

BIODATA

Personal Information

Name : Soumya V.I.

Mailing Address : Assistant Professor of Microbiology
Department of Agricultural Microbiology
College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Thiruvananthapuram
695 522, Kerala, India
Phone: +91-9744982986
E-mail: soumya.vi@kau.in

Academic information

Educational Qualifications

Degree	University	Year	Subjects	OGPA
Ph. D	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	2005	Agricultural Microbiology	9.66/10
M. Sc	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	2001	Agricultural Microbiology	9.41/10
B. Sc. (Agri.)	Kerala Agricultural University	1999	Agriculture	9.1/10.0

Additional Educational Qualifications:

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Plant Health Management from National Institute of Plant Health Management, Hyderabad in 2015

Professional recognition, awards, fellowships received:

Sl.No	Name of Award	Awarding Agency	Year
1.	Junior Research fellowship	ICAR-NATP	2000
1.	Junior Research Fellowship	CSIR	2002-2005

Details of KAU employment

2021 August – Assistant Professor, Kerala Agricultural University

Research Projects

State Plan- 2 as Principal Investigator, 3 as Co-Principal Investigator

List of Publications

- Abarna R., Chitra, N., Anu Rajan S., Soumya V.I., K. N. Anith and Asha, S., 2025. Traits-Based *in vitro* and *in vivo* evaluation of plant growth-promoting bacterial isolates from *Piper nigrum* and *Piper colubrinum*. *Journal of Advances in Biology & Biotechnology*, 28 (7):686-99. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jabb/2025/v28i72587>.
- Scaria, T.M., Soumya, V.I., Chitra, N., Priya, G., Rajan, S.A., Koshy, N.G. and Anith, K.N., 2025. Soil Microbiome Modulation Mediated by Fermented Organic Preparations. *Journal of Advances in Microbiology*, 25(5), pp.122-135. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jamb/2025/v25i5939>.
- Koshy, N.G., Rajan, S.A., Anith, K.N., Chitra, N., Soumya, V.I., Scaria, T.M. and Beena, R., 2025. Beyond the pink: uncovering the secrets of pink pigmented facultative methylotrophs. *Archives of Microbiology*, 207(4), p.80. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00203-025-04280-9>
- Mol, R., Priya, G., Rani, B., Soumya, V.I., Gopinath, P.P. and Aparna, B., 2024. Standardization of Panchagavya for Enhanced Nutrient Content and Seed Germination in Sustainable Organic Farming. *Journal of Advances in Biology & Biotechnology*, 27 (11):515-31. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jabb/2024/v27i111636>
- ManjuBhargavi, Y., Rajan, S.A., Chitra, N., Soumya, V.I., Beena, R. and Anith, K.N., 2024. Pink pigmented facultative Methylotrophs (PPFMs) improve rooting in black pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.) cuttings and mitigate drought stress. *Plant Science Today*, 11, p.4546. <https://doi.org/10.14719/pst.4546>
- Divya, S.N., Priya, G., Rani, B., Aparna, B., Soumya, V.I. and Gopinath, P.P. 2023. Soil Biodiversity: influence of soil management systems. *International Journal of Environment and Climate Change*, 13(11): 3339-3348. DOI: 10.9734/IJECC/2023/v13i113507.
- Anju, A. B., Chitra N., R. Preetha, S. Anu Rajan, V. I. Soumya, and K. N. Anith. 2023. Bacterization with endospore-forming *Bacillus* spp. promotes plant growth and suppresses foot rot disease in black pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.) in the nursery. *Journal of Pure & Applied Microbiology*, 17 (2), p.8181. doi: 10.22207/JPAM.17.2.02
- Soumya, V.I., Sundaram, S.P. and Meenakumari, K.S. 2011. Pink pigmented facultative methylotrophs induce direct morphogenesis in cowpea [*Vigna unguiculata* (L.) Walp]. *Legume Research*, 34 (2). pp. 111-116.

Book Chapters

- A.B. Anju, K. N. Anith, N. Chitra, S. Anu Rajan and V. I. Soumya. 2022. Endospore forming *Bacillus* spp. as growth promoter in black pepper cuttings. Prof. Suhara Beevy S., Dr. Mariamma Cherian, Dr. Darsan B. Menon, Dr. Anil Kumar T. R., Dr. Mini V.S. (Eds). *Trends in Advanced Biology*. Published by University of Kerala, Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram. p.1-6.

N. Sruthi Suresh, N. Chitra, S. Anu Rajan, V. I. Soumya and K. N. Anith. 2022. Diversity of exopolysaccharide producing bacteria from soil based insect nesting structures. Prof. Suhara Beevy S., Dr. Mariamma Cherian, Dr. Darsan B. Menon, Dr. Anil Kumar T. R., Dr. Mini V.S. (Eds). *Trends in Advanced Biology*. Published by University of Kerala, Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram. p.175-182.

Chitra N., Bindhu R. Raj, Subha P., Anu Rajan S., Soumya V.I., Anith K.N. and Mohanty S.R. 2022. Plant growth promoting potential of nitrogen fixing bacteria from Attappady Hill tract of Kerala. Prof. Suhara Beevy S., Dr. Mariamma Cherian, Dr. Darsan B. Menon, Dr. Anil Kumar T. R., Dr. Mini V.S. (Eds). *Trends in Advanced Biology*. Published by University of Kerala, Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram. p.407

Student Guidance (Major Advisor)

M. Sc.

Within KAU: Completed: 3

Outside KAU: Completed : 4

Membership in Professional Associations

1. Life time member of ASIAN PGPR society
2. Life time member of Association of Microbiologists of India