

Department of Agriculture



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Report

Experiential Learning Unit- Nursery Unit

B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture

Session: 2024-25

Prepared by

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Department of Agriculture, VGU, Jaipur

Dated: 05/03/2025

Introduction

Student's READY Programme & Experiential Learning in Agriculture

Student's READY (Rural Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana) programme was launched by the Honourable Prime Minister on 25 July 2015. This programme consists of five major components designed to equip agriculture graduates with knowledge, skills, and experience:

1. Experiential Learning on Business Model / Hands-on Training
2. Experiential Learning on Skill Development
3. Rural Awareness Works Experience
4. Internship / In-Plant Training / Industrial Attachment
5. Student Projects

Experiential Learning Programme (ELP) Sanctioned by ICAR during the XII plan, ELP aims to develop competence, capacity building, skills, expertise, and confidence among agriculture graduates. Offered in the final year of the degree program, it follows the principles of "Learning by Doing" and "Seeing is Believing" fostering self-employment and entrepreneurship.

Objectives of ELP:

- i. Provide practical exposure to real-life agricultural settings.
- ii. Develop entrepreneurial skills in agriculture and allied sectors.
- iii. Enhance decision-making abilities through hands-on experience.
- iv. Promote self-employment and sustainable agricultural practices.

Experiential Learning with a business model helps students gain practical knowledge and understand business operations. After three years of theoretical and practical learning, students can apply their knowledge to business models and adopt the "Earn While You Learn" concept.

Experiential Learning Nursery Unit

Introduction:

This report outlines the implementation of an experiential learning program within our nursery unit, highlighting various activities designed to foster active learning through hands-on experiences, exploration, and sensory engagement, promoting holistic development in young children.

Key Objectives:

- To cultivate curiosity and a love for learning through interactive experiences.
- To develop fine motor skills through sensory play and manipulation of objects.
- To enhance cognitive development by exploring concepts through practical activities.
- To encourage social interaction and collaboration through group play.

Activities Implemented:

1. **Texture Play:** Providing various textures like sand, water beads, shaving cream, and different fabrics for tactile exploration.
2. **Color Exploration:** Setting up a "color mixing station" with paints and water to create different hues.
3. **Scent Play:** Using essential oils or fragrant herbs to stimulate the sense of smell.
4. **Outdoor Exploration:** Regular outdoor playtime in the garden, observing insects, plants, and weather changes.
5. **Nature Scavenger Hunts:** Hiding natural objects for children to find and identify.
6. **Planting Activities:** Planting seeds and watching them grow in a designated garden area.

The students of department of agriculture has done various activities during this session. In ELU- Nursery unit students of UG learn about how the plants are raised and what type of strategies required for marketing. During the session of 2024-25 various plants are raised in nursery unit with the help of UG students, that was helpful for them to making self-entrepreneur in future. On this unit the students learn about raising of various winter season annuals viz. Petunia, Gerbera, Marigold, Sweet William, Pansy and Aster. Students also learn about raising of seedling of winter season vegetables like Chinese Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Chilli, Pea and Tomato in insect proof net house on raised beds.

The students of the agriculture department also learn about nursery management practices like poly bags filling, pot filling, repotting, various propagation methods like cutting, budding, grafting and direct seed sowing during their hands on practice.

There are some enlisted crops in table which are raised in polyhouse near the nursery unit during this session.

S. No.	Name of Crops	Cost of Seeds (Rs.)
1.	Petunia	1280
2.	Gerbera	
3.	Aster	
4.	Pancy	
5.	Sweet Willium	
6.	Marigold	40
7.	Tomato	2000
8.	Cabbage	150
9.	Cauliflower	120
10.	Chilli	250

Details of Crops

S. No.	Name of Crop	Scientific Name	Date of Sowing	Date of Transplanting	Date of Gap Filling
1	Petunia	<i>Petunia hybrida</i>	12/10/2024	06/11/2024	11/11/2024
2	Gerbera	<i>Gerbera jamesonii</i>	12/10/2024	06/11/2024	11/11/2024
3	Aster	<i>Callistephus chinensis</i>	12/10/2024	06/11/2024	11/11/2024
4	Pansy	<i>Viola tricolor</i> var. <i>hortensis</i>	12/10/2024	06/11/2024	11/11/2024
5	Sweet William	<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>	12/10/2024	06/11/2024	11/11/2024
6	Marigold	<i>Tagetes erecta</i>	21/10/2024	23/11/2024	31/11/2024
7	Chinese Cabbage	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. <i>capitata</i>	19/10/2024	15/11/2024	22/11/2024
8	Cauliflower	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. <i>botryties</i>	19/10/2024	16/11/2024	22/11/2024
9	Chilli	<i>Capsicum annum</i>	19/10/2024	16/11/2024	22/11/2024
10	Tomato	<i>Lycopersicum esculentum</i>	19/10/2024	16/11/2024	22/11/2024
11	Pea	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	19/10/2024	-	-

