



UNIVERSITY OF DEBRECEN

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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Agrarian Sector 2025

This year, the University of Debrecen participated as a highlighted professional partner with a strong delegation at the Portfolio Agrarian Sector Conference, held between 2–4 December.

Day One:

- Space Research and Agriculture: Science Fiction or Reality? A Hungarian astronaut aboard the International Space Station – Production possibilities of space-grown plants and related Hungarian research results
Prof. Miklós Gábor Fári, DSc, Professor Emeritus, UD-FAFSEM
- Trade Wars and Agricultural Policy: A Sector in Turmoil EU accession of Ukraine, U.S. trade wars, the Mercosur Agreement – What role can Hungarian agriculture play within the European Union?
Prof. István Szűcs, DSc, Professor, UD-Faculty of Economics
- Food Industry and Food Packaging: Developments in the Spotlight
Modern solutions in food packaging – Innovative and sustainable product developments and current regulatory trends
Prof. László Stündl, DSc, Dean, Professor, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management, UD-FAFSEM
- The Pressure to Adapt and Develop in Horticulture
The need for adaptation in horticulture due to extreme weather conditions – Disbursement of grant-based subsidies, development opportunities in fruit and vegetable processing, and stricter employment regulations
Dr. Ferenc Apáti, President, Associate Professor, FruitVeB, UD-FAFSEM



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Agrarian Sector 2025- Day Two

The country's largest agricultural event continued with outstanding keynote lectures and panel discussions, featuring the active participation of experts from the University of Debrecen.



- A New Chapter in the CAP – “From Farm to Health” – One Health Approach, Innovations across the soil–plant–animal–food continuum

Plenary Speaker: Prof. László Stündl, DSc, Professor, Dean, UD FAFSEM

- Major Challenges in Maize Production: Feed, Food, and Bioenergy

Moderator: Prof. Adrienn Kakuszi-Széles, DSc, Professor, UD FAFSEM

- Európa Europe’s Leading Maize Research Takes Place in Debrecen, A key objective: improving profitability

Speaker: Prof. János Nagy, DSc, Professor Emeritus, UD FAFSEM

- Panel Discussion:

The future of maize production in Hungary: production demands, weather-related risks, hybrid selection, and market trends – What can be done to combat mycotoxins?

Prof. János Nagy, DSc, Professor Emeritus, UD FAFSEM

- Competitiveness and Innovation in Agriculture- Where science meets practice: innovations shaping the future of agriculture

Speaker: Prof. István Komlósi, DSc, Professor, UD FAFSEM

- Panel Discussion: Adaptation and competitiveness: the role of innovation in agricultural economics – Development and research priority areas in Hungary and worldwide. Prof. István Komlósi, DSc, Professor, UD FAFSEM

Based on participant feedback, the conference succeeded in delivering practical, immediately applicable knowledge to company executives and agricultural professionals in attendance again.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





25 Years of the Kálmán Kerpely Doctoral School

The Kálmán Kerpely Doctoral School marked its 25th anniversary with a scientific symposium. To date, 285 doctoral degrees have been awarded within this internationally recognised academic community in the fields of crop production and horticultural sciences.



The Kálmán Kerpely Doctoral School was established in 2000, simultaneously with the integrated University of Debrecen, on the initiative of Professor János Nagy.



The doctoral programme builds on strong scientific traditions, previously achieved

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/huszonot-eves-kerpely-kalman-doktori-iskola>

research results, and the professional expertise of its academic staff, supported by extensive research infrastructure, including long-term field experiments. In 2008, the doctoral school was named after Academician Kálmán Kerpely, Professor of Crop Production, in recognition of his outstanding scientific legacy.



The Kálmán Kerpely Doctoral School currently has 48 doctoral candidates, including 13 international students, whose research activities are supervised by 36 academic advisors.

During the jubilee event, former doctoral candidates presented their professional and scientific achievements. The Doctoral School also honoured its founder, Professor János Nagy, with a commemorative plaque in recognition of his foundational work. It was further announced that Adrienn Kakuszi-Széles has been appointed Head of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences – University of Debrecen Research Group in Agricultural Sciences.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu





Second “Belt and Road” Pigeon Industry Technology Forum



Researchers from the Faculty's Agricultural Genomics and Biotechnology Centre visited Beijing, where leading pigeon researchers from around the world gathered for the Second “Belt and Road” Pigeon Industry Technology Forum and the 2025 International Conference on Pigeon Science and Technology



It was a particular honour that Prof. Szilvia Kusza, DSc, Professor at the Faculty, was invited as a distinguished keynote speaker to present the latest achievements of Hungarian pigeon research and breeding. She was accompanied by Dr. Zoltán Bagi, Senior Research Fellow, who also represented Hungarian pigeon breeders at the event.



In addition to the wide-ranging scientific programmes covering multiple disciplines, our researchers engaged in intensive discussions on potential long-term collaborations. Plans for the joint development of the “Belt and Road” Pigeon Science & Technology Service and the establishment of a global pigeon gene bank, initiatives that may open new perspectives for international cooperation and advancement in pigeon genetics and breeding. It represents a significant success that Hungarian researchers and breeders are able to participate as active contributors in these initiatives, with our research group among the key initiators.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Time Capsules Commemorate the Vitapric Programme



Time capsules commemorating Hungary's first space plant experiment, the Vitapric Programme, were installed on the Bösörményi Road Campus of the University of Debrecen as part of the 4th Plant Breeding Memorial Day and Conference. The capsules contain elements of the scientific experiments conducted aboard the International Space Station (ISS) during the Axiom-4 mission by Tibor Kapu, Hungary's second astronaut, including seeds, documents, and specialised research equipment. The placement of the capsules was attended by Hungary's first astronaut, Bertalan Farkas.

Named after Vitapric, a paprika cream developed by Albert Szent-Györgyi and recognised as the world's first functional food, the Vitapric Programme involved researchers from UD FAFSEM. Within the framework of the HUNOR Hungarian Astronaut Programme, they developed innovative technological and biological solutions that enabled the successful germination of radish, wheat, and paprika seeds aboard the International Space Station.

The 4th Plant Breeding Memorial Day and Conference was once again organised this year with multiple objectives. The professional

event focused on outlining the core principles of the action programme entitled *Mitigating the Water Management Risks of Climate Change and Increasing Profitability through (Precision) Plant Breeding and Crop Diversification*. In addition to reviewing scientific strategies addressing the biological and genetic foundations of domestic crop production, horticulture, forestry, and green space management, particular emphasis was placed on adaptation to climate change, drought tolerance, and the mitigation of increasing biotic and abiotic stresses.



Participants of the conference also initiated the establishment of the *National Laboratory for Extreme Environment and Space Agriculture*.



The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/idokapszulaval-tisztelegnek-vitapric-program-elott>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu





Plant Breeding Memorial Day

The 4th Plant Breeding Memorial Day and Conference (NEK'2025) was held on 9 December 2025 in the Grand Hall of the DAB Headquarters, hosted by our Faculty. The conference focused on mitigating the water management risks posed by climate change and exploring opportunities to increase profitability through precision plant breeding and crop diversification. A further objective of NEK'2025 was to formulate a proposal for the establishment of the *National Laboratory for Extreme Environment and Space Agriculture*. In this context, the event's guest of honour was Brigadier General Bertalan Farkas, research astronaut, while Tibor Kapu, research astronaut, also joined the event via a recorded welcome message.



Looking ahead, researchers from the Faculty's Institute of Applied Plant Biology are planning to launch a research collaboration with Kruppa-Mag Ltd., aiming to develop alfalfa varieties that deliver reliable biomass yield and quality under reduced water availability. The project builds on the *Olimpia* alfalfa variety developed by Kruppa-Mag Ltd., from which 200 seeds were sent to the International Space Station within the framework of the HUNOR Programme.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





University of Debrecen: At the Forefront of Biotechnology

Researchers and industry professionals gathered to discuss the latest scientific achievements and future directions at the *Biotechnology at the University of Debrecen – 2025 Symposium*. In addition to gaining insight into ongoing research at the University, participants were also introduced to the most recent international trends at the event held at the DAB Headquarters.

The *Biotechnology at the University of Debrecen – 2025 International Symposium* marked the ninth event in this series and the second to be organised in English, serving as a major forum for biotechnologists in Debrecen and their collaborating partners. As the host institution, the University of Debrecen is at the forefront of biotechnology research, with all three major branches represented: red (health-related), green (environmental), and white (industrial) biotechnology.

Three symposium sections were opened by keynote lectures delivered by renowned international experts, each presenting a key area of contemporary European biotechnology research.

The opening lecture of the *Biotechnology Horizons* session was delivered by María José Arce-Tomás of MJAT Regulatory Advisory Services, who spoke about the revolutionary changes underway in the development of advanced therapy medicinal products within the European Union.

Several research projects were presented during the poster session held at the DAB Headquarters.

We are particularly pleased that our colleague, Dr. Zoltán Kovács, Assistant Lecturer at the Institute of Applied Plant Biology (UD FAFSEM), received a poster award for his presentation entitled “*Carbon Nanodots Boost Radish Seedling Growth*”, sponsored by the Medicinal Plant Research Institute Ltd.

It was also a great honour for the Faculty that Professor Antonio Moretti visited our *Biodrome* research unit following the symposium, where Dr. Péter Makleit, Associate Professor, provided an overview of the ongoing research activities.



The full article is available at the following link:
<https://hirek.unideb.hu/de-elen-biotechnologiaban>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu; facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Plant Protection Without Borders



The 30th Tiszántúl Plant Protection Forum addressed emerging challenges in plant protection and food safety arising from global and local environmental and societal changes, as well as the rapid, cross-border spread of plant pests and diseases that increasingly disregard national boundaries.

This year's professional conference was held in an unconventional location, Corunca (Koronka), near Târgu Mureş, and welcomed more than 150 experts from over 14 countries.

Organised jointly by the Institute of Plant Protection of UD FAFSEM, and its partners, the 30th Tiszántúl Plant Protection Forum also served as the 12th International Plant Protection Symposium (12th IPPS). Hosted at the Faculty of Târgu Mureş of Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, the conference further strengthened the long-standing and active collaboration between the two faculties. In addition to Hungarian and Romanian professionals, guest lecturers,

professors, and PhD and MSc students from 14 countries attended the forum, including India, Nepal, China, Slovakia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Tunisia, Morocco, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Peru, South Africa, and Egypt. Participants presented their research findings in plenary and sectional sessions.

Following the plenary lectures, conference participants had the opportunity to attend a poster session and four scientific sections focusing on plant pathology, applied entomology, integrated plant protection and weed biology, and international plant protection. A total of 52 presentations were delivered in both English and Hungarian.

As in previous years, the Antal Gulyás Memorial Medal for Plant Protection was awarded during the forum. This prestigious professional recognition was presented to Gábor Tarcali in acknowledgement of his outstanding and dedicated work in support of the plant health profession and plant protection education.

The full article is available at the following link:
<https://hirek.unideb.hu/novenyvedelem-hatarok-nelkul>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu





15 Years of the Kálmán Kerpely Advanced College

The Kálmán Kerpely Advanced College of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management at the University of Debrecen celebrated its 15th anniversary with a scientific symposium. The talent development community currently brings together 48 outstanding students.



