



ICAR Sponsored Winter School
on
Diversified Horticulture
for Sustainable Livelihood and
Risk Management

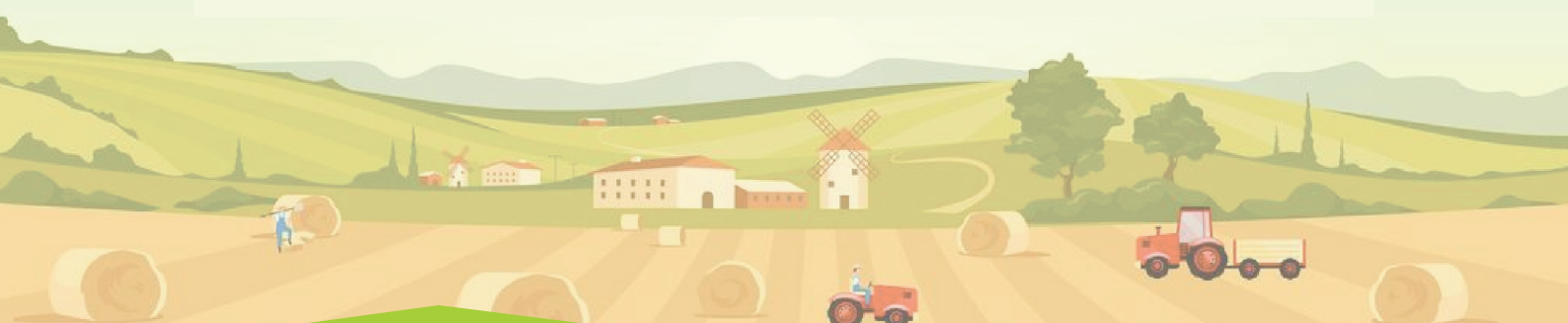


26 November, 2026 – 16 December, 2026



Organized by

Directorate of Human Resource Development
Agriculture University, Kota, Rajasthan



AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY, KOTA

Agriculture University, Kota is a prominent institution dedicated to the advancement of agricultural education, research, extension and human resource development. The University is committed to addressing the emerging challenges of agriculture through quality education, need-based research, technological innovation and effective dissemination of knowledge for the benefit of farmers and other stakeholders. The University serves as an important centre for agricultural development in South-eastern Rajasthan. Through its constituent colleges, research stations, Krishi Vigyan Kendra's and other academic and extension units, the University works towards generating, refining and disseminating location-specific technologies for sustainable agricultural growth. The University offers academic programmes in diverse disciplines of agriculture and allied sciences and strives to develop competent human resources capable of meeting the changing needs of modern agriculture. Its research and extension activities focus on improving agricultural productivity, enhancing resource-use efficiency, promoting climate-resilient farming systems and strengthening farmers' livelihoods. It is actively embracing emerging technologies such as precision agriculture, artificial intelligence, machine learning, remote sensing, GIS, drone technology, biotechnology and digital agriculture. The University is committed to promoting innovation-driven, sustainable and climate-smart agricultural practices to address the challenges of climate change, natural resource degradation and food and nutritional security.

Through its Directorate of Human Resource Development, the University also emphasizes capacity building and professional development of scientists, teachers, extension personnel, researchers, students and other agricultural professionals. By organizing national and international training programmes, workshops, refresher courses and capacity-building initiatives, the University contributes significantly towards strengthening knowledge, skills and competencies in emerging areas of agricultural science and technology. With a vision to integrate science, technology and innovation for sustainable agricultural transformation, Agriculture University, Kota continues to work towards developing a resilient, profitable, inclusive and future-ready agricultural sector.

