Centurion University
Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND FOR AGRICULTURE: EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

2025 at a Glance

- **Farmer education:** Training, field visits and demonstrations addressed organic farming, soil health, pest management and sustainable cultivation.
- **Soil-health management:** CUTM distributed **405 Soil Health Cards** to farmers through the 3rd Utkal Krishi Mela.
- **Practical learning:** CUTM's agricultural facilities provided demonstration settings for sustainable farming and land-management practices.
- **Partnerships:** Programmes involved organisations including ICAR, NABARD, Harsha Trust, NMAET–ATMA, CCD, ICAR.

Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM) conducts educational and outreach programmes to promote the sustainable management of agricultural land among farmers, students, and rural communities. The initiatives included a Krishi Mela, farmer training programmes, field visits, exposure visits to university farm units, and workshops on organic farming, agrivoltaics, and protected cultivation. Soil-health testing and the distribution of Soil Health Cards further supported awareness of soil fertility and informed agricultural land management. The M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture facilitates these initiatives through its 187-acre academic farm at Paralakhemundi, which provides practical demonstrations of sustainable farming techniques, soil management, and efficient use of agricultural resources. These activities help participants gain practical knowledge that can be applied to improve farming practices, maintain soil health, and promote the long-term sustainability of agricultural land.

1. Outreach Programmes

Table 1: Educational outreach on sustainable agricultural land management, January–December 2025

Programme	Date	Organiser / partner	Audience	How participants were reached	Participants
Fruit-tree planting on reclaimed hill land, Terrace Orchard, Ranadevi	31 Jan 2025	NSS Unit, Paralakhemundi	NSS volunteers	Hands-on planting of mango, guava and jackfruit	39
Workshop on Agri-Photovoltaic Technology	22–24 Feb 2025	School of Engineering and Technology with SCGJ and GIZ	Industry participants, faculty, students	Three-day training and visit to a 40 kW agrivoltaic plant at OUAT	26
3rd Utkal Krishi Mela	7–8 Apr 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture with ICAR and NABARD	Farmers, agri-entrepreneurs, students	Technology demonstrations, panel discussions, farmers' quiz, Soil Health Card distribution	1117

Programme	Date	Organiser / partner	Audience	How participants were reached	Participants
Exposure visit of ATMA farmers to the Livestock Farm Complex	20th Jun 2025	School of Veterinary and Animal Sciences	Farmers	Exposure visit and training	25 Farmers group
Farmer awareness on pest detection and management	28th May 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture with Harsha Trust	Farmers	Awareness programme	32
Residential farmer training under NMAET–ATMA	3–4 Sep 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture	Farmers	Two-day residential training	25
Geomatics session on geospatial tools for natural-resource management with ICAR–IISWC	17 Sep 2025	School of Engineering and Technology with ICAR–Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation	Faculty and students	Expert session	73
Workshop on Entomology and Apiculture	12 Sep 2025	Department of Zoology	Students	Workshop	39
Training on saffron cultivation under controlled environments	23–24 Oct 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture	Students and farmers	Two-day training	34
Workshop on Organic Dragon Fruit Farming: From Soil Health to Market Linkages	3 Nov 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture	Students and farmers	Workshop	10
World Soil Day	5 Dec 2025	Department of Soil Science	Students	Awareness programme	100
Farmers' meeting and field visit on organic farming and soil health management	Dec 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture with the FFVDP project of CCD	Farmers	Meeting and field visit	118
Exposure visits to agricultural and allied units	Dec 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture (Missiorer project and CCD)	Tribal and smallholder farmers	Exposure visits	48
Kisan Divas (National Farmers' Day)	23 Dec 2025	M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture	Farmers, students, faculty	Farmers' day programme	169
Veterinary outreach camps in villages	Mar–Oct 2025	Veterinary Clinical Complex, SoVAS	Livestock farmers	Veterinary ambulatory clinics and animal health camps held in surrounding villages	27 camps; 179 animals treated in 8 camps
Sheep and goat farming training	23–26 Jun 2025	School of Veterinary and Animal Sciences with SEED-AP	Entrepreneurs	Four-day training on housing, breeding, feeding, health and economics of small-ruminant farming	2

