

Outreach Programme during 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 Session:
FARMERS' FIELD VISIT FOR PLANT PATHOLOGY STUDY AND INTERACTION

Agricultural Field Visit for Plant Disease Studies and farmer's Interaction by PG Semester 2 and Semester 4 students for three consecutive academic years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24)



Outreach Programme during 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 Session:

FARMERS' FIELD VISIT FOR PLANT PATHOLOGY STUDY AND INTERACTION

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF FIELD REPORT

Introduction:

A field visit was conducted for plant pathological study and local farmers' interaction. The objective was to assess crop health, study disease patterns and symptoms and promote knowledge exchange with farmers.

Academic session/Dates	Number of student participants	Semester II	Semester IV Special Paper Plant pathology and Virology	Place
2021-22 4.03.2022	26	22	4	Sarpadihi, Nilganj Santoshpur road, Amdanga, North 24 Parganas.
2022-23				
28.02.2023	24	19	5	
2023-24				
15.04.2024	20	18	2	

1. **Faculty:** Dr. Anuradha Bandopadhyay (SACT), Dept. of Botany, Barasat Government College
2. **Farmers:**
 - Mehenaj Uddin, vegetable grower and seller
 - Fakir, rice and vegetable grower

Activities and Observations

1. Crop Assessment and disease study:

- Different seasonal vegetable crops like tomato, potato, brinjal, cauliflower, chillies, broad beans, bottle gourd, pointed gourd etc. and rice were studied in the field.
- Symptoms like early blight and late blight, powdery and downy mildews, leaf spots and flecks, wilts, rusts, anthracnose, blights, yellow mosaic virus, leaf curl virus and phytoplasma were found dominating in the field.
- **Rice blast** lesions and brown spot lesions were prevalent in low-lying areas due to excess moisture.
- Tomato plants were highly affected by symptoms of early blight, late blight and *Fusarium* wilt due to untimely intermittent heavy rain in winter.

2. Interactive Sessions:

- Dr. Bandopadhyay explained disease symptoms and management strategies to farmers.
- Farmers shared their experiences and traditional practices.

Outreach Programme during 2021-22. 2022-23 and 2023-24 Session:

FARMERS' FIELD VISIT FOR PLANT PATHOLOGY STUDY AND INTERACTION

- Tomato fields were affected most which could not be controlled by traditional application of fungicides like mancozeb.
- Integrated management by organic and chemical pesticides were advised.

Conclusion

Through the field study, students gained knowledge about various disease symptoms of crops, hands on training on disease identification through symptomological and app based study. The field visit also facilitated valuable interactions between students, teacher and farmers. The students got familiar with practical problems of disease incidence on agricultural field crops. It also highlighted the need for tailored solutions, knowledge dissemination, and sustainable practices for farmers.

