

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ENTOMOLOGY



### HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT

Initially Agricultural Entomology and Plant Pathology were taught under the Department of Agriculture, Palli Siksha Sadana since 1965 and became a separate Department of Plant Protection within the Institute of Agriculture in 1989 by amalgamation of these two major subjects. The Department continued to offer resident instruction programme in Agricultural Entomology comprises of undergraduate instruction for the students of Palli Siksha Bhavana and postgraduate instruction leading to M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Plant Protection with specialization in Agricultural Entomology for the last 28 years. Recently in the year 2017, Plant Protection programme has been bifurcated to offer separate PG programme in M.Sc.(Ag) in Agricultural Entomology. Subsequently creation of an independent Department of Agricultural Entomology has been resolved in the Executive Council of Visva-Bharati in its meeting dated 23.02.2019 vide agenda Item No.4 and started to function independently w.e.f. 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019 vide Memo No. *Aca-G/K-40/190/2019-20 dated 02.06.2019*. The department has been formed with an objective of achieving excellence in teaching Agricultural Entomology to UG, PG and PhD students and conducting problems oriented research. Traditional strengths of research in the department had been in economic entomology, toxicology, biocontrol and on sericulture. At present emphasis is on synthesizing IPM modules for different crops involving bio-agents, cultural practices, host plant resistance and eco-friendly chemicals. The Department has so far contributed around 85 well-trained post graduate students to the human resource pool of agriculture and allied sectors. Many alumni of the college have risen to exalted positions and gained recognition both at national and international levels. Beside that the Department is gearing up to establish a well-equipped experiential learning unit of Sericulture that helps to produce job provider, rather than job seeking graduates.

### PROGRAMMES AND COURSES OFFERED

Programme Name	Number of Courses
B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture	05
M.Sc. (Ag.) Programme	18
Ph.D. Programme	03