

# Isuri Pathiratne

[Isuripathiratne15@gmail.com](mailto:Isuripathiratne15@gmail.com), +94769668201, Kadawata, Sri Lanka

[ag19109@agri.pdn.ac.lk](mailto:ag19109@agri.pdn.ac.lk) LinkedIn - [www.linkedin.com/in/isuri-pathiratne-8523ab294](https://www.linkedin.com/in/isuri-pathiratne-8523ab294)

## Profile

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I am a Motivated Agriculture graduate with First Class Honors, specializing in Advanced Crop Production Technology. Experienced in plant physiology, climate-stress research, and food quality analysis. Passionate about integrating plant stress biology with food science to enhance crop resilience and nutritional quality under changing climate conditions.

## Education

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**Graduate, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka** **2021-2025**  
**B.Sc. (Hons.) Agricultural Technology and Management**  
FGPA – 3.75/4.00 (First class honors)  
Major in Advanced Crop Production Technology

### Relevant courses (Majoring module)

Crop Physiology, Tissue culture, Fruit and Vegetable Production, Statistical methods, Protected Culture, Floriculture and Landscape Horticulture, Rice production Technology, Advanced Field Crop Production Technology, Commercial Nursery Management, Organic Crop Production Systems, Urban Agriculture

**During the Core Program-** Soil Science, Agricultural Engineering, Food Science and Technology, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Economics, Animal Science and Technology

**Thakshila College Gampaha** **2019**  
G.C.E Advanced Level – Z score – 1.46

- Biology – A
- Chemistry – A
- Physics – C

## Research Experience

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### Undergraduate Final Year Research

Varietal Screening and Physiological Response Profiling of Tea [*Camellia sinensis* (L.) O. Kuntze] Cultivars under Elevated Temperature Conditions in the Up Country-Wet zone, Sri Lanka –

Collaborate with **Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka**

- Evaluated four tea cultivars under controlled elevated temperature in a glasshouse experiment.
- Assessed physiological, biochemical, and growth responses to thermal stress.
- Identified resilient tea cultivars for future climate change adaptation.

## Academic Achievements

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- University Price for Academic Excellence at the Final Examination.
- Merit Award for Best Scientific Research – Department of Crop Science (1<sup>st</sup> place)
- Second Runners-up – Oral Presentation in Final Year Research - Department of Crop Science
- Got selected to the Faculty of Agriculture, Undergraduate Research Symposium (FAuRS) – Oral presentation as a best presenter.

## Work experience

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Research trainee at Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka – Talawakelle

Temporary lecturer – Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya

Climate Change Action Ambassador – Janathakshan GTE Ltd- Sri Lanka

## Project experiences

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**Guide: Prof. Janak Vidanarachchi, Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya**

- Project coordinator – World Food Day Celebration 2024 at the University of Peradeniya, collaboration with IAAS (International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Science), Sri Lanka

**Guide: Dr. Wikum Jayasinghe, Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya**

- Youth Climate Ambassador Program 2025

**Organizing committee member- Reptiles in Sri Lanka – Awareness program organized by Biology Guild, University of Peradeniya**

- Assisted in producing high-quality media outputs to promote university events, student activities, and cultural programs.

- Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team to maintain consistent branding and storytelling across platforms.
- Gained experience in media communication, teamwork, and creative content development within a leading university media unit.

**Girl Guide – Sri Lanka Girl Guides Association**

**2011-2017**

## **Volunteering Experiences**

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The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Food, Nutrition, Health and Lifestyle 2024 “**Future-Proofing Society: Interdisciplinary Solution to Bridge Ecosystems and Health**”, Seoul, South Korea

## **Skills**

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### **Technical / Laboratory Skills**

- Chlorophyll content measurement (SPAD / spectrophotometry)
- Gas exchange measurements (photosynthesis, stomatal conductance)
- Relative Water Content (RWC) and leaf water status
- Biochemical assays (TPC, antioxidant activity, enzyme assays)
- Sample extraction and preparation for chemical analysis
- Nutritional and food quality analysis
- Controlled-environment experiment setup (glasshouse/heating systems)
- Microscopy & plant tissue handling
- Tissue culture
- Moisture content & basic proximate analysis

### **Data Analysis & Statistical Skills**

- SAS On Demand (ANOVA, RCBD, DMRT, regression)
- R (basic statistical analysis)
- SPSS
- Advanced MS Excel (data analysis, pivot tables)
- Experimental design (RCBD, CRD, factorial designs)
- Data visualization and interpretation

### **Field Skills (Agriculture/Crop Science)**

- Crop management and agronomic practices
- Field screening

- Agronomy and physiological observations
- Field trial establishment and maintenance
- Field data collection and record keeping

### **Soft Skills**

- Leadership (Secretary – Plantation Society)
- Communication (Director of Social Media, Perabeats Media Unit)
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Time management
- Event coordination and organizational skills
- Creativity and presentation skills

### **Research interest**

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Plant physiology and stress biology

Climate change and sustainable agriculture

Crop science and agronomy

Food science and quality analysis

### **Referees**

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Professor W.A.J.M. De Costa

BSc Agric. (Peradeniya, Sri Lanka), PhD (Reading, United Kingdom)

Senior Professor and Chair of Crop Science/Chairman, Tea Research Board of Sri Lanka

Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture

University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya 20400, Sri Lanka

*Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences - Sri Lanka*

(E-mail: [janendrad@gmail.com](mailto:janendrad@gmail.com); Fax: 94-81-2388041; Phone: 94-81-2384014 (Home), 94-81-2395118 (Office), 94-71-4430572 (Mobile))

Professor J.K. Vidanarachchi

Dept. of Animal Science

University of Peradeniya

Peradeniya, 20400, Sri Lanka

+94 81239 6013, +94 714430552