

BEST PRACTICE**SESSION 2018-19**

1. A herbarium is a store-house of dried and pressed plant specimens collected from different places, which are mounted on appropriate sheets and arranged according to some known system of classification, and kept in pigeon-holes of steel or wooden cupboards specially prepared for the purpose. A collection like this is a vital reference when you need to identify a plant and also serves to fix forever the identity of thousands of plants names. The specimens in a herbarium are often used as reference material in describing plant taxa. The art of herbarium was initiated by an Italian taxonomist from Bologna, Italy, named Luca Ghini (1490 -1556).

Department of Botany, Dakshin Kamrup College has been preparing a herbarium of flowering plants (Angiosperm) of South Kamrup area under Kamrup district since 2010. The main objective of collecting plants of this area in the field and preserving them in the herbarium, are to preserve the specimens for all times and notes on the herbarium that will yield the maximum information about the plant concerned. The other objectives include:

- to know the plant heritage of the above mentioned area
- Proper identification of the plant specimens of the area.
- Evaluation of the economic importance (sources of food for human being and animals, plants of medicinal utility, plants of ethno botanical interest, ritual and festival etc) of the area
- Listing of the endemic, endangered and threatened species of the area.

2. Every staff is given an opportunity on rotation basis to carry out the semester and internal examinations thereby imparting administrative knowledge and bringing in a sense of responsibility sharing among staff members.

3. Solid waste of the campus is managed using vermicomposting technique. The manure produced is used in maintaining the in-campus trees. Additionally the manure is also sold from time to time to meet with some of the expenses.

4. Conservation of local orchid of the South Kamrup region is going on in the Orchid House inside the college. There are more than 25 species in the house.
