



Global Plant Humanities Network



The 3rd International Conference on Global Plant Humanities
8-10 May 2026, Shillong, Meghalaya, India

All timings are provided in India Standard Time

DAY I

Thursday, 7 May 2026, *online*

TIME	SESSION	VENUE	FOCUS	PAPER TITLES
4.30pm– 5.00pm	Zoom Conference Room Opens Welcome Remarks by Goutam Majhi, President of the Global Plant Humanities Network (GPHN)			
5.00pm– 5.45pm	KEYNOTE 1	Online (Main Zoom Room)	Plants and Spiritual Approaches in the Hungarian Permaculture Movement – <i>Judit Farkas (Chair: John C. Ryan, University of Notre Dame, Australia)</i>	
5.50pm– 7.10pm	FIRST TECHNICAL SESSION 1A–1F			
5.50pm– 7.10pm	1a	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 1a)	<i>Global Literary Perspectives on Plants I: Anglophone Narratives</i>	Menace and Violence of Silence: A Study on Ecological Terror and Mystery in Blackwood’s <i>The Willows</i> – <i>Mouli Chaudhuri</i>
Chair: Stuti Goswami (The Assam Royal Global University)				Colour Symbolism and the Botanical in Anna Burns’s <i>Milkman</i> – <i>Kalyani Pidadi</i>
				From Root to Renewal: Plant Life, Gardening and Nature as Therapeutic Spaces in the Works of Cecelia Ahern – <i>Simran Singh</i>
				Vegetal Co-authorship as Cosmic Design: Articulating Kincentric Arboreal Ontologies in Theresa Breslin’s <i>Whispers in the Graveyard</i> – <i>Tanuka Chatterjee</i>
5.50pm– 7.10pm	1b	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 1b)	<i>Forest Fictions I: Arboreal Imaginaries</i>	Lands[h]aping the Visual Ecosystem: A Comparative Approach to Planting Trees in Jean Giono’s <i>The Man Who Planted Trees</i> and Richard Powers’s <i>The Overstory</i> – <i>Tristan Ratieuville</i>



Chair: Chandana Rajbanshi (National Institute of Technology Silchar, India)				Plant Rituals and Ecological Consciousness in South Asian Cultural Traditions – <i>Meghna Varun and Madhu Sharma</i>
				Narrative of Native and Non-Native: Fauna in Indian Forest Fiction and Hunter Narratives – <i>Srijita Pal and Aheli Chaudhuri</i>
				Forests as Nemesis: Women and the Unforgiving Forests in Select Rewritings of the <i>Mahabharata</i> – <i>Sudesh Das</i>
5.50pm–7.10pm	1c	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 1c)	<i>Indigenous Conceptions of Human-Plant Relations</i>	Estranged Lovers and Toxic Witnesses: Plant Kinship and Urban Ecologies in <i>Brugmansia suaveolens</i> and <i>Thunbergia alata</i> – <i>Maria Patricia Tinajero</i>
Chair: Juan Carlos Galeano (Florida State University, USA)				Hidden Histories and Taxonomies: The Place of the <i>Libellus de medicinalibus indorum herbis</i> in botanical Knowledge – <i>Lidia Ponce de la Vega</i>
				Plants, Ecological Stewardship and Gaia or the Living Earth in Contemporary Kristang Creole-Indigenous Thought – <i>Kevin Martens Wong Zhi Qiang</i>
				Exploration of Human-Plant Entanglement and Vegetal Agency in Kokborok Literature and Culture – <i>Alokesh Reang</i>
5.50pm–7.10pm	1d	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 1d)	<i>Phytocriticism: Vegetal Agency in Literature</i>	Passing Trees, Returning Memories: Vegetal Imagery and Memory in Nguyễn Bình Phương’s Novels – <i>Kieu-Chinh Vu</i>
Chair: Prasanta Ghoshal (Sir Gurudas Mahavidyalaya, Kolkata, India)				Plants as Active Agents in V. S. Khandekar’s Marathi Novel <i>Amrutvel</i> (Immortal Vine) – <i>Anita Powar</i>
				Pruned Body: Surpanakha’s Garden as a Site of Phytotherapy in Volga’s <i>The Liberation of Sita</i> – <i>D. Blessy Rachel and G. Vinothkumar</i>
				Phytocritical Analysis of Miguel Angel Asturias’s <i>Men of Maize</i> – <i>Jayendra Singh Kanwar</i>

