

Botanic Garden

The botanic garden situated in the campus dates back to about 1946 when the Post-graduation Program was introduced in the Department of Botany. The founding father of the PG Department of Botany Professor K.M. Gupta played the key role in working out the layout and landscape of this 'field lab' of the department.

Till date the botanic garden provides fresh material for the lab work and is also the site for specific research works pertaining to germination studies being pursued by the scholars. The Botanic garden harbours many unique features and also plays a major role in Carbon sequestering, by serving as the carbon sink.

The Department of Botany organises an "Annual Flower Show – Manjarika" in spring. This show is popular amongst the citizens of Ajmer. This show sees footfall from all over Ajmer and even nearby cities. Eminent personalities like District Collector, Higher Education Commissioner, Joint Directors of Higher Education department, and distinguished citizens of the Rajasthan and students of various schools visit this event each year.

The shape of the Pond present in the Botanic garden is a replica of transverse section of the petiole of the water fern *Marsilea*. All the three water ferns are present in our Botanic garden: *Marsilea*, *Azolla* and *Salvinia*.

- The cone bearing plant group 'Gymnosperms' are represented by four genera, in our campus: *Araucaria* commonly known as the Christmas tree. *Cycas*, represented by two species: *C. revoluta* and *C. circinalis*. Normally *Cycas* is an unbranched tree but branching has been observed in the tree in our Botanic garden.
- *Pinus*, which is a coniferous plant of high altitudes, is present in the Principal's Residence Garden, and we witness the sulphur shower when it pollinates.
- *Ephedra*, the only gymnosperm that occurs in wild, in the state of Rajasthan, is also present in our Botanic garden.
- Unique plants like *Tabebuia*: A native to the American tropics and sub-tropics from Mexico and the Caribbean is present in our Botanic Garden.
- *Ficus krishnai*, a tree having leaves in the form of a small bowl at its base. It is said that Lord Krishna along with other Gopals used it to eat the home-made-butter.
- *Adansonia digitata*, known as Kalptaru in common parlance, is also represented in our campus.

- *Cordia crenata* which according to Duthie flora and the Rajasthan State Flora published by BSI was considered to be highly restricted in its distribution, was reported as a widely distributed species by Dr. C.B.Gena et al.(2010)
- The state tree of Rajasthan, *Prosopis cineraria*, commonly known as khejri or shami, is present near the Girls' hostel in the campus.
- Presence of captivating blooms of various trees like *Bombax* (*Semal*), *Butea* (*palash/ flame of the forest*), *Cassia* spp. like *fistula* (*amaltas*), *reningera*, *nodosa* etc., *Tabibuia*, enhances the glorious view of this age old campus, particularly during the harsh hot summer season.

