



Educational Qualification

Dec. 2010 - present Research for a Ph.D.: “Diversity and ecology of mealybugs (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) in agroecological systems of Sri Lanka”, at the Postgraduate Institute of the Agricultural University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

2010 MSc in Plant Protection Technology at the Postgraduate Institute of the Agricultural University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. GPA- 3.90 out of 4.00

2009 Certificate Course on Academic Staff Development at Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Kliyapitiya, Sri Lanka

2009 Course in Tamil Language, Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Sri Lanka

2006 BSc. in Agriculture (Special) at Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka (RUSL). Upper Second Class. GPA 3.44 out of 4.00

2005 Training program on post-harvest technology of perishable and durable crops, at the Institute of Post Harvest Technology, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka

2004 Diploma in English at the English Language Unit, RUSL

2004 Training on Operation and Maintenance of Farm Machinery at Sri Lanka-West German Farm Mechanization Training Centre, Department of Agriculture, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.

2002 Computer Awareness Course in Data Analysis at RUSL. SAS, SPSS, Minitab & MS Office package

2000 General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) at Dharmaraja Collage, Kandy, Sri Lanka. Grades: Biology A, Physics C, Chemistry C

1997 General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) at Wattapola Central College, Kandy, Sri Lanka. Seven grade Ds and one grade C

Work experience

Oct 2008 – present

Lecturer in Applied Entomology, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka (RUSL), involving lecturing; supervision of undergraduate final-year research projects in plant protection; co-ordination of the Integrated Pest Management and bee-keeping programs for farmers of the University village

Apr. 2011 – present

Resource person, Insect Pest Control, Ministry of Economic Development, Sri Lanka

May 2010

Guest lecturer at Workshop on Beekeeping for Department of Agriculture Research Officers (two days) at the Bee-keeping Center, Bindunuwewa, Bandarawela, Sri Lanka

May 2008 - present

Designed, set up and currently supervise a Bee-keeping unit at Agriculture Faculty farm, RUSL

May 2008 - Oct 2008

Temporary Lecturer, Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL

Jul. 2007 - Jul. 2008

Field officer of sustainable water resource management at Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL

Feb. 2007 - Apr. 2008

Temporary demonstrator, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL

Feb. 2007 - Apr. 2008

Taught the Farm Practice Course in Agronomy of Field and Horticultural Crops in the Dry Zone for undergraduates, at RUSL

Jul. 2006 – Dec. 2006

Research student, Pathology Division, Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Talawakele, Sri Lanka (TRI)

Dec 2006 - May 2007

Trainee on **Disease diagnosis and management in tea plantations** course, at TRI

Dec 2006 - May 2007

Application of HACCP, ISO 22000 and microbiological standards for black tea, at TRI

Completed research

- 2010** **Co-researcher and third author:** “Development of organic control methods against pests and diseases in home gardens in Sri Lanka” at Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- 2009** **Co-researcher:** “Foraging behaviour of the honey bee (*Apis cerana* (Fabricius)) in the dry zone of Sri Lanka” at Faculty of Agriculture farm, RUSL
- 2009** **Supervisor of undergraduate research project:** “Behavioural studies of the stingless honey bee, *Trigona iridipennis* Smith, in the dry zone of Sri Lanka” at Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- 2008** **Supervisor of undergraduate research project:** “Use of two *Trichoderma* (Fungi: Hypocreaceae) strains to control the fungal pathogens *Athelia rolfsii* Sacc. (Fungi: Atheliaceae) and *Rhizoctonia solani* (Fungi: Ceratobasidiaceae) of cashew nut” at Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- 2007** **Supervisor of undergraduate research project:** “Evaluation of pesticidal efficacy of cow urine combined with selected plant extracts” and “Evaluation of insecticidal and fungicidal properties of selected plant extracts to enrich the pesticidal properties of cow dung” at Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- 2006** **Sole researcher:** Research on “The effect of microwave treatment on brewed tea” and “The microbial status of tea (*Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze) at different stages of processing” at Pathology Division, Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Talawakele, Sri Lanka

Ongoing research

- Jan 2011** **Present Sole researcher:** “Assessment of the mealybug (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) diversity in selected areas of Sri Lanka” at Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka (RUSL)
- Jan 2011** **Present Sole researcher:** “Study of the locally available parasitoids (Hymenoptera) of mealybugs (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) in Sri Lanka” at RUSL
- Jan 2011** **Present Supervisor of undergraduate student project:** “Determination of the host range of Plume moth (*Sphenarches anisodactylus* (Walker), Lepidoptera: Pterophoridae), a pest of Lablab (*Lablab purpureus* (L.) Sweet, Leguminosae)” at RUSL

Research interests

- Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Coccoidea of Sri Lanka
- Management of agricultural pests and diseases
- Biological control of insect pests

Leadership, honours and professional activities

Dec 2010	Award of scholarship for M.Phil. degree under the Higher Education for the Twenty First Century project, Ministry of Higher Education of Sri Lanka
2006 – present	Life membership , Sri Lankan Association for the Advancement of Science
2008-present	Member of the Organizing Committee for the Annual Research Symposium of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL)
Nov 2007	Award of Gold Medal for the most meritorious student of the Faculty of Agriculture at the general convocation of RUSL
Jan 2007	Team leader of a field survey for the Post-evaluation of Regional Economic Advancement Project in Matale District, Sri Lanka (a non-governmental organization)
2002-2003	Chairman of the English Speech Club, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
2002-2003	Member of the Faculty of Agriculture carom team, which won third place in the inter-faculty games, RUSL
2001-2002	Secretary of the Art Society , Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL

Positions held

- Student counselor, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL)
- Academic sub-warden, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- Committee member, library standing committee, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- Coordinator, Cultural Center, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL
- Treasurer, Academic Staff Welfare Society, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL

Publications:

Sirisena, U.G.A.I., Watson, G.W., Hemachandra, K.S. & Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P., 2012. Mealybugs (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) introduced recently to Sri Lanka, with three new country records. The Pan-Pacific Entomologist, 88(3): 365-367.

