Meet Our Editor

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Meet Our Specialty Chief Editor

Prof. Dimuthu Wijeyaratne

Dimuthu Wijeyaratne is a Professor in the Department of Zoology and Environmental Management, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. Prof. Wijeyaratne graduated from the University of Kelaniya, specializing in Zoology, and she obtained her PhD in Environmental and Conservation Studies from North Dakota State University, USA, focusing on chemical fingerprinting of wetland sediments to identify diverse pollution sources.

Prof. Wijeyaratne has significantly contributed to diverse areas of freshwater and marine wetland-based research in Sri Lanka. She has led research projects funded by the International Foundation for Science, Sweden, and the National Research Council of Sri Lanka. Prof. Wijeyaratne mainly focuses on assessment of the ecological effects of heavy metals and microplastics in the wetland ecosystems. Furthermore, she has extended her

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research to assess the critical issues such as health risks associated with the consumption of contaminated seafood and green leafy vegetables. Prof. Wijeyaratne's research has also contributed to the development of allometric relationships to quantify carbon sequestration in the vegetative portion of different species of mangrove plants in the coastal lagoons in Sri Lanka. She has contributed to more than 50 publications in peer-reviewed national and international journals, 3 book chapters, and more than 100 abstracts presented in both international and national research conferences. The Presidential award and the Vice Chancellor's awards are among the many accolades for her outstanding contributions in research.

Furthermore, Prof. Wijeyaratne has extensive experience in curriculum planning and development and has designed numerous undergraduate and postgraduate course units on Wetland management, Environmental pollution, Basic geology and soil science and Statistics for environmental management. She has also authored study guides for undergraduate and postgraduate courses on core and applied subjects such as Environmental pollution, Environmental health and Ecotoxicology.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Wijeyaratne, W.M.D.N.; Liyanage, U.P. Multimetric Socio-ecological Assessment of Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia Crassipes* (Mart) Solms) Invasion of an Urban Ramsar Wetland Lake. *Lakes Reserv. Sci. Policy Manag. Sustain. Use* **2024**, *29*, e12444, doi:10.1111/lre.12444. [Crossref]
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7. Wijeyaratne, D.; Bellanthudawa, A. Macrophytes as Indicators of the Ecological Status of a Tropical Rehabilitated Wetland Ecosystem: Application of Multivariate Statistics and Ecological State Macrophyte Index (ESMI). *Int. J. Aquat. Biol.* **2020**, *8*, 434–446, doi:10.22034/ijab.v0i0.675. [Crossref]
8. Wijeyaratne, W.M.D.N.; Nanayakkara, D.B.M. Monitoring of Water Quality Variation Trends in a Tropical Urban Wetland System Located within a Ramsar Wetland City: A GIS and Phytoplankton Based Assessment. *Environ. Nanotechnol. Monit. Manag.* **2020**, *14*, doi:10.1016/j.enmm.2020.100323. [Crossref]
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10. Wijeyaratne, W.M.D.N.; Wickramasinghe, P.G.M.U. Treated Textile Effluents: Cytotoxic and Genotoxic Effects in the Natural Aquatic Environment. *Bull. Environ. Contam. Toxicol.* **2020**, *104*, 245–252, doi:10.1007/s00128-019-02768-x. [Crossref]
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