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Cultivating Success: The Mushroom Training at IHT

Mushroom farming is rapidly emerging as a powerhouse of sustainable agriculture. With its unique ability to transform agricultural waste into high-value, nutritious food, it represents a perfect model for profit and sustainability. This 'white gold rush' offers immense potential for entrepreneurs and farmers, providing high returns from minimal space and a short crop cycle, making it an ideal venture for the modern agrarian economy.

Recognizing this potential, the Government of India is strongly backing this sector through a wave of incentives. Central and state schemes, such as the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Agri Infra Fund and the PMFME Scheme, offer critical support including subsidies on infrastructure, spawn, inputs, and credit-linked assistance. These initiatives have made entry into mushroom cultivation more accessible than ever.

However, capital and subsidies alone cannot guarantee success. The precise science of mushroom cultivation—from contamination control and climate management to post-harvest handling—demands expert knowledge. A lack of proper training is the most common reason for venture failure, turning a promising opportunity into a loss.

This is where the Institute of Horticulture Technology, Greater Noida, makes the critical difference. Our specialized training programs are designed to bridge this knowledge gap. We provide hands-on, scientific training that equips you with the skills to navigate challenges, maximize government support, and build a profitable and resilient mushroom enterprise. We make sure that besides the interactive lecture, hands on trainings sessions the trainees are also exposed to commercial mushroom cultivation units for understanding as how the commercial units operates. Aspiring bio entrepreneurs should avail the trainings in IHT and let it be your partner in transforming this opportunity into a sustainable success



Training Programs

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) continues to establish itself as a premier hub for modern horticultural training, equipping farmers, entrepreneurs and professionals with the knowledge and skills to succeed in commercial horticulture. With extensive experience in organizing hands-on training, exposure visits and online programs, IHT has empowered participants across India to adopt advanced cultivation techniques, improve productivity and explore profitable agribusiness opportunities. In September 2025, IHT successfully organized multiple training programmes on key horticultural technologies, providing participants with both scientific knowledge and practical exposure. These programs not only enhanced technical capabilities but also encouraged entrepreneurship and sustainable farming practices, with participants expressing increased confidence in applying the knowledge on their farms or business ventures.

Saffron Production Technology

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) successfully organized two comprehensive three-day offline training programs on Saffron Production Technology during September 2025. These programs focused on promoting modern saffron cultivation using hydroponics and protected systems, providing participants with both theoretical knowledge and practical exposure. The trainings covered a wide range of topics, including the global saffron market, demand-supply dynamics, challenges in traditional cultivation, controlled environment greenhouse design and essential tools and equipment for hydroponic saffron farming. Participants also learned critical agronomic practices such as selection of high-quality corms, pre-planting treatments, planting techniques, fertigation scheduling, irrigation management, pest and disease control and indoor cultivation advantages. Hands-on sessions provided practical experience in preparing soilless media, corm sowing, nutrient management, flower harvesting, stigma processing, drying, packaging and quality maintenance. The programs also highlighted government support and schemes for saffron entrepreneurs, empowering participants to explore saffron as a viable agribusiness venture. Feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing that the training enhanced their technical skills, practical knowledge and confidence to establish and manage saffron cultivation units successfully, thereby contributing to improved livelihood opportunities and sustainable agribusiness development.



Hands on training on saffron bulb growing in soilless media

Commercial Hydroponics

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) successfully conducted a two-week hybrid training program on Commercial Hydroponics from 8th to 20th September 2025 for self-sponsored participants. This program provided an in-depth understanding of modern hydroponic farming, combining online theoretical sessions with offline practical hands-on training to ensure participants gained both conceptual knowledge and applied skills. During the first week of online sessions (8–12 September), participants were introduced to various hydroponic systems, including NFT, DFT and vertical farming setups. They learned about nursery planning, crop selection, seed sowing techniques, nutrient solution preparation, fertigation schedules and water management practices. Additional sessions covered greenhouse technology, climate control, indoor and vertical hydroponic systems and integrated pest management strategies, enabling participants to understand how to maintain optimal growth conditions and produce safe, high-quality crops. The second week (15–20 September) focused on offline, hands-on training at IHT and its Technology Park, where participants practically implemented the knowledge gained online. They practiced nursery management, media preparation, nutrient solution mixing, hydroponic irrigation and fertigation, climate control and crop production of vine crops, salad crops and minor herbs under NFT/DFT systems. Participants also gained practical experience in disease and pest management and explored government schemes and subsidies supporting hydroponics-based enterprises.



Hands-on training on commercial hydroponic

Protected Cultivation of Vegetable Crops

This program offered a complete package of classroom and practical training. Topics included soil health management, quality nursery production, polyhouse structures, climate control, micro-irrigation, fertigation and production of tomato, capsicum and cucumber. Practical exercises included drip layout, bed preparation with mulching, pruning and training techniques. Integrated Pest Management and Standard Operating Procedures were also covered. Participants left the program equipped to adopt modern protected cultivation methods and improve productivity in their vegetable ventures.



Hands-on training on protected cultivation

Mushroom Production Technology

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) successfully organized comprehensive mushroom production training programs in both online and offline modes during September 2025. The online training (4–6 September) provided participants with detailed knowledge on modern mushroom cultivation techniques, including compost preparation, spawn production, pasteurization, climate control, irrigation methods, nutrient management and pest and disease control strategies. The sessions covered key mushroom varieties such as button, oyster and shiitake mushrooms, enabling participants to understand both scientific principles and commercial aspects of mushroom farming.

The offline training (11–13 September) offered hands-on experience in compost making, spawn production and climate-controlled mushroom cultivation, ensuring participants could directly apply theoretical knowledge in practical settings. A highlight of the program was field visits to progressive mushroom units in Sonipat and Mathura, providing participants with real-world exposure to successful mushroom enterprises. These interactive and practical sessions helped participants develop confidence and motivation to establish and manage their own mushroom units, enhancing their entrepreneurial skills and promoting sustainable mushroom cultivation practices. Feedback from trainees was highly positive, with many expressing that the training significantly improved their technical knowledge and practical abilities.



Hands on training on mushroom cultivation techniques and compost preparation

Orchid Cultivation

This training provided participants with an in-depth understanding of orchid cultivation, emphasizing Dendrobium varieties, greenhouse management and climate control. Practical sessions included propagation techniques (tissue culture, stem cuttings), selection of media, irrigation, fertilization, pest management and post-harvest handling. Marketing and business planning sessions helped participants understand domestic and international trade opportunities. Participants reported feeling well-prepared to start their own orchid ventures and implement scientific cultivation practices.



International Webinar on Speed Breeding – 2nd Session

The School of Speed Breeding (SoSB) recently organized an international webinar on Fast-Tracking Crop Improvement through Speed Breeding. This was the 2nd session of a 7-session series, held on 23rd October 2025 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM IST.

Experts and professionals in crop improvement and horticultural sciences participated in this engaging session, sharing insights on advanced breeding techniques, accelerated crop development, and innovative strategies for sustainable agriculture. The webinar was streamed live on Google Meet, enabling global participation and interaction.



Upcoming Trainings

1. Commercial Hydroponics
2. Orchid Production in Protected Setup
3. Protected Cultivation of Vegetable Crops
4. Landscaping and Garden Maintenance
5. Saffron Cultivation- online and offline
6. Mushroom Production- Online
7. Commercial Nursery Production – Vegetables
8. Italian Gourmet Herbs