to have shared my thoughts with you and seek your cooperation. When I reach you next time through this VC's desk, I will be happy to share with you more and more.

Awards



Sri Basudeb Ghosh was awarded the **First prize in Science Model Competition** in District Student-Youth Science Fair, 2014 organized by Youth Services Department, Govt. of West Bengal. The topic of Sri Ghosh's presentation was "Stop Genetic Erosion- Conserve Agrobiodiversities towards Sustainable Agriculture".

Dr. Arup Sarkar, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding acted as Sectional Secretary in Agriculture and Forestry section in 4th International Science Congress, 2014 organized by International Science Congress Association (ISCA), Indore. His poster was awarded **3rd best** at the seminar



Mr. Nilesh Bhowmick, Assistant Professor won the **Best Publication Award**

2013 by Society for Advancement of Human and Nature (SADHNA), Dr. Y S Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Himachal Pradesh. His poster was awarded First at this International Seminar on Integrating Agriculture & Allied Research: Prioritizing Future Potentials for Secure Livelihoods (ISIAAR).



Dr. K. Pradhan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Extension was honoured with

Young Scientist Award in Extension Education, 2014 by Society of Extension Education, Agra for recognising his research acumen in the area of Extension Education.



The North Bengal Educational tour for B. Sc. 1st yr (Agri/Hort) was conducted from 16/10/14 to 21/10/14. The tour was led by Dr. Gopal Shukla, Dr. Nazir A. Pala and Miss Lakshmi Hijam along with 49 students (29 M + 23 F). The places visited in Kalimpong were Regional Research Station Hill Zone, UBKV, Darjeeling KVK, IARI Research Station, Pineview Nursery, Directorate of Agriculture and Forest, Science City, Delo

Park, RRS Sub station UBKV Pedong, Water Harvesting Centre Lava. The exposure tour was extended to Darjeeling and places like Zoological park, Mountaineering Institute, Botanical garden, NRC on Orchid Darjeeling Centre and Tea gardens apart from visiting other heritage site in the town. During this educational tour the students experienced different kind of hill agroclimatic conditions, traditional agricultural practices in hills.

Inauguration of National Service Scheme at Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya

Inauguration of NSS was held on 11th November, 2014 at ATIC Building, UBKV. The programme was presided by **Dr. Debashi Majumdar**, Director of Research, UBKV.



Mr. P.K. Pattnaik, Regional Head, NSS Cell, Govt. of India was the Chief guest of the programme.

Dr. Majumdar in his inaugural address highlighted the role of NSS volunteer especially for agricultural development. He also emphasized the participation of all KVKs under the University in successfully implementation of NSS activities. **Mr. Pattnaik** highlighted the various

activities of NSS throughout the country. NSS song was played for the



audience and students had taken oath for NSS. Vote of thanks was given by **Dr. Arup Sarkar**, HoD, Deptt. Of GPB, UBKV. The meeting ended with national anthem

UBKV is acting as technical support centre for developing the Comprehensive District Agricultural Plan for North Bengal districts. The district agricultural plans for three districts namely Alipurduar, Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri were submitted to the respective district Heads.

Successful Design & Development of Farm Machine at UBKV

A group of 8th semester students of Technology Faculty under guidance of the Course Instructor Dr. S. K. Das, a "Power-tiller front-mounted grass shredder" was developed by mounting a set of impact cutter blades designed and fabricated with a view to help the power-tiller owners use their machines also for grass shredding, incurring an additional cost of Rs. 5000 only.



New Recruitments

A good number of teachers including 42 Assistant Professors, 19 Associated Professors and 1 Professor in different academic departments and Regional Research Stations of the University. 7 posts of Officers were also recruited along with 156 Non-teaching staff.

Newly Launched Projects

A project entitled "Sustainable Resilient Farming System Innovation" funded by Australian Council for International Agricultural Research



(ACIAR) was launched with the help of their launching workshop during 04.07.14-06.07.14 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya is one of the implementing partners of this project to cater the action plan of the project in West Bengal.

