

Introduction

The noble vision of our Chairman to make AHALA campus a CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE in ethnobotany and environmental health, has been the sole impetus. In translating the dreams for a Greener Ahala, Seem Ahala, as a concept, was conceived to convert the landscape to an oasis amidst the semi-land. It draws its manpower from the assorted institutions of the reputed Group located within the campus. The highly motivated and kin-minded team plans out the strategy and action to take it to an enviable position in the State. The whole campus is visualized as a garden that caters to education, research, conservation, sustainable utilization, extension etc.

Vision

Promoting conservation and sustainable use of botanical resources including ethnomedicinal plants for the welfare of community.

Mission

Establish a world class ethnobotanical garden for education, research, conservation and sustainable use and ensure stakeholder acceptance and align it with the vision and mission of the Organisation so as to complement the efforts in healthcare, heritage and knowledge.



- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. RET Garden | 18. Triphala |
| 2. Prof. M. Sabu Ziegler Garden | 19. Arookali Garden |
| 3. Rasayana Garden | 19. Thulasi Thadam |
| 4. Subramaniam & Acharyan Garden | 19. Karasaram |
| 5. Ayurveda Sybil's Garden (Rishi/Ved) | 20. Navagraha Garden |
| 6. Black Marlin's Herbal Plants | 21. Fruit forest |
| 7. PHC Garden | 22. Spiritual Garden |
| 8. Apurvanand Alpana's Garden | 23. Ahala if GST (Ayurveda) |
| 9. Apurvanand | 24. Green House 1 |
| 10. Pichayam | 25. Green House 2 |
| 11. Star Forest | 26. Mar Chandan |
| 12. Navagraha | 27. Bambusetum |
| 13. Dasapushpam | 28. Day Hiding Garden |
| 14. Doodhathali | 28. Homopathy Nursery |
| 15. Vikas | |

Thematic representation

The Ahala garden has been split up into thematic sections to make it more user friendly and each of these have their own roles in enhancing the green wrap of the campus. The themes best to link our tradition and culture, exposition to the biosources, provide refuge to endangered species and showcase the Breedered or extinct ones.

The themes linking to the Ayurvedic formulations like Dasamoolam, Dasapushpam, Nalpamanam, Triphala, Substitutes, Rasayana and Primary Health Care etc offers the Ayurvedic medical students a first hand knowledge of the plant wealth and the non Indian medical heritage.

Every theme is laid out with the support of education, education and germplasm conservation. A visitor taking a tour is assured of a great exposure on several aspects of biodiversity. With self educating sign boards and narratives, the garden is poised to be a centre of excellence in this part of the country. It would be an enchanting experience to touch and feel these plants and the visitors would be literally lulled and lured by the Nature in its absolute elegance.

Present themes in the Ahala garden.

(Dates being added)

Sl No	Themes	No of species
1	Star plants	27
2	Zodiac plants	12
3	Navagraha plants	9
4	Dasamoolam	10
5	Dasapushpam	10
6	Triphala	3
7	Trikadu	3
8	Bambusetum	24
9	Fruit forest	61
10	Spiritual Garden	72
11	RET Garden	70
12	Aparnika Garden (Ayur connect)	76
13	Nalpamanam	4
14	Kerala Thanima	31
15	Aromatis plants	33
16	Thulasi Thadam	10
17	Day yielding	40
18	PHC	32
19	Rasayana	30
20	Palmiecan	17
21	Prof. M. Sabu Ziegler Garden	52
22	Sybil's Garden	90
23	Substitutes	29

Star forest: (27)



There are 27 trees that are said to represent the 27 Nakshatras or stars as per Indian astrology.

Zodiac garden: (12)



Indian culture identifies 12 plant species corresponding to 12 Rasis/ Zodiac signs that makes up this theme.

Navagraha plants: (9)



Indian astrological tradition distinguishes 9 species of plants relating to Navagrahas (Planets).

Dasapushpam: (10)



Dasapushpam is constituted by a group of ten auspicious drugs, widely acclaimed for its sound healing and anti-fertile properties. These herbs also have spiritual relevance.

Dasamoolam: (10)

Ten plants of the most commonly used Ayurvedic formulation, comprising of Brihat Panchamoola (tree) and Laghu Panchamoola (herb) has potent anti-inflammatory, antitoxin and analgesic actions.

Triphala: (3)

Another most popular Ayurvedic formulation with multiple utility in health and wellness, is a therapeutically effective drug in diabetes, digestive disorders and eye diseases.

Trikadu: (3)



Trikadu, the three pungents, Pippali, Maricha (Black pepper) and Surinji (ginger) are well known for their digestive and analgesic properties.

Bambusetum: (Mulakaadu) : (24)



Our Bamboo Grove has over 24 species of bamboo, which is virtually one of the finest collection in the State. The sight of these essentially tall grasses swaying and murmuring in perfect tune with Nature creates an indelible impression in the minds of the visitors. These bamboos enrich every sphere of human life, let it be food, shelter or clothing, making it a potent renewable resource.

Fruit forest: (40)



There is a huge diversity of fruits in the tropics. The Fruit forest provides a glimpse of this significant resource, apart from offering incomparable sights of Nature's loveliness and grandeur. Fruits, in general, promote health and well being; also many of them are known for their medicinal properties.

Spiritual Garden: (29)



Here in this theme, we have made an attempt to capture those revered plants that finds application in rituals, auspicious functions, festivals etc. there by providing linkages to our culture and tradition.

RET Garden: (76)



In this garden, we have assembled species known to be rare, endangered, threatened and endemic plants. This garden is a humble effort to create awareness and also to promote conservation.

Thulasi Thadam: (8)

Thulasi is a popular medicinal and spiritual plant in India. Kerala has several species known for their unique use and application. Thulasi Thadam is meant to showcase the richness in species diversity of Thulasi.

Kerala Thanima: (33)



This is a garden depicting the uniqueness of Kerala. Such herbs are intertwined with the culture and tradition of the state. Few of these plants are endemic and a few do qualify for GI status.