

FACULTY PROFILE



Name: Dr. Safeena, M.P

Designation: Associate Professor

Head of the Dept. of Aquatic Animal Health
Management

Faculty of Fisheries Science, KUFOS

PhD (KVFSU, Bidar)

Fishery Microbiology

Contact details



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Dr. Safeena M.P., Associate Professor and Head, Department of Aquatic Animal Health Management, Faculty of Fisheries Science, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS), Kochi, has got 15 yrs of teaching, research and extension experience in the field of Aquatic Animal Health Management. She secured her PhD in Fishery Microbiology from Karnataka Veterinary and Animal Sciences University under the Indo- Australian strategic research scheme and proceeded to James Cook University Australia to carry out her PhD research. She has got vast expertise in the field of aquatic animal health research on various aspects of microbiology and immunology. she has published complete genome sequences of two parvoviruses of shrimp from India and developed RNAi vaccine and recombinant protein vaccine against Hepatopancreatic parvovirus of shrimp. She has authored/ co-authored several international publications in peer reviewed journals and has got 4984 submissions in the EST Database on the Expressed sequence tag analysis of WSSV infected *Penaeus monodon* and presented more than 36 research papers in various conferences.

So far she has successfully mentored 17 master's thesis and 2 Doctoral dissertations to her credit. She has successfully completed several research projects and currently she is the Principal Investigator of NFDSP sponsored project entitled "National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases-Phase II". So far her research and teaching experience has introduced her to a various research aspect in the field of conventional and molecular biology techniques like fish and shrimp disease diagnosis, application of molecular techniques in Aquatic food quality analysis, Bioinformatic etc. Her current research interest is in the field of Development of diagnostic techniques for various emerging fish pathogens, development of recombinant protein vaccines and development of Biocontrol strategies against bacterial infection in fish using bacteriophage as an alternative to antibiotics and development of antiviral mechanisms.

Her contributions extend beyond research, organizing training and awareness programs on fish disease management. Her managerial skills and excellent communication makes her a good administrator as well a good teacher

Teaching:

- ❖ Fundamentals of Microbiology
- ❖ Microbiology of Fish and Fishery Products
- ❖ Fish Immunology
- ❖ Principles of Aquatic Animal Health Management
- ❖ Fish and Shellfish Immunology
- ❖ Fish Disease Diagnostic Techniques
- ❖ Biotechnological Tools in Fish Health Management

Research Areas:

- Design and characterization of a commensal bacterium vectored vaccination platform for the delivery of antigens along the mucosal route for selected fish Pathogens.
- Development of Biocontrol strategies for fish pathogens as an alternative to antibiotics.
- Development of Rapid Diagnostic Techniques for emerging fish pathogens
- Development of Antiviral strategies against selected fish viral infections.
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Key Management Roles:

- Head of the Dept. of Aquatic Animal Health Management
- Assistant warden, UG Ladies Hostel
- IQAC Core committee member
- PTA Secretary, Faculty of Fisheries Sciences
- Chairman of Institutional Animal Ethical Committee
- Admission core committee member
- Nodal officer of Kerala Academy for Skills

Publications:

- Research Gate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Safeena-Mp>
- Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.co.in/citations?hl=en&user=T8_7FNwAAAAJ

- **Awards & Achievements:**

- Recipient of "University Gold medal" for the best outgoing Masters student in Fishery Microbiology, College of Fisheries, Mangalore during the academic year 2008-2009.
- Recipient of the "Prof. H. P. C. Shetty Gold Medal" instituted by College of Fisheries, Mangalore for the best outgoing Masters Student in Fishery Microbiology, college of fisheries during the academic year 2008-2009.
- Recipient of the "Prof. Tauro Gold Medal" instituted by Department of Fishery Microbiology, College of Fisheries, Mangalore for the best outgoing Masters Student in Fishery Microbiology during the academic year 2008-2009.
- Secured third rank in a national level entrance test and was awarded the Junior Research Fellowship for Post Graduate studies by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during the academic year 2006-2008.
- ICAR Junior Research Fellowship (J.R.F) for M.F.Sc. (3rd rank in India among Fishery Science students), 2006-2008, ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
- Recipient of COFAA Educational Award from the Alumni Association of College of Fisheries, Mangalore for academic excellence in post-graduation during 2007-2008.
- Recipient of Merit scholarship from Kerala Agricultural University for securing highest overall grade point for undergraduate degree program during the academic year 2004-2006.
- Anu Ruby Benny, Chaithanya B S and Safeena M P Awarded Best oral presentation on the topic "Comparison of spoilage potential of *Citrobacter freundii* with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in chilled fish in the national seminar on Reorienting the Strategies Towards Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries, organized by Faculty of Fisheries (KUFOS) during 6th and 7th January 2022.
- Preenanka R and Safeena M P, Best Poster Award for the topic entitled "Development and validation of multiplex PCR for the simultaneous detection of six virulent genes of E. coli O157:H7 from seafood" in International conference on Aquatic resources and Blue economy (AQUABE) - 2019, organized by KUFOS.
- Preenanka, R. and Safeena, M.P., Awarded Best oral presentation on the topic "Protective efficiency of bacteriophage cocktail against multidrug resistant *Streptococcus agalactiae* in farmed tilapia" In 3rd International Conference on Bacteriophage Research & Antimicrobial Resistance. Jointly organized by SBRT and Karnatak University during 26-27th November 2022.

- Reshma R. Nair, Riji John and Safeena M.P Awarded Best oral presentation on the topic "-----in International Fisheries congress and Expo – 2024 organised by KUFOS and College of Fisheries Panangad Alumni Association,12-14 January 2024.
- Awarded National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by ASRB (ICAR-2010) New Delhi in the Major Discipline Fish Harvest and Post-Harvest Technology.
- Awarded National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by ASRB (ICAR-2009) New Delhi in the Major Discipline Fisheries Science.

Ongoing Projects:

- Principal Investigator - National Surveillance programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (Phase II) –Funded by NFDB -47.7 lakhs.
- Partner in CEFAS 24-29 (UK) consortium project on "Whole genome sequencing of *Streptococcus agalactiae* serotypes in Indian aquatic systems", under the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP)
- Principal investigator of the plan project entitled "Development of a Recombinase Polymerase Amplification assay for the rapid detection of Red Seabream Iridovirus (RSIV)" State plan scheme 2023-2024-Budget 6.49lakhs.
- Principal investigator of the Extension plan Project entitled "Farm Advisory services" State plan scheme 2022-2027- Budget 4 +5 lakhs (for the year 2022-23 and 2023-24)
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Read More: