



Report on

Educational Visit to Annual Flower Show 2026 Organized by ICAR–National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow

The Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST), Integral University, Lucknow organized an educational visit for B.Sc. Agriculture second-year students to the Annual Flower Show 2026 at ICAR–National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow on January 24, 2026. The visit was conducted with the objective of providing students practical exposure to modern floriculture practices, ornamental horticulture, nursery technologies, and value-added products associated with the floriculture industry. The program aimed to strengthen students' academic understanding and practical skills in horticulture while promoting awareness regarding entrepreneurship opportunities in the floriculture sector.

The educational visit was organized under the guidance and support of Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture (IIAST), Integral University. The programme was conducted under the convenership of Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Director, IIAST, whose encouragement and vision greatly contributed to the successful organization of the educational visit.

The Annual Flower Show featured a wide range of ornamental flowers, thematic gardens, nursery stalls, floriculture technologies, and value-added products. Students observed several important ornamental crops including roses, gladiolus, and chrysanthemums. They learned about improved varieties, cultivation techniques, propagation methods, post-harvest handling, and commercial significance of these flower crops in the domestic and export markets. A major attraction of the exhibition was the display of diverse rose cultivars, where students observed hybrid tea roses, floribunda, miniature roses, climbers, and shrub roses. They gained knowledge regarding pruning, budding, grafting, disease management, and vase-life enhancement techniques. The gladiolus section provided practical exposure to corm selection, planting methods, nutrient management, harvesting stages, and storage techniques. In the chrysanthemum section, students learned about photoperiod sensitivity, pinching, staking, and commercial production practices under open field and protected conditions.

The exhibition also showcased innovative floriculture technologies and value-added products. Students visited the dry flower art section where they observed decorative items prepared from dried flowers and foliage, including bouquets, greeting cards, wall hangings, and floral jewelry. They learned different flower drying and preservation techniques such as air drying, press drying, silica gel drying, and microwave drying. The importance of dry flower technology as a low-cost entrepreneurial venture and its potential for employment generation among rural youth and women was also highlighted. Another informative section

included stalls displaying flower-based perfumes, rose water, essential oils, attars, incense sticks, and herbal cosmetic products. Students gained exposure to distillation methods, extraction of aromatic compounds, quality standards, and the commercial importance of floral fragrances in the cosmetic and perfumery industries. This provided students with an understanding of value addition and diversification opportunities in horticulture. During the visit, students also interacted with nursery owners, technical staff, and horticulture professionals who explained nursery management practices, propagation techniques, potting media preparation, irrigation management, pest and disease control, and marketing strategies in nursery enterprises. The interaction provided practical insight into commercial nursery management and horticulture-based entrepreneurship.

The educational visit also contributed towards achieving several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education) through experiential learning and skill enhancement, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by promoting entrepreneurship opportunities in floriculture and nursery management, SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by encouraging sustainable horticultural practices and utilization of floral waste for dry flower products, and SDG 15 (Life on Land) by promoting biodiversity conservation and awareness regarding ornamental plant resources.

The educational visit proved highly beneficial for the students by enhancing their understanding of floriculture crops, nursery technologies, value-added products, and commercial opportunities in horticulture. The exposure significantly improved students' observational skills, technical knowledge, and awareness regarding modern trends in floriculture and ornamental horticulture.

The educational visit was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Sampurna Nand Singh and Dr. Satish Yadav, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, Integral University, Lucknow.

The Department of Agriculture, Integral University, Lucknow expresses sincere gratitude to ICAR–NBRI, Lucknow for organizing such an informative and well-planned exhibition and for providing students with an excellent platform for experiential learning. Through this educational initiative, Integral University reaffirmed its commitment towards quality agricultural education, practical exposure, skill development, and entrepreneurship promotion in the field of horticulture and floriculture.

Glimpse

