

DEPARTMENT OF AQUACULTURE

'SHASTHRASAMETHAM' - SCIENCE POPULARISATION PROGRAMME (LECTURE AND LABORAORY VISIT) - 11/01/2024

A REPORT

Highlights:

Date and Time: 11th January 2024.

Venue: Aquaculture Laboratory and Aquarium Complex.

Agenda: Fostering Science in Young Minds.

Programmes conducted: Aquarium show, Laboratory Visit and equipment demonstrations.

Talk on Evolution of Science through Scientists.

Target Group: Higher Secondary and High School Students.

No. of Visitors: 40

No. of guiding students from the department: 20

No. of supervising faculties – 05 (Sri. Shibu A Nair, Dr. Kesavan K, Dr. Dhanya P R, Sri.

Mohammed Areej E M, Smt. Sreelakshmi T P).

Collaborators: Departments of Biochemistry, Botany, Physics, Psychology, Mathematics,

Chemistry, Fish Processing Technology. Kerala General Education Department.

1. Introduction

On January 11, 2024, a group of 40 students from nearby High Schools and Higher Secondary schools visited the laboratories of the Department of Aquaculture at M E S Asmabi College. This visit was organized as part of the 'Sathrasametham' program, an initiative by the Government of Kerala aimed at promoting science and fostering scientific curiosity in young minds. The event was a one day camp held in association with the departments of Biochemistry, Botany, Physics, Psychology, Mathematics, Chemistry, Fish Processing Technology. The programme was an initiative of Kerala General Education Department organised in collaboration with Kodungallur Educational Subdistrict. It was aimed at igniting scientic aptitude in young students.

2. Organization and Guidance

Students from the II and III B.Sc. Aquaculture classes played an integral role in guiding the visiting students. They provided detailed explanations and demonstrations of the various equipment used in the Aquaculture laboratory. The visit included a tour of the aquarium complex within the department.

3. Educational Tools and Exhibits

To facilitate a comprehensive learning experience, several educational tools were employed:

• Charts and Self-Explanatory Notes: These were strategically arranged to provide clear and concise information about the laboratory equipment and their uses.

- **Exhibits**: Various types of preserved fish specimens were displayed for the visiting students to examine.
- **Aquarium Complex**: Display of a variety of ornamental fishes with proper labels on them regarding the details of the fishes kept in the tanks.

4. Faculty Supervision

The visit was supervised by the following faculty members of the Aquaculture department:

- Dr. Kesavan K
- Shibu A Nair
- Mohammed Areej
- Sreelakshmi T P
- Dr. Dhanya P R

5. Motivational Talk

Sri. Mohammed Areej delivered an inspiring talk on the "Evolution of Science through Scientists", highlighting the historical development of scientific thought and the contributions of key scientists over the centuries.

6. Hands-On Experience

The visiting students were given the opportunity to engage with several scientific instruments, including:

- **Salinometers**: For measuring the salinity of water samples.
- **pH Meters**: For determining the acidity or alkalinity of various solutions.
- **Incubation Hood**: For setting a sterile area for doing microbiology works.
- **Research Microscopes**: For observing microscopic details of aquatic specimens.

7. Feedback Collection

Feedback was collected from the visiting students to evaluate the effectiveness of the visit and gather insights on their learning experience. The feedback will be used to improve future visits and educational programs.

8. Conclusion

The visit by the school students to our department was a successful educational event, providing young students with hands-on experience and deeper insights into the field of aquaculture. The interaction with college students and faculty, along with the motivational talk and practical demonstrations, left a lasting impression on the visitors, fostering a greater interest in scientific studies, particularly in Aquatic Biology.

















