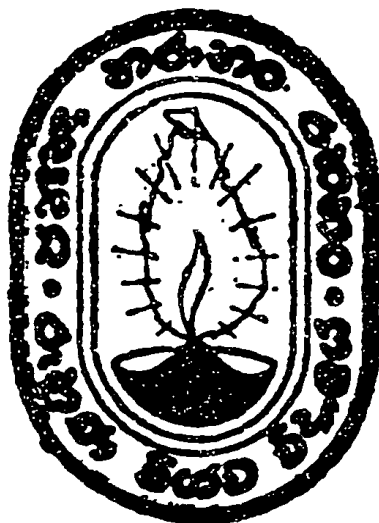


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**Proceedings
of the Sixth
Annual Research Session
of Agricultural Graduates
2005**



**Faculty of Agriculture
University of Ruhuna
Sri Lanka**

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AR - 4543 ©
ISBN 1446

Proceedings

**Sixth Annual Research Session
Of Agricultural Graduates
2005**

**Faculty of Agriculture
University of Ruhuna
Sri Lanka**

Organized by

Department of Agricultural Economics

Faculty of Agriculture

University of Ruhuna

12th September, 2005

Message from the Vice Chancellor.....

I am pleased to send this message felicitating the graduands who would be making presentations at the Sixth Student Research Session of the Faculty of Agriculture on 12.09.2005.

A university is considered a place of light, liberty and learning, and it should have an intellectual climate conducive for creative work and innovative research that give birth to new knowledge, ideas, concepts and technology through the interplay of free mind and liberated intellect. A university can remain as a university only when its staff and students can claim a place on the frontiers of knowledge and take a share in moving it forward by their scholarly pursuits.

This type of sessions, besides giving the outstanding students an opportunity to present their findings, would enable them to improve their presentation skills and showcase their talents and capabilities.

I most sincerely thank Dr. L M Abeywickrama and the staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics for organizing it with a difference and the Dean and the staff of the Faculty of Agriculture for making it an annual feature of the Faculty.

I wish the Sixth Research Session of Agricultural Graduates all the success!

Professor Ranjith Senaratne
Vice Chancellor

Message from the Dean.....

With great pleasure I release this message to the 6th Annual sessions of the Graduates of Agriculture, where best papers selected among the research projects of the passing out graduates from the six academic departments of the faculty are presented to compete for the P.S.J.W. Seresinhe memorial trophy. This is one of the annual academic event inculcated in to faculty events where young graduates get an opportunity to enter in to healthy competition in the intellectual arena to surface out their research findings while developing their analytical and presentation skills.

Young graduates session is a session where one can find new openings in the science, since soul and heart of the young blood is devoted and dedicated to resolve one or other emerging problem in the field of science. It is the first experience gained by the graduates to conduct a research program in planned manner, do the analysis and come out with conclusions based on research findings. History has number of brilliant cases of the Under graduate research such as discovery of Virus by Inanovski. Therefore I am certain that 6th Annual session of the Ruhuna Agricultural graduates will do a fair contribution to the development pathway of the Agriculture Field.

This year organizers have taken number of new measures to improve the quality of the session. Apart from the winning team of the respective departments, the best presentation made by the individual presenters will also be awarded. This will create a healthy atmosphere to assess individual as well as the team achievement. I must express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Mangala de Zoysa, Head of the Dept of Agricultural Economics and Extension, and the Coordinator of the program, Dr. L. M. Abeywickrama, and the organizing committee for the extra ordinary effort taken by them to make this session a success. I express my sincere thanks to CIC Company for the sponsoring of the academic session 2004. I congratulate all the presenters, supervisors participants and wish the 6th Academic session of the Agricultural graduates a success.

Prof. K. D. N. Weerasinghe
Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna

Message from the Seminar Coordinator.....

I have a humble happiness to send this message to the Sixth Agricultural Research Session of Agricultural Graduates. Faculty of Agriculture has taken the initiative to conduct students' research sessions, contributing towards establishing a research culture and promoting the intellectual atmosphere of the university. I have no doubt that this would stimulate more creative work and innovative research in the faculty.

Information technology and communication skills are emerging as essentials of graduates with the globalization. Programs of this type would support to improve communication skills of students, links between academics and other institutions and social harmony which are the current needs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Our chief Guest, Prof. M C N Jayasooriya (Executive Director, NSF), Guest of Honor Dr. Terence Abeysekara (Senior Economist, World Bank), Panel of Judges Mr. T A Wimalasena (Provincial Director Agriculture), Dr. Sujatha (Mrs) Weerasinghe (Senior Research Officer) and Dr.H L Obeysekara (Director, SLIATE) for accepting our invitation to make the event a success.

I sincerely acknowledge Mr. Indika Gunawardene (General Manager, Agrochemicals) and Messrs CIC (Agrochemicals) Ltd. for sponsoring the event continuously.

I appreciate encouragements and helping hands of Prof. K D N Weerasinghe (Dean, Agriculture) Dr. Mangala De Zoysa (Head, Ag. Econ), all Heads of Departments, my colleague staff members, supporting staff and students of the faculty. Although, the space does not permit me to mention all the names, my whole hearted thanks to all who helped in numerous ways in the process of organization.

I wish the event a grand success.

Dr. L M Abeywickrama
Coordinator of the Seminar