

P.I. PRASANTHI PERERA

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Ph.D. in Plant Sciences and a B.Sc. in Agriculture, majoring in Genetics and Plant Breeding. Main teaching and research areas plant breeding, plant tissue culture and propagation. Ample experience in screening plant genetic resources for biotic and abiotic factors, cytogenetics, reproductive biology, plant tissue culture including haploid breeding through androgenesis and gynogenesis, cryopreservation and embryo rescue, micropropagation; molecular biology techniques including PCR, gel electrophoresis, macromolecule blotting and probing with Western and Southern blotting and *in situ* hybridization; molecular analysis with SSRs, RAPDs and AFLPs; protein analysis with isozymes; microscopy with anatomical, histological, and cytological studies; and flow cytometry. A member of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, Institute of Biology and Society for the Advancement of Breeding Research in Asia and Oceania (SABRAO). Recipient of diverse research-related awards. Author and co-author of about 100 scientific papers published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and conference proceedings. Experience in supervising undergraduate and postgraduate students in their thesis research.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS/ INTERESTS

In Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)

- Field evaluation of okra Germplasm for resistance to Mosaic Virus
- Reproductive biology
- Development of the homozygous lines through microspore culture technique

In Chilli (*Capsicum annum*)

- Evaluation of chilli varieties for drought resistance under in vitro conditions
- Evaluation of chilli varieties for nitrogen use efficiency under in vitro conditions
- Evaluation of chilli varieties for tolerance to high-temperature levels under in vitro conditions
- Development of a crop model for higher productivity with fewer inputs under Kalpitiya cropping system

In cassava (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz)

- Breeding of cassava for Cassava Mosaic Virus, Postharvest physiological Deterioration (PPD) and high biomass and beta-carotene content
- Field evaluation and cassava germplasm for resistance to Cassava Mosaic Virus
- Developmental biology of the cassava inflorescence.
- Development of a tissue culture protocol to produce doubled haploid/homozygous lines using anther and microspore culture techniques.

In coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.)

- Developmental biology of the coconut inflorescence.
- Development of a protocol to produce doubled haploid homozygous plants (pure lines) using the anthers and microspores of mature male flowers, which had a great impact on crop improvement by accelerating the generation of new improved varieties.
- Development of a protocol for mass clonal production of coconut plants using the ovaries of immature female flowers to satisfy the high demand for improved planting materials.

In Nil Mahanel (*Nymphaea nouchali* var. *nouchali*)

- Establishment of the sterile in vitro cultures using seed and leaf explants
- Development of a seed culture protocol for mass propagating this vulnerable species with the aim of conserving for future generations

Yams (*Dioscorea*)

- Development of micropropagation technique
- Development of advanced propagation methods in vivo

Pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*)

- Reproductive biology
- Development of homozygous lines using microspore culture technique

Others

- Seed dormancy after harvesting the paddy in Rice (*Oryza sativa*)
- Development of an organic fertilizer formula for hydroponic culture
- Cashew propagation through stem cuttings
- Application of molecular tools for assaying the ploidy level, population analysis, segregation pattern and gene expression
- Cytogenetic analysis for identification of genetic peculiarities and ploidy levels in different crop species
- Histological analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

[Wayamba University of Sri Lanka](#)

Gonawila, Makandura

Professor in Plant Science
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening
Faculty of Agriculture and Management

2018, March–Up-to-date

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|--|-----------------------------|
| Head Department of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening Faculty of Agriculture and Management | 2017, September–August 2020 |
| Deputy Proctor Faculty of Agriculture and Management | 2015 Jan – 2017 Dec |
| Senior Lecturer (Grade I) Department of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening Faculty of Agriculture and Management | 2014, April–2018 February |
| Visiting Lecturer Department of Biotechnology Faculty of Agriculture and Management | 2009 |