In his ceremonial address, founding professor János Nagy recalled the establishment of the Advanced College and emphasised its key role in nurturing student talent and building a strong professional community.



As part of the jubilee scientific session, Bertalan Farkas, Hungarian research astronaut, delivered a lecture in which he reflected on the importance of scientific curiosity and the limits of human performance, drawing on his personal experiences.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/15-eves-kerpely-kalman-szakkollegium>



During the celebration, the Advanced College awarded commemorative plaques to Professor János Nagy, founder, and Adrienn Kakuszi-Széles, Director, in recognition of their outstanding commitment and many years of dedicated work. In her acceptance speech, the Director highlighted the community-building role of the Advanced College and the importance of supporting the professional development of young talents.

The 15th anniversary not only offered an opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the past decade and a half, but also provided



renewed momentum for the continued scientific, professional, and community development of the Advanced College.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu, facebook.com





Animal Science Days 2025 Conference

This year's Animal Science Days international conference was held in Nitra, hosted by the Slovak University of Agriculture, bringing together colleagues from agricultural universities and animal science research institutes across Central Europe to present their latest scientific results.

The Faculty was represented by Prof. Levente Czeglédi, Dr. János Posta, Dr. Csaba Szabó, Prof. Michael Gonda, Fulbright Professor, PhD students Doha Khalifeh, Mequanint Gashew Achenef, Nazly Martin Kulma, and Eszter Tóth, from the Institute of Animal Science, Biotechnology and Nature Conservation.

Dr. János Posta achieved first place in the poster section of the conference.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Focus on Soil-Dwelling Potato Pests



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

Prof. Antal Nagy, Head of Institute and Professor at the Faculty, delivered a lecture at a professional event organised by Agrico Hungary Ltd. in Budapest on 30 September 2025.

His presentation entitled "New Results Related to Soil-Dwelling Pests" was met with great interest and received highly positive feedback from the audience.





48th Annual Conference of the Hungarian Nutrition Society

Staff members and PhD students from the Institute of Food Technology and the Institute of Nutrition Sciences of the Faculty participated in the 48th Annual Conference of the Hungarian Nutrition Society, held in Siófok between 2–4 October 2025.

Faculty researchers contributed with the following presentations:

Institute of Food Technology:

SZINTIA JEVCSÁK, GERDA DIÓSI, ÁDÁM FÜLEP, ENDRE MÁTHÉ:

The Technology of Sourdough Fermentation and Innovative Fermentation Approaches



Institute of Nutrition Sciences:

GÁBOR BANCE, BENCE BÉLA PECSENYE, RÓBERT NAGY, MELINDA HÉJJA, ENDRE MÁTHÉ:

Analysis of Anti-Neuroinflammatory Gemmotherapy Extracts

BENCE PECSENYE, MAHA ROCKAYA, ENDRE MÁTHÉ: Using *Drosophila melanogaster* to develop a robust animal model system for use in nutritional science research

MELINDA HÉJJA, ÉVA GYÖRGY, TÜNDE PACZA, NELI-KINGA OLÁH, ENDRE MÁTHÉ: Investigation of the Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Effects of Gemmotherapy Extracts



MAHA ROCKAYA, BENCE PECSENYE, JÓZSEF BARANYI, ENDRE MÁTHÉ: Modeling Microbial Growth in Plant-Based Milks: The Role of Nutrients and Experimental Design

RÓBERT NAGY, MELINDA HÉJJA, ENDRE MÁTHÉ, PÉTER SIPOS: Development and Evaluation of Sorghum-Based Functional Bakery Products Enriched with Sea Buckthorn

The research activities were carried out within the framework of the project “Innovative Sourdough: Microbiome, Technology and the Development of Health-Promoting Bakery Products” (Project ID: 2024-1.1.1-KKV_FÓKUSZ-2024-00040).

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Intergeo, Frankfurt

Lecturers from the Faculty's Institute of Water and Environmental Management participated in the Intergeo Conference and Exhibition in Frankfurt between 6–9 October 2025, one of the world's leading international events in geoinformatics, geodesy, and remote sensing.

The event provided an excellent opportunity to build professional relationships with leading companies in the field and to gain insight into the latest technological developments. The knowledge and experience gained through personal consultations and presentations significantly enriched the Institute's expertise and contributed to a deeper understanding of current industry trends and practical applications.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

Hungarian National Committee of UNESCO MAB meeting



Dr. Szabolcs Szanyi, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Plant Protection, participated in the meeting of the Hungarian National Committee of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, held in the Dome Hall of the Ministry of Agriculture on 27 October 2025.

In addition to discussions related to Biosphere Reserves, he delivered a presentation entitled "Opportunities for Introducing New Methodologies in Biodiversity Monitoring – A Case Study Based on Transcarpathian Research".

Forrás: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Student Research Conference at the Faculty – From Ballistics to Jerusalem Artichoke

The most talented students of the Faculty presented their scientific results in six sections at the Student Scientific Conference. This year, the largest number of papers focused on environmental management.



A total of 42 papers were presented by BSc, MSc, and undivided programme students in the fields of animal science, food and plant sciences, environmental management, plant protection, and nature conservation and wildlife management.

The Dean's Award of the Faculty was presented to Kamilla Kopcsa, third-year BSc student in Agricultural Engineering, for her paper entitled "Examining the Relationship between Colostrum Quality, Teat Position, Litter Size, and Early Piglet Mortality on a Large-Scale Pig Farm", which also won first place in the animal science section.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/tdk-az-agrarkaron-ballsztikától-csicsokatermesztesig>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu



The Chair's Distinguished Excellence Award of the Doctoral Council of Agricultural Sciences was awarded to Neha Sharma, second-year MSc student in Environmental Management Engineering, for her first-place paper in the environmental management section entitled "Long-Term Simulation of Nitrate Leaching in Different Soils Using the HYDRUS-2D Model".



The evaluation committees also selected the papers eligible for the National Student Research Conference, to be held in April 2027 at the University of Nyíregyháza.





A Health Day at the University of Debrecen

At a symposium jointly organised by the One Health Institute of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management, PhD students of the University of Debrecen presented their latest research findings in the spirit of the One Health approach. The scientific programme focused on the diversity of pathogens posing risks to human health and the prevention of related diseases.



The One Health concept emphasises that human health is inseparable from the health of animals and the environment, forming a single interconnected system in terms of pathogen spread, evolution, and environmental risk factors.



Held at the Learning Center, the event featured presentations by PhD students from the Pál Juhász-Nagy Doctoral School, the Doctoral School of Animal Sciences, the Doctoral School of Food Sciences, and the Doctoral School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, highlighting risks posed by various pathogens and potential prevention strategies. The symposium aimed to reach not only university students but also staff members and visiting secondary school students.

In addition to the scientific programme, information stands were available throughout the event, where university volunteers provided detailed insights into the mission, achievements, and health challenges associated with the One Health approach. Topics included invasive species, future diseases, environmental impacts of waterfowl seed dispersal, mushroom-based



immunostimulants, nano-selenium functional feed additives, and emerging or neglected zoonotic pathogens.

The One Health Day programmes were held between 3–5 November across all campuses of the Faculty of Health Sciences, including Debrecen, Nyíregyháza, Szolnok, and Siófok.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/egy-egeszseg-nap-debreceeni-egyetemen>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu





Mediterranean Connections in Agricultural Sciences

The internationalisation efforts and expansion of foreign partner networks of the Faculty and the Agricultural Research Institutes and



Experimental Farm (AKIT) are supported by the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM). This was highlighted during the visit of the organisation's delegation, representing 13 Mediterranean countries.

Experts from CIHEAM Bari were introduced to the Faculty's educational portfolio and the research results of AKIT. Founded in 1962, CIHEAM focuses on sustainable agriculture, with its Bari centre specialising in postgraduate education, applied research, and international development cooperation.



The full article is available at the following link:

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/mediterranean-connections-in-agricultural-sciences>



Bird Migration Research Camp



Students of the Nature Conservation Engineering programme participated in a bird migration research camp in the Aggtelek National Park.

In 2025, the 40th Bird Migration Research and Nature Conservation Camp was organised in the Bódva Valley. The main tasks included bird ringing and the collection of various biometric data from captured birds.

Between 22–26 September 2025, students from the Faculty took part in the camp under the leadership of Prof. Lajos Juhász,

Professor at the Faculty, who has been involved in the research camp for 35 years and has led an independent research group throughout this time.

Source: mek.unideb.hu; facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

The full article is available at the following link:

https://mek.unideb.hu/hirek/termeszettvedelmi-mernok-hallgatok-madarvonulaskutato-taborban-az-aggtelekei-nemzeti-parkban?fbclid=IwY2xjawOCrZFleHRuA2FlbQlxMABicmlkETBTskF0a0FHNXJnR3dCc0tEc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHr51JDFVchT8Q2HXqFYG9jhlmAxEtXlcjs12ThWiT4PzgK3TUqj1UKK5zVVsaem_6-spf9JXIJ-XmSGuFGBxIQ





Modern Apple Production



Our BSc students in Horticultural Engineering took part in a professional study trip to Csenger, regarded as the “capital” of apple production in Hungary, where they visited intensive orchards and a modern cold storage facility.

During the orchard visit, students received detailed information on hail and frost protection methods, the use of modern rootstocks and cultivars, the challenges of harvesting, and the economic aspects of orchard management.

As part of the study trip, students also had the opportunity to visit a state-of-the-art cold storage facility, where they observed automated sorting, grading and packaging lines for apples, as well as the controlled-atmosphere storage chambers.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

Professional Study Trip for Specialist Engineer Students

This year marked the launch of our one-year postgraduate Specialist Engineer programme in Horticulture, designed to provide further professional training opportunities for graduates holding a prior degree.

Similarly to our Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes, classroom lectures in this training format are complemented by professional field trips.

During a professional study tour to orchards in Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg and Hajdú-Bihar counties, our students became familiar with the semi-intensive and intensive cultivation systems of our major fruit crops. They also gained insight into the most common challenges and problems encountered in fruit production, along with practical approaches and solutions applied in professional practice.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Study Trip to Szarvas



Organised by the Faculty's Institute of Water and Environmental Management, our students visited the MATE Irrigation and Water Management Research Centre, where they became acquainted with the latest research in agricultural water management, irrigation technologies, and rice experiments.

Following the professional programme, students also had the opportunity to explore the Szarvas Arboretum and Mini Hungary.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Visit to the Nyírbátor Biogas Plant of Bátortrade Ltd.



Fourth-year agricultural engineering students and third-year BSc students in agricultural engineering visited the Nyírbátor biogas plant of Bátortrade Ltd. as part of a professional study trip organised by the Faculty's Institute of Crop Production, Plant Breeding and Crop Technology.

Following the guided professional tour of the plant, students also had the opportunity to learn about the practical methodology of digestate application.

The visit enriched our students with valuable experience and new knowledge.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Processing of Fallow Deer Meat



Our students became familiar with the processing of fallow deer meat during a game gastronomy class.

During the practical session, after learning about the different cuts of meat, students prepared grill sausages and sausages for roasting.

The deer meat was provided by our strategic partner Napkori Erdőgazdák Zrt., and the Nativus Game Meat Processing Company.

Faculty staff members Dr. Gerda Diósi, Assistant Professor, Ferenc Kelemen, Executive Expert, and Károly Kristóf, Professional Service Provider, participated in the organisation and professional implementation.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

Career Orientation Day



The Faculty's Institute of Plant Protection hosted third-grade pupils from Vénkert Primary School as part of a career orientation day.

The colourful insect exhibition and the guided campus tour provided a truly memorable experience for the children.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



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Restart of the Mentoring Programme Supporting First-Year Chemistry Studies

The Chemistry Coordination Institute of the University of Debrecen will again launch the Study Skills Mentoring Programme in Chemistry in the 2025/26 academic year. The programme supports first-year students in developing effective learning methods necessary for mastering the curriculum. Applications are still open, and this year the programme also includes a new element.

The Study Skills Mentoring Programme of the Chemistry Coordination Institute was launched two years ago, in November 2023, with the aim of supporting students who experience difficulties in mastering course material. One of the mentors, Hanna Judit Csupász-Szabó, PhD student at the Department of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry of the Faculty of Science and Technology, will start a new group in the current academic year, which students can still join.

The course primarily welcomes students from the Faculty of Science and Technology and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management, but it is also open to first-year students of the Faculty of Pharmacy and the Faculty of General Medicine. The group can accommodate a maximum of ten students, and consultation times will be scheduled based on mutual agreement between students and the mentor.

The programme is conducted in Hungarian, and participants receive personalised support with special attention to their individual challenges.

Sessions are held at several locations (Learning Center, Main Building – Library, Chemistry Coordination Institute), and the mentor will also introduce lesser-known university spaces suitable for studying. During the examination period, online sessions will also be organised.



The full article is available at the following link:

Source: hitek.unideb.hu

<https://hitek.unideb.hu/ujraindul-az-elseovesek-kemiatanulasat-segito-mentorprogram>



Our Students on a Study Trip

Organised by the Faculty's Institute of Crop Production, Plant Breeding and Crop Technology, our first-year agricultural engineering students took part in a professional study trip.



During the study tour, students first visited the MATE Fisheries Research Centre, where in addition to pond fish harvesting, they gained insight into the professional work of the Recirculation Unit and the Zooplankton Laboratory.

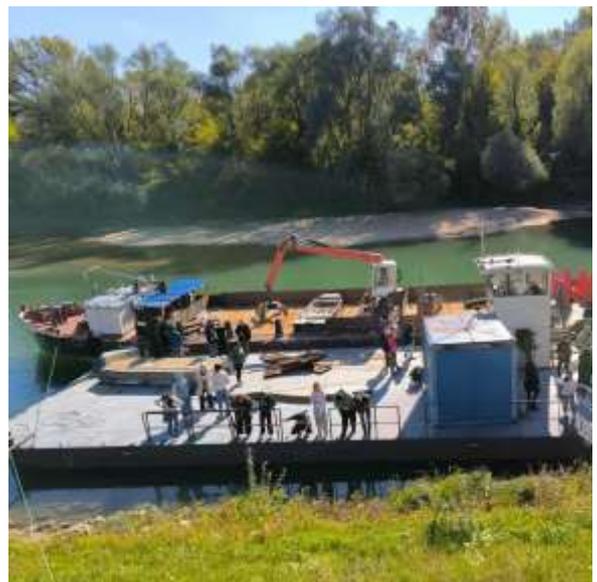
Organised by the Faculty's Institute of Water and Environmental Management, our students gained insight into water management activities within the jurisdiction of the Upper Tisza District Water Directorate as part of a professional study trip.

They then visited the Lysimeter Station and the Galambosi Rice Experimental Station of the MATE Irrigation and Water Management Research Centre.



As a continuation of the programme, a few days later agricultural engineering students made professional visits to the fruit orchard and cold storage facility of Bold Agro Ltd. in Derecske, as well as to the horticultural site of KITE Zrt. in Derecske.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





School Outreach – Gönczy Pál Reformed Sports and Bilingual Primary School



On 17 October, we had the opportunity to present our study programmes at the Gönczy Pál Reformed Sports and Bilingual Primary School in Hajdúszoboszló. We hope we managed to plant a few small seeds and spark interest in careers in the natural sciences.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

Professional Study Trip – Vácrátót



On 17 October 2025, students of the Faculty undivided (five-year) agricultural engineering programme, as well as BSc programmes in horticultural engineering, agricultural engineering and nature conservation engineering, visited the National Botanical Garden in Vácrátót as part of a full-day professional study trip organised by our lecturers (Prof. József Csajbók, Dr Szilvia Kovács, Dr Erika Kutasy, Dr Judit Lelesz).

In the botanical garden and the greenhouse, students became familiar with numerous medicinal plants and visited the Pannon Seed Bank, where the seeds of 800 native wild plant species suitable for storage are preserved.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Study Trip for Nature Conservation Students



Second-year students of the nature conservation engineering programme took part in a field practice.

The first stop of the tour was the Egerszalók Salt Hill, where, alongside the world-unique limestone tufa terraces, participants received information about the formation of this special natural phenomenon and the science of balneology, as well as its role in Hungary.

The professional trip continued at the foot of Mount Nagy-Eged near Eger, where the group followed a nature trail to reach the 537-metre summit. The nearly 10-kilometre hike passed through diverse vegetation types, and many exciting species were encountered, including the capture of an Aesculapian snake.

After a rest stop in Felsőtárkány, the trip concluded in Hortobágy, where we were able to admire flocks of cranes heading to their night roosts in the light of the setting sun. The field practice was led by our lecturer Dr László Kövér, Associate Professor.



Source: [facebook.com/DEMEK.fbA](https://www.facebook.com/DEMEK.fbA)

Our Students on a Crop Production Study Trip



BSc students in agricultural engineering from our Faculty participated in a professional study trip to Durbák Farm Ltd. in Nyírlövön.

During the visit, students observed mechanical tobacco harvesting, became familiar with the operation of tobacco-harvesting combines, and learned about the processes of transport, stringing, grading and drying in practice.



Durbák Farm Ltd. is the largest Virginia tobacco producer in Hungary.

The professional study trip provided our students with a wealth of useful and up-to-date information.

Source: [facebook.com/DEMEK.fb](https://www.facebook.com/DEMEK.fb)



Professional Study Trip to Geszteréd

Third-year BSc students in agricultural engineering took part in a professional study trip to Geszteréd, visiting entrepreneur József Szabó, Hungary's largest producer of Burley-type tobacco.



During the visit, students received a detailed and comprehensive overview of tobacco seedling production and the cultivation technology of Burley-type tobacco.

Students also gained insight into the practice of natural tobacco curing.

Source: [facebook.com/DEMEK.fb](https://www.facebook.com/DEMEK.fb)



Professional Study Trip in Hortobágyon

MSc students in animal husbandry engineering and BSc students in agricultural water management and environmental engineering visited the Faculty's Off-Campus Department of Animal Breeding and Gene Conservation in Hortobágy as part of a professional study trip.

Students became familiar with the work of the Hortobágy Nature Conservation and Gene Conservation Nonprofit Ltd., indigenous animal breeding, and gained a comprehensive overview of pasture-based livestock farming and organic agriculture. The professional study trip was organised by our lecturer Dr. Renáta Klein, Assistant Lecturer.

Source: [facebook.com/DEMEK.fb](https://www.facebook.com/DEMEK.fb)





Fulbright Scholar Professor Strengthens International Agricultural Cooperation

A highly respected expert has joined the teaching and research activities of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management at the University of Debrecen. Michael Gonda, Professor at the Department of Animal Science of South Dakota State University (SDSU), arrived at the institution as a Fulbright Scholar. During his four-month stay, he teaches applied animal breeding and quantitative genetics at the Faculty and also participates in beef cattle genetics research.



When selecting the destination of his scholarship, the fact that the two institutions have signed a dual degree agreement was a decisive factor for the professor from South Dakota State University. His research focuses on the genetic and genomic investigation of beef cattle and bison, with particular emphasis on immunogenetics, feed efficiency, and the exploration of the bison genome.

The professor emphasised that the experiences gained in Debrecen have significantly shaped his research perspective.



As he noted, special emphasis is placed at the University of Debrecen on the genetic conservation of indigenous breeds, a perspective he considers highly valuable and intends to take back with him to the United States.



Professor Michael Gonda will remain at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences in Debrecen until the end of December, after which he will return to South Dakota State University. He will, however, continue the joint scientific research and work on expanding cooperation related to the dual degree programme in precision agricultural engineering.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/fulbright-osztondijas-profeszor-erositi-nemzetkozi-agrarkapcsolatokat>





The Chemistry Preparatory Course Launched with Continuously Growing Interest



This year, interest in the “Chemistry Preparatory Course for Secondary School Students” programme by the Chemistry Coordination Institute of UD has reached an all-time high. In the current academic year, more than 350 students applied for the course.

In the 2025/26 academic year, the Chemistry Coordination Institute launched a free university preparatory programme for secondary school students and prospective university applicants. The course is offered in three on-site groups and one online group and is based on the topics of the intermediate and advanced level chemistry school-leaving examinations. Teaching takes place at venues provided by the Faculty of Science and Technology, FAFSEM, and the Faculty of Pharmacy.

During the course, secondary school curriculum content is covered in an easy-to-understand yet interactive format, led by university instructors who are experienced in

preparing secondary school students and have previously taught chemistry preparatory courses. The groups are led by Katalin Várnagy (Faculty of Science and Technology), Sándorné Kincses (FAFSEM), Ágnes Homolya (Faculty of Pharmacy), and Nóra Ildikó Kovács (Faculty of Science and Technology).

The aim of the course remains unchanged: to support students preparing for the intermediate and advanced level school-leaving examinations and to help young people planning to enter higher education deepen their knowledge. The programme consists of 17 sessions, and students who attend at least 14 of these will have the opportunity to participate in a five-hour block laboratory practical session in spring.

Completion of the theoretical training is rewarded with admission bonus points at the Faculty of Pharmacy, the Faculty of Science and Technology, and FAFSEM.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

Further information: <https://chemcoord.unideb.hu/kemia-elokeszito-nem-csak-kozepiskolasoknak>

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/folyamatosan-novekvo-erdeklodes-mellett-indult-el-kemia-elokeszito-kurzus>





From Focaccia to Reptiles to Traditional Pig Slaughter – Renewed Training Portfolio at UD FAFSEM

The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen is launching the year 2026 with a renewed and highly diverse adult education portfolio. The new courses available from January cover a wide range of topics, from modern agricultural sciences through gastronomy to the world of exotic animals – all delivered in a practice-oriented format in the faculty's modern laboratories and teaching facilities.

The aim of the renewed adult education system is to provide practical knowledge in a fast, accessible and experience-based way for everyone who wishes to keep up with current trends in agriculture, the food industry or hobby animal keeping. For the first quarter of 2026, the faculty has announced thirteen new one- and two-day thematic courses covering several previously underserved areas.

Those interested in gardening and crop production can choose from several new courses. These programs introduce participants to the basics of hydroponic plant cultivation, sustainable water management, and modern methods of micropropagation. These fields are useful not only for professional gardeners but also for hobby gardeners, especially those seeking new opportunities in urban gardening.

