



# CAMPUS NEWS

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Directorate of Public Relations & Publications

## Training Workshop on Modern Beekeeping

A three days (August 24-26, 2021) training workshop on Modern Beekeeping was held at PMAS-AAUR. The workshop was organized by the Department of Entomology under the project "Billion Tree Honey (BTH) Pilot Phase" in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) Pakistan, with the main objective to disseminate the applied knowledge regarding modern beekeeping.

PMAS-AAUR Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was the Chief Guest while Member Punjab Assembly (MPA) Asia Amjad was the guest of honour at the concluding session.

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said Pakistan has great potential to increase honey yield by establishing standards and new habitats.

He said that the BTH-Pilot Phase project has been successfully executed by the university after organizing this workshop. He said 35 beekeepers have been trained for modern beekeeping and outcomes have provided a sound basis for the preparation of a nationwide mega project "Apiculture Scaling-up Programme for Income and Rural Employment (ASPIRE)". He said that the University is also in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change, will also establish the accredited "Bee Product Standardization and Formulation Laboratories" for research and product development activities of all hive products. The finding of these labs will be shared with the industry and government laboratories throughout the country for scaling up and commercialization of all bee products, he added.

Miss Asia Amjad said PM's "Billion Tree Honey Initiative" will not only be helpful to promote tree plantation and honey production but also in poverty reduction. She said that Pakistan is blessed with unparalleled quality and taste of honey in the world and hoped that Pakistan will soon be amongst the top producers of honey. She appreciated the university management for taking the government's initiatives on the front foot and playing a vital role in boosting the beekeeping sector in Pakistan.

Prof. Dr. Fayyaz ul Hassan Sahi, Dean Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences said that beekeeping is an important entrepreneur in Pakistan and assured full support not only in establishing modern beekeeping enterprises but also for more collaboration in other areas as well.



## Seminar on Water Conservation and Management



A seminar on “Water Conservation and Management in Potohar Region” was organized by the PMAS-AAUR Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology (FAE&T) in collaboration with the Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) on August 24, 2021. PCRWR Chairman Dr. Mohammad Ashraf highlighted the way forward to address water challenges faced by the Potohar region. He said water conservation and management in the Potohar

region was the need of the hour and agriculture scientists should make their plans accordingly. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, emphasized the need for collaboration and an integrated approach to address the water and agriculture productivity challenges. He appreciated the initiatives taken by different organizations related to water conservation in the Potohar region. Earlier, speakers included Dr. Jehanzeb Masud Cheema (In-charge FAE&T),

Engr Malik Akbar, ABAD Chief Quratul Ain Rasheed and soil scientist from DSC Dr. Attiqur Rehman, Dr. M Ramzan Ansar from BARI Chakwal and Engr. M Iqbal Chohan from Water Management shared their research and development activities related to water conservation and management. At the end, chief guest Dr. Ashraf and Dr. Qamar uz Zaman distributed certificates and shields among the participants and guest speakers of the seminar.

## Training Workshop on “Smart Potato Cultivation and Strategies”

PMAS-AAUR Department of Horticulture in collaboration with Research and Industrial Partners organized three day (Aug.30 to Sep.1, 2021) training workshop on “Smart Potato Cultivation and Strategies for Value Chain Development”. Renowned Potato Scientists and industrial representatives from Potato Research Institute Sahiwal, Hazara Agriculture Research institute, Potato Breeding substation Murree, Aceto America, Ismail Industries and Beacon House group delivered

their scientific talks and real life field experiences on potato cultivation in different regions of Pakistan. Strengths, weaknesses and issues faced by the growers and industry were discussed in detail. Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, DG AARI and Dr. Abid Mahmood, Chief executive PARB grace the occasion with their presence and shared their valuable thoughts. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice-Chancellor, in his address, emphasized to develop a strong academia, Research and industry

linkages. As a take home message it was identified that farmers are facing problems due to the unavailability of quality seed, high Input costs, adequate storage facilities and market price fluctuations. It was further discussed that precision agriculture could be an alternative for a sustainable, cost-effective and environment friendly production system for potato cultivation. The DDSDP project team demonstrated their strengths and initial work towards the mechanization in potato cultivation and further stressed that this work can be a way forward for future prospects. The Organizer of the training workshop, Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan, Chairman Horticulture Department thanked the participants, scientists and industrial partners to make this event fruitful.



## Country Director WFP Visited IHA

World Food Program Country Director Mr. Chris Kaye visited the Institute of Hydroponic Agriculture PMAS-AAUR on August 17, 2021. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman welcomes the guest and appreciated the interest of WFP in hydroponics and ensured that University will extend all possible collaboration to WFP in hydroponics technology adoption. He also appreciated the efforts of the IHA team in the promotion of hydroponics technology in the country. Director IHA, Dr. Arshad Mahmood Malik presented comprehensive presentation on hydroponics research and development activities of the institute and its future prospects. Different



hydroponic models such as the Nutrient film technique, aquaponics and supply chain model of hydroponics were presented and explained during the Country Director visit. The Chief Guest has shown great interest in the hydroponic technology and

anticipated that WFP wants to partner with the University for promotion of this technology for food safety & security in Pakistan in the shape of small hydroponics models for low income communities. Mr. Chris Kaye also appreciated the activities of IHA.

## 93 scholarships Awarded under PM's Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme

PMAS-AAUR has awarded 93 scholarships amounting to Rs. 1.2 Billion to the Ph.D. students under Prime Minister's Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme. The ceremony was arranged by the Directorate of Financial Assistance & University Advancement. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman the vice-chancellor of the University distributed cheques among the awardees. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that PM's Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme for the under privileged areas is an excellent step towards the promotion of education for those areas. Highlighting the steps taken by the university towards quality education. Vice-Chancellor said that the Senior Management of the University is committed towards quality education and research opportunities and advised the Ph.D scholars to remain focused on field work & research activities to achieve their individual as well as collective objectives.



## Workshop on Stakeholders Management



UIMS organized Stakeholders Management Workshop on August 25, 2021. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman along with stakeholders from industry, academia, alumni and students attended the workshop. Dr. Nadia Tahir, Administrator UIMS appreciated the efforts of the organizers and thanked the participants.



Vice Chancellor inaugurating Precision Agriculture and UAV Labs on Aug 25, 2021 under DDSPP Project



Commander ANF meeting with Vice Chancellor & Registrar pertaining to drug control mechanism at educational institutions



Chief Executive PARB Dr. Abid Mehmood Inaugurating Kiwi Fruit GPU at Plant Propagation Unit

## PMAS-AAUR, Sybrid Signed MoU

PMAS-AAUR and Sybrid Pvt. Ltd. (a part of the Lakson Group of Companies, a premier technology solutions providing company) signed an MoU on August 24, 2021. Under the MoU both organi-

zations agreed to introduce digital interventions in the country's agriculture sector, impacting the economic development of farmers and other stakeholders involved in the agricultural ecosystem of

Pakistan. PMAS-AAUR and Sybrid will conduct joint research and development projects, targeting the promotion of precision agriculture, leading to overall agriculture growth in the country. The organizations have also agreed to take joint steps for the promotion and adoption of data-driven agriculture in the country by sharing the available human resources along with the academic, technical and commercial resources.



## Ph.D Synopsis/Thesis Defense

S. No.	Name of Student	Title	Name of Supervisor
1	Muhammadi Bibi Ph.D. Botany 15-arid-4631, 16-08-2021	Nanoparticles Assisted Production of Biofuel from Algal Biomass	Dr. Mubashara Munir
2	Sannia Kabir Ph.D. PBG 14-arid-1077, 16-08-2021	Genetics of Nutritional Quality Attributes in Peanut	Dr. Mahmood ul Hassan
3	Mr. Ikhtlaq Ahmad Ph.D. PBG 16-arid-299, 17-08-2021	Syntenic Mapping and Marker Trait Association in OKRA ( <i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i> . L) for Drought and Heat Tolerance	Dr. Rashid Mehmood
4	Mr. Javed Iqbal Ph.D. PBG 00-arid-810, 23-08-2021	Genetics of Heat Stress Related Traits in Mungbean	Dr. Ghulam Shabbir
5	Faria Ibad Mirza Ph.D. Sociology 98-arid-363, 24-08-2021	Sociological Analysis of Child Labour: An Empirical Evidence from Punjab, Pakistan	Dr. Aneela Afzal
6	Muhammad Subtain Abbas Ph.D. Soil Science, 15-arid-3710, 24-08-2021	Biofortification of Wheat Using Zinc-Enriched Organic Amendments	Dr. Muhammad Akmal
7	Iram Naz Ph.D. Soil Science 15-arid-3708, 25-08-2021	Enzymatic Activity in Soil Associated with Conservation Agriculture Under Rainfed Conditions	Dr. Shahzada Sohail Ijaz
8	Muhammad Taseer Rasheed Ph.D. Economics, 06-arid-1417, 25-08-2021	Technical Efficiency of Groundnut Farmers in Dryland Agriculture of Pothwar	Dr. Safdar Hussain
9	Alveena Mumtaz Ph.D. Plant Pathology 08-arid-23, 26-08-2021	Characterization and Management of Pathogens Causing Twig Blight of Loquat	Dr. Farah Naz
10	Syed Zia-ul-Hasan Ph.D. Horticulture 03-arid-30, 26-08-2021	Influence of Salicylic Acid and Iron Nanoparticles on Quality of Strawberry	Dr. Imran Hassan
11	Arshid Munir Ph.D. Agronomy 15-arid-3820, 27-08-2021	Allometric Expressions of <i>Camelina sativa</i> L. In Response to Agro-management Techniques	Prof. Dr. Fayyaz-ul-Hassan
12	Nayab Alam Ph.D. RS & GIS 13-arid-3977, 27-08-2021	Integrated Ground Water Resource Management Using Geo-Spatial Approach	Dr. Muhammad Naveed Tahir
13	Sidrah Nazir Ph.D. Biotechnology 05-arid-306, 27-08-2021	Engineering of <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> $\beta$ -Glucosidase through Site Directed Mutagenesis	Prof. Dr. Muhammad Javid Asad

## Viva Examination of Ph.D. Thesis

- Muhammad Bilal Anwar** Ph.D. Zoology (03-arid-835) 24-08-2021  
Title: Diversity and Food Habits of Owls to Assess their Potential as Natural Enemies of Rats and Mice of Agricultural Importance in Pothwar, Pakistan, Supervisor: Dr. Mirza Azhar Beg
- Asif Ali Mirani** Ph.D. Agri. Engr. (13-arid-3964) 26-08-2021, Title: Design, Development and Testing of a Low-Cost Solid Waste/ Biomass Furnace for Green House Heating, Supervisor: Dr. Tahir Iqbal
- Mehvish Naseer Ahmed** Ph.D. Zoology (10-arid-1711) 26-08-2021, Title: Investigation of Alterations of Micro RNAs in Colorectal Cancer, Supervisor: Dr. Ruqia Mehmood Baig

## Directorate of Public Relations & Publications (PRP)

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