

Experiential/Study Tour

Programme Type: Experiential Learning/Study Tour

Duration: 1-Day Programme

Date: 20th May, 2024

Venue: Kokernag Trout Fish Farm

Organisers: Department of Zoology

Semester: BSc 2nd Semester (Skill: Veterinary Technology)

No. of students: 26

No. of Faculty: 05

Non-Teaching Staff: 03



Experiential/Study Tour Report

The students of 2nd Semester (Skill: Veterinary Technology) along with faculty members visited the Kokernag Trout Farm on **20th May, 2023**. The Kokernag Trout Farm is also considered Asia's largest Brooder producing centre and Trout Farming Project, established in 1984 for the purpose of producing the best quality of seed for Rainbow Trout (*Onchorynchus mykiss*) and Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*). A group of 26 registered students were selected for this tour to provide first-hand information about the trout fish farming, fish culture techniques, modern techniques for development of fish feed and issues faced by the trout culture. In addition to faculty member of Department of Zoology, faculty from other departments were also included in this experiential tour in order to inculcate holistic learning in the college.

The study tour was kickstarted from the Department of Zoology at 9:30 AM with the sharing of preliminary instructions to students about the aims and objectives of the programme. The students were acquainted with the guidelines to be followed during their stay in the trout farm by Dr. Ummer Zargar (HOD, Zoology) and Dr. Shoeba (Academic Arrangement, Zoology). After the arrival at Kokernag Trout Farm, students were immediately taken to fish hatchery where one of the fishery experts demonstrated various steps involved in the successful development of trout fish in the hatchery at different stages. Dr. Ummer demonstrated the life cycle patterns of Brown Trout and the methods used to develop different stages of rainbow trout in the hatchery. He also explained the importance of Kokernag Trout Farm for the development of trout seed and its import to different parts of country as well as to foreign countries. The brief historic background of historic 'Kokernag Trout Farm' was also



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explained to the students, besides providing knowledge about the current trout hatchery farms in the valley of Kashmir. The students were also briefed about the current production of this fish farm, which according to the estimates is around Rs. 15 lakh fish (stock) and has estimated revenue of 3 crores per year. Later on students were also demonstrated the ideal design for the establishment of trout fish farm as per guidelines formulated by the Department of Fisheries, UT of J&K.

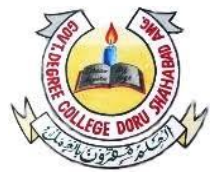
After visiting hatchery, students were taken to the 'Fish Feed Development' unit where they were briefed about the techniques for the development of dry feed for different size groups of fish. The expert explained major processes used during the manufacturing stage of fish feed processing. The students were later on allowed to take samples of different types of feed to keep in the zoology laboratory as sample. The student were also taken to the open fish raceway developed by the Fisheries Department inside the trout farm and were given information about the importance of the open raceways in the aquaculture. Students also made their own observation inside the fish farm and noted down importance information. The study tour culminated with the final remarks by the senior faculty members Dr. Jan Shabir (HOD Physics), Dr. Peer Irfan (HOD, Chemistry) and Dr. Shabir Ahmad Rather (HOD, BCA). At the end of experiential tour, group photographs were taken with students.

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Demonstration of various stages of Trout Culture I



_Demonstration of various stages of Trout Culture II

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