

Fifth
International
Conference
of Agricultural
Librarians and
User Community
2026
(ICALUC 2026)

Sowing Knowledge and Harvesting Innovation: Evolving Landscape of Agricultural Libraries

Date: 23 & 24 October 2026

Venue: Madras Veterinary College, Vepery
Chennai – 600 007, Tamil Nadu, India



Jointly Organized by

Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal
Sciences University Library



Association of Agricultural Librarians
and Documentalists of India (AALDI)



Background

Agricultural libraries play a vital role in supporting agricultural education and research by providing access to a wide range of information resources, including books, journals, research papers, databases, government publications and digital repositories. They serve as knowledge hubs for students, educators, researchers, extension workers, and policymakers.

Agricultural libraries are key contributors to food security because they facilitate the creation, preservation, dissemination, and application of agricultural knowledge. By supporting education, research, innovation, extension, and informed policymaking, they help improve agricultural productivity, promote sustainable resource management and ensure the availability, accessibility and stability of food for present and future generations.

Tamil Nadu Veterinary And Animal Sciences University, Chennai

The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, popularly known as 'TANUVAS', blossomed on 20.09.1989 as the first Veterinary University of the country, through the Tamil Nadu State Government Act 42 of 1989. The seed for the establishment and growth of TANUVAS was sown as early as 1876, when the Madras Veterinary College was started as an Agricultural School in Chennai to offer diploma and certificate course in the field of veterinary and animal sciences. The institute attained the status of a college on 01.10.1903, when it started functioning at Dobbin Hall, Chennai and admitted 20 students for a

three-year diploma course called GMVC (Graduate of Madras Veterinary College). It was the only veterinary college in the erstwhile composite Madras State till mid 1950's.

At present, TANUVAS has a total of seven Veterinary Colleges, a College of Food and Dairy Technology, a College of Poultry Production and Management, 10 Research Farms, 15 Research Laboratories and Diagnostic Centres, 20 Veterinary University Training and Research Centres, three Farmers' Training Centres, and four Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

The undergraduate courses offered include B.V.Sc. & A.H., B.Tech. (Food Technology), B.Tech. (Dairy Technology) and B.Tech. (Poultry Technology). Besides, postgraduate courses viz. M.V.Sc. in 22 disciplines, M.Tech. in three disciplines, M.Sc. in Bioinformatics, M.Sc. in Biostatistics, and MBA in Food and Livestock Business Management, Ph.D. in 20 disciplines of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Ph.D. in Food Technology, five PG Diploma and a number of PG Diploma and Certificate courses in distance mode are also offered.

TANUVAS Library System

The TANUVAS Library system is consisting of the University Library at TANUVAS headquarters at Chennai and a well established library at each of its nine colleges. The Madras Veterinary College Library, with a rich collection of over 1,00,000 volumes is considered to be the best Veterinary Library in the country and one among the best veterinary libraries in the World.





The TANUVAS libraries are automated and digitized and provided with RFID enabled security system, Electronic Surveillance system, Biometric Access Control System, etc. A cloud-based Web OPAC is available to search the collections of all libraries of TANUVAS. Remote access service is provided through MyLOFT. TANUVAS is the top contributor to KrishiKosh Digital Repository of ICAR and its contribution is 25,000 plus documents which is about 9% of the total collection of KrishiKosh. The University Library is headed by a University Librarian and all the college libraries are functioning under the control of a professionally qualified librarian. The University Committee for Libraries formulates the rules, regulations and policies of the libraries of the University. All the college libraries are governed by a Library Committee headed by the Dean in which subject matter experts are members and the Librarian is the Convenor.

About Chennai

Chennai, the capital city of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, is one of India's largest metropolitan cities and a major center for commerce, education, healthcare, culture, and information technology. Located on the south-eastern coast along the Bay of Bengal, Chennai is known for its rich cultural heritage, historic temples, vibrant arts, and the classical dance form Bharatanatyam. The city is home to several prestigious educational and research institutions, thriving automobile and IT industries, and one of the country's busiest ports. Chennai experiences a tropical climate with hot summers and moderate winters, receiving most of its rainfall from the northeast monsoon. Its blend of tradition and modern development, coupled with excellent infrastructure and economic significance, makes Chennai an important gateway to South India and a key contributor to the nation's growth.

Weather:

The weather in the month of October ranges from 30°C to 33°C, while minimum temperatures range from 24°C to 26°C.

