



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Curriculum Vitae

Name : R.M.S. Wijerathna
Official Address : Department of Agricultural Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, 20400, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
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VISION

To be the kind of teacher, researcher and Extensionist in the fields of Agricultural Extension, Development Communication and Community Development for students to achieve the programme learning outcomes and to facilitate individuals and communities to prosper their lives with economic, social and environmental sustainability

EDUCATION

- **M.Phil. in Development Communication and Extension** (by research) Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. (2017)
- **P.G.D. in Applied Statistics**, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2012)
- **M.Sc. Development Communication and Extension**, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2008)
- **B.Sc. Agriculture**, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. (2004)

APPOINTMENTS:

- **Senior Lecturer** (from 2017 July to date), Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
- **Lecturer**: Department of Agricultural Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya. (2010 – 2017 July)
- **Director**: Community Development Centre, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya – (2020 to 2023)
- **Coordinator/Head**: Gender Education and Women’s Initiative Unit, Faculty of Agriculture (2018 to date)
- **Secretary: Publication & public relation committee, Faculty of Agriculture** (2020)
- **Chairperson: Publication & public relation committee, Faculty of Agriculture** (2021)
- **Senior Student Counselor** – University of Peradeniya (2020, 2021)
- **Visiting Lecturer**: (Agricultural extension, Rural sociology, Agricultural marketing) , The Open University of Sri Lanka (2004-2011)
- **Programme Assistant**: Department of Agriculture, Sri Lanka (2005-2010)
- **Tutor** (temporary): Department of Agricultural Extension, Faculty of Agriculture University of Peradeniya (2004)

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Designing and Facilitating Multi-stakeholder Partnerships for Gender and Youth Sensitive Food Security- India**, 2016
- **Netherlands Fellowship** for a short course on Multi-stakeholder Processes and Social Learning conducted by The Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen University. Netherlands, 2014.
- **VLIR-UOS Training scholarship on Audio Visual Learning Materials-Management, Production and Activities**, Leuven University, Belgium, 2014.

OTHER TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/COURSES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (SELECTED)

- Workshop on **Publicizing Research to the General Public** (2019)
- Short Course on Introduction to **ICT stewardship for Agricultural Extension** (2018)
- Online Certificate course on **Social Science research writing** (Author Aid) (2018)
- Workshop on **Capacity Building on Gender** organized by the University Grants Commission (2018)
- National workshop on **Community Video Story Telling**-Sri Lanka Development Journalists Forum, (2016)
- **Community Information Service**: Distance Learning Course offered by the WORLD BANK (2006)

INTERNATIONAL AWARD

“OSIRIS” UN-FAO prize at the 25th International Agro-film Festival at Nitra, Slovakia in 2008 for the direction and script

writing of the documentary video film on “Kithul Tree in Sri Lanka”. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TXy0Vyg-YU8>

OTHER AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- **Best Presentation award** (session on Agricultural Extension & Education) at Twenty sixth Annual Congress of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2014)
- **Second Best Research Paper** at Twenty sixth Annual Congress of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2014)
- **Honorary Full Fellowship**, Shakespeare Centre, Sri Lanka, Shakespeare Academy in Humanities

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

Research Articles

Madhavi Wijerathna, W. A. P. Weerakkody, S. Kirindigoda (2014) Factors affecting the discontinuation of protected agriculture enterprises in Sri Lanka. *The Journal of Agricultural Sciences*, vol.9, No2. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.4038/jas.v9i2.6912>

Madhavi Wijerathna, Sapna Nawarathna, Uvasara Dissanayake, Darshana Gunewardena (2020) Evaluation of a Twitter-based Information System for Rural Communities. *The Journal of Community Development in Asia*. vol.3, No3. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.32535/jcda.v3i3.733>

Madhavi Wijerathna, Heshan Wickramasuriya, Buddhi Marambe (2019). How Do Academic Agriculturalists Engage in and View Outreach? The Case of Faculties of Agriculture in State Universities of Sri Lanka. *The Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*. vol.23, No3.

Book Chapter

Wijerathna M., Wanigasundera W.A.D.P. (2020) “Communication” in the Context of Agricultural Extension: Past, Present and Way Forward in Achieving Sustainable Food Systems in Sri Lanka. In: De Silva R.P., Pushpakumara G., Prasada P., Weerahewa J. (eds) *Agricultural Research for Sustainable Food Systems in Sri Lanka*. Springer, Singapore.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-3673-1_18

Conference Papers

K. Udani, C. Swarnathilake, **M. Wijerathna** (2019) Glyphosate Ban: Socio-economic Impact and Behavioral and Attitudinal Response of the Farming Community in Dry Zone of Sri Lanka. Proceedings of the International Conference on Social and Cultural Nexus of Science and Technology Development. Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Suriyagoda L, De Costa WAJM, **Wijerathna RMS**, Lambers H (2013) Growth and phosphorus nutrition of rice in clay and sandy soils under terminal drought. 17th International Plant Nutrition Colloquium (IPNC) in Istanbul, Turkey, pp 724-725

OTHER PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

Professional Website in Research Gate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Madhavi_Wijerathna

Interactive Multi- Media CD ROM on home gardening (Department of Agriculture)

E-Newsletter (2020-2021), Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya (Co-editor)

“Hanthana Essence: PGIA congress in Brief magazine (Chief Editor)

Newspaper articles: “Kithul tree in Sri Lanka” <http://archives.sundayobserver.lk/2007/11/18/plus03.asp>

“Busting the Myths of Organic Agriculture” <http://archives.sundayobserver.lk/2021/07/25/news-features/busting->

Short film (Research supervisor): “The request” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3WvCv1D9C0>

RESEARCH AND OTHER GRANTS /PROJECTS

South Asian Nitrogen Hub Project (Research Partner) 2022-2023

University Research Grants (Principle Investigator): 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2023

Association of Common Wealth Universities (ACU) Gender Grant (Collaborator): 2019