Responsibilities / Involvements

- Conducting lecture and the practical components of the course that are taught including Plant Tissue Culture and Micropropagation, Principles and Applications of Plant Breeding, Project Proposal Formulations and Scientific Writing etc.
- Formative and summative assessment of the students for the courses conducted
- Supervising the students for their undergraduate and postgraduate research thesis
- Mentoring the student for the progression of their undergraduate studies
- Maintaining student discipline in the faculty
- Involving in the curriculum development process by introducing new courses and by revising the existing curricular for the available courses
- Conducting the research in a diverse areas including doubled-haploid plant regeneration through the manipulation of gamete cells, floral and pollen biology, screening the crop germplasm for different biotic and abiotic stresses and micropropagation of different plant species *etc.*
- Publishing the results generated from the research in high-impact journals, conference proceedings and books
- Conducting outreach activities for the benefit of the society including the general public and the industry
- Assisting the university by serving on different senate-nominated committees
- Assisting the faculty and the department for the continuation of their smooth functioning through participation in the different activities
- Reviewing the degree programs of the state universities of Sri Lanka for enhancing the quality standards
- Reviewing the scientific papers for their appropriateness of publication in International and National Journals and conference proceedings
- Preparing the project proposals for research grants

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
Cali, Colombia

2010 June- 2014 June

Cassava Breeding Program

Plant, Cell and Tissue Culture Specialist (Researcher)
June

March 2013-2014

Plant, Cell and Tissue Culture Specialist (Post-Doctoral Fellow)
March 2013

June 2010-

Responsibilities:

- Coordination of laboratory work of a team of 3–4 staff.
- Innovation to advance the protocol for the regeneration of doubled haploids.
- Interaction and collaboration with other program scientists out posted in Africa.
- Training of personnel from developing countries.
- Data collection, handling, analysis and summarising the results
- Publication of the research results in high-impact journals and conference proceedings
- Update the progress of the project at the project/ institute meetings using PowerPoint presentations
- Supervising the postgraduate students for their research thesis

Coconut Research Institute (CRI)
Lunuwila, Sri Lanka

Tissue Culture Division

Senior Researcher (with two years on no-pay leave)

2008–2012

Responsibilities:

- Planning and implementing research projects including the data analyzing and results presentation in the specialized disciplines.
- Guiding the experimental, technical and other subordinate staff for assisting in the implementation of research projects
- Implementation of overall research program of the division
- Supervision of university undergraduate students to fulfill their research component.
- Writing of reports and project proposals.
- Data collection, handling, analysis and summarising of the results
- Publication of the research results in high-impact journals and conference proceedings
- Update the progress of the project at the institute meetings using PowerPoint presentations
- Supervising the undergraduate students for their research thesis
- Conducting demonstrations on the Coconut Tissue Culture to the general public

Researcher

1999–2008

Responsibilities:

- Implementation of research projects, analysing data and presenting results in the specialized disciplines
- Guiding the experimental and technical officers and other subordinates of the division for collecting & recording data
- Planning, design and execution of research projects.
- Writing of reports and project proposals.
- Conducting the demonstrations on the Coconut Tissue Culture to the general public

Genetics and Plant Breeding Division
 Technical Assistant

1998–1999

Responsibilities:

- Project on RAPD-based characterization of conserved coconut biodiversity in Sri Lanka with emphasis on the detection of markers linked to drought tolerance.

Internship

1997

Responsibilities:

- Project on taxonomic and cytogenetic characterization of *Spicata* in coconut for partial fulfillment of the requisite for a B.Sc. degree.

**Institute for Development Research (IRD)-Agricultural Research for
 Development (CIRAD)**

2002–2004

Montpellier, France

Visiting Scientist (3 or 4 months each year for a total of 12 months)

- Conducting research on histology, western-blotting and RNA in-situ hybridization

EDUCATION

University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Postgraduate Institute of Science

Ph.D. in Plant Sciences

2008

University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Agriculture, majoring module of **Genetics and Plant Breeding**

B.Sc. in Agriculture (graduated with Second Class Honours)

1997

AWARDS

International:

1. **The World Academy of Science, Italy / National Science Foundation (TWAS/NSF)** Young Scientist Award for Scientific Excellence awarded in December 2008

National:

1. **National Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research** (2017) Certificate of Commendation 'Plantation Sector'. Awarded by Sri Lanka Association for Agricultural Research Policy
2. **NRC Merit Award** for Scientific Publication in 2014, awarded by the National Research Council, Sri Lanka in January 2017
3. **NRC Merit Award** for Scientific Publication in 2010, awarded by the National Research Council in October 2014
4. **President's Award for Scientific Publication**, for scientific research evaluated by peers and published in the year 2009 awarded in January 2014
5. **President's Award for Scientific Publication**, for scientific research evaluated by peers and published in the year 2008 awarded in January 2014
6. **President's Award for Scientific Publication**, for scientific research evaluated by peers and published in the year 2007 awarded in January 2014
7. **Hiran Tillakeratne Special Award for Research in the Field of Agriculture**, awarded by the University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka (2010).
8. **Postgraduate Research Merit Award**, granted by the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science at its 64th annual session (2008).

