



**Profile of the Program Reviewer – QAAC of UGC, Sri Lanka  
University Grant Commission, Sri Lanka**

**Prof. S. D. Suneth. S. Sooriyapathirana**

I graduated from Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya in Year 2000 (BSc Honors in Agriculture Major Plant Breeding and Genetics); MSc in Biotechnology from PGIA in 2009, University of Peradeniya and PhD in Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology from Michigan State University, USA in

2009. I won following awards and honors for the undergraduate and graduate studies.

1. Michigan State Horticultural Society Industry Scholarship 2008
2. Gold Medal for academic excellence in graduate studies, by Phi Beta Delta, Alpha Alpha Chapter, Michigan State University 2008
3. The Graduate Research Scholarship, Graduate Program Committee from Department of Horticulture, Michigan State University 2007/2008
4. Dr. Leo W. Mericle and Dr. Rae Phelps Mericle Fund Scholarship, Michigan State University 2006
5. Asian Development Bank Graduate Scholarship to follow MSc in Biotechnology in Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture, Sri Lanka 2001-2002
6. Hon. D. S. Senanayake (first prime minister of Sri Lanka) Memorial Gold Medal for Best Agricultural Graduate in Sri Lanka 2000
7. Golden jubilee gold medal for the most outstanding performance (Batch top) in the core program of the B.S. Agriculture curriculum, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka 2000
8. University Scholarship for the best academic excellence (Batch top), Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka 2000
9. Professor R. R. Appadurai Memorial Scholarship for the best academic results of first three academic years, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 2000
10. Presentation on “A user friendly software to analyze the data of DNA fingerprinting” was adjudged as a commendable paper in Peradeniya University Research sessions, Sri Lanka. 2003

Currently, I am working as an Associate Professor and Head in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya. So far, I have obtained and completed eight research grants worth of 6 million rupees, published 8 books, 33 research articles and 61 abstracts in conference proceedings. I also have supervised 1 PhD student, 11 MSc students and 39 undergraduate research projects. Currently, I am teaching a total of 25 credits in undergraduate and postgraduate programs.

I am working as a resource person in the induction programs for newly appointed lecturers conducted by Staff Development Center, University of Peradeniya since 2010. I have served as the coordinator and a resource person in revising BSc program in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, MSc program in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and BSc program in Geology in University of Peradeniya. In addition to the main research interest on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, I am interested in policies of Science Education and improving quality and relevance of university education and hoping to serve as a program reviewer in the review programs conducted by QAAC of UGC, Sri Lanka.