



From Waste to Wealth: IPR Protection and Quality Assurance in Horticultural Processing and Waste Utilization

The Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST), Integral University, Lucknow, organized an awareness program on the theme “From Waste to Wealth: IPR Protection and Quality Assurance in Horticultural Processing and Waste Utilization” on 11th May, 2026. The programme was organized with the objective of enhancing awareness among students regarding Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), quality assurance, value addition, entrepreneurship development, and sustainable waste utilization in agriculture and horticulture.

Dr. Neelima Garg, Former Acting Director, ICAR–CISH, Lucknow and Visiting Professor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST, served as the distinguished resource person for the awareness program. She delivered an insightful lecture emphasizing the growing importance of horticultural processing, post-harvest management, and sustainable waste utilization for improving farmers’ income and promoting environmental sustainability. The program was conducted in the Seminar Hall, First Floor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University, Lucknow.

Dr. Neelima Garg explained that large quantities of agricultural and horticultural wastes generated during processing and post-harvest operations can be scientifically utilized for the preparation of value-added products such as biofertilizers, compost, nutraceuticals, beverages, dehydrated products, pectin, essential oils, and animal feed. She highlighted that effective waste utilization not only reduces environmental pollution but also creates additional income opportunities for farmers, rural youth, and agri-entrepreneurs.

She also elaborated on the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in agriculture and horticulture. She discussed various forms of IPR such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, geographical indications, and plant variety protection, explaining how these legal tools help safeguard innovations, traditional knowledge, and newly developed technologies. Students were informed about the significance of protecting scientific innovations and promoting research commercialization for strengthening the agricultural economy.

The program further highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship and start-up opportunities in the field of horticultural processing and waste management. Various successful examples of waste-to-wealth technologies and innovative business models were discussed to motivate students towards self-employment and agri-based enterprises. The programme encouraged participants to adopt sustainable technologies and scientific processing methods for efficient utilization of agricultural resources.

An interactive discussion session was also organized during the program where students actively participated and interacted with the resource person by asking questions related to value addition, processing technologies, IPR protection, and entrepreneurship opportunities in agriculture. The session proved highly informative, motivating, and beneficial for the students.

in understanding the practical applications of waste utilization and horticultural processing technologies.

Students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture IV year, actively participated in the awareness program and benefited from the informative and skill-oriented programme. The program successfully enhanced awareness regarding sustainable agricultural practices, innovation protection, and the economic potential of agricultural waste utilization.

The programme was successfully coordinated by Dr. Khalid Habib, Faculty Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. The entire event was conducted under the expert guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University, Lucknow.

Glimpse