Conference:

9. **Gold Medal** for the best paper presentation of the 2nd Symposium on Plantation Crop Research (2008).
10. **Best paper presentation** in the session on Plant Breeding and Biotechnology, granted by the 20th Annual Congress of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (2008)

University:

11. **Merit Award for Most Outstanding Senior Researcher** (2021). Awarded by the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka
 12. **Merit Award for Most Outstanding Senior Researcher** (2020). Awarded by the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka
 13. **Merit Pass** in the Overall Performance of the Certificate Course on Staff Development (CCSD) conducted by the Staff Development Centre, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka (2015).
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MEMBERSHIPS

1. Life Member (2021/882) of the Institute of Biology (IoB), Sri Lanka from 15.10.2021
 2. Life Member (6859/B) of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) from 2006
 3. Annual Member of the Society for the Advancement of Breeding Research in Asia and Oceania (SABRAO) inn 2021
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RESEARCH GRANTS

- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**
 - Consultant for two activities
 - Grant amount: Rs. 3 306 400.00 (USD 10 000.00)
 - Title: “Strengthen capacities to implement the adaptive national agriculture policy interventions project
 - Duration: Ten months (20.12.2021-20.10.2022)
 - Grant No. TCP/SRL/3804
- **Acceleration of Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) Grant funded by World Bank for Development Oriented Research**
 - Activity coordinator of Work Package 2
 - Duration: 2019-2022
 - Title: An Integrated Approach to Improve the Socio-Economic & Environmental Sustainability of Intensive Agricultural Systems with Special Reference to Kalpitiya Peninsula
 - Grant amount: Rs. 40 000 000.00. (USD 300 000.00)
 - Grant No.: AHEAD/DOR/051
- **University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka:**
 - Co-investigator
 - Duration: 2018-2019-2020
 - Title: Characterization of Cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) starch attributes of selected varieties and assessment of the potential for commercial-scale production of cassava-supplemented pasta
 - Grant amount: Rs. 2 400 000.00 (USD 21 850.00)
 - Grant No.: ASP/01/RE/SCI/2017/74
- **Wayamba University of Sri Lanka Research Grants:**
 - Principal Investigator
 - Duration: 2018-2019

- Title: Molecular analysis on segregation pattern of *Nymphaea nouchali*, the National Flower of Sri Lanka; the feasibility of using seed-derived plants for mass propagation
- Grant amount: Rs. 186 000.00. (USD 1700.00)
- Grant No.: SRHDC/RP/04/18-01

- **Bill & Mellinda Gates Foundation, USA, through CIAT, Cali, Colombia:**
 - Principal Investigator
 - Duration: 2014-2017
 - Title: Double Haploid Breeding for Cassava Enhancement, Phase II,
 - Grant amount: Rs. 40 000 000.00 (USD 300 800.00)
 - Grant No.: C-089-14

- **National Research Council, Sri Lanka:**
 - Principal Investigator
 - Duration: 2015-2017
 - Title: Multiplication and distribution of threatened *Nymphaea nouchali* Burm. f. the national flower of Sri Lanka, to prevent its extinction;
 - Grant amount: Rs. 1 309 216.00 (USD 12 700.00)
 - Grant NO: 15-013

- **Wayamba University of Sri Lanka Research Grants:**
 - Principal Investigator
 - Duration: 2015-2017
 - Title: Clonal Propagation of *Nymphaea nouchali* Burm. f., the national flower of Sri Lanka, to prevent its extinction
 - Grant amount: Rs. 330 920.00. (USD 3008.00)
 - Grant No.: SRHDC/RP/04/15-01

- **Young Scientist Innovation Grant:**
 - Principal Investigator
 - By International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) Colombia to promote the young scientists capacities to innovate
 - Grant Amount USD 15 000.00

CAREER PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- Successfully completed the workshop on Practical aspects of Plant Breeding held at the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, **University of Peradeniya** in 2014
- Successfully completed the ‘Certificate Course on Staff development’ conducted at the Staff Development Center, **Wayamba University of Sri Lanka** from 24th October 2014 to 24th April 2015.

- Completed the courses on ‘Quantitative Genetics’ and ‘Introduction to QTL mapping’ at the 18th Summer Institute in Statistical Genetics, **University of Washington**, Seattle, WA, USA from July 15- July 19, 2013
- Live cell immersing of pollen embryogenesis and microspore transformation, **Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK)**, Gatersleben, Germany (23 September–23 October 2011).
- Chromosome preparations, **University of California**, Davis, USA (10–17 October 2010).
- Coconut embryo culture, germplasm collection and gene bank management, **Zamboanga Coconut Research Center**, Philippines (11–15 December 2008).
- *In situ* hybridisation, **IRD- CIRAD**, Montpellier, France (1 August–30 November 2004).
- Practical molecular biology, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), **University of Peradeniya**, Sri Lanka (1–13 March 2004).
- Protein analysis, IRD, Montpellier, France (1 July–31 October 2003).
- Plant transformation, Agriculture Biotechnology Centre, **University of Peradeniya**, Sri Lanka (22–23 December 2003).
- Histological analysis (light microscope and scanning electron microscope observations), **IRD**, Montpellier, France (1 December 2002 to 28 February 2003).

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Jathunarachchi A.S., **Perera P.I.P.**, Salgadoe A.S.A., Gimhani D.R., Weerakoon H.M. (2022) In vitro selection of chili (*Capsicum annuum*) varieties tolerant to reduced nitrogen supplements. *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture* DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1007/s11240-022-02422-1>
- Perera P.I.P.**, Attanayaka T., Yakandawala K., Yakandawala D., Fernando C., Arachchi U., Gunawardhana D., Weerasinghe C. (2021). *In vitro* culture of *Nymphaea nouchali* seeds; a conservation approach for a vulnerable species. *Journal of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka*, 49(3) 393-402 DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4038/jnsfsr.v49i3.10305>
- Perera P.I.P.**, Pathirana R., Vidhanaarchchi V.R.M. (2021). Somatic embryogenesis in anther-derived fast-growing callus as a long-term source for doubled-haploid production of coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.). *Journal of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka* 49 (1) 39-49
- Dissanayake L, **Perera P**, Attanayaka T, Heberle E., Jayawardhana M (2020). Early development of direct embryos in the cultured anthers of *Manihot esculenta* Crantz. *Plants*
- Perera P. I. P.**, Motha K. F. and Vidhanaarchchi V. R. M. (2020). Morphological and histological analysis of anther-derived embryos of coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.). *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture* 140, 685–689
- Perera PIP**, Ordoñez CA, Dedicova B, Ortega PEM (2014). Reprogramming of cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) microspores towards sporophytic development. *AoB PLANTS* 6: plu022; doi:10.1093/aobpla/plu022
- Perera PIP**, CA Ordoñez, LA Becerra Lopez-Lavalle, JDJS Kularatne, B Dedicova (2014). A milestone in the doubled haploid pathway of cassava (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz): cellular and molecular assessment of anther-derived structures. *Protoplasma*, 251(1):233-246, DOI: 10.1007/s00709-013-0543-6