5.50pm– 7.10pm	1e	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 1e)	<i>Monstrous Flora in Film and Literature</i>	Militarizing the Jungle: Neocolonialism, Monstrous Nature, and War in Film – <i>Tatiana Konrad</i>
Chair: Gregory Tague (St. Francis College, New York, USA)				Ecohorror and Ecogothic: Monstrous Vegetality in Satyajit Ray’s Selected Works – <i>Abhra Paul</i>
				‘It’s Too Uncanny’! Abcanny and Vegetal Abjection in Lesser-Known Fin-de-Siècle Botanical Gothic Tales – <i>K. Subramanyam</i>
				The Garden as Laboratory: Violence, Control, and Botanical Experimentation in <i>Rappaccini’s Daughter</i> – <i>Abu Farah Hoque</i>
5.50pm– 7.10pm	1f	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 1f)	<i>Collaborating with Plants I: Art, Music, and Writing</i>	Sound Art in Collaboration with Plants – <i>Minna Valjakka</i>
Chair: Kate Brelje (St. Bonaventure University, New York, USA)				Mangroves in/as Soundscapes: Botanical Agency and Ecomusical Activism in <i>Musical Mangroves</i> (2020) – <i>Vishal Yadav</i>
				Exhibition of Art from Venus to Daphne – <i>Izabela Myszka</i>
				Co-authorship with Invasive Plants – <i>Sydney Kale</i>
7.15pm– 8.15pm	PANEL 1	Online (Main Zoom Room)	<i>Pre-formed Panel: Vegetal Menace, Witness, and Resistance: Plants, Power, and the Nonhuman Turn in Literature and Visual Media</i>	Poisoned Blossoms: Capitalism, Ecology, and Resistance in Tagore’s <i>Raktakarabi</i> and Its Contemporary Reimagining – <i>Shuchismita Das</i>
Chair: Prasanta Ghoshal (Sir Gurudas Mahavidyalaya, Kolkata, India)				Predatory Flora: Vegetal Agency and the Dismantling of Anthropocentrism in Cross-Cultural Texts and Visual Media – <i>Srijani Ganguly</i>

				The Woods Have Eyes: Botanical Spaces as Witness to Transformation and Evil in <i>Wednesday</i> and <i>Bunny</i> – <i>Nasreen Sultana</i>
8.20pm– 9.35pm	SECOND TECHNICAL SESSION 2A–2E			
8.20pm– 9.35pm	2a	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 2a)	<i>Collaborating with Plants II: Art, Film, and Indigenous Narratives</i>	Vegetal Precarities and Human-Vegetal Solidarities in Documentary Film Art – <i>Irene Sywenky</i>
Chair: <i>Suranjana Choudhury (North-Eastern Hill University)</i>				<i>Perilla People</i> – <i>Ginger Brooks Takahashi</i>
				Anthropocentrism or Miniature Art?: Desire, Disability, Alterity, and Bonsai – <i>Sudebi Giri</i>
8.20pm– 9.35pm	2b	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 2b)	<i>Posthumanism and the Plant Humanities</i>	Vegetal Enlightenment: From Speciesism to Sympoiesis in Plant Studies – <i>Sheetal Jain</i>
Chair: <i>Sydney Kale (Ubiquity University, USA)</i>				From Eden to the Anthropocene: Recalibrating the God-Made World through Plant Humanities – <i>Nagraj G. Holeyannavar</i>
				Plant Blindness and Gender: A Critical Inquiry into Perception, Knowledge, and Power – <i>Megha Acharya</i>
				Eco-deconstruction in the Satras of Assam: A New Outlook on Preservation – <i>Bhanita Talukdar</i>
8.20pm– 9.35pm	2c	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 2c)	<i>The Canny Plant: Vegetal Cognition and Sentience</i>	Vegetal Knowledge: Distributed Cognition in Takala’s Terraced Vineyards – <i>Sanja Puljar D’Alessio</i>
Chair: <i>Lidia Ponce de la Vega (Grand Valley State University)</i>				Herbaria as Cultural Texts: Rethinking Botanical Archives in Colonial India – <i>Elwin Susan John</i>
				Phytopoetics and Agential Native Plant Lives in Selected Poems of Sarojini Naidu – <i>Swati Kshirsagar</i>
				The Healing Power of Plants in <i>Savi</i> and the Memory Keeper – <i>Sonali Agarwal</i>

8.20pm– 9.35pm	2d	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 2d)	<i>Aesthetics and Ethics in Plant-Human Relations: Deep Time Perspectives</i>	Plants and the Evolution of the Human Diet – <i>Gregory F. Tague</i>
Chair: <i>Suryatapa Jha (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, USA)</i>				Echoes of Silent Spring: An Ecological Reading of Lake Ecosystems through Rachel Carson’s Environmental Vision – <i>Abirami A.V.</i>
				Aesthetics with Environmental Sense and Sensibility – <i>Suvashree Roy Chowdhury</i>
				Alienation and Belonging: Reading <i>Aranyak</i> through Abram’s Ecological Philosophy – <i>Amrita Das</i>
8.20pm– 9.35pm	2e	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 2e)	<i>Forest Fictions II: Animism, Agency, and Pedagogy</i>	Arboreal Ritual, Diasporic Mourning, and Botanical Resurrection in Elif Shafak’s <i>The Island of Missing Trees</i> – <i>Maheshwari Suresh and Mily Elizebeth</i>
Chair: <i>Tristan Ratieuville (University of Strasbourg, France)</i>				Plant Agency, Animist Epistemology, and the Subversion of Ethno-Religious Partition in Elif Shafak’s <i>The Island of Missing Trees</i> – <i>Maheshwari Suresh and Thamarai Selvi</i>
				Examining Botanical Imagination in Gaurav Paul’s <i>Whispers of the Dooars: Tales from North Bengal</i> – <i>Chhandita Das</i>
				Trees Give Us Oxygen: Pedagogies of Anthropocentrism in Indian Textbooks – <i>S. Vetha and V. David Arputha Raj</i>
8.20pm– 9.35pm	2f	Online (Zoom Breakout Room 2f)	<i>Indian Botanical Narratives: Memory, Reverence, and Ecology</i>	Slow Roots, Still Waters: Rob Nixon’s Slow Violence and the Botanical Ecology of Calcutta in Jhumpa Lahiri’s <i>The Lowland</i> – <i>Mahananda Biswas</i>
Chair: <i>Chandana Rajbanshi (National Institute of Technology Silchar, India)</i>				Post-Chipko Solastalgia: Ecological Memory and Ecofeminist Knowledge in Garhwali Women’s Folk Songs – <i>Shivani Bhatt</i>

				Divine Ecologies: Exploring the Reverence of Nature through the Narrative Prism of the Chakhesang Naga Indigenous Religion – <i>Wechieu Medo</i>
9.40pm– 10.55pm	PANEL 2	Online (Main Zoom Room)	<i>The Traveling Medicine Bag (Chaired by Suryatapa Jha)</i>	When Goddess is Commodified: The Resistance of Tulsi (Holy Basil) Packaged for Western Wellness – <i>Kate Brelje</i>
Chair: <i>Suryatapa Jha (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, USA)</i>				Blue Lotus, Anxiety, and Other Realms – <i>Prudence Gibson</i>
				Brewed Histories: Tea, Colonial Landscapes, and Climate Futures in India – <i>Suryatapa Jha</i>
				Returning to Right Relation: Cannabis as Plantcestral Teacher in Contemporary Times – <i>Alice McSherry</i>
10.55pm– 11.00pm	Zoom Conference Room Closes Brief Closing Remarks by John C. Ryan, Senior Advisor to the Global Plant Humanities Network (GPHN)			

DAY II

Friday, 8 May 2026, *in-person*

TIME	SESSION	VENUE	ACTIVITIES
9.30am–10.00am	Registration	Golden Jubilee Hall at North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU)	
10.00am–11.00am	Inaugural Session	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	Dignitaries assemble at the dais
			Felicitation
			Welcome Song, Department of English, NEHU, Shillong
			Welcome Address, Prof. Jyotirmoy Prodhani, NEHU, Shillong
			Global Plant Humanities Network (GPHN), President Goutam Majhi
			Guest of Honour, Dean, School of Humanities, NEHU, Shillong
			Chief Guest, Pro Vice Chancellor, NEHU, Shillong
			Note from the Chair, Head, Department of English, NEHU, Shillong
			Vote of Thanks
11.00am–11.30am	High Tea		
11.30am–12.00pm	KEYNOTE 2	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	Non-Anthropocentric Ethics: Lessons from the Khasi <i>Khanatangs</i> – <i>Kynpham Sing Nongkynrih</i> (Chair: <i>Zilkia Janer, Hofstra University, USA</i>)
12.05pm–12.35pm	KEYNOTE 3	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	Entangled Roots: Material and Affective Bonds Between Plants, People, and Ecologies in Amazonian Oral Narratives – <i>Juan Carlos Galeano</i> (Chair: <i>JCR</i>)
12.45pm–2.00pm	THIRD TECHNICAL SESSION 3A–3F		

12.45pm– 2.00pm	3a	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	<i>Global Literary Perspectives on Plants II: Vegetal Subjectivities</i>	Plants and ‘Urbanature’ in Zadie Smith’s NW – <i>Livia Szélpál (online)</i>
Chair: Goutam Majhi (Sadhan Chandra Mahavidyalaya, India)				Vegetal Memory and Ethics of Storytelling: Reading Shared Vulnerabilities in Han Kang’s <i>We Do Not Part</i> – <i>Samriddha Goswami</i>
				Plant as Counter-Narrative: A Phytocritical Reading of Elif Shafak’s <i>The Island of Missing Trees</i> – <i>Prachurjya Borah</i>
				Mandrake Myth and the Biopolitics of Plant Life: Vegetal Marginality and the Question of Plant Sexuality in Hanns Heinz Ewers’ <i>Alraune</i> – <i>Smaranika Chakraborty</i>
12.45pm– 2.00pm	3b	NEHU OIA Hall	<i>South Asian Artistic and Literary Perspectives: Visualizing & Ritualizing</i>	Gendering Adivasi Art: Gond Painting in the Anglophone Picturebook – <i>Samarth Singhal</i>
Chair: Langkumar War (North-Eastern Hill University)				Tree Speaks and Memories in the Era of Climate Change: Reading Bijal Vachharajani’s <i>Savi and the Memory Keeper</i> – <i>Sreenidhi P and L. Swathi</i>
				Weaving An Alternative Vegetal Narrative on Satyajit Ray’s ‘The Hungry Septopus’ (1962) – <i>Sweetly Roy</i>
12.45pm– 2.00pm	3c	NEHU R&D Hall	<i>Plants in Bengali Culture, History and Literature</i>	Rooted Fables: On the Botanical Unconscious in Bengali Folk Tales – <i>Debayan Das</i>
Chair: Suranjana Choudhury (North-Eastern Hill University)				Plant Writing and Colonial Historiography: The Role of ‘Plant Subjects’ in Nationbuilding – <i>Disha Chakraborty</i>
				Ecologies of Death in Sundarban Literature – <i>Pritam Moni</i>

12.45pm– 2.00pm	3d	EFLU Hall 1	<i>Reading Amitav Ghosh through a Vegetal Lens</i>	Botanical Agency and Colonial Afterlives: A Posthuman Reading of <i>The Nutmeg's Curse</i> – Saikat Banerjee
Chair: Arzuman Ara (The English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong)				Indomalayan Vegetal Posthumanism in Ghosh's <i>GhostEye</i> and Related Works – Balavaishnavi B and B. Padmanabhan
				Provincializing the Chthulucene: Reincarnation and Ecological Ontology in <i>Ghost-Eye</i> – Sania Wahid
12.45pm– 2.00pm	3e	EFLU Hall 2	<i>North-East India in Focus: Plants in Naga Culture</i>	The Cultural Life of Plants: Reflections from Angami-Naga Oral Tradition – Ruokuosanu Suohu and Yanbeni Yanthan
Chair: Alankar Kaushik (The English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong)				Shared Indigenous Ecological Knowledge: A Naga Worldview in Easterine Kire's <i>Bitter Wormwood and Mari</i> – Manngai H Phom
				The Forest is My Wife: Understanding the Forest in a Christianized Naga Society as Portrayed in Easterine Kire's <i>When the River Sleeps</i> – Agnidh Baruah and Reena Sanasam
				Rooted Ecologies: A Reading of Easterine Kire's <i>Sky is My Father: A Naga Village Remembered</i> – Sandhani Dutta and Diganta Thakuria
12.45pm– 2.00pm	3f	EFLU Hall 3	<i>Gendered Vegetalities I: Ecofeminism and Plants</i>	Performing and Preserving the <i>Sij</i> Plant (<i>Euphorbia neriifolia</i>): Reinterrogating the Manasa Cult Through an Ecofeminist Lens – Priyanka Das
Chair: Sajal Dey (The English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong)				Gender, Ecology, and Flora: Feminine Symbolism of Plants in Indian Media and Popular Culture – Amit Baruah
				Ecofeminism in Assamese Short Fiction – Harsita Hiya

2.00pm– 3.00pm	LUNCH HOUR AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL			
3.00pm– 3.30pm	KEYNOTE 4	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	Repurposing Botanical Illustration into a Decolonial Tool – <i>Zilkia Janer</i> (Chair: Rakhee Moral, Cotton University)	
3.40pm– 4.55pm	FOURTH TECHNICAL SESSION 4A–4F			
3.40pm– 4.55pm	4a	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	<i>Global Literary Perspectives on Plants III: Prose and Poetics</i>	Black Botanical Echoes in Rivers Solomon’s <i>An Unkindness of Ghosts</i> – Katie Hogan (online)
Chair: Rimi Nath (North-Eastern Hill University)				Walking Through Treeness: Vegetal Memories and the Making of a Multisensorial Black Arboreal Poetics – <i>Laxmi Sarma</i>
				‘Sorghum Halepense raised a fuss’: Towards a Vegetal Posthumanism through Hiromi Itō’s Plant Poetics – <i>Anuska Saha</i>
				Constructing Landscape; Reinstating Memory: Nature as an Undercover in Kazuo Ishiguro’s <i>The Buried Giant</i> – <i>Abhilash Kaushik</i>
3.40pm– 4.55pm	4b	NEHU OIA Hall	<i>Indian Literary Perspectives: Healing and Conserving</i>	Indian Literature: A Conversation with Forests and Biodiversity – <i>Ritika Batabyal</i>
Chair: Saiket Banerjee (Jamalpur College, India)				Devotional Vegetality: Phytopoetics, Consciousness, and Relational Being in Lalon Fakir and Toru Dutt – <i>Sikha Sengupta and Merry Baruah Bora</i>
				Indigenous Stewardship, Reciprocity and Plantiness: Reading Mahasweta Devi’s <i>The Book of the Hunter</i> – <i>Rejoan Ali</i>

				Ecological Memory, Social Healing, and Resistance: A Mythic Reconstruction of R Rajasree's <i>Aathreyakam</i> – <i>Nandhana Ajith</i>
3.40pm– 4.55pm	4c	NEHU R&D Hall	<i>North-East India in Focus: Plants in Assamese Culture</i>	Searching a Civilizational Narrative in Bamboo Culture: A Case Study of Majuli, Assam – <i>Trishna Rani Borah</i>
Chair: <i>Setolu Tunyi (North-Eastern Hill University)</i>				Botanical Memory: Plant and Migration Narrative in Colonial Landscapes of Assam – <i>Himadri Borah and Pompi Basumatary</i>
				Indigenous Cosmology and Sacred Ecology: Interpreting Plant Symbolism and Ritual Practices Among the Dimasa of Assam – <i>Abhinit Dey and Jintu Thakuria</i>
				Sacred Ecologies: Bathouism in Bodo Communities of Assam – <i>Hemakshi Misra</i>
3.40pm– 4.55pm	4d	EFLU Hall 1	<i>Plants in Literature and Film for Children and Young Adults</i>	Trees in the Tender Tales: A Study of Representation of Plants in Assamese Children's Literature – <i>Jayanta Madhab Tamuly</i>
Chair: <i>Rishikesh Kumar Singh (Ecosophical Foundation for the Study of Literature and Environment, EFSLE)</i>				Childhood, Trees, and Everyday Nature: Plant Worlds in Indian Young Adult Fiction – <i>Anjali Mishra</i>
				'Once Upon a Forest': An Ongoing Narrative – <i>Nidhee Meshram Bhowate</i>
				Where Creepers Listen: Children's Animist Botanical Consciousness in the Urban Periphery – <i>Joyeeta Banerjee</i>
3.40pm– 4.55pm	4e	EFLU Hall 2	<i>Botanical Knowledge Systems I: Taxonomies and Imaginaries</i>	The Liminal Herbarium: Medicinal Plants, Myths, and Ethnobotanical Knowledge in North East India – <i>Kaushal Sood and Sushmita Sen</i>
Chair: <i>John C. Ryan (University of Notre Dame, Australia)</i>				Orality, Rituals, and Imaginaries of Grass in North Indian Cultures – <i>Kumari Gunjan and Sanjeev Kumar Vishwakarma</i>

				Thinking Through Flowers: A Vegetal Taxonomy in Tagore's Imagination – <i>Binamra Das</i>
				Botanical Life in Art, Science, and Imagination: Role of Libraries in Knowledge and Cultural Preservation – <i>Dola Ghosh</i>
3.40pm– 4.55pm	4f	EFLU Hall 3	<i>Plants, Sustainability, and Indigenous Societies: From Japan to India</i>	Wabi-Sabi Serenity in Japanese Gardens: Botany, Art, Imagination and Tourism Magnetism: A Case Study at Ueno Park in Tokyo, Japan – <i>Gajbhiye Charuta and Gajbhiye Shamit</i>
Chair: Goutam Majhi (Sadhan Chandra Mahavidyalaya, India)				Living Ecologies: Santali Indigenous Praxis and the Reimagination of Regenerative Tourism – <i>Tuhina Bose</i>
				Guardians of Living Landscapes: Indigenous Peoples, Plant Relations, and the Law of Ecological Stewardship – <i>Modi Umangkumar Champaklal</i>
				Plants as Infrastructure: Extraction and Indigenous Displacement in India – <i>Saurav Das</i>
4.55pm– 5.25pm	TEA BREAK AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL			
5.30pm– 6.30pm	CULTURAL PROGRAMME I AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL			

DAY III

Saturday, 9 May 2026, *in-person*

9.30am–10.45am		FIFTH TECHNICAL SESSION 5A–5G		
9.30am–10.45am	5a	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	<i>Pre-Formed Panel: Decolonial Vegetality, Peripheral Territoriality, and the Knowledge Systems of North East India</i>	'To Talk Plan(e)t': Planetarity and Plant Ethics in Select Texts from North-East India – <i>Namrata Pathak</i>
Chair: <i>Namrata Pathak (North-Eastern Hill University)</i>				Examining the Symbiotic Interface of Vegetal and Animal Lives in North-East India: A Buddhist Eco-Philosophical Reading of Select Works of Soumyadeep Dutta – <i>Dhurjjati Sarma</i>
				Plant-Based Folk Narratives and Decolonial Epistemology in Amri Karbi Oral Tradition – <i>Stuti Goswami</i>
				Necroflora and the Vegetal Turn: A Phytocritical Inquiry into Death in Indian Culture – <i>Goutam Majhi</i>
				Countering Colonial Spatial Hierarchies: 'Vegetality' and Indigeneity in Easterine Kire's <i>When the River Sleeps</i> – <i>Saikat Banerjee</i>
9.30am–10.45am	5b	NEHU OIA Hall	<i>Posthumanism, Ethics, and Vegetal Being</i>	The Trees Will Not Save Us, Redux or, Fake Mechanical Trees – <i>Evander Price</i>