A new addition to the faculty's offerings is a course designed for keepers of special animals, providing insight into the proper care and husbandry technologies of reptiles and amphibians. The course is aimed at those who want to better understand the needs of their exotic pets and keep them responsibly and safely.

Further information and the full training offerings: <https://mek.unideb.hu/felnottkepzes>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/focacciatol-hullokon-disznotorosig-megujult-kepzesi-kinalat-de-mek-en>





DEBRECENI EGYETEM, MEZŐGAZDASÁG-,
ÉLELMISZERTUDOMÁNYI ÉS KÖRNYEZETGAZDÁLKODÁSI KAR

Felnőttképzési nyilvántartási szám: B/2020/001456

FELNŐTTKÉPZÉSEK

2026. JANUÁR - MÁRCIUS



Mit kínálunk?

- Szaktudás elérhető áron
- Egyetemi tudás közérthetően
- Gyakorlatorientált képzések
- Tanúsítvány*



Részletek: <https://mek.unideb.hu/felnottkepzes>

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Felnőttképzési nyilvántartási szám: B/2020/001456



FELNŐTTKÉPZÉSEK

2026. JANUÁR - MÁRCIUS



hobbikertészet

ásványok

vetéstechnika

kenyérbalminőség

mikrobiológiai

kutyabarát

állatkezelés

kertgazdálkodás

háziállatok egészségügye

műszaki analízis

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Drought Lab: Water-Saving Soil Cultivation before Winter Wheat – Little Water, Many Challenges

In Hungary, most wheat is sown under dry, drought-prone conditions. There has been no real precipitation for weeks or even months – yet sowing cannot be postponed.

In this episode, we examine how soil should be cultivated for wheat when water is scarce and when we also have to face the challenges of late-harvested preceding crops.



In the professional video, Dr. István Sojnóczki, Assistant Professor at our Faculty, demonstrates how properly selected soil cultivation technology can help wheat get off to a good start even under dry autumn conditions.

If you are interested in the topic, join our lecturer and watch the professional video together with us. The video is available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onykmVEge5k>

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

Focus on Mycotoxins

Our faculty member, Dr. András Csótó, Assistant Professor, held an unconventional lesson for students of the ÉASZC Széchenyi István Agricultural and Food Industry Technical School, Vocational School and Dormitory in Hajdúböszörmény, titled “Mycotoxins in the Food Chain”.

The lecture delivered by our instructor was a great success among the young audience.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



National Treasures at FAFSEM!

A professional lecture combined with a pálinka tasting was held at our Faculty by László Mihályi, President of the National Pálinka Council, and Attila Csobolya, Grand Cupbearer of the Szatmár-Bereg Pálinka Order of Knighthood, under the title “Pálinkázz Felsőfokon!”.

During the professional event, participating students were able to learn, among other things, about the tasks of the National Pálinka Council, the current situation of pálinka production and consumption, the technology of producing the drink, and the protection of pálinka, while tasting excellent-quality pálinkas selected by the speakers.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Drought Lab: Practices of Water-Saving Wheat Sowing

There are many ways to sow wheat – but under drought conditions, only the best technologies truly prove effective. In this episode, Dr. István Sojnóczki, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen, presents how soil and seed respond to different cultivation methods and sowing technologies.

In the experiment, we can observe the results of several soil cultivation systems and four sowing machines based on different operating principles.

The video is available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuJy2-CPFaA>

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Drought Lab: Moist Soil – Without Rain or Irrigation. Is It Possible? It Is Possible!

If we sow under dry conditions, what can we do in such a situation? How can we help ourselves, our soil, and the sown seed?

In this episode, we examine how soil can remain moist even without rain or irrigation. Dr. István Sojnóczki, Assistant Professor at UD FAFSEM, demonstrates how we can turn natural physical processes to our own advantage. How we can create a soil structure that captures moisture rising from deeper layers and retains it in the sowing zone – exactly where the germinating seed needs it most.

The video is available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxkrVMH2hTU>

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Faculty of Economic–FAFSEM Dual Forum: Degree and Work Experience at the Same Time

Students of the Faculty of Economics and Business and FAFSEM UD met representatives of the automotive industry, the banking sector, the food and processing industry, packaging technology and other sectors on Tuesday at the Böszörményi Road campus. At the Dual Forum, prospective master's students were able to choose from the practical opportunities offered by partner companies.



The aim of the Dual Forum is to provide information for students applying in upcoming admission periods to master's programmes at the Faculty of Economics and Business and FAFSEM about the dual education system operating at the university and the available opportunities.

Dual education has been growing in popularity among students year by year. At the event, participants learned that the application and admission process consists of two steps. Students must first apply for the master's programme; this could be done in the mid-year admission procedure until November 15 via felvi.hu. After that, they can submit their applications to the companies. At the Faculty of Economics and Business, students can currently choose from nearly 90 professional partners.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/gtk-mek-dualis-forum-diploma-es-tapasztalat-egyszerre>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

In addition to master's programmes, the agricultural faculty also offers dual education in six bachelor's programmes, including the Precision Agricultural Engineering BSc. Among the master's programmes, a new opportunity is that Plant Protection Engineering MSc students can now also apply for the programme and try themselves out alongside mentors, and later independently in various job roles. During their university years, they can work with a favourable schedule while still enjoying student life.

The event provided an opportunity for students interested in dual education to meet partner organisations offering training placements in person and to build professional connections with their representatives. In addition, students currently participating in dual education shared their experiences of the programme.



Following the forum, an information session on the master's programmes of the Faculty of Economics and Business was held with great interest. Information about the MSc programmes of the agricultural faculty was provided online on Wednesday, November 5, from 4 p.m.



New Professors at the University of Debrecen



The professorial community UD has been expanded by twelve new full professors. The appointments were decided by the President of Hungary, Tamás Sulyok, and published in Decision No. 211/2025 (IX. 1.) of the Hungarian Gazette dated September 1, 2025. The new professors received their appointments in Budapest, at the Sándor Palace.

The decision on the appointments was made by President Tamás Sulyok based on the recommendation of Balázs Hankó, Minister for Culture and Innovation.



The following received appointments as full professors:

- Nagy Antal – Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management
- Peles Ferenc – Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management



Seventeen lecturers of the University of Debrecen received their appointments as full professors in the Aula of the Main Building. The certificates were presented to the new professors by Rector Zoltán Szilvássy.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

The full article is available at the following links:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/index.php/uj-professzorok-debreceni-egyetemen-1>

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/index.php/uj-professzorok-debreceni-egyetemen-2>





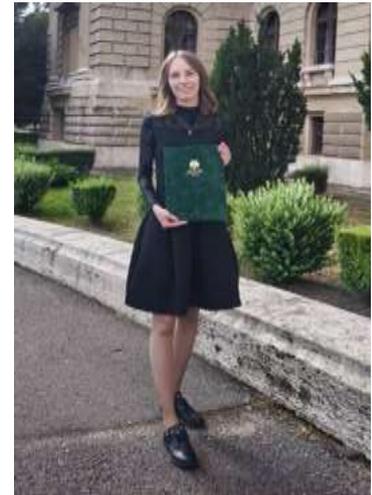
Count István Tisza Foundation for the University of Debrecen Excellence PhD Scholarship



We are very proud that Csenge Lelle Kovács, a PhD student of the Plant Protection Institute of our Faculty, has been awarded the Count István Tisza Foundation for the University of Debrecen Excellence PhD Scholarship this year.

The research of our PhD student, supervised by our lecturer Dr. Szabolcs Szanyi, focuses on changes in pest macro-moth communities along an urbanisation gradient.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Show Jumping Competition and Commemoration at the Debrecen Equestrian Academy

On November 2, a preparatory and national indoor show jumping competition with nearly 150 starts was held at the Debrecen Equestrian Academy.

On the occasion of the competition, a commemoration was held for the namesake of the indoor riding arena, show jumper Ákos Ajtony, who began his career in Debrecen. The moderator of the commemoration was Péter Szladek, President of the Jury and a former student of our Faculty. The event was enriched with folk songs performed by our Agricultural Engineering student Eszter Kerekes. The life and career of Ákos Ajtony were presented by Dr. Csaba Szabó, Associate Professor and Head of Programme. On behalf of the Faculty's Equestrian Breeding and Equestrian Sports Organiser Agricultural Engineering BSc programme, first-year students Petra Kenessey and Maja Horváth laid a wreath at the memorial plaque.

Managing Director, Mónika Varga and riding instructor Lídia Sánta placed a wreath, as did András Szűcs on behalf of the Hajdú-Bihar County Equestrian Association, and Csaba Tatár on behalf of the family and the Ákos Ajtony Equestrian Sports Association.

Several of our students paid tribute on horseback:

- Stella Szőr, third-year student, Gidrán XXXIV-17 (Szimfónia)
- Julianna Barsi, third-year student, Gidrán LII-1 (Csengőszó)
- Vivien Varjasi, third-year student, Gidrán XXIII-60 (Pipacs)
- Lili Janka, first-year student, Gidrán -4 (Rózsaszírom)

At the Debrecen Equestrian Academy, a LAUSZ competition and Caprilli basic exam were held on December 6.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Agricultural and Rural Inspiration Awards 2025 Ceremony



The Agricultural and Rural Inspiration Awards 2025 award ceremony was held on December 3 in Brussels at the Théâtre du Vaudeville, where European agricultural and rural development projects were recognised.

Our Faculty was represented by Dr. Zsolt Sándor, Assistant Professor, and Zoltán László, Visiting Lecturer. In their research, our lecturers examined the impact of ecologically significant catch crops on soil. We are delighted that the project based on this research was selected among the six best scientific works in the Environmental Protection category.

From Hungary, in the field of agriculture, only our project was selected among the best in the international competition in 2025.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Talented Students and Their Supervisors Honoured

Several professionals and students of the University of Debrecen received awards at the closing ceremony of the 37th National Scientific Students' Associations Conference, held in the Ceremonial Hall of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. At the event on Tuesday, László Mátyus, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, received one of the most prestigious awards of the National Scientific Students' Associations Council, the Honoris Causa Pro Scientia Gold Medal, in recognition of his exemplary work in talent development. The professor will assume the position of President of the Council from November 25.

At the ceremony, the Pro Scientia Gold Medal was also awarded to students who have demonstrated outstanding academic and professional performance during their studies and have presented their achievements through research papers and presentations.



Three students of the University of Debrecen received the Pro Scientia Gold Medal: Kitti

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/tehetseges-hallgatoikat-es-felkeszitoiket-dijaztak>

Kurtán (Faculty of Medicine), Anna Katalin Kádár (Faculty of Humanities) and Zsombor Botkó (Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management).

The supervisors of the awardees were also recognised by the Council: Florina Zákány, Assistant Professor (Faculty of Medicine),



supervised Kitti Kurtán; Róbert Keményfi, Professor and Dean (Faculty of Humanities), supervised Anna Katalin Kádár; and Sándorné Kincses, Associate Professor (Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management), supervised Zsombor Botkó.

The list of awardees, photos from the event, and the full recording of the ceremony are available on the website of the National Scientific Students' Associations Council.