- Vidhanaarachchi VRM, SC Fernando, **PIP Perera**, L.K. Weerakoon (2013). Application of unfertilized ovary culture to identify elite mother palms of *Cocos nucifera* L. with regenerative potential. *Journal of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka* 41(1): 29-34
- Perera PIP**, Quintero M, Dedicova B, Kularatne JDJS, Ceballos H. 2013. Comparative morphology, biology and histology of reproductive development in three lines of *Manihotesculenta* Crantz (Euphorbiaceae: Crotonoideae). *AoB PLANTS* 5: pls046;doi:10.1093/aobpla/pls046.
- Perera PIP**, B Dedicova, C Ordonez, JDJS Kularatne, M Quintero, H Ceballos (2012). Recent advances in androgenesis induction of cassava (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz). *Acta Horticulturae* 961: 319-325.
- Perera PIP**, V Hocher, LK Weerakoon, DMD Yakandawala, SC Fernando, J-L Verdeil (2010). Early inflorescence and floral development in *Cocos nucifera* L. (Arecaceae: Arecoideae). *South African Journal of Botany* 76:482–492.
- Perera PIP**, DMD Yakandawala, J-L Verdeil, V Hocher, LK Weerakoon (2010). Morphological aspects of coconut anther culture derived structures. *Journal of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka* 38(1):69–74.
- Perera PIP**, VRM Vidhanarachchi, TR Gunathilake, DMD Yakandawala, V Hocher, J-L Verdeil, LK Weerakoon (2009). Effect of plant growth regulators on ovary culture of coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.) *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture* 99:71–83.
- Perera PIP**, DMD Yakandawala, V Hocher, J-L Verdeil, LK Weerakoon (2009). Effect of growth regulators on microspore embryogenesis in coconut anthers. *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture* 96:171–180.
- Perera, PIP**, IP Wickremasinha, WMU Fernando (2008). Morphological, cytogenetic and genotypic differences between *Spicata* and ordinary tall coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.). *Journal of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka* 36(1):103–108.
- Perera PIP**, L Perera, V Hocher, J-L Verdeil, DMD Yakandawala, LK Weerakoon (2008). Use of SSR markers to determine the anther-derived homozygous lines in coconut. *Plant Cell Reports* 27:1697–1703.
- Perera PIP**, V Hocher, J-L Verdeil, HDDBAndupriya, DMD Yakandawala, LK Weerakoon (2008). Androgenic potential in coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.). *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture* 92:293–302.
- Perera PIP**, V Hocher, J L Verdeil, S Doulebeau, DMD Yakandawala, LK Weerakoon (2007). Unfertilized ovary: A novel explant for coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.) somatic embryogenesis. *Plant Cell Reports* 26(1): 21–28.
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STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Ph.D.:

- **Co-supervisor;**
 - Student name: Ms. Buttibwa Mary
 - Title: Utilizing Heat-Treated pollen and androgenesis pathways for production of haploids in cassava
 - Institute: Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

- Registered in 2016
- Completed in 2021

M.Phil.:

- **Principle Supervisor;**
 - Student name: A S Jathunarachchi
 - Title: In vitro screening of chilli and beet varieties for selected abiotic stresses to be used in a comparative study of crop models for improving the microclimatic conditions under Kalpitiya cropping system
 - Institute: Wayamba University of Peradeniya
 - Ongoing
 - Registered in 2021
- **Co-supervisor;**
 - Student name: R.A.T.Nilusha
 - Title: Characterization of cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) flour from five Sri Lankan cassava cultivars and development of cassava flour incorporated pasta
 - Institute: Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura
 - Completed
 - Registered in 2017
 - Completed in 2022

M.Sc.:

- Co-supervisor
 - Student name: K.D.B.P. Jayasinghe
 - Title: Formulation of an organic-based liquid fertilizer for hydroponic lettuce
 - Institute: Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka
 - On-going
 - Registered in 2019
- **Principal Supervisor:**
 - Student name: Pablo Emilio Moreno Ortega
 - Title of thesis: Chromosomal Abnormalities During Microsporogenesis In Two Varieties Of Cassava *Manihot esculenta* Crantz
 - Institute: National University of Colombia (Universidad Nacional de Colombia), Palmira, Colombia
 - Registered in 2013
 - Completed in 2015
- **Supervision of undergraduate research students:**

Supervised about 30 undergraduate research students attached to the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening, Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka to fulfil their research component in the

final year and guiding them to publish their research in the Proceedings of Agricultural Research Symposium.

