

Programme Schedule

| Sr. No. | Speaker's Name and Affiliation | Hybrid Mode | Lecture Title/Topic |
|---|--|--|---|
| Day 1 19 May 2026 Research Frontiers (Perspectives) | | | |
| Welcome of Dignitaries 9:00 – 9:30 The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Hon'ble Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University | | | |
| | Prof. Hui Tag [Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences, RGU, Itanagar]/ Dr. Ayam Victor Singh [Assoc. Prof., RGU] | 9:30 – 9:45 AM | Welcome Address |
| | Dr. R Ganesan [ATREE] | 9:45 – 9:55 AM | Opening Remarks |
| 0. | Dr. Nawal Shrestha [Department of Agriculture, School of Science, Kathmandu University, Nepal] | 10:00 – 10:45 AM Online | Inaugural Lecture Cradles of Diversification: The evolutionary journey and conservation of Rhododendron |
| Tea Break [10:45 to 11:00 AM] | | | |
| 1. | Dr. Ambika Aiyadurai [IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat] | 11:00 – 12:00 in-person | Plant Humanities and the story of rhododendrons |
| 2. | Dr. Rajesh Tandon [Department of Botany, University of Delhi] | 12:00 – 1:00 PM in-person | A glimpse into the altitudinal blueprint of <i>Rhododendron arboreum</i> trees in western Himalaya |
| Lunch - [1:00 to 2:00 PM] | | | |
| 3. | Dr. Hiren Gogoi [Department of Zoology, Rajiv Gandhi University] | 2:00 – 3:00 PM in-person | The trails of Rhododendron bloom: Honey and sustainable ecotourism. |
| 4. | Dr. Shweta Basnett [Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Netherlands] | 3:00 – 4:00 PM Online | Pollinators, Climate, and Rhododendron Evolution |
| Tea Break [4:00 to 4:15 PM] | | | |
| 5 | Dr. Ashish Paul [NERIST, Itanagar] | 4:15 – 5:15 PM in-person | Diversity and ecology of rhododendrons in the Eastern Himalaya of Arunachal Pradesh |
| 6. | Dr. Abhishek Baghela [Fungal-Based Bioenergy, Centre for Soil, Agrifood and Biosciences, Cranfield University] | 5:15 – 6:15 PM Online | Rhododendrons as a Habitat for Diverse Yeasts and their Food Industry Applications |
| Day 2 20 May 2026 From Science to Action (Discussions and Hands-on activities) | | | |
| 7. | Dr. Juliana Mederios [Holden Forests & Gardens; American Rhododendron Society Rhododendron Research Network] | 9:00 – 10:00 AM Online | Rhododendron Research Network: Fostering International Collaboration and Community-Based Science |
| 8. | Dr. Nakul Chettri [ATREE] | 10:00 – 11:00 AM in-person | Rhododendron and Himalayan Life: Tradition, Uses, and Conservation |
| Tea Break [11:00 to 11:15 AM] | | | |
| 1. | Hands-on Session Dr. Ganesan and Dr. Eapsa [ATREE] | 11:15 – 12:30 PM | Survey - to Record Phenology Data Documenting the diversity of Flowering plants and Plant Details on the POI portal |
| 2. | Group Activities Deeke, Dupjang, Ujjal, Chunam, Dr. Tonlong, Dr. Eapsa, Dr. Ganesan | 12:30 – 5:15 PM | Bioresource Cards, Clock Calendar, and Conservation Planning |
| Lunch - [1:00 to 2:00 PM] and Tea Break [3:00 to 3:15 PM] | | | |
| | Dr. Sumpam Tangjang and Dr. Tonlong Wangpan [Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar] | 5:15 to 5:30 PM | Concluding Address (and Vote of Thanks) |