3rd Utkal Krishi Mela — 7–8 April 2025

The M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture, together with other schools of the Paralakhemundi campus and with representatives of ICAR and NABARD, organised the 3rd Utkal Krishi Mela. The event brought together 1,117 farmers, agri-entrepreneurs and students for demonstrations of new farming technologies, panel discussions on livestock management, aquaculture, farm mechanisation and crop protection, and a farmers’ quiz. A total of 405 Soil Health Cards were distributed to host farmers, and trainees in mushroom cultivation and beekeeping received certificates. Award-winning farmers, among them the “Millet Queen of Odisha”, shared their experience and good practice with participants, encouraging the exchange of knowledge on sustainable agriculture.



Fig 1: 3rd Utkal Krishi Mela, 7–8 April 2025

Farmer Training, Capacity Building and Field Exposure Programmes

- **Pest Detection and Management:** The M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture, in collaboration with Harsha Trust, organised an awareness programme for 32 participants on crop pest identification, prevention, and management to promote sustainable crop protection practices (May 2025).
- **ATMA Farmer Exposure Visit:** On 20 June 2025, 25 Pranimitra (village livestock workers) trained under the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) visited the Livestock Farm Complex of the School of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. Faculty explained the management of the cattle and buffalo, poultry, sheep and goat and piggery units, and the role of on-farm fodder production in integrating crop and livestock production and making efficient use of farm resources.
- **Veterinary Outreach Camps:** From March to October 2025, the Veterinary Clinical Complex of the School of Veterinary and Animal Sciences organised 27 veterinary ambulatory clinics and animal health camps in surrounding villages, including Badagaon, Ranipenta, Navada, Sariapalli, Bagusala, Jogipadu, Hadubangi, Agarkhandi, Ramachandrapur and Mahadeipur. Veterinarians treated livestock for parasitic infestation, nutritional deficiency, wounds and infertility, carried out pregnancy diagnosis, and advised farmers on animal health and herd management. The eight camps held in June and August alone treated 179 animals.
- **Sheep and Goat Farming Training:** From 23 to 26 June 2025, the School of Veterinary and Animal Sciences trained two entrepreneurs under the SEED-AP programme in scientific sheep and goat farming, covering housing, breeding, feeding, health management and the economics of small-ruminant enterprises.
- **NMAET–ATMA Training Programme:** On 3–4 September 2025, a two-day residential training programme was held for 25 farmers from Buguda Block, Ganjam district, under the National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), in collaboration with the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha. Participants received hands-on training at the University's demonstration units in dragon fruit cultivation, vermicomposting, beekeeping, vanilla cultivation, mushroom production, agricultural drone applications, livestock management, Black Soldier Fly larvae rearing, recirculating aquaculture systems and biofertiliser production, which strengthened their knowledge of improved and sustainable farming practices.
- **Organic Farming and Soil Health Management:** A total of 118 farmers associated with the FFVDP project of CCD participated in a meeting and field visit at the University, focusing on organic farming methods, soil health management, and environmentally sustainable agricultural practices (December 2025).
- **Agricultural Exposure Visits for Farmers:** 20 tribal farmers associated with the Missioner project and 28 farmers supported by CCD visited the University's agricultural and allied units to gain practical knowledge of agricultural technologies, farming systems, and sustainable resource management (December 2025).

- **Kisan Divas (National Farmers' Day):** A total of 169 farmers, students, and faculty members participated in the observance of National Farmers' Day, recognising farmers' contributions to food security and agricultural development while promoting awareness of sustainable farming practices (23 December 2025).

These initiatives strengthened farmer education, practical skills, and awareness of sustainable agricultural land management. Through training, institutional farm visits, and community engagement, CUTM promoted improved crop protection, organic farming, soil health management, and the responsible use of agricultural resources.

