



Department of Horticulture
Faculty of Agriculture
Agriculture and Forestry University
Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal

Ref No:

Date: 29/10/2023



USAID
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**HORTICULTURE
INNOVATION LAB**

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



USAID/ Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Horticulture (HIL)

Production Efficiency and Employment Nexus: Advanced Technology-based Urban and Peri-Urban Horticulture in Bangladesh and Nepal

Announcement of the MSc Thesis Research Grant

The project "Production Efficiency and Employment Nexus: Advanced Technology-based Urban and Peri-urban Horticulture in Bangladesh and Nepal ", a joint venture of Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU) and Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU), supported by USAID/Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Horticulture (HIL), UC DAVIS, is awarding a thesis research grant to one dynamic MSc student (preferably female) of the Department of Horticulture, AFU. The candidate should be interested in developing quality planting materials to enhance production efficiency, introduce advanced planting techniques, and develop entrepreneurship for women and youth. This approach will contribute to increasing urban communities' access to demand-based, nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables, which can aid in achieving food and nutritional security.

The research should cover the following thematic areas:

- Evaluation of recent high-yielding and climate-resilient varieties of horticultural crops.
- Innovative tools and technologies for the propagation of different horticultural crops.
- Develop strategies for off-season production of horticultural crops to enhance the livelihood of farmers and ensure optimum nutritional security.

Application requirements

- Cover letter explaining the motivation to apply for the research grant.
- Research concept on the above-mentioned thematic areas.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Recommendation letter from the supervisor

The research grant will be a maximum of US\$ 1000 which should cover all the expenses, including travel and accommodation, data collection, analysis, and reporting.



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Based on the applicant's eligibility and the submitted documents, we will select one student to conduct short-term research for up to eight months in the project district(s) of Nepal: Makwanpur, Kapilvastu, Palpa, and Kavrepalanchok.

Application procedure

The required documents should be sent to kmishra@afu.edu.np by the application deadline of **November 13, 2023**.

For further queries:

1. Prof. Kalyani Mishra Tripathi, PhD, 9779855065137, kmishra@afu.edu.np
2. Asst. Prof. Ujjal Tiwari, PhD, 9779855083475, utiwari@afu.edu.np

Kind regards,

Prof. Kalyani Mishra Tripathi, PhD

Department of Horticulture

Principal Investigator