

Brief resume of Dr. Ashok Bhattacharyya



1. Designation: Director of Research (Agri)
2. Date of Birth: March 01,1960
3. Achievements:

- ❖ Served as Vice Chancellor (i/c), Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam from July 31, 2019 to Oct.21, 2020
- ❖ Presently serving as Vice Chancellor (i/c), Assam Women's University, Jorhat, Assam (since Oct.16,2020 till date)
- ❖ Acting as technical coordinator from AAU with Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Horticulture, Govt. of Assam for State Variety Release Committee as well as other centrally sponsored schemes (NFSM, HMNEH, BGREI etc.)
- ❖ Acting as authorized signatory of Patents/Plants' Variety Protection/Intellectual Property Rights on behalf of AAU
- ❖ Acting as the Governor's nominee for selection of teachers in Uttar Banga Krisi Viswavidyalaya, West Bengal since 2019
- ❖ Acting as Head, Operational Project Implementation Unit(OPIU) of world bank sponsored Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART) since May 07,2018 till date
- ❖ Acted as Chairman, Governing committee of NEATEHUB, AAU (Atal incubation Centre), from July 31,2019 till Oct. 21,2020
- ❖ Acting as National coordinator, "DBT's NER Banana Consortia Project" (Plant Protection) since 2018
- ❖ Acting as Nodal officer, AAU for Implementation of RKVY, GoI since May 07, 2018
- ❖ Acting as Chairman, OIL sponsored project "Augmentation of Agriculture Through Efficient Resource Utilization With Participatory Approach" since 2018
- ❖ Acting as Coordinator, Cluster Based Business Organization (CBBO) Jorhat unit, AAU
- ❖ Acted as expert, ASRB, New Delhi
- ❖ Acting as member, Scientific Advisory Committee, Tocklai Tea Research Station, Jorhat and external member of PG committee, SASRD, Mezdiphema, Nagaland

- ❖ External examiner of BCKV,UBKV,CAU,SASRD, Viswa Bharati, Shantiniketan, West Bengal and project reviewer, Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat
- ❖ Completed three externally funded projects as PI and two as Co -PI. In addition one project is ongoing as PI and two as Co- PI .
- ❖ Developed technologies for disease management of banana , Development of technology for production of disease free seed potato from TPS and TPS tuberlet and IPM module in brinjal and tomato
- ❖ Acted as Organizing Secy. of
 - i) the national seminar and the Zonal chapter conference of Indian Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology on Nov. 01- 02,2006
 - ii) the national seminar on "Traditional Agricultural practices with potential for Growing Plantation Crops" held at AAU, Jorhat under the auspices of Asian Agri-History foundation, Hyderabad on Feb. 22-24,2007
 - iii) the National seminar on ‘Facilitating a shift from chemo-centric to organic mode of plant health management in the NE India’, organized at AAU under the auspices of NE Zonal chapter, Indian Phytopathological Society, 2016
 - iv) Brainstorming Session on Problems and Prospects of Banana in North East India sponsored by DBT, New Delhi at AAU Jorhat, 2016
 - v) 70th Annual meeting of Indian Phytopathological Society and National seminar “Plant Health Management embracing Eco sustainable Paradigm”, Feb. 2018, AAU, Jorhat
- ❖ Guided fifteen (15) M.Sc. and eight (8) PhD students as major advisor in Plant Pathology

4. Educational Qualification (Graduation onwards):

Sl. No.	Institution /Place	Degree Awarded	Year	Field of Study
1.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam	B.Sc (Agri)	1982	All subjects of B.Sc (Agri) with Plant Pathology as elective
2.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam	M.Sc (Agri)	1985	Plant Pathology with specialization fungal pathology
3.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam	PhD (Agri)	1995	Plant Pathology with specialization in induced resistance against disease

5. Position and Employment (Starting with the most recent employment):

S. No.	Institution Place	Position	From (Date)	To (date)
1.	Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat, Assam	Director of Research (Agri)	May 07, 2018	Till date
2.	AAU, Jorhat, Assam	VC(i/c)	July 31, 2019	Oct.21, 2020
3.	Assam Woman's University, Jorhat	VC(i/c)	Oct.16, 2020	Till date
4.	AICRP on Fruits, Directorate of Research (Agri), AAU, Jorhat	Principal Scientist	July 01, 2005	May 06, 2018
5.	AICRP on Fruits, Directorate of Research (Agri), AAU, Jorhat	Senior Scientist	Nov.10, 1995	June 30, 2005
6.	AICRP on Fruits, Directorate of Research (Agri.) AAU, Jorhat	Junior Scientist	Aug.01, 1994	Nov.09, 1995
7.	Mycology Research Section, AAU, Jorhat	Assistant Mycologist	March 18, 1986	July 31, 1994
8.	Coconut Research Station, Assam Agricultural University, Kharua, Nalbari	Junior Research Assistant	July 22, 1985	Mar.17, 1986

6. Honours/Awards:

- Recipient of “Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award” for the year 1995- 96 by Indian Phytopathological Society, New Delhi
- Recipient of an Overseas Fellowship from Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Govt. of Japan for a course on “Techniques in molecular biology” in 1997 at Rice Genome Research Programme (RGP), Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan
- Chairman, technical session on ‘Bio-diversity’ in the national seminar on “Traditional wisdom and environmental challenges” jointly organized by Indian National Trust for Art, Culture and Heritage (INTACH) and Green Arc Society, Udaipur at RAU, Udaipur on June 5, 1999.
- Recipient of “Asian Agri-History Foundation Award” for the year 1999- 2000

- Special young scientist lecture in national symposium on “Biotechnology of plant protection technology development” at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi from Feb. 25 to 27, 2000.
- Recipient of “P R Verma Award” (jointly) for the year 2001-2002 from Indian Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Udaipur
- Editor, Journal of Mycology and Plant Pathology for 2002-03 and 2003-04 (published by Indian Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Udaipur)
- Councillor, Eastern Zone of Indian Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06
- 2nd best poster award at the national seminar on ‘Technologies for improving productivity of spices and plantation crops’ at Central Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair, in 2012
- Best poster presentation award in of NE Zonal meeting of Indian phyto pathological Society, 2016
- Nominated Fellow of the Indian Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Udaipur, 2016
- Nominated Fellow of Indian Phytopathological Society, New Delhi in 2017
- Chairman, technical session on “IDM, IPM for Integrated crop management” and “Plant growth promoting microbes and biological control” in the ISMPP International Conference on Plant health for human welfare, Udaipur, 2017
- Chairman, technical session on “Characterization, etiological and epidemiological studies of plant diseases” in National Seminar on Crop Protection: Current trends and future prespective, Medziphema campus, Nagaland University, 2017
- Lead lecture on the topic “Crown rot of banana- Its nonfungicidal management” in National Seminar on Crop Protection: Current trends and future prespective, Medziphema campus, Nagaland University in 2017
- Chairman, IPSCONF 2020, Jan 16-20, 2020
- Recipient of G B Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment lecture award,2020

7. Professional Experience:

- Contributed at different capacities as Scientist, Director of Research, acting Vice-Chancellor, AAU and Vice Chancellor, Assam Woman's University in administration, research, teaching and extension
- Familiar with techniques in molecular biology with training on "*Techniques in Molecular biology*" at Rice Genome Programme, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan,
- Established the methodology for induction of resistance in rice plant with non-conventional chemicals against sheath blight disease and its biochemical as well as physiological basis
- Projected the biochemical basis of resistance in soybean against *R. solani*
- Established induced resistance in crop plants
- Carried out a number of screening tests of germplasm of rice, tomato, brinjal, chili and colocasia against the important diseases
- Developed production techniques of disease free seed potato from TPS and TPS tuberlet .The technology has been successful and attempt was made to popularize amongst the potato growers of the state through a series of Front Line Demonstration (FLD)s, training to the growers and Agril. Development Officers of the state.
- Conducted 17 (seventeen) Front Line Demonstrations on popularizations of TPS and tuberlet of potato and on- farm storage structure (developed by AAU) in four districts covering four agroclimatic zones of Assam. One on campus officers' training (for Agriculture Development Officers, Govt. of Assam) and eighteen off campus farmers' training were also organized for the purpose.
- The techniques for Management of Panama disease of banana developed and the technology has been adopted by the banana growers of the state of Assam.
- Development of IPM module against bacterial wilt and fruit and shoot borer of brinjal
- Development of IPM module against bacterial wilt and fruit borer of tomato
- Development of IPM module against late blight, mole cricket and red ant infestation in potato

8. Research Projects (Continuing/completed)

a. Completed:

- i. DBT funded project "Molecular Characterization of *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense* causing Panama wilt of banana and its management through consortia

approach “ in collaboration with National Research Centre for banana,
Tiruchirapally, Tamil Nadu (as PI)

- ii. ICAR Funded Project “Production of disease free seed potato from TPS and TPS tuberlet”, 2002-2007 (as PI)
- iii. ICAR Funded Project “Evaluation of chilli germplasm against anthracnose and bacterial wilt diseases” (as co-PI)
- iv. Technology Mission, Mini Mission I project ‘Integrated management of rhizome rot of ginger’ (as PI)
- v. ICAR Funded Project “Integrated pest management of vegetables “, 2002-2007 (as Co PI)

b. Ongoing:

- i. DBT funded project “Screening of banana germplasm from NER for Fusarium wilt 2018-19 to 2021-22 (As PI)
- ii. DBT funded Project “Whole genome and transcriptome study of stress tolerant banana cultivar” ” 2018-19 to 2021-22 (as Co PI)
- iii. DBT funded Project “Development of Fusarium resistant elite banana cultivars of NE India” ” 2018-19 to 2021-22 (As Co PI)

9. Important Publications:

a. Peer Reviewed Research/Review Articles during last 3 years(2018 to2021):

1. Savani, A.K, Bhattacharya Ashok, Boro R.C , Dinesh. K and Swamy .N.JC. 2021. Exemplifying endophytes of banana(*Musa paradisiaca*) for their potential role in growth stimulation and management of *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense* causing panama wilt. *Folia Microbiologica*: 66(5) (DOI:[10.1007/s12223-021-00853-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12223-021-00853-5))
2. Dullah, S., Hazarika, D.J., Parveen, A., Kakoti, M., Borgohain, T., Gautom, T., Bhattacharyya, A, Barooah, M. and Boro, R.C., 2021. Fungal interactions induce changes in hyphal morphology and enzyme production. *Mycology* : 1-17. (doi.org/10.1080/21501203.2021.1932627)
3. Kakoti, M., Hazarika, D.J., Kumar, A., Barooah, M., Modi, M.K., Bhattacharyya, A. and Boro, R.C., 2021. Genetic Diversity and DNA Barcoding of Wild Mushrooms from Northeast India. *Iran J Sci Technol Trans Sci* ([doi.org/10.1007/s40995-021-01067-7\(0123456789](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40995-021-01067-7(0123456789))
4. Samim Dullah, Dibya Jyoti Hazarika, Gunajit Goswami, Tanushree Borgohain, Alokesh Ghosh, Madhumita Barooah, Ashok Bhattacharyya, Robin Chandra Boro. 2021.

Melanin Production and Laccase Mediated Oxidative Stress Alleviation During Fungal-fungal Interaction Among Basidiomycetes Fungi (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-147716/v1>)

5. Ashok Bhattacharyya, Ajit Kumar Savani .2021. Influence of weather variables on the incidence of sigatoka leaf spot of banana in Jorhat district of Assam. *India Journal of Plant Protection* 48:51-56
6. Savani, A.K., Bhattacharyya, A. and Baruah, A., 2020. Endophyte mediated activation of defense enzymes in banana plants pre-immunized with covert endophytes. *Indian Phytopathology*, 73:433-441.
7. Upamanyu, G.K., Bhattacharyya, A. and Dutta, P., 2020. Consortia of entomo-pathogenic fungi and bio-control agents improve the agro-ecological conditions for brinjal cultivation of Assam. *3 Biotech*, 10:1-19.
8. Ajay, G., Bhattacharyya, A., Savani, A.K. and Dinesh, K. 2020. Morphogenetic diversity of *Colletotrichum musae* (Berk. And Curt) Arx causing anthracnose disease of banana in Assam. *Journal of Mycology and Plant Pathology*, 50:255-267
9. S Kumar, A Bhattacharyya, AK Savani, S Gogoi .2019. Antifungal Activity of Some Local Botanicals of Assam against *Pythium aphanidermatum* Inciting Storage Rot of Ginger. *Int. J. Curr. Microbiol. App. Sci* 8 : 528-535
10. Lalngaihawmi and Ashok Bhattacharyya .2019. Screening of antagonistic activity and production of volatile and non- volatile compounds by rhizospheric microbes against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* in vitro. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry*; 8: 1805-1810
11. KH Begum, Ashok Bhattacharyya, RL Deka. 2018 .Effect of Soil Physico-Chemical Properties on Rhizome Rot Disease of Ginger under Assam Condition. *Int. J. Curr. Microbiol. App. Sci* 7: 2097-2102

b. Books

- I. Agriculture in Assam — edited by A.C. Thakur; Ashok Bhattacharyya and D.K. Sharma (2001), published by Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam, pp 250
- II. Agriculture in Assam (2nd edition- ISBN 978-81-929804-9-2) edited by Ashok Bhattacharyya (Chief editor), D K Sarma and Prasanta Mishra(2015) published by Assam Agricultural University and BOOKBELL, Guwahati., pp.564
- III. "Wilt diseases of crops" edited by Ashok Bhattacharyya et al., 2019 published by Indian Phytopathological Society, New Delhi

c. Book Chapters

1. L.K. Hazrika, Ashok Bhattacharyya and Prasanta Mishra (2015) Issues and strategies for Revamping Agriculture Education in Assam. *In: Agriculture in*

Assam (2nd edition)- A book (ISBN 978-81-929804-9-2)edited by Ashok Bhattacharyya (Chief editor), D K Sarma and Prasanta Mishra and published by Assam Agricultural University , Jorhat, Assam and BOOKBELL, Guwahati., Assam pp. 51-63

2. Deka, P.C. and Bhattacharyya Ashok (2001) Growth of Agricultural education in Assam. *In* : Agriculture in Assam (eds. Thakur, A.C.; Bhattacharyya Ashok and Sharma D.K) Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat. Pp.250

d. Conference Papers: 36

e. Bulletins:

- Diseases of banana and their management published in 2019
- FoC- TR 4 – A looming threat to banana cultivation, published in 2019
- Management of rhizome rot of ginger published in 2012
- Integrated pest management in vegetables published in 2006
- Post harvest management of orange published in 2006