# ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



# **BIODIVERSITY CLUB** KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, Malappuram, 676122

Reg. No.: KSBB/BDC/10 079

Coordinator: Dr. Deepa P. Joint Coordinator: Surya E.V.

### **ELECTION OF COMMETTEE & EXECUTIVE MEMBERS, 2024-25**

#### (05 August 2024)

Selected the committee and executive members of the club on 05<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and discussed the club activities of the academic year 2024-25. A total of 18 students participated in the meeting and contributed their ideas regarding the activities.

President	Shuhaila K	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
Vice President	Jumna Mol	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
Secretary	Mufeeda K	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
Joint Secretary	Daliya TP	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
Treasurer	Nishma	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
	Aiswarya	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
	Eseth Jenna	Department of Botany	1 <sup>st</sup> semester MSc Botany
	Mash Hoora Parveen	Department of Botany	6 <sup>th</sup> semester BSc Botany
	Fathima Liya K	Department of Botany	6 <sup>th</sup> semester BSc Botany
Executive	Fathima Noora C	Department of Botany	6 <sup>th</sup> semester BSc Botany
Members	Dilsha BP	Department of Botany	6 <sup>th</sup> semester BSc Botany
	Jyothi Lakshmi KC	Department of Botany	6 <sup>th</sup> semester BSc Botany
	Selvana Sherin P	Department of Botany	6 <sup>th</sup> semester BSc Botany

Table 1. Commettee & Executive members of the club, 2024-2025

### RELEASE OF THE 2025 CALENDAR BY THE BIODIVERSITY CLUB

#### (15th January 2025)

On 15th January 2025, the Biodiversity Club of KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, unveiled its 2025 calendar, a unique compilation highlighting ethnomedicinal plants and key biodiversity conservation day celebrations. This initiative aims to promote awareness of ethnomedicinal plants and their vital role in traditional medicine, offering the public an engaging visual and educational resource. The calendar features 12 beautifully illustrated plants, each chosen for its cultural and medicinal significance. The showcased species include Hibiscus rosa-sinensis, Naragamia alata, Lindernea crustacea, Costus spicatus, Clematis gouriana, Commelina benghalensis, Evolvulus nummularius, Clerodendrum infortunatum, Mimosa pudica, Hyptis suaveolens, Leucas aspera and Catharanthus roseus. Additionally, it highlights monthly environment-focused celebrations, fostering appreciation and action toward biodiversity conservation.

The artistic illustrations of the plants were created by talented students from the MSc Botany program: Nishma (2nd Semester M.Sc. Botany) and Jumana (4th Semester M.Sc. Botany). Their detailed and vibrant depictions have brought the plants to life, capturing their unique characteristics and essence. The calendar was officially handed over to the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Muhammed Basheer Ummathur, at KAHM Unity Women's College. The event marked a significant moment for the Biodiversity Club as it highlighted the club's commitment to promoting awareness about the importance of ethnomedicinal plants and biodiversity conservation.

The calendar serves as both an artistic and educational tool, raising awareness about the diversity of ethnomedicinal plants and their significance in human health and cultural heritage. It is designed to inspire interest and understanding among students, researchers and the general public, fostering an appreciation for biodiversity and traditional knowledge systems.

#### Included plant species with binomial and common name

- 1. Hibiscus rosa-sinensis (Chinese Hibiscus)
- 2. Naragamia alata (Nilanaragam)
- 3. Lindernea crustacea (Hard Slitwort)

- 4. Costus spicatus (Spiked Spiral Ginger)
- 5. Clematis gouriana (Indian Traveller's Joy)
- 6. Commelina benghalensis (Benghal Dayflower)
- 7. Evolvulus nummularius (Roundleaf Bindweed)
- 8. Clerodendrum infortunatum (Hill Glory Bower)
- 9. Mimosa pudica (Touch-Me-Not)
- 10. Hyptis suaveolens (Bush Mint)
- 11. Leucas aspera (Thumbai)
- 12. Catharanthus roseus (Periwinkle)



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Figure 1. Releasing of Calendar 2025

# TALK ON 'INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM): A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH'

#### (2nd February 2025)

On 2nd February 2025, the Biodiversity Club of KAHM Unity Women's College organized a talk on 'Integrated Pest Management (IPM): A Sustainable Approach'. The session led by Ms. Sheelu M., Assistant Plant Protection Officer (Plant Pathology) at the Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Ernakulam. Deepa P., Coordinator, Biodiversity Club, welcomed the participants and introduced the resource person, who provided an insightful explanation of pest management strategies adopted by farmers, the institutional support available for effective pest control, and the eco-friendly approaches being developed in laboratories. She also discussed various career opportunities for botany students, detailing the preparation required for competitive examinations in the field. The session was highly interactive, with students engaging in discussions and clarifying their doubts. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shuhaila K., President, Biodiversity Club, marking the end of an enlightening and interactive session.





Korambayil Ahamed Haji Memorial Unity Women's College Manjeri, Malappuram, Kerala, 676122



### **BIODIVERSITY CLUB**

### Integrated Pest Management (IPM): A Sustainable Approach

02/02/2025 @ Google Meet



Figure 2. Talk on 'Integrated Pest Management (IPM): A Sustainable Approach' through google meet

# THE INSTALLATION OF DIGITAL PLANT BOARDS AT KAHM UNITY WOMEN'S COLLEGE, MANJERI

#### (27th January 2025)

Biodiversity Club in collaboration with PG Department of Botany at KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri installed digital plant boards across the campus on 27th January 2025, aiming to enhance botanical education and promote digital learning. This initiative integrates modern technology with environmental awareness, creating an interactive and inclusive learning experience for students and visitors alike.

Each plant board provides detailed information about various trees and shrubs on campus. The boards prominently display the common name and scientific name of each plant. Additionally, a QR code is embedded on each board, linking to 'The WFO Plant List' from World Flora Online. This feature allows students, teachers and enthusiasts to access extensive taxonomic and ecological details, thereby expanding their botanical knowledge beyond physical campus boundaries. An additional innovative aspect of this project is the inclusion of a second QR code that offers a recorded voice narration about the respective plant. It ensures that visually impaired individuals can also access comprehensive information, promoting inclusivity in learning. The narration covers key botanical details, habitat characteristics and traditional uses of the plants, making the learning experience more engaging and accessible.

By incorporating technology into botanical education, the initiative aligns with the department's commitment to fostering a deeper understanding of plant diversity while leveraging digital resources for an enriched academic environment. The plant boards serve as valuable tools not only for students pursuing botany but also for anyone interested in learning about plant life in an interactive manner. Through this project, the department continues to inspire curiosity, research and conservation efforts among students and the wider academic community.





Figure 3. Installed the digital plant board at KAHM Unity Women's College Campus

# BUTTERFLY GARDEN AT KAHM UNITY WOMEN'S COLLEGE, MANJERI

#### (2 January 2025)

The Biodiversity Club of KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, has taken a significant step in promoting ecological conservation by developing a butterfly garden on the college campus. This initiative aims to enhance biodiversity, create a habitat for butterflies, and provide a natural learning space for students interested in entomology and botany. Objectives of the gardening are following: To attract and conserve butterfly populations by providing suitable host and nectar plants, To enhance campus biodiversity and ecological balance, To serve as an educational resource for students and researchers, To raise awareness about the importance of pollinators in ecosystems. The butterfly garden was carefully designed and developed with a variety of flowering plants known to attract butterflies. These plants provide nectar as a food source and serve as host plants for butterfly larvae. The selected plant species include:

Lantana (Lantana camara) – A highly attractive nectar source for butterflies.

Cosmos (Cosmos spp.) – Known for its bright flowers that attract a wide range of pollinators.

Cuphea (Cuphea spp.) – A preferred nectar source for small butterflies.

Marigold (Tagetes spp.) – Marigolds attract butterflies with their vibrant blooms.

Ixora (Ixora spp.) – Produces clusters of flowers rich in nectar.

Crotalaria (Crotalaria spp.) – A vital host plant for butterfly larvae.

Vinca (Catharanthus roseus) – Provides nectar throughout the year.

Clitoria (Clitoria ternatea) – Serves as a host plant for certain butterfly species.

The butterfly garden attracts various butterfly species, contributing to the ecological health of the campus. The presence of butterflies enhances pollination, which benefits the surrounding flora. Additionally, the garden serves as an outdoor learning space where students can study butterfly behavior, plant-pollinator interactions, and conservation strategies.



Figure 4. Initiated the butterfly garden at campus

#### **'FUNGAL FORAGING FOR BEGINNERS'**

The presence of diverse fungal communities within the campus environment indicates a healthy and well-balanced ecosystem that contributes to soil fertility, plant health and overall ecological resilience. Fungi fulfil essential roles such as decomposition, nutrient cycling and symbiotic relationships with plants, influencing overall ecosystem health. In an effort to understand the fungal diversity within the campus of KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, a systematic survey 'Fungal Foraging for Beginners' conducted by Biodiversity Club in association with PG Department of Botany, on 08 July 2024. The event coordinated by Deepa P., Surya E.V. and Ayisha Febin P.N. of PG Department of Botany.

The primary objective of the event was to engage students in hands-on research and deepen their understanding of Mycology. The programme commenced with an introductory workshop on fungal identification techniques, led by Deepa P., Assistant Professor Adhoc, PG Department of Botany. Following this, participating students were divided into teams and assigned specific areas of the campus to survey. Each team was equipped with necessary tools such as camera and collection tools and kits. Over the course of the programme, participants conducted regular field expeditions to collect fungal specimens. They meticulously documented the location, habitat and physical characteristics of each specimen using photography and detailed notes. Forty-one species were carefully handled and stored at Department of Botany to ensure the preservation for further study and analysis. In conclusion, the fungal hunting programme proved to be a successful initiative in fostering hands-on learning and research among students. It not only contributed to scientific knowledge about local fungal biodiversity but also promoted environmental awareness within the college community. Moving forward, the insights gained from this programme will serve as a foundation for future studies and conservation efforts related to fungi and their ecosystems.



Figure 5. Fungal diversity at campus

### **PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER (PBR)**

PG Department of Botany and Biodiversity Club of KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, partnered with Koottilangadi Grama Panchayat, Malappuram, to prepare the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR), a project sanctioned by the Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB), Thiruvananthapuram. Fifth-semester B.Sc. Botany students (2022–2025 Batch) initiated the project on 21st December 2024, working in collaboration with the District Coordinator of Malappuram (KSBB), Mr. Anil Pulliyil, and Panchayat members. It completed on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 by listing out the native, exotic and invasive plants of Koottilangadi Grama Panchayat. The project aims to document the region's ecosystem diversity and compile a comprehensive inventory of its floral and faunal resources. Through their active involvement, the students contributed meaningfully to biodiversity conservation while gaining valuable practical experience in ecological research and documentation. This initiative highlights the significance of community collaboration in safeguarding and sustaining natural resources for future generations.





Figure 6. Certificate distribution after the completion of PBR project

Ms. Shuhaila M., First-semester M.Sc. Botany, PG Department of Botany, participated in an online quiz competition organized by the Kerala State Biodiversity Board, Thiruvananthapuram on 20 September 2024, in celebration of World Ozone Day 2024.



Figure 7. Certificate of participation