ABOUT THE WINTER SCHOOL

Diversified horticulture covers the cultivation and integrated management of fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices, medicinal plants, plantation crops and mushrooms. The programme focuses on diversification as an approach for sustainable livelihoods, improved farm income, nutritional security and risk management. The course addresses contemporary challenges including climate variability, market fluctuations and shrinking landholdings. It combines classroom learning with practical demonstrations, institutional visits and field-oriented exposure. The programme will provide comprehensive exposure to contemporary and emerging technologies and approaches in horticulture and sustainable agricultural production. The major areas covered will include crop diversification and integrated farming systems for enhancing farm productivity, resource-use efficiency and income sustainability, sustainable and climate-resilient horticultural production approaches to address the challenges of changing climatic conditions and modern technologies such as protected cultivation, hydroponics, drip irrigation and precision farming for efficient management of water, nutrients and other production resources. Emphasis will also be given to integrated nutrient, pest and disease management for maintaining crop health while promoting environmentally sustainable production practices. The programme will cover improved fruit, vegetable, flower and spice production technologies, along with specialized production systems for seed spices, medicinal and aromatic plants and arid-zone horticulture, particularly relevant to diverse agro-climatic conditions. Participants will also gain knowledge of organic farming, vermicomposting and biofertilizers for improving soil health and promoting sustainable input management. The programme will further focus on entrepreneurship, agribusiness, market surveys and value-chain analysis, enabling participants to understand market opportunities and develop viable horticultural enterprises. Special attention will be given to post-harvest

management, processing and value addition to minimize losses, improve product quality and enhance farmers' returns. The programme will also provide insights into Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), livelihood models and government schemes for horticulture development, thereby strengthening institutional linkages, market access, income generation and livelihood security. Collectively, these themes are designed to equip participants with practical knowledge, innovative technologies and entrepreneurial skills.

ABOUT KOTA

The Kota is an educational, agricultural and industrial city situated in South-eastern Rajasthan on the banks of the Chambal River. The city is well connected by road and rail and serves as an important centre for higher education, agriculture, research and allied activities in the Hadoti region. Kota is also known for the historic Kota Barrage, Chambal River Front, Seven Wonders Park, City Palace & Kishore Sagar Lake. The winter season extends broadly from late November to February.

KEY LEARNING THEMES

- Crop diversification and integrated farming systems
- Sustainable and climate-resilient horticultural production
- Protected cultivation, hydroponics, drip irrigation and precision farming
- Integrated nutrient, pest and disease management
- Fruit, vegetable, flower and spice production technologies
- Seed spices, medicinal and aromatic plants and arid-zone horticulture
- Organic farming, composting, vermicomposting and biofertilizers
- Entrepreneurship, agribusiness, market survey and value-chain analysis
- Post-harvest management, processing and value addition
- FPOs, livelihood models and government schemes for horticulture development

TECHNICAL PROGRAMME

The programme contains a detailed sequence of more than 70+ lectures/practicals and field activities from 26 November to 16 December 2026. Selected thematic coverage is presented below:

Period	Major Themes
26–28 Nov, 2026	Inauguration; food processing & nutritional security; intercropping; scope of horticulture; diversified horticulture; propagation; biofertilizers; nutrient management; crop improvement; flower production; IPM.
29 Nov–2 Dec, 2026	Protected cultivation; nursery raising; entrepreneurship; disease management; climate-smart/organic farming; soil health; organic products; seed spices; financial planning; agro-climatic crop selection.
3–5 Dec, 2026	Digital agriculture; IPM; citrus; market/value chains; hydroponics; guava high-density planting; landscaping; drainage management; pomegranate; tuber crops; agroforestry.
6–8 Dec, 2026	ITK; garlic practical; spice crop breeding; government schemes; pest management; nutritional security; vegetable diversification; crop diversification for risk reduction; arid fruit cultivation.
9–12 Dec, 2026	Risk management; horticulture-based farming systems; urban horticulture; tissue culture; mycorrhiza; livelihood models; honey bees; innovations; soybean/spices; fruit production; spice processing; composting; protected cultivation.
13–16 Dec, 2026	Polyhouse and drip irrigation; medicinal and aromatic plants; farmer success stories; organic vegetables/fruits; FPOs; sustainable resource management; water management; precision farming; onion & garlic; minor fruits/vegetables; valedictory.

