

# Virajinee Bulathsinalage



+94 718950256 (Mobile)

[virajineenayanathara@gmail.com](mailto:virajineenayanathara@gmail.com)  
[virajineeb@agri.pdn.ac.lk](mailto:virajineeb@agri.pdn.ac.lk)

**ORCID ID:** <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3217-3101>

**Google scholar ID:** <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=1zPTxQkAAAAJ&hl=en>

**ResearchGate:** <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Virajinee-Bulathsinalage>

## PROFILE

An enthusiastic, determined, self-motivated and result oriented individual who is ready to take up any challenge individually or as a team member while giving full commitment to achieve the best results.

## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

### Tertiary Education:

2017 – 2019

**M.Sc. in Molecular and Applied Microbiology (by Course Work)**

Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**Board of Study: Plant Protection**

**Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) - 3.97/4.00**

**Directed Study:** Optimization of *in-vitro* preservation methods and conditions for *Burkholderia* spp. to retain their viability and other desirable features

2013 – 2016

**B.Sc. in Agricultural Technology and Management**

**Majoring Module: Plant Pathology and Microbiology**

Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**First Class Honours**

**Batch Top of the Batch of 149 students**

**With the Final Grade Point Average (FGPA) of 3.86/4.00**

**Dissertation:** Analysis of pesticide residues and evaluating selected beneficial effects in tomato grown under an eco-friendly management package in comparison to existing commercial cultivation practices

### Special professional courses followed on plant breeding:

2021 May – August

**Successfully completed the professional online certificate course offered by the Michigan State University, USA on Plant Breeding to Fight Hunger**

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

### Medals

- Golden Jubilee Gold Medal for the most outstanding performance in the core programme of B.Sc. Agricultural Technology and Management
- J.W.L. Peiris Gold Medal in Agricultural Biology
- Gold Medal for the Best Performer in the subject “Business Creation and Management” (EB 3101) of the B.Sc. Agricultural Technology and Management degree programme
- Gold Medal for the best poster presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Bioscience and BioTechnology (BioTech 2018)

### Prizes and Scholarships

- E.M.R.B. Ekanayake Memorial Prize in Agriculture for the best overall performance at the final examination in Agriculture
- Ananda Amarasinghe Memorial Prize for the best performance at the examinations held during the advanced programme in Agricultural Technology and Management (3200 and 4100 series)
- S.F.H. Perera Memorial Prize for the student showed the greatest competence at the 4000 series examination
- University Prize for the Academic Excellence for Final Examination in Agricultural Technology & Management - 2016
- Korean scholarship (SriLanKoRA) for meritorious performances at the 3000 series examination
- Kundanmal scholarship for the meritorious performances at the 2000 series examination
- Korean scholarship (SriLanKoRA) for the meritorious performances at the 2000 series examination
- University scholarships endowed from the University of Peradeniya for the best performances at the 1000 series examination

## PUBLICATIONS

- Ruwanthika A.M.C., Jayawardane N.U., Dissanayaka D.M.H.R., **Bulathsinalage V.N.D.** and Ariyaratne H.A.C.K. (2022), Genotyping and Phenotyping of Selected Resistant Rice Germplasm for Blast Disease under Local Conditions. Proceedings of the 8<sup>th</sup> Faculty of Agriculture Undergraduate Research Symposium (FAuRS-2021/22) held in Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, (ISSN 2470 7683) Page No: 52
- De Costa, D.M., De Costa, J.M., Weerathunga, M.T., Prasannath, K. and **Bulathsinalage, V.N.D.** (2021), Assessment of management practices, awareness on safe use of pesticides and perception on integrated management of pests and diseases of chilli and tomato grown by small-scale farmers in selected districts of Sri Lanka. *Pest Management Science Journal* (IF 4.845), DOI: 10.1002/ps.6542
- Senthurselvan, V., Hemachandra, K.S., Jayasinghe, W.H. and **Bulathsinalage, V.N.D.** (2021), Relationship Between the Morphological Characters of Rice Plant and BPH Resistance. Proceedings of the 7<sup>th</sup> Faculty of Agriculture Undergraduate Research Symposium (FAuRS-2020) held in Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, (ISSN 2470 7683) Page No: 54