Source: hirek.unideb.hu

Photo - Faragó László, Zsoldos Dávid



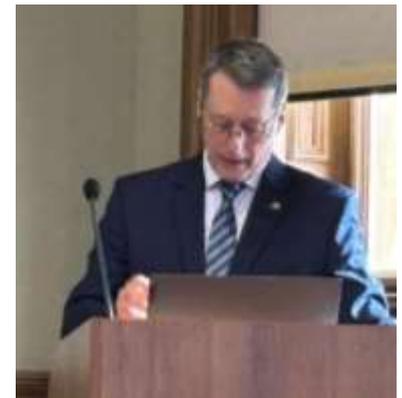


Our Professor Awarded the Title Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Professor József Csajbók, Institute Director and Full Professor at our Faculty, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation and was awarded the title Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Title of the doctoral dissertation: Analysis of factors influencing the photosynthesis of maize and sunflower and the efficiency of their water use.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Another Success

In the 2024/2025 national Lászlóffy Woldemár Diploma Thesis Competition, József Richárd Richter and Ádám Luczó, MSc graduates in Agricultural Water Management Engineering from our Faculty, received commendation in the MSc category.

The ceremonial award presentation took place on November 25, 2025, in the Council Chamber of the headquarters of the National Directorate General for Water Management.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Prestigious Research Scholarship Awarded to Our PhD Student

Nelly Kichamu, a PhD student at the Agricultural Genomics and Biotechnology Centre of our Faculty, has been awarded the Trudy Fellowship of the World Wildlife Fund's Education for Nature programme, together with 31 other researchers worldwide. The scholarship supports her research conducted at the Doctoral School of Animal Science of the University of Debrecen.

What is the research about?

The title of her project is: Population structure and genetic characterization of indigenous goat breeds from different climatic zones as a climate change and adaptation mechanism.

The aim is to better understand which genetic and population dynamic traits help indigenous goat breeds adapt to climate change, thereby contributing to future food security and the conservation of biodiversity.

What does the scholarship provide?

Coverage of research costs. Professional development, skills training, and global networking opportunities with experts from WWF and the international conservation community.

Why is the Trudy Fellowship / EFN scholarship prestigious?

It is part of WWF's long-standing international programme supporting outstanding talents in the fields of conservation and environmental sciences. Fellows are selected based on evaluations by leading experts, with a focus on scientific excellence and social and environmental impact.

Fellows become part of WWF's global network and receive mentoring opportunities that can accelerate research and the practical application of results.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

I'M AN EDUCATION FOR NATURE FELLOW
2025 Recipient of Trudy Fellowship

NELLY KICHAMU
Country: Kenya
Degree: PhD in Animal Science
University: University of Debrecen, Hungary
Grant: Sustainable Food Systems Fellowship

Research: Population structure and genetic characterization of indigenous goat breeds from different climatic zones as a climate change and adaptation mechanism

Nelly Kichamu's research aims to understand the genetic diversity and adaptability of indigenous goats across various climates, addressing challenges posed by climate change. As global temperatures rise, livestock, especially goats, experience increased heat stress that impacts their health and productivity. Indigenous goats possess unique genetic traits that enable them to thrive in harsh environments, making them valuable for sustainable agriculture. Nelly's work will enhance our ability to preserve these often-neglected breeds in favor of commercial goats, thereby supporting food security and promoting biodiversity conservation.

© Zsolt Nemedi Varga and Hilda Hosena





Hallgatónk nemzetközi sikere



Morris Wagaki Mbuthia, a master's student in Food Safety and Quality Engineering at our Faculty, achieved first place in the international student team competition organised within the framework of the ERASMUS project titled E-Food – E-Learning Tools for Food Technology and Development Education.

A total of 15 teams composed of students from different European countries competed, testing their professional knowledge and creativity. Their task was to develop and present the concept of an innovative food industry product in the form of an online presentation.

Our Faculty was represented by a total of eight students as members of participating teams. The best-performing team won first place with the project titled SymbioBust: A Case Study in the Development of Functional Dairy and Plant-based Yoghurts. Among our lecturers, Assistant Lecturer Dr. Róbert Nagy supported Team No. 8 as a mentor, while Assistant Lecturer Dr. Tünde Vámosi-Pacza participated in the evaluation of the submitted projects.

Our first-place student and his teammates won full participation costs for the CEFood 2026 Conference to be held next year in Plovdiv. The participating students received their certificates of recognition at the November seminar of our Institute of Nutrition Science from Dr. Endre Máthé, Associate Professor, Institute Director, and professional leader of the project.

Participating students:

- Morris Wagaki Mbuthia
- Giorgi Khachapuridze
- Eka Mazumder
- Neeraja Suresh
- Anthony Triviño
- Oumayma Amiri
- Sarita Jackeline Romani Vasquez
- Essraa Elmasry

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Ceremonial Award Presentation of the Competition Titled “Challenges of Hungarian Agriculture and Water Management in the Next Decade”

Lecturers of our Faculty also participated in the ceremonial award presentation of the competition titled “Challenges of Hungarian Agriculture and Water Management in the Next Decade”.

The award ceremony was held as part of the scientific conference titled “The State of Our Waters: From Global to Local”, jointly organised by the József Bognár Foundation for Economic Research and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Highlighted lectures at the conference included:

- Professor András Szöllősi-Nagy, National University of Public Service, Faculty of Water Sciences: The State of Our Waters: From Global to Local
- Professor János Tamás, University of Debrecen, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management: Risks of Water Resource Use in the Northern Great Plain Region

We would like to especially congratulate our awardees:

First prize – Dr. Andrea Szabó, Assistant Professor

Presentation: Precision evaluation of biomass production in irrigated and non-irrigated maize fields

Shared second prize – Dr. Nikolett Éva Kiss, Assistant Professor

Presentation: Comparative analysis of water efficiency of lettuce varieties under different growing conditions

Shared second prize – József Richárd Richter, Agricultural Water Management Engineer

Presentation: Feasibility study of shallow water retention in the area of flood protection section No. 10.08 of the Middle Tisza District Water Directorate in Karcag”.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



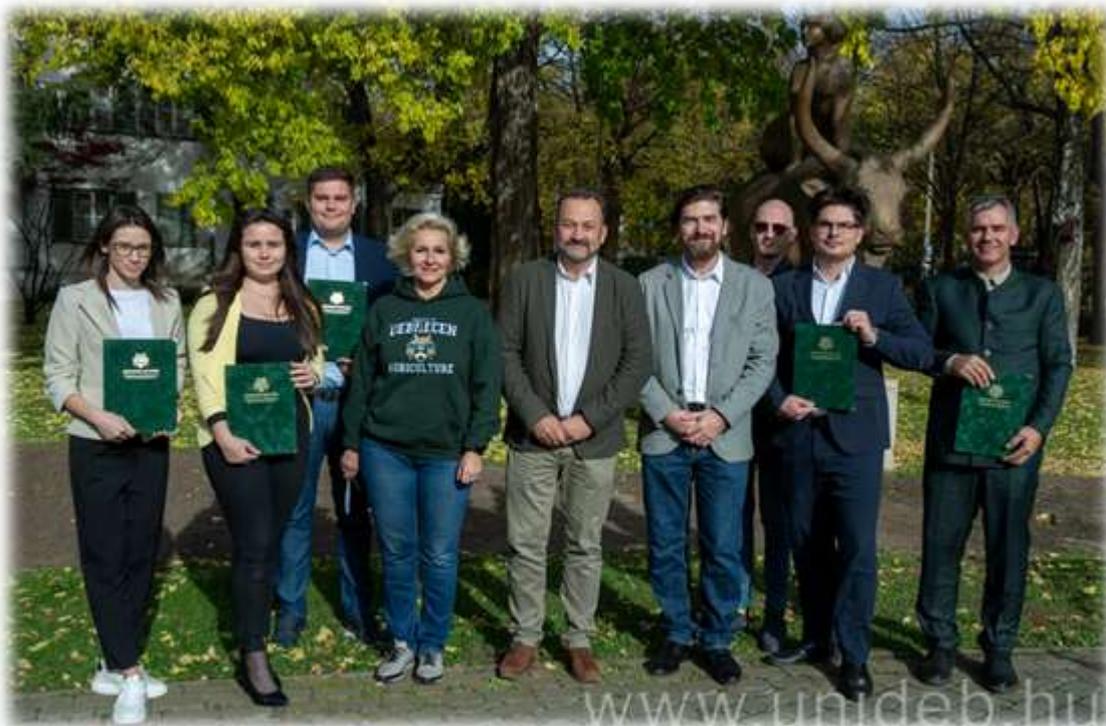


Scholarships for the Most Outstanding Students

This year, eight students of UD FAFSEM received the National Higher Education Scholarship in recognition of their outstanding academic results and professional achievements. The certificates confirming the scholarship were presented by the Dean of the Faculty on Thursday. The students were also welcomed on the festive occasion by Vice-Dean

for Research Szilvia Veres and Vice-Dean for Education Péter Sipos.

The National Higher Education Scholarship can be applied for by full-time undergraduate, master's, or undivided programme students who have completed at least two semesters and earned a minimum of 55 credits during their current or previous studies.



The scholarship, which recognises outstanding academic performance and excellence in professional activities, is awarded by the Minister for Culture and Innovation, Balázs Hankó.

The following students earned the National Higher Education Scholarship and received their certificates from Dean László Stündl: Janka Karacs (undivided agricultural engineering), Lehel Lengyel (undivided agricultural engineering), Tamás Rác

(undivided agricultural engineering), Bence Lóránt Vajkai (undivided agricultural engineering), Flóra Kamilla Fehér (MSc in Food Safety and Quality Engineering) and István Jakab (MSc in Nature Conservation Engineering).

Eszter Szőke (undivided agricultural engineering) and Mercédesz Csiszár (BSc in Game Management Engineering) were unable to attend the award ceremony and will receive their certificates at a later date.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/osztondij-az-agrarkar-legkivalobb-hallgatoinak>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu



Erasmus Project – Final Meeting

Staff members of the Institute of Nutrition Science of our Faculty – Dr. Róbert Nagy, Assistant Lecturer, Dr. Tünde Vámosi-Pacza, Assistant Lecturer, and Judit Szepesi, Administrative Expert – participated in the final meeting of the international Erasmus project entitled E-Food – E-Learning Tools for Food Technology and Development Education, held between 11 and 14 November 2025 in Plovdiv, at the University of Food Technologies (UFT).

With this meeting, the development of the project’s educational content database, aimed at making food science education more interactive and promoting student-centred teaching, was successfully completed.

During their stay, the delegation also attended the 72nd International Conference on Food Science, Engineering and Technology. In the “Networking and Student Mobility” session of the conference, our colleague Judit Szepesi delivered a presentation for Bulgarian students on the student mobility opportunities available at the University of Debrecen and within our Faculty.

As part of the professional programme, colleagues also had the opportunity to visit the Jagerhof Brewery, a partner institution cooperating with the University of Food Technologies.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Cross-Border Cooperation for Wildlife Conservation

As a Hungarian partner of the winning INTERREG RO-HU WILD-SM project, our Faculty took part in the programmes of the WILD-SM Education Week in Timișoara, hosted by the University of Life Sciences “King Mihai I”.



Within the framework of the joint Romanian–Hungarian project, the aim is to harmonise wildlife monitoring and wildlife health management in the border region.



