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“Excursion Tour Report: Pulses Research Station, Badnapur”

Date: January 21, 2019

Place: Badnapur, District Jalna

Students Participants: 35 B.Sc.,

Faculty Participants: 3 Faculty Members

Introduction:

On January 21, 2019, the Department of Department of Botany at [Nutan Mahavidyalaya, Selu] organized an excursion tour to the Pulses Research Station in Badnapur, Jalna. This educational visit aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application by immersing 35 B.Sc. students in the world of pulse research. Through first-hand observation, interactions with experts, and hands-on activities, students gained a deeper understanding of pulse cultivation, breeding, and management practices.

Location and Significance:

Situated in the heart of Maharashtra's pulse belt, the Badnapur Pulses Research Station plays a pivotal role in developing improved pulse varieties for Indian agriculture. This crucial institution strives to enhance pulse productivity, disease resistance, and overall sustainability, making it an ideal learning ground for aspiring agriculturalists.

Aims and Objectives of the Excursion Tour to Badnapur, Jalna

Aim:

- To enrich the botanical knowledge and understanding of students from the Department of Botany, Nutan Mahavidyalaya, Selu, by immersing them in the diverse plant life of Badnapur, District Jalna, and bridging the gap between theoretical learning and practical experience.

Objectives:

Knowledge and Understanding:


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- **Expand Plant Diversity Knowledge:** Enhance students' understanding of the variety of plant species found in the Badnapur region, including cultivated crops, native flora, and potentially endangered or endemic plants.
- **Solidify Theoretical Concepts:** Allow students to connect classroom learning to real-world scenarios by observing plant morphology, adaptations, and ecological roles in their natural habitat.
- **Gain Insights into Local Flora:** Foster appreciation for the unique plant communities and ecosystems specific to Badnapur.

Skills and Application:

- **Develop Plant Identification Skills:** Equip students with the ability to identify and classify various plant species encountered during the tour.
- **Refine Field Observation Techniques:** Hone skills in data collection, note-taking, and scientific observation in a natural setting.
- **Apply Theoretical Knowledge Practically:** Enable students to bridge the gap between theory and practice by applying their botanical knowledge to analyze plant adaptations and interactions within the ecosystem.

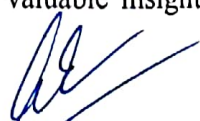
Personal Development and Values:

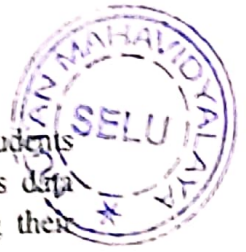
- **Spark Scientific Curiosity:** Ignite students' interest in plant science, ecology, and conservation efforts in the region.
- **Cultivate an Appreciation for Biodiversity:** Foster a sense of wonder and respect for the diversity and importance of plant life in maintaining ecological balance.
- **Promote Teamwork and Communication:** Encourage collaboration and information sharing among students through group activities and discussions.
- **Develop Responsible Environmental Awareness:** Instill the importance of responsible observation and minimal impact on the natural environment.

Activities and Learning:

The tour offered a diverse range of activities designed to engage students and solidify their understanding:

- **Guided Field Tours:** Experts led students through diverse pulse research plots, showcasing various varieties at different growth stages. They explained breeding programs, selection criteria, and disease resistance mechanisms observed in the field.
- **Interactive Sessions:** Renowned researchers presented their ongoing projects, sparking lively discussions and insightful Q&A sessions. Students gained in-depth knowledge of specific pulse crops, current research challenges, and future advancements in the field.
- **Laboratory Demonstrations:** Students witnessed first-hand the intricate world of pulse research in laboratories. They observed techniques like seed germination testing, disease diagnostics, and even molecular analysis, gaining valuable insights into the scientific underpinnings of pulse improvement.


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- **Data Collection and Documentation:** Armed with notebooks and cameras, students actively documented their observations throughout the tour. This meticulous data collection proved crucial for further analysis and report writing, solidifying their learning experience.

Additional Considerations:

- Tailor the specific objectives to align with the current curriculum and learning outcomes of the botany program at Nutan Mahavidyalaya, Selu.
- Offer activities that cater to various learning styles and interests of the students.
- Encourage reflection and analysis through post-tour discussions, written reports, or presentations.
- By fulfilling these aims and objectives, the excursion tour can be a transformative learning experience for the students, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the fascinating world of plants in their regional context.

Outcomes and Impact:

This excursion tour proved to be a transformative learning experience for the participating students, offering several impactful outcomes:

- **Bridging the Gap:** Students connected their theoretical knowledge of plant breeding, crop management, and agricultural practices to real-world applications in pulse research, solidifying their understanding and fostering critical thinking.
- **Industry Insights:** The visit offered invaluable insights into the functioning of a research station, the meticulous process of developing new pulse varieties, and the challenges faced by the pulse industry. This exposure broadened their career perspectives and provided valuable context for their studies.
- **Research Appreciation:** Witnessing the dedication and innovation of researcher's first-hand instilled a deeper appreciation for the importance of research in addressing agricultural challenges and ensuring food security. This potentially sparked interest in pursuing research careers themselves.
- **Career Inspiration:** The tour exposed students to diverse career paths within the pulse sector, including agricultural research, extension services, and the pulse industry itself. This potentially ignited interest in contributing to the future of pulse production and sustainability in India.

Conclusion:

The excursion to Badnapur, District Jalna, served as a valuable learning experience for the students of the Department of Botany, Nutan Mahavidyalaya, Selu. By immersing themselves in the diverse plant life of the region, bridging the gap between theory and practice, and developing crucial skills like identification and observation, the tour successfully achieved its aims and objectives. This hands-on exposure likely sparked scientific curiosity among students, encouraging them to explore the various facets of plant science and their crucial role in the local ecosystem. Additionally, the opportunity to collaborate and communicate during the tour fostered teamwork and strengthened their understanding of the natural world. Overall, the excursion effectively supplemented classroom learning, leaving students with a deeper appreciation for the intricate world of plants in their regional context. This immersive

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experience will undoubtedly contribute to their academic journey and motivate them to further explore the fascinating realm of botany and its applications in conservation, sustainable agriculture, and ecological preservation.



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Visit to pulses Research center at Badnapur.

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