- **V.N.D. Bulathsinghalage**, D.M. De Costa and G.D.N. Menike (2020), Determination of Desirable Attributes of an Indigenous *Burkholderia* Isolate Towards Biological Control of Plant Pathogenic Fungi and Its Microbial Enzyme Production, *The Journal of Agricultural Sciences-Sri Lanka*, vol 15(1), Page No: 63-74, DOI: <http://doi.org/10.4038/jas.v15i1.8672>
- **Bulathsinghalage, V.N.D.** and De Costa, D.M. (2018), Determination of Desirable Attributes of a Member of *Burkholderia cepacia* Complex as a Biological Control Agent of Plant Pathogenic Fungi. Proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Bioscience and Biotechnology (BioTech2018), (ISBN 978-955-4903-95-1), Page No:28
- **Bulathsinghalage, V.N.D.**, De Costa, D.M. and Lakshani, P.W.Y. (2018), Pesticide-Related Risks Associated with the Crop Management Practices Performed by Small-Scale Tomato Growers in Mid-Country, Sri Lanka. Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Research Symposium, Uwa Wellassa University, Badulla, Sri Lanka (ISBN 978-955-0481-19-4), Page No:39
- **Bulathsinghalage, V.N.D.** (2018), GMO, Agriculture and Biosafety, Newsletter on *Findings and Perceptions on Biosafety* published by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment 2018, Vol 1 (1), Page No: 12-15, 30-32, 51-53 [Online] Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/i8857en/i8857EN.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/i8715T>
- H.M.O.N. Nawarathna, B.M.N.J. Basnayaka, W.G.T. Erangika, **V.N.D. Bulathsinghalage**, R.H.T.D. Ranasinghe and D.M. De Costa (2018), Variations of pathogenicity and inter and intra species infectious ability of four *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* isolates of papaya, Proceedings of *International Research Symposium on Postharvest Technology* (NPRS 2018), (ISSN 2362-0943), Page No: 107-112
- S.K. Ranaweera, D.M.N. Thilakarathna, K.M. Gamage, **V.N.D. Bulathsinghalage**, R.H.T.D. Ranasinghe and D.M. De Costa (2018), *In-vitro* efficiency of biological agents isolated from fructosphere against selected postharvest pathogens of fruits and vegetables, Proceedings of International Research Symposium on Postharvest Technology (NPRS 2018), (ISSN 2362-0943), Page No: 113-118
- **Bulathsinghalage, V.N.D.** and De Costa, D.M. (2017), Feasibility of Using an Eco-Friendly Integrated Approach for the Management of Pests and diseases of Small-Scale Tomato Cultivations (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.) in Mid-Country, Sri Lanka. Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Agricultural & Fisheries; Systems & Technology 2017 (ISBN 978-955-4543-37-9), Page No:10
- **Bulathsinghalage, V.N.D.**, De Costa, D.M. and Lakshani, P.W.Y. (2016), Analysis of Pesticide Residues and Evaluating Selected Beneficial Effects in Tomato Grown Under an Eco-Friendly Management Package in Comparison to Existing Commercial Cultivation Practices. Proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Faculty of Agriculture Undergraduate Research Symposium (FAuRS-2016) held in Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, (ISSN 24207683) Page No: 148
- Thilakarathne, A.M. and **Bulathsinghalage, V.N.D.** (2015), Enhancing Food Security and Sustainability via Promoting Home Gardening in Urban Areas. Proceedings of the 15<sup>th</sup> International Student Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century, held in Tokyo University of Agriculture, Tokyo, Japan, Page No: 24

## ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Assessment of the yield potential of a collection of local and exotic rice varieties to facilitate genetic improvement of rice for higher yields

## RESEARCH GRANTS RECEIVED

- University Research Grants 2021 (Grant No: URG/2021/50/Ag) - for the project titled as “Assessment of the yield potential of a collection of local and exotic rice varieties to facilitate genetic improvement of rice for higher yields”.

## WORKING EXPERIENCE

September 2020 – Present	<p>Working as an Academic Staff Member (Lecturer, (Probationary)) of the Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya</p> <p>Courses which I engage in undergraduate teaching – Applied Genetics and Plant Breeding, Crop Systematics, Recombinant DNA Technology, Principles of Genetics and Breeding, Applied Biotechnology, Postharvest Biology</p>
March 2017 – September 2020	<p>Worked as a Temporary Academic Staff Member (Temporary Lecturer, Temporary Demonstrator, Temporary Research Assistant) at the Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya</p>
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	<p>Served as a resource person in conducting Molecular Biology Workshop organized for A/L Students by the Department of Agricultural Biology</p>
13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	<p>Served as a resource person of Certificate Course on “Basic Molecular Biology Techniques for Beginners” organized by the Biology Guild together with the Department of Agricultural Biology</p>
November – December 2018	<p>Assisted in preparatory and organization activities of the Postgraduate Certificate Course on “Techniques and Applications in Molecular Microbiology”, organized by the Board of Study: Plant protection, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya as one of the lab group members</p>
February 2016	<p>Successfully completed one month In-plant training at the Horticultural Crops Research and Development Institute, Gannoruwa, Peradeniya</p> <p>During this training, I could expose to a government sector working environment and obtained laboratory and in field working experience in the divisions of Vegetables, Soil &amp; Chemistry, Pathology &amp; Mushroom and Entomology</p>
January 2016	<p>Successfully completed one month In-plant training at Mike Flora International (Pvt) Ltd, Rambukkana</p> <p>During this training, I could expose to a private sector working environment and obtained working experience in the production of foliage products from the field cultivation up to the exportation</p>

## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND COMPUTER LITERACY

- Diploma in Information Technology with E-commerce at Esoft, Kandy
- IELTS Academic test at British Council, Kandy

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Competent in molecular biology and microbiology techniques (DNA extraction, Gel electrophoresis, PCR, Plasmid isolation, DNA hybridization, Isolation and culturing of microorganisms, conducting of various microbiological assays, etc.)
- Data analysis with SAS, SPSS, Minitab

## OTHER SKILLS

### Presentations:

- Oral presentation on “Enhancing food security and sustainability via promoting home gardening in urban areas” with A.M. Thilakarathne at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Students Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century (ISS) held at Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan, October 2015
- Oral presentation on “Analysis of Pesticide Residues and Evaluating Selected Beneficial Effects in Tomato Grown Under an Eco-Friendly Management Package in Comparison to Existing Commercial Cultivation Practices at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Faculty of Agriculture Undergraduate Research Symposium (FAuRS-2016) held in Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, December 2016
- Oral presentation on “Feasibility of Using an Eco-Friendly Integrated Approach for the Management of Pests and diseases of Small-Scale Tomato Cultivations (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.) in Mid-Country, Sri Lanka” at the Fifth International Conference on Agricultural & Fisheries, December 2017
- Poster presentation on “Pesticide-Related Risks Associated with the Crop Management Practices Performed by Small-Scale Tomato Growers in Mid-Country, Sri Lanka” at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Research Symposium of Uwa Wellassa University, Badulla, Sri Lanka, February 2018
- Poster presentation on “Determination of Desirable Attributes of a Member of *Burkholderia cepacia* Complex as a Biological Control Agent of Plant Pathogenic Fungi” at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Bioscience and Biotechnology (BioTech2018), March 2018

### Academic trainings:

- Successfully completed the “Certificate Course in Teaching in Higher Education (CTHE)” (Induction Programme for Academic Staff) held from October to December, 2021 at the Staff Development Center, University of Peradeniya.
- Successfully completed the AHEAD training on “Developing E-learning modules” held from 20-21<sup>st</sup> April, 2022, at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya.
- Actively participated in the workshop on “The importance of ethical consideration for research,” organized by the Research Council of the University of Peradeniya on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

## MEMBERSHIPS AT PROFESSIONAL BODIES:

- Member of the Institute of Biology (IOB), Sri Lanka
- Member of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD)
- Member of the Peradeniya University Agriculture Teachers' Association (PUATA)

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- A Faculty student representative at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Student Summit held in Tokyo, Japan in 2015
- Secretary of ISS (International Students Society) of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Editor of the Biology Guild, Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Committee member of the Postgraduate Agriculture Students Association (PASA)
- Member of the compering team and one of the student supporters of the technical session coordination at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual congress of Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Served as a Temporary Academic staff member in provisioning Technical Session Assistance at iPURSE 2019
- Served as a Compere at different events organized by the Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Member of the faculty Buddhist brotherhood society
- Girl guide
- Member of the school's eastern music group
- Secretary of the school's Sinhala literary association
- Competed and ranked at several quiz competitions and essay competitions at zonal and provincial levels during the school time

## NAMES OF NON-RELATED REFEREES

Prof. Devika M. De Costa,  
Senior Professor and Chair of Plant Protection,  
Department of Agricultural Biology,  
Faculty of Agriculture,  
University of Peradeniya.  
Email: [devikadecosta@gmail.com](mailto:devikadecosta@gmail.com)  
Telephone: +94 714430542

Prof. K.S. Hemachandra,  
Professor in Entomology,  
Department of Agricultural Biology,  
Faculty of Agriculture,  
University of Peradeniya.  
Email: [siril.hemachandra@gmail.com](mailto:siril.hemachandra@gmail.com)  
Telephone: +94 779888094