How to reach:

By Air: Chennai, the capital of Tamil Nadu, is one of India's best-connected metropolitan cities and can be reached by air, rail, road, and sea. Chennai is served by Chennai International Airport (MAA), located at Meenambakkam, about 20 km from the city center. The airport has regular domestic flights connecting Chennai with major Indian cities. **By Rail:** Chennai is a major railway hub in South India. The city has three principal railway terminals—Chennai Central and Chennai Egmore which are well connected to all parts of the country through an extensive network of express and superfast trains. The Conference venue is just 1.5 km from these two railway stations.

Places to Visit

Chennai offers a rich blend of history, culture, spirituality, architecture, and modern attractions. Some of the most important places to visit are:

- **Marina Beach** – One of the world's longest urban beaches, Marina Beach is famous for its sunrise views, promenade, lighthouse, and memorials of prominent leaders.
- **Kapaleeshwarar Temple** – A magnificent 7th-century Dravidian-style temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, located in the historic neighborhood of Mylapore.
- **Fort St. George** – Built in 1644 by the British East India Company, it houses a museum displaying colonial artifacts and is an important landmark in Chennai's history.





- **Anna Centenary Library** – One of South Asia's largest public libraries, featuring extensive collections, digital resources, children's sections, and modern reading facilities.
- **Other Places:** Government Museum, Valluvar Kottam, Guindy National Park, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, DakshinaChitra Heritage Museum, Elliot's Beach, Birla Planetarium

These attractions highlight Chennai's unique combination of heritage, spirituality, colonial history, science, culture, libraries, museums, wildlife, and coastal beauty, making the city one of South India's most rewarding destinations for visitors.

Around Chennai

- **Mahabalipuram (60 km):** A UNESCO World Heritage Site famous for its Shore Temple, Pancha Rathas, Arjuna's Penance, and ancient rock-cut monuments. It is one of the most visited heritage destinations in South India.
- **Kanchipuram (75 km):** Known as the "City of a Thousand Temples," Kanchipuram is renowned for its ancient temples, silk sarees, and rich cultural heritage.
- **Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary (85 km):** One of India's oldest bird sanctuaries, attracting thousands of migratory birds between November and March.
- **Covelong Beach (40 km):** A peaceful beach destination known for surfing, fishing, and beach resorts.
- **Puducherry (formerly Pondicherry)** is a charming coastal destination located about 150 km south of Chennai on the East Coast Road (ECR). Known for its French colonial heritage, tranquil beaches, spiritual centers (Auroville), and vibrant cafés, it is one of the most popular weekend getaways from Chennai.

Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists of India (AALDI)

The Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists of India (AALDI) was founded in 1971 with an aim to bring Agricultural Librarians of the country on a platform to join hands to address matters of professional interests in improving library system and services towards the agricultural user-community. The first General Body meeting of AALDI was held at Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur in June 1973 where decision for annual publication of the 'AALDI Bulletin' was adopted with the aim to give vent to the intellectual thoughts and activities of the Agricultural Library Professionals. The efforts of the Association bore fruits in 1974 when the first volume of the periodical was published. To keep pace with changing scenario and concept of agricultural librarianship, the title of the periodical was re-christened as 'Indian Journal of Agricultural Library and Information Services' in 2008. It is important to note that the journal has been approved by the UGC vide UGC Journal Identification No. 64538. Due to reasons unknown, the Association went to a long hiatus since 1993 but revived by some senior Agricultural Library Professionals under the leadership of the doyen of our profession Prof. Prem Singh, the then University Librarian of CCSHAU, during a workshop on 'Krishiprabha: Indian Agricultural Dissertation Repository' held at CCSHAU, Hisar in 2008.

AALDI hosted its Golden Jubilee Celebration in 2021 and launched the AALDI Life Time Achievements Award, Fellowship of AALDI and Best Librarian Awards during its First International Conference held at UAS, Bengaluru, India in 2021. The Second International Conference ICALUC 2022 was organized by the Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati, Assam. The Third ICALUC 2023 was organized by the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab. The Fourth ICALUC 2024 was organized by the Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Bidar, Karnataka.



About the International Conference – ICALUC 2026

The Fifth International Conference of AALDI i.e. ICALUC 2026 is being organized by the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS), Chennai. The conference will provide an international platform to Library and Information Science professionals in National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES) to discuss and develop strategies to fulfil the information needs of agricultural fraternity in a better way.

The conference will also provide opportunities to identify the strengths and gaps in the existing system, and to suggest corrective measures for information delivery services. The conference will sensitize the agricultural librarians about the latest technologies including artificial intelligence in the information sector to ensure effective and efficient information services to the stakeholders.

Objectives of the Conference

The primary objective of the conference is:

- to bring together eminent LIS scientists, academicians, industry professionals, researchers and practicing LIS professionals working in the field of agricultural libraries from India and abroad to discuss about the cutting-edge advancements in the field of agricultural library and information science.
- to develop recommendations and a future roadmap for transforming agricultural libraries into dynamic knowledge and innovation hubs that contribute to food security, sustainable agriculture, and national development.

The focus will be to bridge the gap between local insights and global standards and to provide a platform for LIS professionals to share their 'best practices' and to pave way for global networking and collaboration.

Conference Highlights

- Invited lectures by national and international renowned speakers
- Accepted papers will be published in pre-conference proceedings with ISBN

- Product demonstrations
- Paper Presentations
- Poster Sessions
- Workshop
- Global Networking
- Culture and Personal Enrichment

Conference Theme

"Sowing Knowledge and Harvesting Innovation: Evolving Landscape of Agricultural Libraries"

Call for Papers

The editorial committee of ICALUC-2026 invites application-oriented conference papers from the LIS professionals, students, librarians, academicians, research scholars and IT professionals; who would like to participate in the conference and share their valuable knowledge in serving their library patrons in a better way. The proposals should be relevant to the theme and sub-themes of the conference presenting new and original research findings, working experience, theoretical models, and case studies. All the submitted papers will undergo peer-review process and the authors will be required to incorporate the recommendations (if any) of the reviewers. The decision of the editorial committee will be final regarding selection or rejection of the paper for publishing in the conference proceeding. All accepted papers will be invited for presentations.

We invite high-quality, original submissions addressing—but not limited to—the following sub-themes.

Sub-Themes

1. Digital Transformation & Smart Agriculture Libraries

Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Machine Learning, Big Data and IoT in Agriculture, Virtual and Augmented Reality (AR & VR), Precision Agriculture Data Management, AI-Driven Literature Discovery, Emerging Hardware Solutions, Cloud Infrastructure & Open Source LMS, Emerging Library and Information Technologies, AI-Ready Librarian



2. Open Science, Repository Management, & Fair Data

Open Access Publishing in Agricultural Sciences, Implementing FAIR Data Principles, “One Nation, One Subscription” (ONOS), Digital Archiving, Cloud preservation and safeguarding born-digital assets, Global Consortia,

3. Empowering the Grassroots: Extension Services & Farmer Literacy

Information Literacy for Extension Agents, Information Literacy for Climate-Smart Agriculture, Mobile-First and Vernacular Knowledge Delivery, Combating Agricultural Misinformation, Library-to-Land initiatives

4. Sustainability, Biodiversity, & Climate Change

United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals and Role of Libraries, Libraries Securing Biodiversity, Information Architecture for Climate Resilience, Green Libraries and Eco-friendly Library Management

5. Collaborative Networks & the Future Capacity of Librarians

Global Knowledge Networks, the Evolving Persona of the Agricultural Librarian, Upskilling in data science, geospatial data (GIS), and research data management (RDM), Cross-Disciplinary Collaborations

6. Future Spaces (UX & Inclusivity)

Agile Architecture, UX Design: Maximizing user experience in physical and digital portals, Inclusivity: Accessible tech for neurodivergent and marginalized communities.

7. The Open Door – Public Libraries as Anchors of Community & Change

Digital Inclusion & Tech Access, Civic Engagement & Lifelong Learning, democratic spaces, Transforming Public Libraries into Village Information Centres, Lifeline information & Grassroots Services, Bridging the Rural Digital Divide, Preserving Local Culture & Social Cohesion, demystifying artificial intelligence and hosting public AI-literacy labs, the Mobile Library, Crisis & Sanctuary, Makerspaces & Creativity, Co-Working and Economic Hubs, Agriculture & Weather Hubs, E-Governance Gateways, Health and Wellness Portals, Bridging the Rural Digital Divide,

8. Preserving Traditional Agrarian Wisdom and Indigenous Knowledge

Digital Rural Libraries, Indigenous Data Sovereignty, Digital Preservation of Indigenous Agricultural Knowledge, Archiving of Oral History and folk/traditional knowledge

9. Institutional Repositories, Research Metrics, and Publication Ethics

KrishiKosh, Emerging Research Metrics, Plagiarism, Ghost AI Authorship, AI-Driven Plagiarism, AI-Generated Hallucination / Fabricated Citations, AI-Generated Paper Mills, Tortured Phrases, Fingerprint Phrases, Retraction of research publications, Responsible Research Assessment

Guidelines for Authors

Format of Paper:

- Font: Times New Roman, Single-spaced, A4 page size
- Font size: Title 16 point (Bold), Headings 14 point (Bold), Sub-headings 12 point (Bold), Text 12 point
- Reference style: APA style
- Word limit: 4000-6000 words (excluding references)
- The paper should consist of the following:
 - Title of the paper
 - Name(s) of author(s) and affiliation with complete mailing address including email and contact number of the corresponding author
 - Abstract in one paragraph of maximum 200 words along with 5 – 7 keywords

Important Instructions

- Corresponding author is required to sign the Copyright License Agreement in favour of AALDI
- Abstracts along with full papers must be checked through a Plagiarism Detection Software and an undertaking regarding plagiarism free content should also be submitted
- Abstract along with the full paper in MS-WORD; Copyright License Agreement (in PDF format) and undertaking regarding plagiarism free content (in PDF format) should be submitted to **icaluc2026@gmail.com** captioned as **SUBMISSION OF FULL**



PAPER FOR ICALUC-2026 on or before 31st August, 2026.

- At least one of the authors (in case of joint authorship) must register for the conference on or before the last date of registration. The accepted papers will be published as a Pre-Conference Volume with ISBN only after payment of registration fee.
- Conference proceeding will be given only to the participants/authors who register for the conference.

Who Can Participate?

Library and Information Science professionals; Academicians in teaching, extension and research; Students; Knowledge managers; Research scholars; IT professionals and Stakeholders of Agricultural Librarianship

Important Dates

Last date of submission of papers	31 st Aug, 2026
Confirmation of acceptance of papers by	15 th Sep, 2026
Last date of registration for the conference	30 th Sep, 2026
Conference dates	23 rd & 24 th Oct, 2026

Registration Fee

The registration fee includes conference kit including conference volume

Details	On or before 22.10.2026	Spot Registration
AALDI Member	Rs.3,000/-	Rs.4,000/-
Non-Member	Rs.4,000/-	Rs.4,500/-
Retired Professionals / Student / Research Scholar including LIS professionals working in Private Institutions	Rs.2,000/-	Rs.2,500/-

International Participant	USD 100	USD 100
Accompanying persons	Rs.2,000/-	Rs.2,000/-

Payment Details

The registration fee may be paid online to the following account / scanning the QR Code / as demand draft in favour of **"ICALUC 2026 CONFERENCE"** payable at Chennai

Name of the account	ICALUC 2026 Conference
Savings bank account number	570502010009111
Bank name	Union Bank of India
Branch	MVC Branch, Vepery, Chennai
IFSC Code	UBIN0557056

Sightseeing

Sightseeing will be arranged on payment basis to important places in and around Chennai City.

Accommodation

Accommodation on payment basis will be provided to the delegates on first come first served basis in the University Guest House, Sabbatical Hostel and Teachers' Hostel.



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REGISTRATION FORM

- 1) Name (IN CAPITAL LETTERS): _____
- 2) Designation: _____
- 3) Age: _____ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Transgender
- 4) AALDI Life Member: ☐ YES ☐ NO If YES, specify membership number: _____
- 5) ☐ Retired Professionals ☐ Student
- ☐ Research Scholar including LIS professionals working in Private Institutions
- ☐ International Participant ☐ Accompanying persons
- 5) Correspondence address: _____
- _____
- Mobile: _____ E-mail: _____
- 6) Title of paper: _____
- 7) Travel plan : _____
- a. Date of arrival & details: _____
- b. Date of return & details: _____
- 8) Departure plan: _____
- 9) Accommodation required: ☐ YES / ☐ NO
- 10) Number of associate delegates: _____
- 11) Payment mode: ☐ Cash ☐ DD ☐ Online bank transaction number ☐ QR Code
- Name of bank : _____
- Date of payment: _____
- Place : _____
- IFSC Code of branch: _____ Date : _____