In the project, the Faculty’s Centre for Agricultural Genomics and Biotechnology focuses primarily on determining the genetic diversity and structure of wildlife populations

living on both sides of the border, while the Institute of Animal Science, Biotechnology and Nature Conservation carries out wildlife monitoring and wildlife health assessments.



An important task of the project is the dissemination of results and the promotion of scientific knowledge.

A group of our students also participated in the current training week, where they became familiar with modern wildlife biology and nature conservation methods through field programmes and professional lectures, while also building connections with students from Timișoara.

Next year, the collaboration will continue in Debrecen, where our Faculty will host the partners from Timișoara and young professionals from the region as part of a similar training week.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Welcoming FAO Scholarship Students at the Ministry of Agriculture



With the support of the joint scholarship programme of the FAO and the Hungarian Government, five students began their studies in September in the MSc programme in Animal Husbandry Engineering at our Faculty.

The aim of the programme is to support young people from low-income countries in becoming agricultural professionals who can contribute to food security in their home countries.

Together with 14 students admitted to partner universities, our students were welcomed on 5 December at a reception held at the Ministry of

Further information: https://kormany.hu/kormanyzat/agrarminiszterium/hirek/folytatodik-a-fao-es-az-agrartarca-osztondijprogramja?fbclid=IwY2xjawPjpXtleHRuA2FlbQlxMABicmlkETBTskF0a0FHNXJnR3dCc0tEc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHpfZWmKhG_I_OL6Z2IakyaI5hBV21SpzvtvHioukRUdj8GXjtXSoG35VRCafY_aem_2hE8ahill-YoD6HkHhZ66w

Agriculture by Dr. Oszkár Ökrös, Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Viorel Gutu, Acting Head of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia. Representatives of the Ministry's professional departments then presented key areas and achievements of governmental work.

The professional programme concluded with a joint visit to the Agricultural Museum, during which students further strengthened their connections both with ministry staff and with fellow participants of the scholarship programme.

From the University of Debrecen, the students were accompanied by Dr. Péter Sipos, Professor and Vice-Dean for Education of DEMÉK, and Dr. László Zsombik, Senior Research Fellow and Deputy Director General of UD-Institutes for Agricultural Research and Educational Farm.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



NKKP: Supported Research Groups at UD

A total of 22 research groups UD received nearly HUF 3 billion in funding through the National Research Excellence Programme (NKKP) announced by the National Research, Development and Innovation Office.

Altogether 1,347 applications were submitted to the call, from which the NKKP will support the launch and development of 309 research groups over the next four years with a total budget of HUF 40 billion.

From UD, 133 research groups from 15 organisational units submitted applications. Of these, 47 proposals advanced to the second evaluation round, and ultimately 22 research groups were awarded funding amounting to HUF 2.886 billion.

The full list of winners is available on the website of the National Research, Development and Innovation Office.

Winning projects and applicants from DE-MÉK:

- Integration of remote sensing, machine learning and extreme weather analysis methodologies to develop new epidemiological and forecasting models for sustainable fruit production, with a particular focus on fungal diseases – Institute of Horticultural Science, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management



- Application of nutritional attractant traps to study the reproductive biology and population dynamics of economically important noctuid moth species -Institute of Plant Protection



The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/nkkp-tamogatott-kutatocsoportok-de-n>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu; facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



Graduation Ceremony and Awards: Tibor Kapu Appointed Honorary Associate Professor

The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen awarded the title of Honorary Associate Professor to astronaut-researcher Tibor Kapu. He received the distinction during the Faculty's graduation ceremony held on 13 December, where more than 200 students were awarded their diplomas.

Graduates were also welcomed in a special manner by astronaut Tibor Kapu.

In the autumn semester of the 2025/2026 academic year, 232 students completed the requirements for graduation at the Faculty in bachelor's and master's programmes, higher education vocational training, and postgraduate specialist training. Among the graduates, 9 received honours degrees, 48 graduated with excellent results, 64 with very good results, 96 with good results, and 16 with satisfactory results.

Faculty awards were presented prior to the graduates taking their oath.

The Faculty Council awarded Tibor Kapu the title of Honorary Associate Professor in recognition of his dedicated work during the Axiom-4 mission, where he carried out the Faculty's VITAPRIC complex plant biology and space crop cultivation experiments aboard the International Space Station, contributing significantly to their success.

Honorary Associate Professor titles were also awarded to Levente Viszló, President of the Pro Vértes Public Foundation, and once again to Zsolt Füle, Managing Director of Balmaz-Sütöde Ltd.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/diplomaosztó-es-elismerések-kapu-tibor-az-agrarkar-cimzetes-docense>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

Certificates of Recognition from the Presidency of the Student Government of the University of Debrecen were awarded to Csenge Berencsi, BSc student in Agricultural Water Management and Environmental Technology Engineering; Gábor Bence Győri, MSc student in Food Safety and Quality Engineering; Bence Tamás Négyesi, undivided MSc student in Agricultural Engineering; István Péter Ribárszki, BSc student in Agricultural Engineering; and Lili Sztrehárszki, BSc student in Nature Conservation Engineering.

Certificates of Recognition from the President and Vice-President of the Student Government were awarded to Lilla Fórián, MSc student in Environmental Management Agricultural Engineering, and Gergő Jakab, BSc student in Nature Conservation Engineering.

Awards of the University of Debrecen Talent Development Programme were presented, along with certificates of the Kálmán Kerpely College for Advanced Studies and the Béla Tormay College for Advanced Studies.

The Faculty awarded the Pro Facultate Juventutis Prize to Csaba Lengyel, undivided MSc student in Agricultural Engineering.

Dean's Certificates of Recognition were awarded to Assistant Professor Csaba Bojtó, Administrative Expert Eszter Fogarasi, and Assistant Lecturer Réka Juhászné Tóth.

The Teacher of the Year Award was presented this year to Assistant Professor Éva Ragánné Szabó.





Graduation Ceremony – In pictures





Orientation Day: Making the Unknown Familiar

Sports, cinema, theatre, but where is the cafeteria or the Student Administration Office? Whom should you contact at the Dean's Office? The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen organised an information day for first-year international bachelor's, master's and PhD students.



During Orientation Day, new members of the international student community became familiar with the University's and the city's services and explored available opportunities.



More than 160 international students study at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management.



At O-Day, participants had the opportunity to learn about university communities, the services of the University and National Library of the University of Debrecen, the MAG Praktikum dual training opportunities, sports facilities offered by DEAC and UniFit, as well as the city's cultural institutions.



The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/o-day-hogy-ne-legyen-ismeretlen>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu; facebook.com



Open Day at the Faculty

A packed lecture hall and many prospective students – on 16 December our Faculty held its Open Day.

Thank you to everyone who visited the Open Day of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen and honoured us with their interest.

We hope to meet you again in September and welcome you as members of the large Debrecen Agricultural University family!

Further admission information: <https://mek.unideb.hu/felveteli/>

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





15th Green Fair – Focus on Waste Management

Strengthening environmental awareness and highlighting responsibility for a sustainable future were at the heart of this year's Green Fair, held for the 15th time at the University of Debrecen. During the event organised by the Environmental Committee of the Student Government, Debrecen's newest electric waste collection vehicle was also presented.

Participants at this year's Green Fair included the Nagyerdei Cultural Park – Debrecen Zoo, HungAIRy Debrecen, the Tócsóskert Community

Garden, Újkert Community Garden, Vénkert Community Garden, the Green Vénkert Association, the HUN-REN Institute for Nuclear Research, and the Department of Landscape Protection and Environmental Geography of the Faculty of Science and Technology. In addition to volunteer associations and foundations, institutes of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management were also represented.

The full article is available at the following link:
<https://hirek.unideb.hu/xv-zold-borze-fokuszban-hulladegzaldalkodas>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu





3rd Béla Tormay Professional Academic Competition – Excellence and Commitment

Crop production, horticulture, agricultural machinery and plant protection were among the fields in which students from agricultural technical schools of the region competed at the 3rd Béla Tormay Professional Academic Competition, held at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen. A total of 14 teams, comprising 42 students, took part in the regional competition announced for secondary schools.



Organised annually by the Faculty, the competition aims to highlight the diversity and opportunities of higher education in agriculture and the food industry. The competition is based on complex theoretical and practical knowledge, covering all key areas from crop production and machinery to plant protection.

The competition was announced for 13th and 14th grade students of agricultural technical schools. Participants demonstrated their

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/index.php/iii-tormay-bela-szakmai-tanulmanyi-verseny-kivalosag-es-elhivatottsag>

knowledge in animal husbandry, crop production, horticulture, agricultural machinery, plant protection and soil science, completing theoretical and practical tasks in teams of three.



Students from the János Balásházy Practice Technical School, Grammar School and Dormitory of the University of Debrecen achieved outstanding results, securing both first and second place. Third place was awarded to the team of the Baross László Agricultural Technical School, Vocational School and Dormitory of the Northern ASzC in Mátészalka.

Beyond professional challenges, the competition offered significant opportunities. Awarded students can earn 20 or 40 institutional admission bonus points when applying to the Faculty, in addition to receiving valuable prizes.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu



The Agricultural Sector Through the Lens of Banks: Performance, Capital, and Prospects

Which sectors may emerge as winners in the transforming agricultural structure? Where is the boundary between subsistence and business from the perspective of the banking sector? Sector leaders of Hungary's two largest commercial banks with agricultural portfolios delivered lectures at the event entitled *Manage Wisely! Green Credit, Green Future?*, organised jointly by the Faculty of Economics and Business and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen.



Today, it is evident that the sustainable development of the agri-food economy, production, and processing is almost unimaginable without financial institutional support. The two Faculties aim to support students not only with fundamental



knowledge, but also with up-to-date practical information. In line with this approach, the professional event *Manage Wisely! Green Credit, Green Future?* was organised.



Following the lectures, students asked questions about agricultural developments supported by subsidies, the role of ESG, and green finance.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/index.php/agrarszektor-bankok-szemuvegen-keresztul-teljesitmeny-toke-es-kilatasok>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

Agricultural Business Club: An Agri-Innovation Network at the University of Debrecen

The Agricultural Business Club of UD held its first event in Mád, where representatives of the agricultural and food industries, strategic partners of the University, company executives and sector experts discussed current developments in agriculture. The event demonstrated in a comprehensive manner how UD strengthens the innovation and educational ecosystem of the agricultural sector.



The Agricultural Business Club was established in March by the Faculty of Economics and Business and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management with the aim of providing a platform for information and knowledge exchange, professional consultations, discussions and networking. The first event was hosted by the University of Debrecen's Mádi Kúria Hotel and Conference Centre.

Within the framework of a partner meeting held in March, the Faculty renewed or established partnerships with 37 companies and concluded or renewed off-site departmental agreements with 20 enterprises.

The full article is available at the following link:
<https://hirek.unideb.hu/agrar-uzleti-klub-agrarinnovacios-halo-debreceni-egyetemen-0>

Szabolcs Szigeti, Deputy State Secretary responsible for the implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy at the Ministry of Agriculture, reported on the closure and results of the Rural Development Programme and current processes of the Common Agricultural Policy.