CONTRIBUTION FOR DEVELOPMENT

International Development

- Country representative and a member of the **Asian Cassava Breeders Network (ACB-Net)** from 2017
- Reviewer of international journals such as Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture, Biologia, Annals of Botany (Plant), In vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology, HortScience, Crop Science, African Journal of Biotechnology etc.
- Associate Editor, SABRAO (Society for the Advancement of Breeding Research in Asia and Oceania) Journal of Breeding and Genetics
- Country representative for the Asian Cassava Breeders Net-work in 2017

National Development

- Programme Reviewer of State Universities (2019): Served as the review Chair of the Programme Review team -Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Town and Country Planning, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
- Programme Reviewer of State Universities (2019): Served as a member of the Programme Review team - Honours Degree of Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
- Programme Reviewer of State Universities (2019): Served as a member of the Programme Review team - Bachelor of Technology in Science and Technology and Bachelor of Science in Mineral Resources and Technology Degree Programmes, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Uwa Wellassa University of Sri Lanka
- Programme Reviewer of State Universities (2017): Served as a member of the Programme Review team - Social Science, Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna
- Programme Reviewer of State Universities (2017): Served as a member of the Programme Review team - Social Science, BA (Hons) Languages Program, Faculty of Business Studies, Trincomalee Campus, Eastern University of Sri Lanka

University Development

- Co-Chair, Wayamba University Research Congress, 2018
- Senate Representative to the Senate Research and Higher Degree Committee, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka from October 2017 to 2020
- Co-in-charge of National/ International Participation Committee, Wayamba International Conference in 2016
- Development of State-of-Art Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory using funds from Bill & Mellinda Gates Foundation, USA in 2015
- Chairman of the Senate-appointed committee for considering the appeals against the punishments on violation of Examination Procedures, Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries and Nutrition in 2019

- Chairman of the committee appointed by the University Senate Research and Higher Degree Committee for developing the implementing procedure of a Grievance Committee for Postgraduate students in 2020
- Chairman of the senate Sub-Committee (for non-medical) appointed to revise the existing Marking Scheme for Selection Committees -Post of Senior Lecturer/ Lecturer (Prob.) -Non-Medical/ Dental and Medical/ Dental in 2021
- A member of the senate sub-committee appointed for suggesting a monitoring system of the progress of postgraduate programs

Faculty Development

- Head/ Department of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening since September 2017 -2020
- Development of a *State-of Art* Tissue Culture Laboratory using the funds from Research Grants
- Member, Faculty Higher Degree Committee from 2014 -2019
- B.Sc. (Agriculture) –Member of SER writing Team, Self Evaluation Report (SER) for program review -2018
- Member of the DOR proposal writing team (STEM), AHEAD Grant, 2018
- Deputy Proctor, Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka from 2015-2018
- Coordinator, Agricultural Research Symposium (AGRES), Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka in 2018
- Chairperson, Logistic committee, Agricultural Research Symposium (AGRES), Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka in 2017
- Member of the Executive Committee: International Conference on ‘Advances in Tea – 2017’ (AITea 2017)- Co-in-charge of National/ International Participation Committee, Held in Colombo 2016
- Rapporteur: For the session of Country Papers of the International Conference on Advancements in Tea (AITea)-2016
- Chairperson, Publication Committee, Agricultural Research Symposium (AGRES), Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka in 2016
- Chairperson, Publication Committee, Agricultural Research Symposium (AGRES), Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka in 2015
- Senior Treasurer, Horticulture Society, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka in 2014 and 2015

Resource person of the Professional Development (CPD) Programmes

- Invited speaker: SS12 Asia 2017- Sri Lanka Competition, conducted at the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication, **University of Moratuwa** on 25th April 2017
- Resource person, National Teacher Training Program conducted by the Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, **Wayamba University of Sri Lanka** in 2016
- Member of the Trainer Team for the training programme of **Regional Southeast Asian Cassava Breeders**, 14th - 26th November, 2016. Haikou, China
- Consultative service: Professional development activity conducted at the **National Crops Resources Research Institute**, Kampala, Uganda (NaCRRI) in 2012 and 2013

COMMENDATION OF SERVICE

- From the Director, Coconut Research Institute for making a breakthrough in coconut tissue culture research developing novel techniques of ovary and anther culture
- From the Director, Coconut Research Institute for the contribution for coconut germplasm exchange program
- From International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Cali Colombia; For remarkable commitment and dedication for scientific research in 2012 and 2013

I hereby certify that the particulars given herein are true and accurate.



Prof. (Mrs.) P I Prasanthi Perera
Professor in Plant Science
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening
Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka
Makandura, Gonawila (NWP)
Sri Lanka