



Centre for Research & Development

Research Supervisor (Guide) Profiles

Discipline of Supervision: **Biotechnology**



Dr. Anoja Kurian

Assistant Professor
Department of Life Sciences
School of Biological and Forensic Sciences

Areas of Specialisation:

Molecular Phylogeny, DNA Barcoding, Gene Expression Studies,
Molecular Systematics

Dr. Anoja Kurian is presently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Life Sciences at Kristu Jayanti (Deemed-to-be University), Bengaluru. She holds a Ph.D. in Biotechnology from Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kerala, awarded in 2019. Her doctoral research, titled “Molecular Systematics of Rattans of South India”, focused on the application of molecular tools for understanding plant diversity and systematics. Her major research interests include molecular evolution, DNA barcoding, molecular phylogeny, plant molecular biology, and gene expression studies. She has actively contributed to research in plant taxonomy, biodiversity, and molecular characterization, with several peer-reviewed research articles, book chapters, and books to her credit. She has also presented her research at more than 10 national and international conferences. In recognition of her doctoral research, she received the Dr. K. M. Bhat Endowment Award in 2019 for outstanding Ph.D. work carried out at the Kerala Forest Research Institute. She has guided 12 M.Sc. student projects and actively mentors students in molecular biology, DNA barcoding, plant biotechnology, and related research areas. Her research and academic contributions reflect a strong commitment to integrating molecular approaches with plant biodiversity and evolutionary studies.

Selected Publications:

1. **Kurian, A.**, Dev, S. A., Sreekumar, V. B., & Muralidharan, E. M. (2020). The low copy nuclear region, RPB2 as a novel DNA barcode region for species identification in the rattan genus Calamus (Arecaceae). *Physiology and Molecular Biology of Plants*, 26, 1875–1887. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12298-020-00864-5>
2. Dev, S. A., Balakrishnan, S., **Kurian, A.**, & Sreekumar, V. B. (2019). Narrow gene pool can threaten the survival of Calamus nagbetta R.R. Fernald & Dey, a highly endemic dioecious rattan species in the Western Ghats of India. *Journal of Genetics*, 98, 100. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12041-019-1147-5>
3. Dev, S. A., Anoop, B. S., **Kurian, A.**, Udayan, P. S., & Muralidharan, E. M. (2015). Species discrimination through DNA barcoding in the genus Salacia of the Western Ghats in India. *Nordic Journal of Botany*, 33, 722–728. <https://doi.org/10.1111/njb.00706>