

# NINITHA NATH C.

Assistant Professor, Department of  
Genetics & Plant Breeding

College of Agriculture, Vellayani

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## Summary

Dedicated plant breeder with research interests spanning crop improvement, tissue culture, and molecular breeding in both field crops and ornamental crops. Committed to nurturing the next generation, I am passionate about teaching and currently guide courses for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. My extension activities involve conducting enlightening sessions for farmers on scientific cultivation practices and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), contributing to the promotion of sustainable agriculture and innovation.

## Research Highlights

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- Compatibility studies in monopodial orchids
  - Protocol development for embryo culture of monopodial orchids
  - Development of dwarf varieties of coconut
  - Development of rice varieties with stress tolerance and also suitable for organic farming
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## Experience

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- Joined Kerala Agricultural University as Assistant Professor (Genetics and Plant Breeding) in the year 2021.
- Served as Vocational teacher in Agriculture and as Principal in the Department of Vocational Higher Secondary Education.(2007-2021)
- Worked as Junior Research Fellow in the DBT project on ‘Breeding for commercial orchid hybrids’(2001- 2004)

## Education

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- Graduated in Agricultural Science from Kerala Agricultural University (2001)(Second Rank)
- Post Graduation in Plant Breeding and Genetics from Kerala Agricultural University (2004)(First Rank)

## Area of Specialization

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Crop improvement and Tissue culture studies

## **Awards & Recognitions**

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- Kerala Agricultural University Merit Scholarship (1996-2001)
  - DBT JRF fellowship for doing M.Sc in Plant Breeding and Genetics.
  - Qualified ASRB-NET (Agricultural Scientific and Research Board-National Eligibility Test) in Plant Breeding in 2004
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## **Research Projects**

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- Development of D x T varieties of coconut – State Plan Project 22-23 (As Project Coordinator)
- AICRP on Palms (As PI)
- Evolution of high yielding rice varieties suitable for Pokkali tract of Northern Kerala through farmers' participatory breeding approach- (KAU plan project) (As Co-PI)

## **Publications**

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Books/Chapters in Books -3

Popular Articles -2

Abstracts/Proceedings -3

Leaflets - 4

## **Student Guidance (Major Advisor/ Advisory committee member)**

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M.Sc.

- Ongoing -2

## **Other Institutional Responsibilities**

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- Currently acting as student Advisor/faculty mentor to 8 Undergraduate students.(2022 Admission)
- Currently acting as class teacher of one unit of B.Sc.(Hons.)Ag.Degree programme.(2021 Admission)

## **Membership in Professional Associations**

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- The Indian Society of Genetics & Plant Breeding
- Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR)