

# Dr. Nithya P. R.

Assistant Professor,  
RARS(SZ), Vellayani

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## Summary

Entomologist specialized in biological control with specialization in microbial biological control. Expertise in research on insect-plant-entomopathogenic fungus interaction. Future plan of work include identification of plant-bioagent mediated responses in insects, changes in plant responses with biotic factors, mechanisms in insects to entomopathogen mediated secondary metabolites and signaling events in insect-plant-bioagent interaction

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## Research Highlights

- Developed an oil based formulation of the entomopathogenic fungus, *Lecanicillium lecanii* as part of master's program.
  - Isolated and characterized two indigenous isolates of *Beauveria bassiana* and evaluated the efficacy against diamondback moth
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## Experience

Joined Kerala Agricultural University as Assistant Professor (Agricultural Entomology) in the year 2021.

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## Education

- Graduated in Agricultural Science from Kerala Agricultural University (2013)
  - Post Graduation in Agricultural Entomology from Kerala Agricultural University (2015)
  - Ph.D in Entomology from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (2020)
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## Area of Specialization

Biological Control of Insects

## Awards and Recognition

- DST INSPIRE fellowship (IF160933) for Ph.D
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# Publications

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## Journal Articles (Scopus indexed)

1. Nithya P. R., Manimegalai, S., Nakkeeran, S., Mohankumar, S. and Jayarajan Nelson, S. (2021). Comparative study of the ditrophic interaction between *Beauveria bassiana* and *Plutella xylostella*. 3 Biotech, doi: 10.1007/s13205-021-02760-5. (Impact factor 2.4)
2. Nithya, P. R., Manimegalai, S., Nakkeeran, S., Mohankumar, S. and Nelson, S. J. (2019). Metabolome heterogeneity in the isolates of entomopathogenic fungus, *Beauveria bassiana* (Balsamo) Vuillemin. *Journal of Biological Control*, 33(4): 326-335.
3. Nithya, P. R., and RejiRani, O. P. (2019). Enriched bioformulations of *Lecanicillium lecanii* (Zimmermann) Zare and Gams against sucking pests of yard long bean, *Vigna unguiculata* L. Walp *sesquipedalis*. *Journal of Entomological Research*, 43(4): 445-450.
4. Nithya, P. R. and Rejirani, O. P. (2017). Evaluation of carrier materials for formulating entomopathogenic fungus *Lecanicillium lecanii* (Zimmermann) Zare and Gams. *Journal of Biological Control*, 31(1): 50-55.

## Articles not indexed in Scopus

5. Athisintha, S., Manimegalai, S., Vishnupriya, R., Muthulakshmi, P. and Nithya, P. R. (2019). Infection process and pathogenicity of *Beauveria bassiana* (Balsamo) Vuillemin against *Tetranychus urticae* Koch. *Annals of Plant Protection Sciences*, 27(2): 194-199.
6. Muralikrishna, P., Mathew, T. B., Paul, A. and Nithya, P. R. (2019). Evaluation of bio-efficacy of new generation insecticides, botanicals and microbial insecticides on leaf webber of amaranth. *Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies*, 7(5): 516-520.
7. Muralikrishna, P., Mathew, T. B., Nithya, P. R. and Paul, A. (2019). Evaluation of different household practice to decontaminate synthetic pyrethroid insecticide residues from *Amarnathus tricolor* L. *International Journal of Chemical Studies*, 7(5): 2049-2052.
8. Nithya P. R., Manimegalai, S., Nakkeeran, S., Mohankumar, S. and Jayarajan Nelson, S. (2019). Virulence of indigenous isolates of white muscardine fungus, *Beauveria bassiana* on diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella* under laboratory conditions. *Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies*, 7(5): 1115-1118.
9. Nithya, P. R., Prabhakar, N. and Muralikrishna, P. (2016). Chitin: A potential Biopolymer for Ecofriendly Nematode Management. *Advances in Life Sciences*, 5(7): 2579-2581.
10. Prabhakar, N., Suresh, P. R., Nagula, S. and Nithya, P. R. (2016). Relevance of Calcium Nutrition in Present Day Agriculture. *Advances in Life Sciences*, 5(7): 2526-2530.
11. Nithya, P. R., RejiRani, O. P. and Shifa, B. S. (2015). Effect of nitrogenous polysaccharides in sporulation of entomopathogenic fungus, *Lecanicillium lecanii* (Zimmermann) Zare and Gams. *International Journal of Applied and Pure Science and Agriculture*, 4(1): 21-26.

## Books/Chapters in Books

1. Rajadurai, G., Tamilnayan, T. and **Nithya, P. R.** (2020). The occurrence of trans boundary insect pests in India and their consequences. Rout, S (ed.) *Agriculture and forestry: Current trends, Perspectives, Issues*. Immortal Publications, Prasadampadu, Vijayawada. pp 459-473. ISBN 978-93-5437-486-9

## **Student Guidance (Advisory Committee member)**

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**M. Sc.**

Nil

**Ph. D**

Within KAU: Ongoing : 1

## **Other Institutional Responsibilities**

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1. Student advisor to 5 undergraduate students.

## **Membership in Professional Associations**

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1. Annual membership in the Association for Advancement in Entomology