

EXPOSURE FIELD TRIP TO BSI - EXPERIMENTAL BOTANICAL GARDEN, UMIAM.

A student field trip was organized by the Botanic Club under the Department of Botany, Shillong College to the BSI, Experimental botanical garden, Umiam near ICAR on the 4th of May 2023. Altogether 49 honours students from all even semesters of Botany department were taken, accompanied by the teachers. The experimental garden is being looked after by Mr. Laishram Ricky Meitei, Botanist, BSI, ERC, Shillong with support staff of BSI.



Though it was a short visit, but it was fruitful and constructive for the students since they were taken for a tour around the garden by Mr. Ricky who had also given us a very useful information on the plants around especially those that are endemic to the state.

In the experimental garden we also witnessed the conservation of herbs, shrubs as well as trees. Mr. Laishram Ricky Meitei, had taken his valuable time to be with us throughout the journey, highlighting each plant found in the garden including both ornamental and medicinal too.



The students with enthusiasm listened and noted down the uses as well as the scientific names of these valuable plants found around the experimental garden.

The experimental garden also has its own Fern house and Orchid house where several species were seen to have been conserved and identified.





Inside the garden, we also witnessed a serene forest where tree species are being conserved, which is the main aim of the BSI.







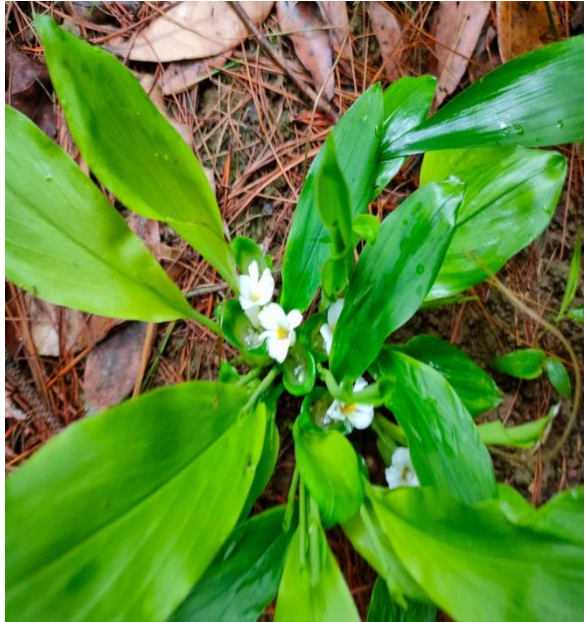
Fig: Few of the important species found around the experimental garden.

Towards the end of the trip we were also taken to the extension experimental garden which was across the road. Here many species of plants belonging to Zingiberaceae family were seen to be conserved.





Curcuma longa





The field trip ended with a group photo of the students, teachers and Mr. Laishram Ricky Meitei who was generous enough to provide us with 4 types of plant species i.e., *Prunus cerasoides*, *Dillenia indica*, *Delonix regia*, and *Mangifera indica*. Each student had taken these saplings for plantation in the college campus.

