

FACULTY PROFILE



BINU VARGHESE

Assistant Professor (Fish Breeding)

Doctor of Philosophy (ICAR- CMFRI - CIFE)

Ornamental fisheries, fish breeding, fish nutrition,
aquaculture, and live feeds

Contact details



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Binu Varghese did his master's degree in fisheries science (Mariculture) and doctoral degree in Fisheries Science (Mariculture) from Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)/ Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE). After completing the doctoral research on marine ornamental fish nutrition in 2005, involved in various ornamental fisheries development activities in Kerala and Lakshadweep islands. He has more than twenty years of experience in research, teaching, extension, and administration in state, central and private sector institutions at various capacities. He is specialised in mariculture, fish breeding, fish nutrition, live feeds, aquaculture system development and ornamental fisheries. Currently involved in developing seed production technology of commercially important indigenous freshwater and brackishwater species.

During his eight years' tenure with the Marine Product Export Development Authority (MPEDA), GoI facilitated establishment of hundreds of scientific fish breeding units. He was involved in establishing the Ornamental Fish Training Centre, Ornamental Fish Marketing Society, Farmer producer company, Farmers and Breeders Associations. Organized various training, awareness, and orientation programs for the fish farmers, exporters, officials, students, bankers, and other stakeholders funded by international agencies like UNCTAD, MSC, and national agencies. He was Local Competent Authority to certify live ornamental fish export, facilitated international consultancy programs, and monitored funded research projects.

He is presently teaching and guiding undergraduates, postgraduate and doctoral students. In-charge of hatcheries operated by University and functions as University Nodal officer for Marine Stewardship Council, UK programs, and Young Innovators Programme & ICAR Network Programme on Ornamental Fish Breeding and Culture. He is also member of the Animal Ethics Committee of the University. He served as a member of the second Academic Council and as the Programme Coordinator of the KUFOS National Service Scheme. In his chairmanship, the University studied the Fishkill in Periyar 2024 and submitted the report to the Government.

Teaching:

- ❖ Bachelor of Fisheries Science
- ❖ Master of Fisheries Science
- ❖ Doctor of Fisheries Science (course work)

Research Areas:

- Aquaculture / Mariculture
- Broodstock development / breeding / larval rearing
- Design of culture systems
- Ornamental fish sector
- Microalgae / livefeed / aquatic plants

Key Management Roles:

- In-charge Hatcheries
- Nodal Officer KDISC-YIP
- Nodal Officer ICAR-AINP on Ornamental Fish Breeding and Culture
- Nodal Officer Marine Stewardship Council, UK-KUFOS
- Programme Coordinator Earn While You Learn (Aqua)
- Advisory committee member – MPEDA capacity building, Govt of India
- Member (external) - SDG 2.0, Oceanarium committee Govt of Kerala
- Member (internal) - Institute Animal Ethics Committee, Technology management committee etc

Publications:

- Research Gate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Binu-Varghese-7>
- Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=8LPYV/k4AAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=1>

Awards & Achievements:

- Developed commercial breeding, incubation, larval rearing systems for Pearlsport cichlid, *Etroplus suratensis*
- Developed breeding protocols for *Pristolepis rubripinnis*, *Carinotetraodon travancoricus*, *Heterotilapia buttikoferi*
- Developed hybrids of Indigenous ornamental fishes (spike tailed paradise fish)
- Designed egg incubation/rearing/holding recirculating systems for fishes

Completed Projects

- Developing brood bank for sustainable production of Karimeen, *Etroplus suratensis* (Bloch, 1790) and an initiation of selective breeding program. State Plan project. Rs. 52 Lakh.
- Breeding and rearing of Malabar dwarf puffer, *Carinotetraodon travancoricus* (Hora & Nair, 1941). KARP project. Rs. 2 Lakh.

Ongoing Projects:

- Developing improved strains of Karimeen, *Etroplus suratensis* through genetic selection (2022 -2027). State Plan project – Rs. 11.92 lakh/annum.
- *Karimeen Gramam* – Enhancing Seed Production, Rearing, Value Addition & Resource Conservation in The Kumbalam Panchayat (2022-27). State Plan project Rs. 15 Lakh/annum.
- All India Network Programme on Ornamental Fish Breeding and Culture (2024 onwards). ICAR Rs. 17 Lakh/annum.

Read More: