

Nature Club Report – 2019-2020

The annual general meeting of the Nature Club was held on the 26th August 2019 at the department of Botany to select various portfolios among the student members. After the selection of various portfolios, the club planned various activities to be undertaken by the club in 2019 – 2020.

The first activity of club in 2019 was the establishment of a garden near the new Science building on the 30th August 2019. Plantation of avenue species and other flowering plants and its beautification was done. 23 Student members were involved in the making of a garden. Maintenance of Fr. Mac Cabe Rhododendron Avenue and plantation of two new species was done.

A germplasm of eight Himalayan species of *Hedychium* were planted on 30/08/2019 as part of the activities planned by the club. These species were collected from different parts of the district. These species include *H. greeni*, *H. gardenarium*, *H. coccenium*, *H. spicatum*, *H. thrysiforme*, *H. flavescence*, *H. coronarium* and *H. gracile*. The college now have a rich collection of *Hedychium*, almost 60% of the species of this region.

The club conducted a survey of the tree flora of the campus during August-September 2019. Fifty different tree species were identified of which 9 species were found to be of foreign origin. The outcome of this survey is published in a flex which is hung at the Botany Department. The tree list was unveiled by Dr. Dorjay Lama, Vice-Principal (administrative) on the 9th September 2019.

As part of the plantation pledge of the club, a program was organised on the 19th September 2019. In this program, 40 saplings of various species of trees – *Photinia sp*, *Betula alnoides*, *Acer levigatum*, *Acer campbellii*, *Actinodaphne sikkimensis*, *Rhododendron barbatum*, *R. dalhousiae* were planted in the campus by the club members

A Nature Walk was organised from 19th – 20th October 2019 from Manebhangyang to Tonglu. Twenty four members of the club participated in the walk. Main road from Manebhangyang to Tonglu route was completed in about 3 hours covering 11 km trek. After spending overnight at Tourist hut at Tonglu the team returned to Darjeeling.



Tree plantation on 19th September 2019



Hedychium flavescence and *H. thyriforme* in the Germplasm 2019



Nature Walk to Tonglu 19th-20th October 2019