

Faculty Talk: Insightful Seminar Series
Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries, and Nutrition
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

Topic

Reduction of postharvest losses of selected agricultural commodities through application of natural edible coatings.

Overview

Postharvest losses of fruits such as sour banana, lime and tomato remain a major challenge in Sri Lanka, reducing both market quality and economic value. This study explored the use of composite edible coatings developed from *Sargassum crassifolium*, *Aloe vera* and *Neolitsea cassia* extracts combined with glycerol to extend shelf life under ambient storage conditions. The optimized coating provided the best overall performance by creating a semi-permeable barrier around fruits, thereby sustaining freshness and minimizing postharvest deterioration. It effectively reduced the weight loss, maintained physicochemical quality, preserved aroma compounds and demonstrated strong antioxidant activity.

Speaker

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Ms. Achini Senevirathna graduated from Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura in 2018 with first-class honours. She completed her Master of Philosophy in Food Science and Technology in 2023 from the Department of Biosystems Technology, Faculty of Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Her research interests mainly focus on innovative packaging and sustainable preservation solutions for horticultural products.

Moderator

Prof. W.A. Harindra Champa, PhD, Chairperson, Research Development and Publication Committee, Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries and Nutrition, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka.

Date & Time

11:30 AM – 12.00 noon on 3rd June 2026

Venue

Aquaculture & Fisheries Lecture Room, Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries and Nutrition

Contact

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Organized by: Research, Development and Publication Committee
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