

NUTAN MAHAVIDYALAYA, SAILU- 431 503

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"Report on Visit to Regional Wheat Rust Research Station, Mahabaleshwar"

Date: January 29, 2019

Place: Regional Wheat Rust Research Station, Mahabaleshwar, Dist. Satara

Students Participants: 23 B.Sc.,

Faculty Participants: 2 Faculty members

Introduction:

A group of 23 B.Sc. students accompanied by 2 faculties visited the Regional Wheat Rust Research Station (RWRRS) in Mahabaleshwar on January 29, 2019. This educational visit aimed to provide students with first-hand experience in wheat rust research and its significance in agriculture.

Aims and Objectives of the Excursion Tour to Regional Wheat Rust Research Station Mahabaleshwar

Overall Aim:

To provide students with first-hand experience of the diverse plant life found in the Mahabaleshwar region, complementing their theoretical knowledge gained in classrooms.

Specific Objectives:

Knowledge and Understanding:

- To observe and identify a wide variety of plant species, including native flora, agricultural crops, and medicinal plants.
- To gain insights into the adaptations and ecological interactions of plants in different habitats.
- To learn about the importance of plant diversity and its conservation.
- To understand the scientific research conducted at the Regional Wheat Rust Research Station Mahabaleshwar, specifically focusing on wheat diseases and resistant varieties.

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Skills and Attitudes:

- To develop observation and identification skills through hands-on exploration and interaction with plants.
- To foster a critical and inquisitive approach towards understanding plant life.
- To cultivate appreciation for nature and the importance of environmental conservation.
- To encourage teamwork and communication through collaborative activities during the tour.

Activities:

- Welcome and Introduction: The station's staff warmly welcomed the group and provided a brief overview of its history, objectives, and research activities.
- Lecture on Wheat Rusts: A scientist delivered a comprehensive lecture on wheat rusts, including their types, life cycle, impact on yield, and management strategies. Interactive sessions allowed students to clarify doubts and gain deeper insights.
- Field Visit: Students were guided through experimental fields where different wheat varieties were being evaluated for their resistance to rust diseases. They observed various rust symptoms and learned about breeding techniques for developing resistant cultivars.
- Laboratory Visit: The group visited the laboratory where researchers conduct experiments on rust fungi, including isolation, identification, and virulence testing. Students witnessed various scientific equipment and techniques used in rust research.
- Interactive Session: An open discussion session allowed students to ask questions and gain clarifications on various aspects of wheat rust research and its practical applications.

Additional Considerations:

- Tailor specific objectives to the specific curriculum themes covered in the classroom.
- Emphasize active learning through interactive activities, discussions, and data collection.
- Ensure the tour aligns with ethical guidelines for sustainable practices and respectful behaviour towards the environment.
- By fulfilling these aims and objectives, the excursion tour can provide a valuable learning experience for botany students, enriching their understanding and appreciation of the plant world beyond the classroom setting.

Outcomes:

- The visit provided students with a comprehensive understanding of wheat rusts, their impact on agriculture, and the crucial role of research in developing resistant varieties.
- Students gained exposure to various research methodologies and technologies employed in rust research.
- The interaction with scientists fostered their interest in agricultural research and its importance in food security.

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Conclusion:

The excursion to the Regional Wheat Rust Research Station Mahabaleshwar provided a valuable and enriching experience for the participating Botany students. By immersing them in the diverse plant life of the region, the trip effectively bridged the gap between theoretical knowledge gained in the classroom and practical observations of the natural world. This hands-on learning opportunity not only reinforced existing knowledge but also expanded their understanding of plant diversity, adaptations, and ecological relationships. Through interaction with experts, students gained insights into scientific research practices and developed their skills in plant identification, analysis, and communication. Furthermore, the experience fostered a deeper appreciation for the beauty and importance of plant life, highlighting the need for conservation and responsible environmental practices. This field trip undoubtedly sparked curiosity and passion in many students, potentially influencing their future academic and career paths within the fascinating world of botany.

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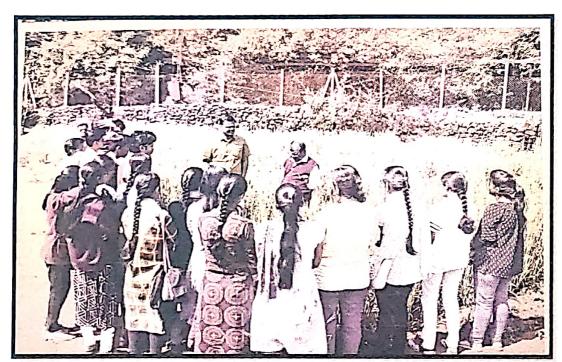


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