Sirisena, U.G.A.I., Watson, G.W., Hemachandra, K.S. and Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P. (2012). Preparation of Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha for identification. Trop. Agr. Res. J. 24(2), 139-149.

Sirisena, U.G.A.I., Watson, G.W., Hemachandra, K.S. & Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P., 2013. A study of Scale (Hemiptera: Coccidae) in different agro ecological zones of Sri Lanka, with two new country records. P.101 In: Chakravarthy, A.K., Ashok Kumar, C.T., Verghese, A., and Thyagaraj, N.E (Eds) Proceedings of International Conference on Insect Science, February 14th -17th 2013, Bangalore, India.

Sirisena, U.G.A.I., Mandanayake, M.A.R.A, Watson, G.W., Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P and Hemachandra, K.S. 2013. Potential Pest of Rice Brevinnia Rehi (Lindinger) (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) in Sri Lanka. P.35-36 In: Jinadasa, D.M., Balasuriya, A., Senanayake, N., Amarasekara, M.G.T.S., Ginigaddara, G.A.S., Ranadheera, R.D.C.S., Egodawatta, W.C.P and Gunarathne, M.H.J.P. (Eds) Proceedings of 3rd Annual Research Symposium, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, 7th February 2013. ISSN 2235-9710.

Sirisena, U.G.A.I., Watson, G.W., Hemachandra, K.S. & Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P., 2013 (in press). Economically Important Mealybugs (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) on Fruit Crops

in Sri Lanka. Tropical Agricultural Research Journal. Post Graduate institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

K.S. Hemachandra, B.P.U.R. Bandara, W.A.P. Weerakkody, J.K.S Wasantha, **U.G.A.I. Sirisena**, T.D.C. Priyadarshani and J.M. Soorasena. 2013. Diversity and Abundance of Ground Beetles (Carabidae: Coleoptera) in Eco-Friendly Home Gardens in Comparison with Conventional Home Gardens in Southern Dryzone of Sri Lanka. P. 257-260. In: Wijeratne, W.M.M.P., Wanniarachchi, S.D., Kumara, W., Atapattu, N.S.B.M., Ratnasekara, D., Ranatunga, N.P. (Eds.) Proceedings of the International Symposium on Agriculture and Environment 2013, 28th November 2013, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka. ISSN 1800-4830

Sirisena, A., Jonathan, E.I. and Suresh, S. 2013. Biocontrol of Papaya Mealybug in Sri Lanka and India. Biocontrol News & Information, CABI, 34(1): 5N-6N. available online at www.cabi.org/BNI

Sirisena, U.G.A.I., Weerasinghe, P.A., Balasuriya, A. & J.W.K.K. Jayasundara (2007) Microbial status of tea (*Camelia sinensis*) during different stages of processing in up country. Pp 31-32 In: Goonathilake, H. & P. Randeniya (Eds) Proceedings of the 63rd annual sessions, Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, Colombo, 3-8 December 2007.

Wijesekara, P.A.G.R.P.B., Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P. & **U.G.A.I. Sirisena** (2010) Suppression of soil-borne diseases caused by *Rhizoctonia solani* and *Fusarium oxysporum* by compost fortified with *Trichoderma* spp. [Abstract.] p. 34 In: Weerasinghe, P.A., Gunawardena, A., Palipana, K.B., Jinadasa, D.M., Senanayake, N., Wickramasinghe, Y.M. & G.A.S. Ginigaddara (Eds) Proceedings of Research Symposium, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka, 4th June 2010. ISSN 2012-5623.

Bandara, P., Wijayagunasekara, H.N.P. & **U.G.A.I Sirisena** (2010) Evaluation of the efficacy of compost extracts incorporated with insecticidal plant materials. [Abstract.] p. 30 In: Weerasinghe, P.A., Gunawardena, A., Palipana, K.B., Jinadasa, D.M., Senanayake, N., Wickramasinghe, Y.M. & G.A.S Ginigaddara (Eds) Proceedings of Research Symposium, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka, 4th June 2010. ISSN 2012-5623.

P.A Weerasinghe, H.N.P. Wijayagunasekara & **U.G.A.I Sirisena**. (2010). Formulation and evaluation of pesticidal compost for crop management in home gardens. [Abstract.] pp. 6-8 In: Weligama, D.J., Weerasinghe, P.A., Goonasekara, M.M., Wijayawardena, K.H.R., Jayasundara, J.M.S.B. & A.S Siriswardena (Eds) Proceedings of Rajarata University Research Symposium, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka, October 2010.

Books/Book Chapters

Sirisena, U.G.A.I. (2010) Use of classroom questioning in the teaching process. [Book chapter.] pp. 57-75 In: Jayasinghe, U. & A. Jayawardena (Eds) *Learner-centred teaching methodology and technology to assess students*. Kuliyapitiya, Sri Lanka: Staff Development Centre, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka. ISBN 978-955-8746-69-1.

Sirisena, U.G.A.I. & R.N.N. Perera (2011) *Control of pest and diseases of paddy, a farmer's hand book*. Mihintale, Sri Lanka: Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. 36 pp.