He also highlighted the gap-filling role of the Agricultural Business Club, noting that while the University is a knowledge centre, it also represents the future of enterprises, as it educates the professionals who will shape agricultural policy and the agri-industry in 10–20 years.



Nearly sixty agricultural professionals and company leaders attended the event.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

Renovation of the Iconic Buildings of the Böszörményi Street Campus

The renovation of the buildings of the FAFSEM, the Agricultural Research Institutes and Experimental Farm, and the Faculty of Economics and Business aimed to meet climate-related requirements and achieve energy-efficient and cost-effective operation. As a result of the renovation of Buildings “A” and “B”, energy savings of approximately 30–60 percent can be achieved.



During the modernisation, nearly 6,400 square metres of external façade surfaces of Buildings “A” and “B”, as well as the connecting glass corridor, were insulated and finished with new render. More than 700 doors and windows made of wood, plastic, and steel were replaced or renovated, nearly 700 square metres of curtain walling were installed, and window sills and metal roofing elements were replaced. Walkways, stairs, light wells, and railings connected to the buildings were also renewed. During the reconstruction, which began in April 2024, the attic of Building “A” was insulated, and approximately 850 square metres of artificial stone eaves consoles, plinths and window frames were refurbished in both



The energy modernisation of Buildings “A” and “B” at the Böszörményi Street campus was implemented within the project entitled Infrastructure and Skills Development for Practice-Oriented Higher Education at the University of Debrecen, with a total budget of HUF 5.5 billion (project ID RRF-2.1.2-21-2022-00003), supported by the European Union’s Recovery and Resilience Facility.



The University of Debrecen allocated HUF 1 billion from RRF funding for the modernization of Buildings “A” and “B”, with 100% funding intensity. Previously, the same funding programme also supported developments enabling robotic surgery and education.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/megujultak-boszormenyi-uti-campus-ikonikus-epuletei>



DExpo 2025

The University of Debrecen's Open Day, DExpo, was held on 19–20 November 2025, where our Faculty was also represented.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb

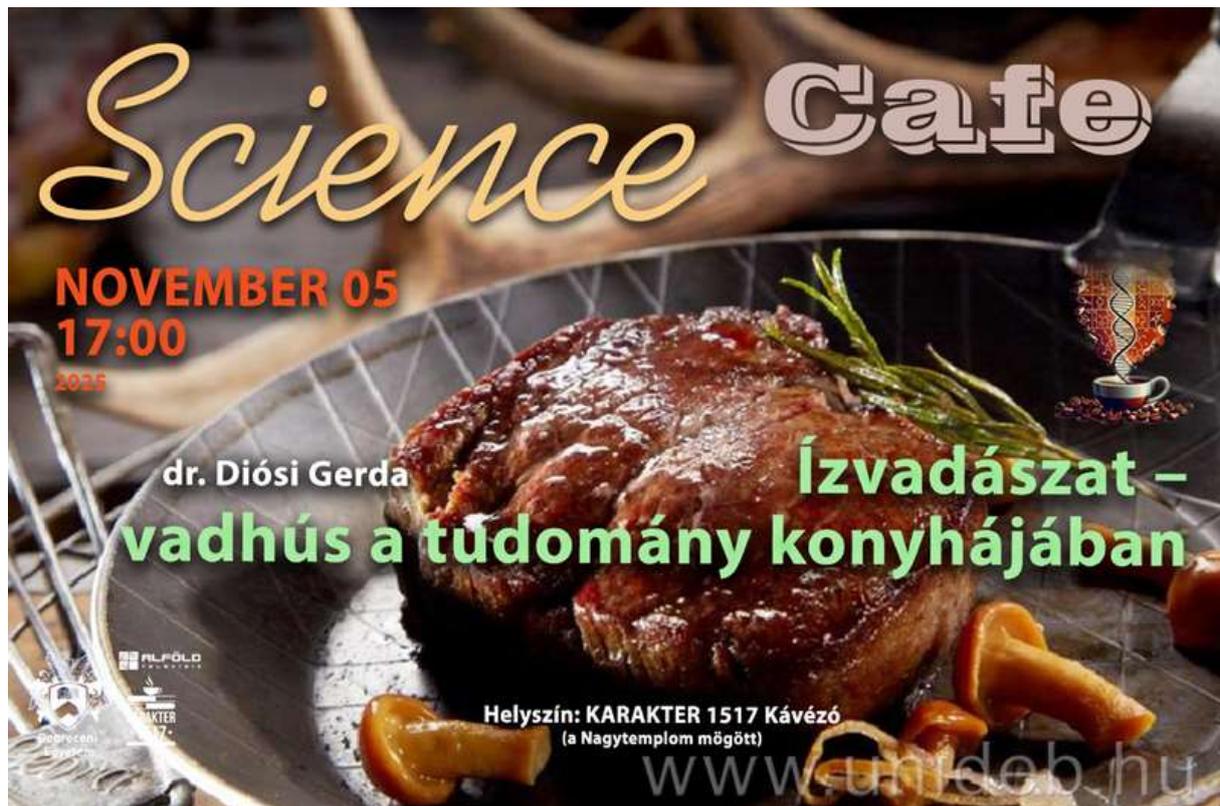


DExpo 2025 – Siófok, Szolnok

Our Faculty was also represented at the DExpo events held in Siófok and Szolnok.



Game Meat on the Menu at the Science Café



The University of Debrecen's popular science outreach series, Science Café, continued under the organization of the University's Directorate of Science. On Wednesday, 5 November, starting at 5:00 p.m., Gerda Diósi, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Food Technology of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management, delivered a lecture entitled "Flavour Hunting – Game Meat in the Kitchen of Science" at the Karakter 1517 Bookstore and Café.

An intriguing gastronomic topic was brought to the table at this edition of the Science Café: the extremely low level of game meat consumption in Hungary, averaging only 0.2 kg per capita per year. One of the main reasons for this is the limited accessibility of game meat for consumers, as butcher shops and meat stores

sell these products only in very small quantities.

According to Gerda Diósi, speaking to hirek.unideb.hu, the market importance of game meat is increasing worldwide, as it offers a unique culinary experience and is becoming increasingly popular among health-conscious consumers. Demand for game dishes is partly driven by the growing interest in healthy nutrition, since these meats typically have lower fat content and higher protein levels than many traditional meats. Processing game meat requires different kitchen technologies compared to domesticated animals, and the use of spices is generally broader and more intensive when game meat appears in the kitchen.

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/teriteken-vadhús-science-cafeban>

A Bridge Between Academic Knowledge and Agricultural Practice

The University Young Farmers' Club event series is being relaunched. The programme, reorganized by UD FAFSEM and its strategic partner, AGRYA – the Hungarian Association of Young Farmers, aims to create opportunities for dialogue and collaboration between the academic sphere and professionals working in agricultural practice.

emphasized that the aim is to build a living and active community of former and current students of the Debrecen Faculty of Agriculture, along with young people committed to agriculture who join them.

According to Lajos Mikula, Secretary General of AGRYA, although university education provides students with an excellent foundation, due to the structure, it cannot always keep pace with



AGRYA was founded in 1996 to bring together young farmers. In addition to advocacy, the organization considers ensuring the future of Hungarian agriculture, promoting innovation, and supporting generational renewal among its key missions.

At the event, it was announced that the first programme of the University Young Farmers' Club is planned to take place in the spring. Csaba Bojtor, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Land Use, Engineering and Precision Technologies of the Faculty,

regulatory changes and other rapidly evolving aspects of the sector. For this reason, collaborations and initiatives are needed that integrate personal and practical experience into academic knowledge.

Within the University Young Farmers' Club, young farmers will share their real-life agricultural experiences, addressing topics such as failures, challenges, restarting, adapting to regulations, funding opportunities, innovations, and the most current professional issues.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/hid-az-akademiai-tudas-es-az-agrargyakorlat-kozott>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu

New Faculty Student Governments Established

The Faculty Student Governments of the University of Debrecen held their inaugural meetings. At the ceremonial council session held in the Aula of the University's Main Building, the presidents and vice-presidents of the faculty student governments were elected, and representatives who obtained mandates received their official certificates.

At the meeting, Kevin Németh, President of the University of Debrecen Student Government, expressed his satisfaction with the strong turnout of new members. In his speech, he recalled the success of the first joint initiative, the summer freshman camps, and thanked the representatives for their work, expressing hope for continued coordinated and effective cooperation.

The newly elected members of the Faculty Student Governments were also welcomed by Zoltán Szilvássy, Rector of the University of Debrecen, who highlighted the importance of collaborative thinking and cooperation.

During the session, the results of the faculty student government elections held between 13 and 17 October 2025 were announced. Based on these results, voter turnout among full-time students exceeded the 25 percent threshold required by Hungarian higher education law in both the Hungarian and international student elections. As a result, the elections were valid and successful for both groups. A total of 227 faculty representatives were elected by Hungarian students, and 77 by international students. The presidents and vice-presidents of the International Students Union will be elected at a later date.

In accordance with the statutes of the University of Debrecen Student and Doctoral Representation, the President, Vice-President and Deputy Vice-President of the University Student Government are ex officio members of the faculty student government assembly of the faculty where they hold student status.



Leaders of the Faculty Student Government:

President: Attila Laskai

General Vice-President: Flóra Fodor

Vice-President for Academic and Social Affairs: István Péter Ribárszki

Vice-President for Communication and Culture: Dóra Nagy

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/megalakultak-az-uj-kari-hallgatoi-onkormanyzatok>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu



International Plant Doctor Day



This year again, the Plant Protection Institute of our Faculty organized the Plant Doctor Day. Departing from tradition, the event was held in autumn in order to allow as many professionals as possible to attend.

Participants enjoyed not only high-quality professional programmes but also received unique T-shirts. The design was created by Kitti Csüllög, Assistant Lecturer, and thanks to the support of KITE Zrt., all participants could wear the shirts with pride. The Faculty Student Government of UD FAFSEM also contributed to the printing of the shirts and the organization of the event. The atmosphere was further enhanced by tractor-shaped cakes made by former student Napsugár Farmasi-Gyenge, which were a great success both visually and in taste.

Following lunch, the event continued with professional discussions.

A rendezvény ebéd után szakmai beszélgetésekkel folytatódott.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Run for Health!



We were delighted that the Institute of Food Technology of our Faculty, in cooperation with Innovative Food Industry Cluster Ltd., could participate as a sponsor in the 2nd MozaikMed Debreceen Running Festival, thereby contributing to the fight against breast cancer.

The event was excellently organized, held in a great atmosphere and blessed with beautiful sunshine. At the refreshment station, we provided one of the newest products of the Unifood brand, the DEnergy bar, which had already proven its success at the Ultrabalaton race in the spring.

Our seed and cranberry oat bar, carefully produced in our own food processing facility, provided real energy for runners before, during and after the race. We wish everyone many successful runs this autumn, and do not forget: we are preparing something big again for the 2026 Debreceen Marathon, so don't miss it.



Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb



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Debreceni Egyetem MÉK



Doppler, the New Colleague of the Debrecen Faculty of Agriculture

A special new presence has appeared in classes at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen: Doppler, a golden retriever therapy dog, who helps students and lecturers cope with stress caused by exams and deadlines through his calm presence. The initiative aims to support mental well-being and concentration, contributing to the creation of a novel educational environment.



