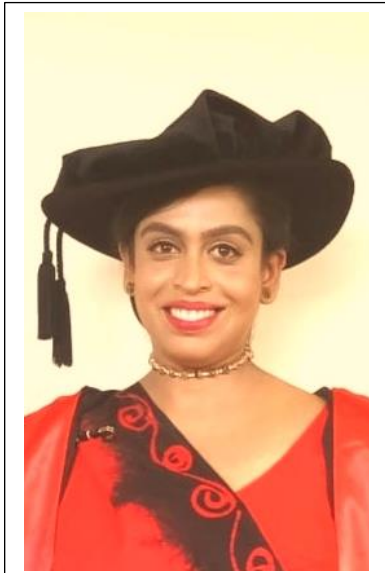


L.V.Y. WEERARATHNE



Date of Birth: 31st December 1989

Position: Senior Lecturer

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Education and Specialization

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 2017-August 2021 | PhD in Plant Science, Collage of Sciences, School of Agriculture & Environment, Massey University, New Zealand (Thesis Title: Water-use Efficiency in Perennial Ryegrass)- <i>with a delayed progress in the latter part due to Covid-19 consequences</i> |
| 2014-2016 | M.Sc. in Crop Science, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (CGPA= 3.76 out of 4.00) |
| 2009-2013 | B.Sc. (Hons.) in Agricultural Technology & Management, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (FGPA= 3.84 out of 4.00) |

Academic Appointments

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| Since 2021 | Senior Lecturer, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka |
| 2017-2021 | PhD candidate at SAE, Collage of Sciences, Massey University, New Zealand |
| 2015-2021 | Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka |
| 2014-2015 | Research Assistant, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka |

Other Professional/ Academic Positions

- | | |
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| Since 2021 | Member of the Publications and Public Relations Committee, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya |
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2019-2020	Visiting Research Scientist at the Grassland Chair, School of Life Sciences, Technical University of Munich, Freising, Germany
Since 2017	Member of the New Zealand Society of Plant Biologists Member of the New Zealand Grassland Association

Academic Distinctions & Awards

- Helen E Akers & Seed Tech Services Doctoral Scholarship Awards, Massey University, New Zealand (2020)
- DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Short-term Research Grant Scholarship Award, Technical University of Munich, Germany (2019/20)
- Presidential Award for Outstanding Scientific Publications-2015, National Research Council, Ministry of Science, Sri Lanka (2017)
- The Best Poster Presenter's Award, 25th Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society Conference (APWSS), Hyderabad, India (2015)
- Prof. Y.D.A. Senanayake Gold Medal for the most outstanding performance in the disciplines of Field Crops, Industrial Crops, Plantation Crops and Horticultural Crops, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2013)
- University Price & Scholarship for the Academic Excellence at the first & final examinations of the Degree in Agricultural Technology and Management, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2013)

Key Research Expertise

- Agronomy and physiology of pasture, cereals, root, tuber crops
- Plant stress physiology
- Crop improvement techniques- Plant quantitative genetics

Major Research Funds & Research Collaborations since 2015

- PI, Exploring ways and means to strike a balance between drought avoidance and tolerance mechanisms for increased water- use efficiency and yield of imported drought-resistant potato cultivars under imposed drought conditions, URG/2022/12/Ag, LKR 400,000 shared with Profs. B Marambe and LK Weerasinghe and Dr. Nuwan De Silva, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya- *Included supervision of two undergraduate research projects*
- Project collaboration, Phytoavailability of heavy metals including Arsenic, Cadmium, Lead and Zinc in paddy soils, NARP/19/UP/AG/01, Dr. Chammi Aththanayake and the research group, Department of Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 2021/22- *Included supervision of one postgraduate research project*

- PI, Competitive effects of selected C4 grass weeds and weedy rice on the performance of rice under different soil nitrogen and phosphorous levels: A Mini Project, URG/2016/06/Ag, 2014-2016, LKR 200,000 shared with Profs. B Marambe and LDB Suriyagoda, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya

Other Academic Engagements/ Achievements

- Selected as a Speaker of the ‘New Phytologist Next Generation Scientists-2023’, NUS, Singapore.
- Peer reviewer for ‘The 11th YSF Symposium on Integration of Science, Technology and Innovation for a Better Sustainable Economy- 2023’, Young Scientists Forum, National Science and Technology Commission & ‘Annual Research Sessions- 2022’, Faculty of Technology, Eastern University, Sri Lanka
- Organizing committee member of ‘FAuRS 2021/22’ & ‘PGIA Congress-2022’, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
- External evaluator for ‘The Second International Conference on Innovation and Emerging Technologies 2022 (ICIET 2022)’, Faculty of Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka
- Successfully completed a 7-days Training course on ‘Molecular Biological Techniques’, Institute of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka (2022)
- Resource person of the CPD Training Program conducted for the technical staff of the Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya under the AHEAD/ELTA/ELSE World Bank Grant, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2021)
- Selected speaker at the IGC-IRC Biennial Congress (virtual), Kenya (2021)
- Poster presenter on ‘Drought resistance in ryegrass involves morphological plasticity-osmotic adjustment interplay’, Combio2018 Biennial Conference, Sydney, Australia (2018)
- Oral presenter at the SAE symposium, SAE, Massey University (2017) & New Zealand Grassland Association’s Conference, New Zealand (2018)
- Successfully completed a certificate course on ‘Fundamentals of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology’, Agricultural Biotechnology Centre, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2016)
- Successfully completed a training program on ‘Induction Program for Academic Staff, Staff Development Centre, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2016)
- Successfully completed a training program on ‘Hybrid rice for Developing countries’, Changsha, Hunan Province, P.R. China (2015)
- Resource person of the Fourth Study Abroad Program organized by the Agriculture Education Unit, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya on ‘Sustainable Tropical Agriculture Systems of Sri Lanka’ for the interns of the Michigan State University, USA (2015)

International Journal Publications & Conference Proceedings

1. **Weerarathne, L.V.Y.**, Jahufer, Z., Schäufele, R., Lopez, I., Matthew, C. 2023. A Comparative Analysis of Agronomic Water-Use Efficiency and its Proxy Measures as derived from Key Morpho-Physiological

- and Supportive Quantitative Genetics Attributes of Perennial Ryegrass under Imposed Drought, *New Phytologist* (submitted: NPH-MS-2023-43467).
2. **Weerarathne, L.V.Y.**, Madhavi R.A.D.U., Madara G.V.R., Kankanmge P.S., Alahakoon A.H.M.Y.T., Amarasena N.G., De Silva N., Marambe B., Weerasinghe L.K., Abeythilakarathna, P.D. 2023. Morpho-physiological Trade-offs between Dehydration Tolerance and Avoidance Strategies of Potato across Key Phenological Growth Phases in Drought, in preparation.
 3. **Visna Weerarathne**, Larissa Garcia, Roberta Carnevalli, Bingzhe Fu & Cory Matthew. 2021. Discerning component traits contributing to specific water use in perennial ryegrass, **New Zealand Journal of Agricultural Research**, DOI: 10.1080/00288233.2021.1957945.
 4. **Weerarathne, L. V. Y.**, Marambe, B., & Chauhan, B. S. 2017. Does intercropping play a role in alleviating weeds in cassava as a non-chemical tool of weed management?—A Review. **Crop Protection**, 95, 81-88.
 5. **Weerarathne, L. V. Y.**, Marambe, B., & Chauhan, B. S. 2017. Intercropping as an effective component of integrated weed management in tropical root and tuber crops: A Review. **Crop protection**, 95, 89-100.
 6. Mayamulla, S., **Weerarathne, L. V. Y.**, Marambe, B., Sirisena, D. N., & Suriyagoda, L. D. B. 2017. Variation in seed nutrient content, seedling growth and yield of rice varieties grown in a paddy field without application of fertilisers for forty years. **Crop and Pasture Science**, 68(4), 337-348.
 7. **Weerarathne L.V.Y.**, Suriyagoda, L.D.B., Marambe B. 2015. Barnyard grass (*Echinochloa crus-galli* (L.) P.Beauv) is less competitive on rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) when phosphorus (P) is applied to deeper layers in P-deficient and moisture limited soils. **Plant and Soil**. 391(1-2), 1-17.
 8. **Weerarathne L.V.Y.**, Dong W., Nie M., Wang Y., Lopez I.F. and Matthew C. 2018. Exploring the link between more negative osmotic potential and ryegrass summer performance. **New Zealand Grasslands Acoosiation Conference Proceedings (NZGA)**, 6th -8th November 2018, Twizel, New Zealand.
 9. **Weerarathne, L.V.Y.**, Lopez, I., Matthew, C. 2018. Drought resistance in ryegrass involves morphological plasticity-osmotic adjustment interplay. **Combio2018 Biennial Conference**, 23th-25th September 2018, Sydney, Australia.
 10. **Weerarathne L.V.Y**, Marambe B, Suriyagoda LDB. 2015. Rice roots are more plastic than barnyard grass to take up phosphorus and moisture when they are co-limited in the soils. **The 25th Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society Conference (APWSS)**, 13th -16th October 2015, Hyderabad, India.
 11. **Weerarathne L.V.Y**, Marambe B, Suriyagoda LDB. 2014. Competitiveness of rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) on weeds when grown in moisture and nutrient depleted soils. **Proceedings of the Sustainable Phosphorus Summit (SPS)**, 1st-3rd September 2014, Montpellier, France.
 12. Suriyagoda LDB, **Weerarathne L.V.Y**, Sirisena D, Wissuwa M. 2014. Towards the selection of phosphorus efficient rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) varieties. **Proceedings of the Sustainable Phosphorus Summit (SPS)**, 1st-3rd September 2014, Montpellier, France.

Non- Related Referees

Prof. Buddhi Marambe

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