



ST. MARY'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

(Re-accredited with 'A+' Grade by NAAC – 4th Cycle)

Thoothukudi – 628001, Tamil Nadu, India

(Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University)

Department of Botany

Marked Events 2022-2023

A significant highlight was the Two-Day International Conference on “Applied Biosciences – A Sustainable Developmental Goal”, held on 28th and 29th March 2023, attended by 250 participants. Esteemed resource persons included Dr. G. Sugumar (Vice-Chancellor, Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University), Dr. Arish Dasan (Researcher, FunGlass, Slovakia), Dr. P. Gobal (Madurai Kamaraj University), Dr. K.K. Sabu (JNTBGRI, Kerala), Dr. P. Ravichandran (Manonmaniam Sundaranar University), and Dr. Manikandan Mohan (Postdoctoral Fellow, Emory University and Georgia Tech, USA).

An Internship Program on Food Nutrition was held from 20th February to 10th March 2023 with 12 participants. Several lectures were delivered on specialized topics such as “Plant Physiology” by Dr. Beschi Antony Rayan on 17th February (36 participants), and “Plant Systematics” by Dr. Jeya Jothi George on 15th February (33 participants). An engaging competition on “Plant’s Scientific Epithet” was conducted on 28th February with 103 student participants.

Various hands-on training programmes were also held: on “Microtome” (1st–2nd February, 33 participants), “Preparation of Organic Weedicides and Fungicides” by Dr. Y. Rajakumar on 7th February (15 participants), “Baking” by Ms. Karolin on 6th February (36 participants), “Taxonomy of Angiosperms and Herbarium Techniques” by Dr. F. Dayana Lobo on 21st December (38 participants), “Food Processing Technology” on 21st–22nd December (38 participants), “Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics” from 20th–22nd December (35 participants), “Organic Farming” from 19th–21st December (15 participants), and “Microtechniques” on 19th–20th December (34 participants).

Field trips were organized to various sites such as Aavin Milk Factory, Tirunelveli (9th February, 37 participants), coastal ecology sites including Punnakayal and Manapad (4th February, 38 participants), and Idinthakarai coast for algal collection (3rd September, 45 participants).

An invited lecture on “Language Skill Enhancement” by Dr. Sudha Rani was held on 3rd February (36 participants), and another on “Plate Tectonics and Continental Drifts” by Dr. S. Selvam took place on 9th September (90 participants). A National Webinar on Recent Trends in Microbial Technology was conducted on 8th September with 93 attendees.

The department also celebrated World Food Day on 17th October with 35 participants and conducted a one-week training programme on Biological Techniques from 26th to 30th September, attended by 30 students.