University life is an exciting and enriching period, but exams, deadlines, and constant performance pressure can be challenging for both students and lecturers. For this reason, a unique initiative was launched at the Faculty. Within this programme, Doppler, the therapy dog in training, attends classes and exams together with his handler, Márta Horváth, a lecturer at the Faculty, with the support of the SANSZ Foundation. The goal is to reduce stress,

support student performance and introduce an innovative educational environment in which mental health receives special attention alongside academic excellence, explained Szilvia Veres, Vice-Dean for Science of the Faculty, to hirek.unideb.hu.



Doppler, a nearly three-year-old golden retriever, is already happily interacting with students and staff. He is currently undergoing training and becoming familiar with the university environment, classroom dynamics, and examination situations. After completing his training, he and his handler will participate in university life as an officially certified therapy pair.

The SANSZ Foundation works nationwide to utilize the special sensitivity and affection of dogs for developmental and therapeutic purposes. The foundation trains assistance and therapy dogs and, together with them, conducts sessions for children, people with disabilities, the elderly and disadvantaged communities, aiming to transform the unique bond between dogs and humans into a valuable social resource.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/doppler-debreceni-agrarkar-uj-munkatarsa>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu



COST Project Kick-off Meeting in Brussels



Two lecturers from our Faculty, Prof. Erzsébet Karaffa from the Institute of Food Science and Prof. Péter Sipos from the Institute of Nutrition, participated in the kick-off meeting of the COST Action CA24111 entitled “European Network for the Sustainable Conversion of Food Processing Waste into Fibres” in Brussels. Of the 37 participating countries, 34 were represented at the meeting.

The primary aim of the programme is to develop innovative and sustainable methods for converting food processing waste into fibres suitable for nutritional and agricultural applications. Participation in the programme supports the exchange of new methodologies and fosters cooperation with research groups from other countries.



Source:facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





CEEPUS Network Meeting on Circular Economy and Energy Efficiency

Increasing student and staff motivation and strengthening the involvement of the industrial and business sectors were among the key topics discussed at the CEEPUS Network meeting on Circular Economy and Energy Efficiency held at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management of the University of Debrecen. Experts from seven countries participated in the international professional consultation.

Representatives of nine universities from Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary took part in the discussions. Topics included new research collaborations and efforts to enhance the participation of the industrial and business sectors. Participants discussed strategies to improve motivation and engagement among both students and teachers within the CEEPUS network.



The delegation led by Sanda Midžić Kurtagić, Professor at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Sarajevo and coordinator of the network, also held discussions with László Stündl, Dean of the Faculty, on practical opportunities for international students and future funding collaborations. The delegation visited elements of the UD FAFSEM TOP 50 research infrastructure system and the Faculty's research laboratories.

The full article is available at the following link:

<https://hirek.unideb.hu/ceepus-network-korforgasos-gazdalkodas-es-az-energiahatekonysag-jegyeben>

Source: hirek.unideb.hu





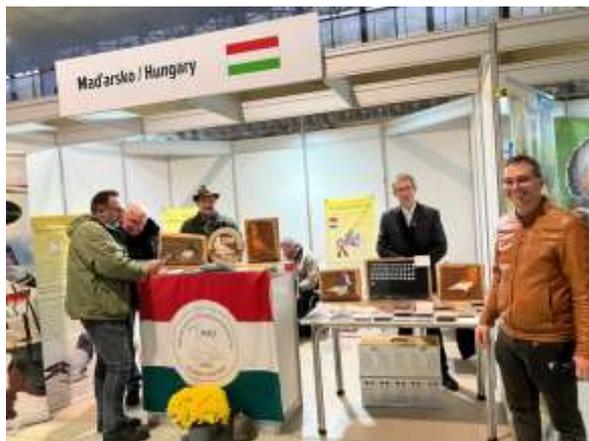
Our Students Excel Not Only in the Laboratory but Also in the Loft!

Pigeon specialists from the Faculty's Agricultural Genomics and Biotechnology Centre participated in a professional study trip to the 30th European Animal Show, the largest pigeon and small animal exhibition in Europe.



Students conducting their Scientific Students' Association research at the Centre also achieved excellent results at the exhibition.

Csaba Gál and Ádám Gombkötő achieved outstanding success with their pigeons at the event, which featured more than 26,000 animals, including nearly 6,000 pigeons.



The study trip was also highly valuable for our researchers. They encountered numerous breeds not present in Hungary, established new professional contacts, gained insights from

judging processes, and collected data for the development of a deep learning-based exterior evaluation model.



The experiences and data gained directly strengthen our research on domestic pigeons, contribute to the dissertations of our PhD students, and support future scientific publications.



The study trip was supported by the EKÖP-25-3 University Research Scholarship Programme of the Ministry of Culture and Innovation, financed from the National Research, Development and Innovation Fund.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Teaching, Staff, and Student Mobilities October – December 2025 (Source: UD International Office)

Outgoing students					
Participant's name	Program	Duration		Host Institution	Place of mobility
Meier Orsolya	Pannónia SMS	2025.10.07	2025.10.09	Melissa Conference	Spain
Nguyen Huu Huong Duyen	Pannónia SMS	2025.11.12	2025.11.19	EFFOST	Portugal
Szatmári Patrik	Pannónia SMS	2025.10.06	2025.10.10	Melissa Conference	Spain
Coaquira Suarez Martha Pilar	CEEPUS	2025.10.01	2025.10.30	Lublin University of Technology	Poland
Do Phuong Uyen	CEEPUS	2025.09.15	2025.10.15	Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences	Poland
Outgoing teachers and staff					
Participant's name	Program	Duration		Host Institution	Place of mobility
Czeglédi Levente	Pannónia STR	2025.11.04	2025.11.07	Mendelova univerzita v Brně	Czech Republic
Dr Shaikh Ayaz Mukarram	Pannónia STT	2025.11.09	2025.11.20	University of Melbourne	Australia
Novák Tibor József	Pannonia STA konferencia	2025.10.05	2025.10.12	SUITMA13	Italy
Prof. Dr. Kovács Béla	Pannónia STT	2025.11.09	2025.11.20	University of Melbourne	Australia
Basal Dr. Oqba	CEEPUS	2025.10.19	2025.10.25	Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences	Poland
Basal Dr. Oqba	CEEPUS	2025.09.29	2025.10.03	UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE OF CLUJ-NAPOCA	Romania
Basal Dr. Oqba	CEEPUS	2025.10.27	2025.11.03	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague	Czech Republic
Incoming teachers and staff					
Gvero	CEEPUS	2025.11.03	2025.11.07	University of Banja Luka	Bosnia and Herzegovina





Bikic Sinisa	CEEPUS	2025.11.03	2025.11.17	University of Novi Sad	Serbia
Sobotova Lydia	CEEPUS	2025.11.04	2025.11.06	Technical University of Košice	Slovakia
Baleta Jakov	CEEPUS	2025.11.04	2025.11.06	University of Zagreb	Croatia
Jurisc Vanja	CEEPUS	2025.11.03	2025.11.07	University of Zagreb	Croatia
Skerlic Jasmina	CEEPUS	2025.11.05	2025.11.11	University in Prishtina with temporary seat in Kosovska Mitrovica	Serbia

Professional visit to the Mátrafüred Experimental Station of the Forest Research Institute, University of Sopron

On December 15, two lecturers from the Plant Protection Institute of our Faculty, Dr. Kálmán Szanyi, assistant lecturer, and Dr. Szabolcs Szanyi, associate professor, paid a visit to the Mátrafüred Experimental Station of the Forest Research Institute of the University of Sopron at the invitation of Dr. György Csóka, Head of the Station.

The aim of the visit was to evaluate the results of the cooperation so far and to discuss future plans. In addition to the professional exchange of views, our colleagues gained a broader insight into the projects currently running at the institute and, by identifying points of connection, were able to further deepen the existing collaboration.

Source: facebook.com/DEMEK.fb





Q1/D1 articles published in the period of October – December 2025

(source: filtered from IDEA Tudóstér)

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2. Virchea, L. I., Georgescu, C., **Máthé, E.**, Frum, A., Mironescu, M., Pecsenye, B., **Nagy, R.**, Danci, O., Muresan, M. L., Totan, M., Gligor, F. G.: [Assessment of Purple Loosestrife \(*Lythrum salicaria* L.\) Extracts from Wild Flora of Transylvania: Phenolic Profile, Antioxidant Activity, In Vivo Toxicity, and Gene Expression Variegation Studies.](#)
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4. **Rockaya, M.**, **Pecsenye, B.**, Ellouze, M., **Máthé, E.**, Baranyi, J.: [Cardinal Temperatures of *Bacillus licheniformis* Growing in Various Plant-based Milk Alternatives.](#)
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8. **Héjja, M.**, György, É., **Lóga, F. Á.**, **Nagy, R.**, **Pacza, T.**, **Sipos, P.**, **Tankó, G.**, Laslo, É., Mészáros, N., Turcuş, V., Oláh, N. K., **Máthé, E.**: [Gemmotherapy Extracts Like the Dog Rose, Lingonberry, Sea Buckthorn, Blackthorn, Common Grape, Hawthorn, Raspberry and Boxwood Feature Variable Yet Excelling Antimicrobial Effects.](#)
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12. **Suhartini, W., Yavuz, S. R., Kovács, Z., Kaszás, L., Cziáky, Z., Kruppa, J., Fári, M., Veres, S., Elhawat, N. A., Alshaal, T. A. A. I., Domokos-Szabolcsy, É., Bákonyi, N.:** [Physicochemical Properties and Bioactive Compounds of Leaf Protein Concentrate from Green Pea and Triticale Mixture: A Comparative Study of Thermal and Non-thermal Processing Techniques.](#) *Food Bioprocess Technol.* 19 (1), 1-18, (cikkazonosító: 36), 2025.
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3. **Sipos, M., Apáti, F.:** [Agro-photovoltaic systems in apple orchards.](#) *Kertész. szőlész.* 74 (4), 38-41, 2025.
4. **Sipos, M., Apáti, F.:** [The role of calcium in the soil-plant system.](#) *AgrárUnió.* 2025 (augusztus/szeptember), 2-4, 2025.
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9. **Dóka, L. F., Szabó, A., Szabó, É.:** The role of stubble and root residues in soil organic matter management.
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10. **Balog, K., Juhos, R., Sipos, B., Tóth, B., Hegedűs, B., Kusza, S., Bagi, Z.:** [The depths of breeding – Molecular genetics crash course XVII: A phylogeographic journey into the past.](#)
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11. **Juhos, R., Balog, K., Sipos, B., Tóth, B., Hegedűs, B., Kusza, S., Bagi, Z.:** [The depths of breeding – Molecular genetics crash course XVIII: Why does the neck become bare?.](#)
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13. **Sipos, M., Babicz, S.:** [Causes of sunburn in apples and possible methods of prevention.](#)
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14. **Szabó, A., Dóka, L. F., Ragán, P., Szabó, É.:** [The role of organic farming in crop production.](#)
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15. **Dóka, L. F., Szabó, A., Szabó, É., Vad, A.:** [Cultivation and fertilization of winter oilseed rape.](#)
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- [problems and opportunities in pheasant management.](#)
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