Chair: Preetinicha Barman (North-Eastern Hill University)				Vegetal Worlds from Below: Infrastructural Botany and the Global South Posthumanist Imagination – <i>Subashish Bhattacharjee</i>
				The Vegetal Soul: Mirra Alfassa’s Vision of Flora and the Auroville Experiment – <i>Sujoy Paul</i>
				Re-imagining Space and Habitat: A Study of Speculative Design and Bioregenerative Architecture in Octavia Butler’s <i>Lilith’s Brood</i> – <i>Maitrayee Sarma</i>
9.30am–10.45am	5c	NEHU R&D Hall	<i>Cinematic Depictions of Botanical Life</i>	From Specimen to Subject: Botanical Ethics and the Mutant Body in the X-Men Film Series – <i>Daphilatngen Kharmujai</i>
Chair: Sukalpa Bhattacharya (North-Eastern Hill University)				Cinematic Chlorophyll: Visual Media, Cultural Imagination, and Vegetal Life in Indian Documentaries – <i>Chinmayee Nanda</i>
				Botanical Imaginations in Indian Cinema: Cultural Narratives and Human-Plant Relationships – <i>Manisha</i>
				Plant Worlds on Screen: Ecology and Film in South Asia – <i>Nikhil God</i>
9.30am–10.45am	5d	EFLU Hall 1	<i>Indigenous Botanical Traditions in India: Reverence for Plants</i>	Sacred Groves, Umang Lai, and Lai Haraoba: Ritual Traditions of the Meitei Community of Manipur – <i>Angelina Thangjam and Pompi Basumatary</i>
Chair: Nirmal Selvamony (Central University of Tamil Nadu, India)				Vegetal Resistance and Vegetal Remedy in Contemporary Indian Anglophone Narratives about Indigenous Identities – <i>Medhavi Dhyani</i>
				The Nutmeg and Bandanese History: A New Historicist Ecocritical Study of Amitav Ghosh’s <i>The Nutmeg’s Curse</i> – <i>Kabita Chiring</i>
				Gendered Ecologies and Botanical Memory: Women’s Plant Knowledge in Indigenous Cultural and Artistic Traditions – <i>Jiya Biswas</i>

9.30am– 10.45am	5e	EFLU Hall 2	<i>Gendered Vegetalities II: Ecofeminism and Plants</i>	Becoming-Plant, Becoming-Body: Vegetal Subjectivity and the Aesthetics of the Body in Han Kang's <i>The Vegetarian</i> – <i>Labiba Alam</i>
Chair: Rakhee Moral (Cotton University)				Eco-Spiritual Feminism: Women, Land, and Sacred Ecologies in Mamang Dai's Works – <i>Meenakshi Kulkarni</i>
				'Woman is to nature as man is to culture': Examining the Statement from Eco-feminist Perspective with Reference to <i>The Palace of Illusions</i> by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni – <i>Anita Pde</i>
				Vegetal Liminalities: Re-imagining Surpanakha in Kavita Kané's <i>Lanka's Princess</i> – <i>Nancy Pangeijam</i>
9.30am– 10.45am	5f	EFLU Hall 3	<i>Botanical Knowledge Systems II: Ancient Traditions in India</i>	Understanding the Importance of Plants through the Vedantic Concept of <i>Prakriti</i> – <i>Sonum Khajuria</i>
Chair: Jyotirmoy Prodhani (North-Eastern Hill University)				Botanical Imagination in the Songs of Springtime Passion: Vegetal Bodies in Jayadeva's <i>Gitagovinda</i> – <i>Madhumanti Sengupta and Dinesh K. Nair</i>
				Of Trees, Beings, and Lores: Botanical Imagination in Folk and Fairytales from India – <i>Himaxe Bordoloi and Kuruvella Babu Shankar Rao</i>
				Speculative Tradition of Radical Botany in the Tripuri Folktale of 'Chethuwang' – <i>Doli Debbarma</i>
9.30am– 10.45am	5g	EFLU Hall 4	<i>Postcolonialism, Embodiment, and the Plant Humanities</i>	Phytopoetics and Resistance: The Emergence of Plant Humanities in the Global South – <i>K. Preetham</i>
Chair: John C. Ryan (University of Notre Dame, Australia)				Rethinking 'Invasiveness': The Political Ecology of Plant Species in Colonial and Postcolonial India – <i>Bornali Sharma and Jintu Thakuria</i>

