

Environmental Consciousness Program

2019/2020, Faculty of Science

University of Peradeniya



The Environmental Management Committee (EMC) of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, successfully completed an environmental consciousness program for 2019/2020 new entrants with the support of the Orientation Organization Committee 2019/2020. Academic staff members, demonstrators and members of the Botanical Society and the Zoological Association of University of Peradeniya volunteered for this activity. The program was conducted for six weeks from 06th February to 27th February 2020 with the participation of nearly 500 new entrants of the Faculty of Science.

The main objective of the program was to enhance the awareness on biodiversity of lower Hantana area in order to develop positive attitudes in new entrants on environmental protection. During the activity small group discussions were conducted with students to share information on floral and faunal diversity of the

area. The students actively participated in collection of polythene and plastic garbage along the route which started from the milk bar along the Maha Oya and ended at Jayathilleke Hall.

Along the way discussions were conducted to highlight the negative impacts of improper disposal of polythene and plastic to the environment and to highlight simple methods that students can practice daily to minimize the use of non-biodegradable materials. Further, new entrants were informed about the Faculty and University policies and procedures on usage and disposal of non-degradable material. Feedback provided by students reflected that they appreciated participating for this green activity (Figure 1).

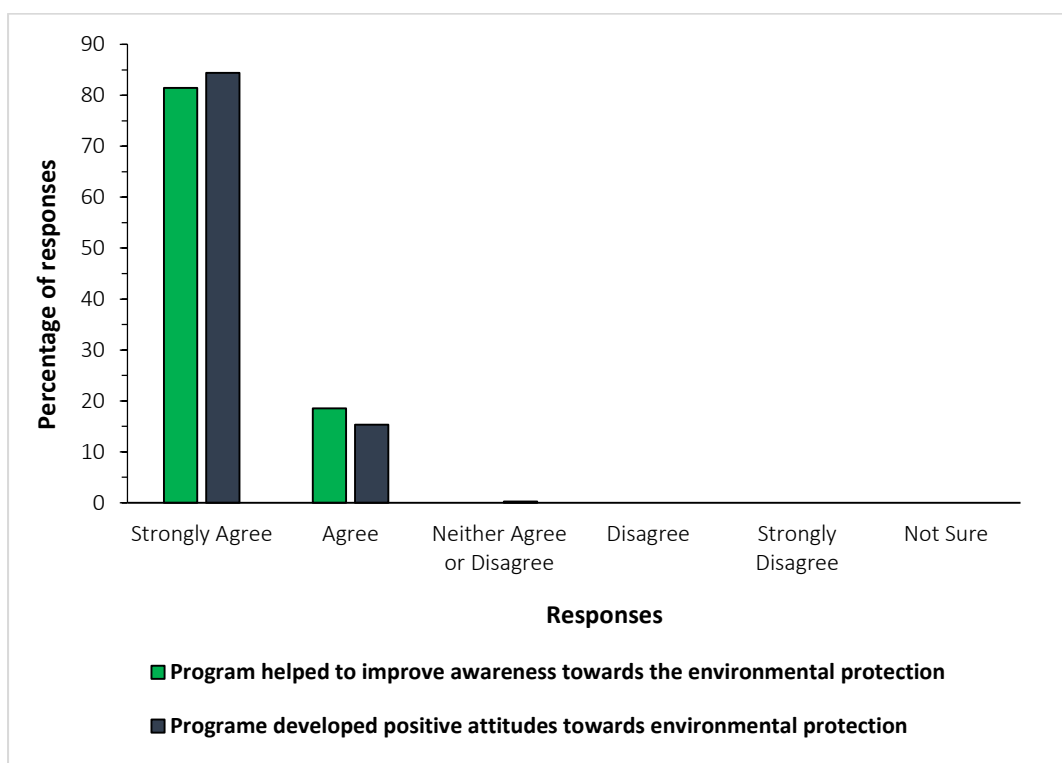


Figure 1. Feedback given by new entrants.

Briefing about the program to new entrants

Knowledge sharing can make the difference between survival and extinction.



Exploring flora and fauna in lower Hantana

Nature is not a place to visit. It is home.

— Gary Snyder



Checking for non-degradable garbage along road side

Start where you are, Use what you have, Do what you can!

- Arthur Ashe



Participants of the environmental activity

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something, and together we can change the world.

— Max Lucado