Workshops on Land-Efficient Farming

- **Agri-Photovoltaics**: The School of Engineering and Technology, in collaboration with the Skill Council for Green Jobs and GIZ under the Indo-German Energy Programme, trained 26 participants, including 12 industry representatives, in agrivoltaic systems that combine solar power generation with crop cultivation on the same land. Participants also visited a 40 kW agrivoltaic plant at OUAT (22–24 February 2025).
- **Saffron Cultivation:** On 23–24 October 2025, a training programme on controlled-environment saffron (*Crocus sativus*) cultivation was conducted for 34 participants, including farmers, young agricultural professionals and students. The sessions covered indoor, soilless and hydroponic cultivation techniques and nutrient management, demonstrating how a high-value crop can be produced without bringing additional agricultural land under cultivation.
- **Organic Dragon Fruit Farming:** On 3 November 2025, a workshop titled "Organic Dragon Fruit Farming: From Soil Health to Market Linkages" trained 10 small and marginal farmers, primarily from Scheduled Caste communities, in organic soil management, sustainable cultivation practices, grading, processing and market linkages for dragon fruit, a drought-tolerant crop suited to marginal upland areas. The programme was supported by the SEED Division of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.
- **Soil and Water Conservation:** On 17 September 2025, Dr P. Raja, Principal Scientist at the ICAR–Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, held an interactive session with 73 students and faculty members on the role of Earth sciences, GIS and remote sensing in sustainable natural resource management, environmental monitoring and climate change research.
- **World Soil Day:** On 5 December 2025, the Department of Soil Science of the M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture celebrated World Soil Day on the theme "Healthy Soils for Healthy Cities" with 100 participants, including students of a nearby government upper primary school. The programme raised awareness of soil conservation, soil-health management and the importance of maintaining soil quality for sustainable agriculture.

2. Soil Health Testing and Advisory

The Soil Health Monitoring Laboratory at the M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture provides soil testing services to farmers, NGOs, research scholars, and students and issues Soil Health Cards based on the results. Soil samples are analysed for pH, electrical conductivity, soil organic carbon, and available nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Based on the findings, the cards provide field-specific recommendations, including liming to correct soil

acidity, split application of nitrogen, appropriate phosphorus management, and incorporation of crop residues to improve soil fertility and promote sustainable agricultural land management.

Table 2: Soil Health Monitoring Laboratory: soil parameters recorded in 2025

Parameter	2025 value	Soil-test rating	Management advice on Soil Health Cards
Soil pH	6.18	Acidic (below 6.5)	Liming to correct acidity
Soil organic carbon	0.35%	Low (below 0.5%)	Crop-residue incorporation, vermicompost and organic manure
Available nitrogen	248.7 kg/ha	Low (below 280 kg/ha)	Split application of nitrogen
Available phosphorus	14.21 kg/ha	Medium (10–25 kg/ha)	Phosphorus management
Available potassium	127 kg/ha	Medium (108–280 kg/ha)	—
Soil pest incidence	7%	—	Regular monitoring

Ratings follow the soil-test classes used on Soil Health Cards in India. The low organic carbon and nitrogen values are why the advice to farmers centres on returning crop residues, vermicompost and organic manure to the soil and on applying nitrogen in split doses rather than all at once.

3. Continuing Farmer Capacity-Building Programmes

Three major programmes have been implemented by Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM) in collaboration with Gram Tarang, the University's skill development and entrepreneurship outreach arm and an early partner of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). The figures presented below represent the cumulative achievements of each programme.

Table 3: Continuing farmer programmes: funding, CUTM's role and outreach method (cumulative figures)

Programme	Funder / partner	CUTM's role	How farmers were reached	Area	Reach (cumulative)
Innovation Agriculture Project	National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Government of India	Implementing partner, with Gram Tarang	Training of farmers and of Community Resource Persons	9 tribal-dominated districts of South Odisha; 3 districts of North Coastal Andhra Pradesh	2,725 farmers and 124 Community Resource Persons trained
Project Atal	Programme towards the national goal of doubling farmers' income, delivered with a Last Mile Distribution Company	Implementing partner, with Gram Tarang	Training, assessment and certification of small and marginal farmers; end-to-end support for growing the Rajendra Nagar rice variety (RNR 15048)	200 blocks of Odisha	70,000 farmers
SEEDAP collaboration	Society for Employment Generation and Enterprise Development in Andhra Pradesh (SEEDAP)	Training partner, with Gram Tarang, under an agreement with SEEDAP	Farmer training	Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts	900 farmers

4. Demonstration Units Used for Farmer and Student Training

Table 4: Agricultural demonstration units and their scale

Unit	Scale in 2025	Sustainable land-management practice demonstrated to the community
Academic farm, M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture	187 acres	Field experimentation, adaptive trials and experiential learning
Campus trees and orchards, Paralakhemundi	4,195 trees of 80 species (2025 census), including teak 1,043, mango 861 and coconut 143	Tree cover, windbreaks and fruit production on farm boundaries
Terrace Orchard on reclaimed hill land	5 acres; mango, guava and jackfruit planted by 39 NSS volunteers on 31 January 2025	Terracing and drip irrigation on sloping land
Plantation and fruit crops, Bhubaneswar	25,904 plants of 83 species (2025 census), including mango, coconut, arecanut, coffee, cocoa, tea and pineapple	Mixed perennial cropping on a small urban campus
Commercial horticulture nursery	2 acres; more than 200 species; up to 10,000 plantlets a month	Propagation of quality planting material in polyhouses and shade-net houses
Orchidarium	550 orchid plants of five species	Propagation and acclimatisation; plantlets distributed to farmers and entrepreneurs
Dragon fruit orchard on a rocky hilltop	Bearing orchard with drip irrigation and trellis poles; venue of the 3 November 2025 workshop	Productive use of barren, marginal upland
IoT-enabled geodesic vanilla dome	Hi-tech vanilla cultivation trials, a signature initiative of the School in 2025–26	High-value crop on a small, climate-controlled footprint
Saffron (saffroponics) and hydroponics units	Indoor, soilless and vertical systems; saffron training on 23–24 October 2025	Crop production without clearing additional land
Apiculture unit	28 bee boxes; 22 active colonies in 2025; three honey bee species	Pollination services and bee-keeping as a farm enterprise
Medicinal and aromatic plant collection, including stevia	80 species from 40 families	Diversification with medicinal and high-value crops
Crop Cafeteria, Rajaseetapuram	Kharif, Rabi and Zaid crops; native and local varieties	Crop diversity, seasonal planning, mulching, organic manuring and residue incorporation
Restored campus ponds	Desilted ponds, with invasive weeds cleared and native carp stocked	Groundwater recharge
Livestock Farm Complex	1,880 animals of 18 breeds and types on a 7-acre farm laboratory; cattle feed grown on University farms	Integrated crop–livestock farming
Vermicompost and Black Soldier Fly units	Vermicompost produced, used on campus and sold; organic residues converted to soil-enriching material	Recycling organic waste into soil nutrients and Black Soldier Fly used as fish feed.
Agricultural drones	More than 20 students and faculty certified as DGCA-licensed drone pilots	Precision agriculture and field assessment

Crop Cafeteria and Local Crop Varieties

The ‘Crop Cafeteria’ at Rajaseetapuram (Paralakhemundi Campus) cultivates native, traditional, and locally adapted crop varieties during the Kharif, Rabi, and Zaid seasons, employing sustainable agricultural practices such as mulching, organic manuring, and crop-residue incorporation. CUTM’s farm units also cultivate traditional paddy varieties, brinjal, and other vegetables. Demonstration plots featuring local and improved maize varieties enable farmers to compare crop performance under field conditions and identify suitable varieties for sustainable and productive agriculture.

Alongside these field crops, the University grows a wide range of vegetables, fruits and plantation crops in open fields, orchards and under hydroponics (Fig 7). Its vegetable fields grow brinjal, okra, capsicum, cucumber, bottle gourd, ridge gourd, spine gourd, onion and cauliflower, and lettuce is grown hydroponically. A 1-acre mushroom unit produces paddy straw and oyster mushrooms and trains students and farmers in mushroom cultivation; mushroom trainees received certificates at the 3rd Utkal Krishi Mela on 7–8 April 2025. Red-fleshed and white-fleshed dragon fruit are grown on a restored hilltop and in a 1-acre dragon fruit garden, and a workshop on organic dragon fruit farming was held on 3 November 2025. A 5-acre terrace orchard on reclaimed hilly land grows guava, pomegranate, banana, citrus, custard apple and dragon fruit with intercrops and green-manure species, and mango, guava and jackfruit trees were added on 31 January 2025. The campus also has a 1.5-acre coffee garden, a mango garden, a mixed fruit orchard, a 1-acre block of under-exploited fruit species, a coconut garden and nursery, a 1-acre organic research farm and 5 acres of hybrid Napier fodder that feeds the livestock (Section 5.2).

Table 5: Vegetables, fruits and plantation crops grown at Centurion farms

Sl. no.	Category	Common name	Botanical name
1	Fruit vegetables	Chilli	*Capsicum annuum* var. *annuum*
2		Capsicum	*Capsicum annuum*
3		Red cherry pepper	*Capsicum annuum* var. *cerasiforme*
4		Tomato	*Solanum lycopersicum*
5		Cherry tomato	*Solanum lycopersicum* var. *cerasiforme*
6		Brinjal	*Solanum melongena*
7		Okra (red and green)	*Abelmoschus esculentus*
8	Cucurbits	Pumpkin	*Cucurbita* spp.
9		Bottle gourd	*Lagenaria siceraria*
10		Summer squash	*Cucurbita pepo* subsp. *pepo*
11		Cucumber	*Cucumis sativus*
12		Watermelon	*Citrullus lanatus*
13	Cole crops	Cauliflower (white, purple and orange)	*Brassica oleracea* var. *botrytis*
14		Cabbage (green and red)	*Brassica oleracea* var. *capitata*
15	Perennial vegetables	Agathi	*Sesbania grandiflora*
16		Drumstick	*Moringa oleifera*
17	Legumes (beans)	Jack bean	*Canavalia ensiformis*
18		Yard-long bean	*Vigna unguiculata*
19		Sword bean	*Canavalia gladiata*
20		Dolichos bean	*Lablab purpureus*
21	Bulb crops	Onion	*Allium cepa*
22	Root and tuber crops	Cassava	*Manihot esculenta*
23		Arrowroot	*Maranta arundinacea*
24		Carrot	*Daucus carota*
25	Leafy vegetables	Water spinach	*Ipomoea aquatica*
26		Malabar spinach	*Basella alba*
27		Spinach	*Spinacia oleracea*
28		Amaranthus	*Amaranthus* spp.
29		Lettuce	*Lactuca sativa*

30		**Pak choi**	***Brassica rapa* subsp. *chinensis***
31		**Mustard greens**	***Brassica juncea***



Fig 2: Crop Cafeteria, Rajaseetapuram (left: 20 August 2025)



Fig 3: Local maize, paddy and other local crop varieties at Centurion farms



Fig 4: Brinjal and other vegetables grown at Centurion farms

Protected and Soilless Cultivation

TThe hydroponics and polyhouse units demonstrate innovative vertical farming and soilless cultivation techniques, while the indoor saffron cultivation facility showcases high-value crop production under controlled environmental conditions. These initiatives help farmers and students understand how to cultivate valuable crops efficiently while minimising land and water requirements.



Fig 5: Hydroponics and protected cultivation unit





Fig 6: Indoor saffron and orchid cultivation

Dragon Fruit on Reclaimed Hilltop Land

A barren, rocky hilltop was reclaimed and converted into a productive dragon fruit orchard through land levelling, contouring, organic matter enrichment, and the installation of drip irrigation and trellis systems. The established, fruit-bearing orchard serves as a practical training and demonstration site for students and 12 farmers, promoting sustainable land reclamation, water-efficient cultivation, and organic farming practices. The University conducted two training programmes on dragon fruit cultivation in 2025, reaching 35 participants: a two-day residential training on 3–4 September 2025 for 25 farmers under the NMAET–ATMA programme, which included dragon fruit cultivation among its modules, and a one-day hands-on training on organic dragon fruit cultivation on 3 November 2025 for 10 small and marginal farmers from Scheduled Caste communities, supported by the SEED Division of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India (project DST/SEED/SCSP/2023/275). The training covered organic nutrient management, drip irrigation and mulching, canopy management, organic pest control, harvesting and post-harvest handling.



Fig 7: Dragon fruit orchard on reclaimed hilltop land

Orchidarium, Nursery and Apiculture

The Orchidarium, part of CUTM's two-acre commercial horticulture nursery, houses 550 orchid plants representing five species and supplies plantlets to farmers and aspiring orchid entrepreneurs, promoting horticultural education, enterprise development, and sustainable livelihoods. The University's apiculture unit maintains 28 bee boxes, including 22 active colonies in 2025, offering students practical training in hive inspection and bee management. Furthermore, beekeeping trainees received certificates at the 3rd Utkal Krishi Mela, strengthening skill development, agricultural entrepreneurship, and sustainable farming practices.

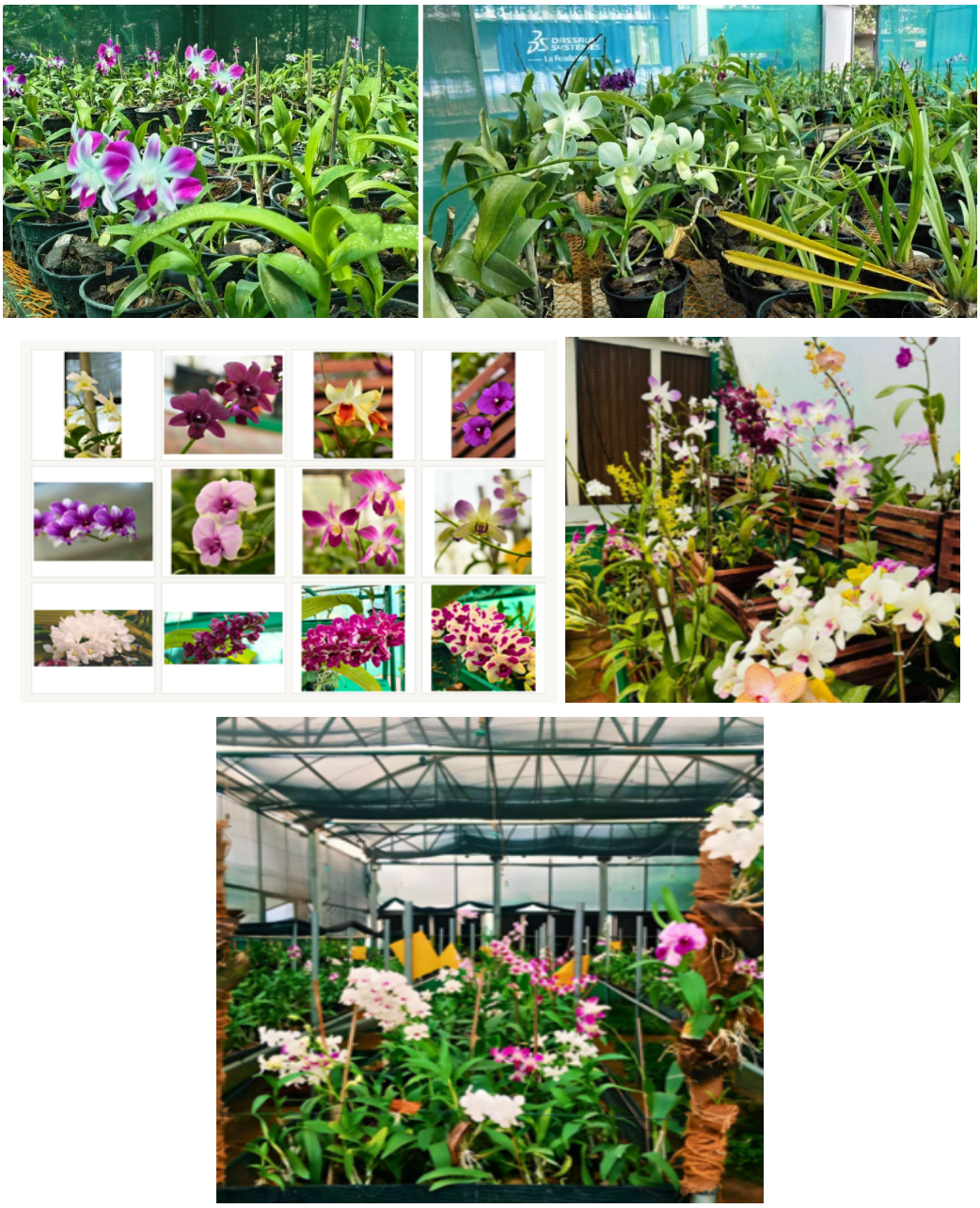


Fig 8: Orchidarium, M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture



Fig 9: Hive inspection and apiculture practice by students, January 2025

Organic-Waste Recycling

The University campuses at Paralakhemundi and Bhubaneswar have established organic waste recycling units which produced 60 tons of fresh vermi compost during the year 2025. After meeting requirement of composting for campus greenery and crop cafeteria, about 20 tons of vermi compost has been sold to outside farming community. During this period, more than 170 farmers and women self-help group members had visited at both campuses to receive first hand technical know-how on vermi manure production techniques, vermi culture, climate control and safe handling of earthworms, harvesting and packaging etc.





Black Soldier Fly

The Black Soldier Fly (BSF) Production Unit at CUTM, promotes sustainable organic waste management by using *Hermetia illucens* larvae to convert suitable biodegradable substrates into larval biomass and frass. The unit combines production with student learning, farmer exposure and enterprise development. Larvae offer potential feed resources for fish and poultry, while frass has agricultural applications.

Production and income

The product quantities and rates

Product	Quantity	Rate per kg	Calculated income
Wet larvae	500 kg	INR 30	INR 15,000
Frass	500 kg	INR 15	INR 7,500
Dry larvae	100 kg	INR 200	INR 20,000
Total income			**INR 42,500**

Training and outreach

The unit conducted four university student exposure visits and ten farmer exposure visits, offering practical exposure to BSF rearing, waste conversion and product utilization. Institutional and stakeholder visits included ICAR DDG, Piramal, an NGO and OUAT. Subhanjan Panda and Ankita Panda participated in the six-day National Workshop on “Entrepreneurial Blueprint: From Concept to Enterprise” held at CUTM from 10 to 15 April 2025.

Exhibitions and demonstrations

The unit showcased its experiential learning stall at the CSA IAS exhibition, Gajapati Mahotsav, Soil Day, Vizianagaram Krishi Mela and the national entrepreneurship workshop, presenting BSF technology and products to students, farmers and other visitors.

Photographs of products and unit activities



BSF products from left to right packaged larvae harvested larvae and frass



Demonstration of BSF rearing and stakeholder exposure at the unit



Student exposure visit to the BSF Production Unit

Photographs of outreach and workshop participation





Farmer and stakeholder exposure visits to the BSF Production Unit





Additional views of visitors and student representatives at the unit


NATIONAL WORKSHOP
ON
"ENTREPRENEURIAL BLUEPRINT: FROM CONCEPT TO ENTERPRISE"
CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION
THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO


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Dr. Ashok Kumar
Organizer
Dr. Shiv Shankar Das
RC Coordinator
CGSS
Dr. Sagar Maitra
Dean, MSSoA,
CUTM,Odisha
Dr. S. P. Nanda
Dean (Admin)
MSSoA, CUTM,Odisha
Prof. Anita Patra
Registrar, CUTM
Odisha

Entrepreneurship workshop participation certificates for Subhanjan Panda and Ankita Panda

Fig 10: Black Soldier Fly larvae unit

5. Conclusion

Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM) conducted 14 outreach programmes on the sustainable management of agricultural land, with 571 participants, including 198 farmers in dedicated farmer-focused programmes and 169 participants in the Kisan Divas celebration. Farmers gained practical knowledge through the Utkal Krishi Mela, residential training, field demonstrations, and agricultural exposure visits. Students and industry representatives also participated in workshops on agrivoltaics, indoor saffron cultivation, organic dragon fruit farming, and soil and water conservation. Soil testing conducted by the University's Soil Health Monitoring Laboratory informed Soil Health Card recommendations, including crop-residue incorporation, organic manure application, and split nitrogen fertilisation to address low soil organic carbon and nitrogen levels. CUTM's 187-acre academic farm and its demonstration units further support practical learning and showcase sustainable agricultural practices that farmers can adopt on their own land. .