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SLIAg – Newsletter

Volume 3
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The Governing Council of SLIAg for the year 2024/2025 appointed at the third Annual General Meeting held on the 30th August 2024:



President:	Dr. WART Wickremarachchi
General Secretary:	Prof. (Mrs) GLLP Silva
Treasurer:	Dr (Mts) MGDL Priyantha
Editor:	Prof. B. Marambe
Vice Presidents:	Mr. ASM Roshan
	Dr. (Mrs) T.C. Ratnayake
	Dr. LNAC Jayawardena
Assistant Secretaries:	Prof. RS Dharmakeerthi
	Mr TA Kamiss
Assistant Treasurer:	Mr. S. Thalagoda
Members:	Mr. KE Karunatillake, Mr. GAMS Emitiyagoda, Prof. SP Nissanka, Mr. Saman Warusavithana, Mr. WLH Peiris, Mr. A Gunasekera, Dr. (Mrs) JP Marasinghe, Prof. JK Vidanarachchi, Mr. IGK

SLIAg Incorporation under a Parliament Act

The Draft Bill was published in the gazette on 14th November 2025 (Issued on 20th November) and presented to the parliament on 5th December 2025 by Hon. MP Prof LM Abeywickrema.









Membership Drive

A membership promotional campaign was conducted in line with Annual Symposium of the Dept. of Agriculture (ASDA) – 2025 held on 12th September 2025.







SLIAg supported Precision Agriculture Initiatives

The SLIAg undertook a project funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and supported by the Department of Agriculture (DOA), experiments on "Drone-based Paddy Seeding and Follow-up Training Programs". Experiments were conducted at Rice Research and Development Institute (RRDI at Batakagoda, Field Corps Research and Development Institute (FCRDI) at Mahailuppallama, and a farmer field at Batalagoda.



SLIAg collaborations in organizing Scientific forums

SLIAg had the opportunity to collaborate with Colarado School of Mines to organizing activities of the international conference titled 'Bridging Research to Address Water and Environmental Challenges in Emerging Nations: A Case Study of Sri Lanka'. The event was co-chaired by Prof. RB Mapa, an honorary fellow of SLIAg, along with Prof. Tissa Illangasekara Colarado School of Mines. The event was held 17-18 July, 2025 held at the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya. The event was participated by around 80 experts among which 25 were foreign participants representing countries all around the world.



SLIAg contribution in nationally important issues.

Considering the importance of the Issues related to availability of rice in the country, the GC has appointed an expert committee to formulate policy recommendations to be presented to the Honorable Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation. The GC also paid its attention to the burning issue of macro-pest problem which imposes a significant threat to the agriculture productivity of the country. The GC was able to hand over the both the reports to the Minister in April, 2025, it is a pleasure to note that some of the recommendations of SLIAg have been considered in state interventions to solve issues in paddy production in the country





Promotion of SLIAg and its activities

The chairperson of the membership drive committee made a special presentation at the ministry of Agriculture, describing the goals and objectives of SLIAg, membership categories and the present strength and the current activities along with its accomplishments. His presentation was well received by the Minister and other officials which was a positive influence in the SLIAg incorporation activities.



The Technical Session and 6th AGM of SLIAg

With a view to address the serious national concerns with respect to the damage caused by the Cyclone "Ditwah", the SLIAg has organized a Panel Discussion to be held at the Plant Genetic Resources Center (PGRC), Gannoruwa, on 11th December 2025 from 1.30 to 4.30 pm, before its 6th Annual General Meeting.