Field & Practical Exposure

- Protected cultivation and nursery raising at College of Horticulture & Forestry, Jhalawar.
- Composting and vermicompost preparation; protected cultivation demonstration and visit at Jakhora, Kota.
- Polyhouse and drip irrigation demonstrations and visit at ATC, Nanta Farm, Kota.
- Practical demonstrations in vegetative propagation, organic products, botanical pesticides, seed-spice processing and garlic-related field practices.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants should be working not below the rank of Assistant Professor or equivalent in the concerned subject (Horticulture, Agronomy, Soil Science, Plant Protection and Allied subject) under an Agricultural University/ICAR Institute.

Registration of Participants: A Registration fee of Rs. 50/- per participants deposited in favor of Director HRD, Agriculture University, Kota through demand draft or in account through net banking /UPI for joining the Winter school.

Fee Payment Bank Details:

Account Holder Name : Director, HRD, AU, Kota

Account Number : 43715612129

Bank : State Bank of India(SBI), Borkhera, Kota

IFC Code : SBIN0032394

QR Code : Scan QR to pay registration fee

SCAN & PAY



HOW TO APPLY

The participants should submit the duly filled and approved application form along with proof of registration fee (Rs. 50/-) through email at hrdauk@gmail.com. After filling the application form, take a printout of the application form and get it approved by the competent authority of your institute and send the scanned copy of the approved application on or before 15.11.2026 to Course Director. Selected candidate will be informed via email. The selected candidates are required to submit the original application form at the time of registration. As per ICAR capacity building programme (CBP) portal is non functional, applications are invited through Email/Post as per ICAR sanction.

BOARDING AND LODGING

The lodging, boarding and travel expenses of the selected participants will be borne under the training budget as per University norms. Actual TA will be paid on the production of the tickets. The travel expenses will be restricted to a maximum of III AC sleeper charges of train or bus and will be based on the criterion of pay scales of participants as per rules of Government of Rajasthan.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Patron

Dr. Vimla Dunkwal

Vice Chancellor

Agriculture University, Kota

Course Director

Dr. D. K. Singh

Director, HRD

AU, Kota

Course Co-Director

Dr. B. L. Dhaka

Associate Director HRD

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Dr. C. B. Meena

Professor (Plant Pathology)

AU, Kota

Course Coordinators

Dr. R. K. Bairwa

Professor (Agronomy)

ARS, Ummedganj, AU, Kota

Dr. Neeraj Hada

Senior Scientist & Head

KVK, Kota, AU, Kota

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Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology)

DHRD, AU, Kota

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Contact for Correspondence

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Course Co-Director

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9024617024 | Chaturbuj@aukota.org

APPLICATION FORM FOR PARTICIPATION

To be sent directly to the Course Director of ICAR Sponsored Winter School on
Diversified Horticulture for Sustainable Livelihood and Risk Management to be held during 26 November, 2026 - 16 December, 2026

1. Full Name (in Block letters): _____
2. Designation: _____
3. Present employer address: _____

4. Address to which reply should be sent (along with mobile, telephone and email):

5. Permanent address: _____

6. Date of birth _____
7. Gender: Male/Female
8. Teaching/Research/Professional Experience:
(mention posts held during last 5 years and number of publications):

9. Marital status: Married/Unmarried
10. Mention if you have participated in any Research Seminar, Summer/ Winter School/Short Course, etc. during the previous years under ICAR/Other Organizations:

11. DD Number /Transaction ID : _____ Date: _____

12. Academic record:

Degree	Discipline	Year	University
Ph.D.			
Master			
Bachelor			

Date:

Signature of Applicant

Place:

13. Recommendation of forwarding authority:

It is certified that information furnished by the candidate has been verified and found correct.

Signature of Authority with Seal