Preparation of nursery:

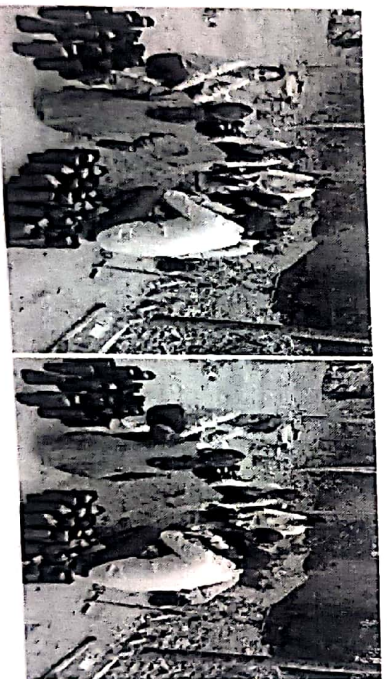
Agriculture students prepared nursery beds and ready protrays for raising of seedling of flowers and vegetables. After making of nursery beds the seeds of flowers (Petunia, Gerbera, Marigold, Sweet Willium, Pansy and Aster) and vegetables (Chinese Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chilli, Pea and Tomato) sown at both structure in raised beds as well as protrays. There are two different methods use for raising of seedlings.

Preparation of raised beds:

The students of our department are learn about how the raised bed are prepare by their on hands. For raising seedling in soil raised beds were prepared by the students.

Preparation of growing media and polybags filling:

The students of agriculture department learn about how to prepare a growing media for the horticultural crops. They have prepared media through hands-on practices by mixing of soil, vermicompost and leaf mould in 1:2:1 respective ratio. By these practices students understand the media preparation and polybags filling.

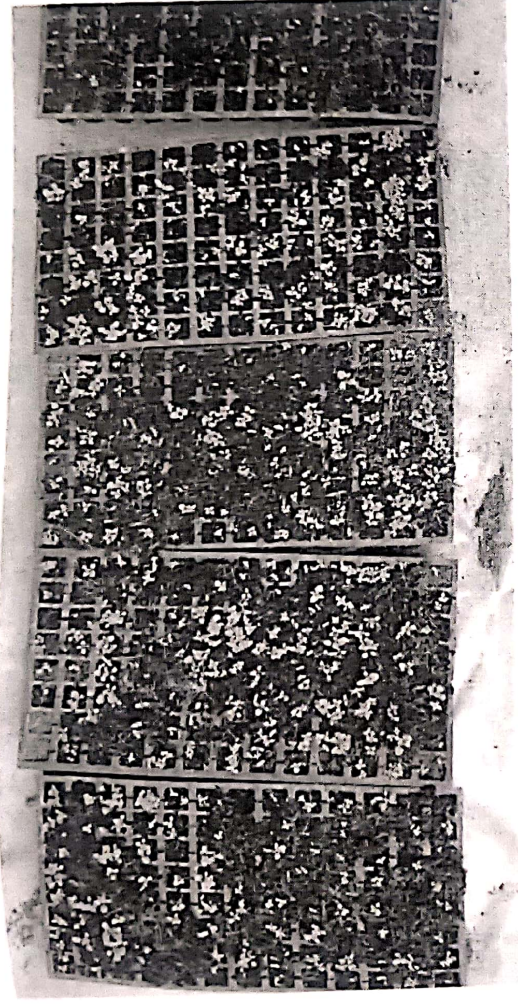


Media preparation and Polybags filling by students

Potting and Repotting: For indoor gardening pot plants are very important component so students learn about the potting procedure of plants. They also learn about preparation of pot media, planing methods, etc. They also learn about repotting of older pot plants. By hands on practices students know about care and management of pot plants.



Seed germination stage



Germination of Flowers

1. **Transplanting of seedling:** The seedling of vegetables and flowers are transplanted in main field and pots. The students of agriculture department has done this through hands on practices. Transplanting of vegetable and flowers in main field and pots were done by the students.
2. **Weeding:** Weeds are those plants which are other than main crop. They compete with main crop for everything may be light, space and nutrient also. The students increase their knowledge by identification of weeds and removing them. The students has done weeding in nursery and near the polyhouse area.
3. **Hoeing:** Digging of soil about 2 -3 cm is known as hoeing. For improve the soil aeration in root zone of plants hoeing was done by the students in nursery beds and polyhouse beds.
4. **Irrigation:** Water is applied in crop in every week interval. Students irrigate the flowering plants using the rosecan in every 5days. They also applied irrigation water to the vegetables in the main field.
5. **Manure and Fertilizer application:** Manures like FYM and vermicompost, fertilizer like urea, DAP and MOP was applied before sowing and transplanting.
6. **Crop Protection:** Students also learn about the disease identification in the nursery plants and also remedy about them.

Flowering stage of flower