Another project entitled "Improving water use for dry season agriculture by marginal and tenant farmers in



the Eastern Gangetic Plains" funded by Australian Council for Interna-

tional Agricultural Research (ACIAR) was launched with the help of their Inception Workshop during 17.09.14-19.09.14 at Kathmandu, Nepal. The Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya is one of the implementing partners of this project to cater the action plan of the project in West Bengal.

Celebration of National Nutrition Week-2014

National Nutrition Week-2014 was celebrated by Uttar Dinajpur KVK, Chopra, WB from 1st September to 7th September. It was celebrated in collaboration with ICDS office, Chopra block of Uttar Dinajpur District. In this week 75 Anganwari Workers including their respective supervisors and about 60



farm women of five gram panchayats were trained on various aspects of nutrition to enhance household nutritional security. Topics on nutritional anaemia and preparation methods of low cost weaning foods for malnourished children of resource poor families were covered.

Darjeeling Krishi Vigyan Kendra introduced a scented rice variety Pusa Sugandh -5 developed by IARI in North Bengal under the project IARI Post Office Linkage Model for dissemination of farm technologies to remote location. The first year performance of the variety was satisfactory. The yield recorded was 3.5 to 4 t/h. The diseases and insect-pest was recorded low. Mr. Yogendra Kharga resident of Bongbusty, Kalimpong and a

farmer of Darjeeling KVK was felicitated by ICAR, Govt of Gujrat and SATSA, West Bengal for his contribution in the field of agriculture. With the technical guidance of Darjeeling KVK, he was able to manage fruit fly incidence, one of the most destructive insect-pests of Mandarin. Besides this he was successful in integrated farming.



Research Achievement

The advanced Line of rice [IET 24173 (UBKVR-15)], a cross of MTU 7029 and Annada developed at RSS, Terai Zone, UBKV, Pundibari ranked FIRST in Initial Variety Trial - Boro (IVT- Boro) 2013-2014. It was significantly superior to regional and local checks at Varanasi (2nd, 8200kg/ha) Pundibari (2nd, 5150 kg/ha) and Karimganj (6th, 4804 kg/ha) and was also superior to national and local checks at Chinsurah (5051 kg/ha) and over only national check at Pusa (5th, 4667 kg/ha). The UBKVR-1 also ranked First during Kharif 2013 under IVT-E-TP. Its average yield was 5364 kg/ha. Another Advanced Line [IET 24171 (UBKVR-1)], a cross between MTU 7029 and Gontra Bidhan ranked THIRD in Initial Variety Trial-Boro (IVT-Boro) 2013-2014. Both of those Advanced Lines (UBKVR-1 and UBKVR-15) have been promoted to second year of testing (AVT-I-Boro).



UBKVR-15 A) Rice Plant field, B) Panicle, C) Grain

Documentation, refinement and promotion of indigenous technical knowledge (ITK) ... West Bengal.

Documentation of indigenous technical knowledge (ITK) in agriculture with special reference to crop protection is going on from different nook and corners of northern districts of West Bengal. Huge numbers of indigenous techniques have so far been documented. Valida-

Training programme on "Jute cultivation and seed production"

A single day training programme on "Jute cultivation and seed production" was organized at ATIC building of UBKV, Pundibari, Cooch Behar on 09.09.2014. The training was conducted under Tribal Sub-Plan on Jute & Allied Fibres, sponsored by Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres (ICAR), Barrackpore, West



Bengal and the beneficiaries for this training were the farmers from the tribal community from Alipurduar and Cooch Behar. The training programme was attended by Dr. S. Mitra, In-Charge, AINP-JAF, CRIJAF, Barrackpore in addition to other resource persons from AINP-JAF, UBKV and other Departments of the University.



tion and refinement of a number of such techniques is under process. After validation and refinement, the effective techniques to be promoted among the farming communities. Side by side awareness programmes are being conducted. Funding Agency: NABARD