			Rooted Bodies: Gender, Violence, and Ecological Subjectivity from <i>Burhi Aair Xaadhu</i> to <i>The Vegetarian</i> – <i>Snigdha Deka</i>
			Fear of Contagion: Disease, Imperial Immunity and Death in the Tea Plantation in <i>Chameli Memsaab</i> – <i>Sriya Sarma</i>
10.45am– 11.00am	TEA BREAK AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL		
11.00am– 11.30am	KEYNOTE 5	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	The Floral Human: Towards A <i>puttinai</i> Philosophical Anthropology – <i>Nirmal Selvamony</i> (Chair: <i>John C. Ryan</i>)
11.35am– 12.05pm	KEYNOTE 6	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	An Apple’s Eye View of Time in Daniel Mason’s <i>North Woods</i> – <i>Patrycja Austin</i> (Chair: <i>Goutam Majhi</i>)
12.15pm– 1.30pm	SIXTH TECHNICAL SESSION 6A–6F		
12.15pm– 1.30pm	6a	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	<i>Global Literary Perspectives on Plants IV: Plantscapes in Print</i> Gestures toward Plant Vision: Filmic Considerations of Vegetal Perception – <i>Sarah Abbott</i> (online)
Chair: <i>Evander Price</i> (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen)			From Paint to Print: Early Modern Botanical Art and the Poetics of the English Countryside – <i>Sukanya Dasgupta</i>
			Arboreal Imaginaries in Contemporary Fiction: Trees as Witnesses, Story Tellers and Protectors of Human and More-Than-Human Life – <i>Teresa Botelho</i> (online)
			The Botany of Empire: Landscape and Colonial Discourse in Select Tibetan Travel Narratives of Frank Kingdon-Ward – <i>Paramita Das and Anup Kumar Dey</i>

12.15pm– 1.30pm	6b	NEHU OIA Hall	<i>Pre-Formed Panel: An Avant-garde Paradigm in Plant Humanities: Reconfiguring the Phytocritical Discourse</i>	Reading the Plant Gothic in Dawn Kurtagich’s <i>And the Trees Crept In</i> (2016) – <i>Aqsa Eram</i>
Chair: <i>Rishikesh Kumar Singh (Ecosophical Foundation for the Study of Literature and Environment, EFSLE)</i>				Coexistence or Control? Indigenous Plant-Human Relationships in Baiga Ethno Medicine and Environmental Imagination in <i>The Terraformers</i> – <i>Bharti Sahu</i>
				Ecology of Care: Reimagining Human-Plant Relationships in the Harry Potter Series – <i>Shubhanchhi Pandey</i>
12.15pm– 1.30pm	6c	NEHU R&D Hall	<i>Reading Janice Pariat and the Phyto-Fiction of Assam through a Vegetal Lens</i>	Relational Subjectivity and Vegetal Agency: Reinforcement of Symbiosis in Janice Pariat’s Eco-Narrative <i>Everything the Light Touches</i> – <i>Suman Luhach</i>
Chair: <i>Patrycja Austin (University of Rzeszów, Poland)</i>				From Darkness to Multiplicity: Mythopoesis and the Dieng’iei in Janice Pariat’s <i>Everything the Light Touches</i> – <i>Megan D. Nonglait</i>
				Other-than-Human Life Writing: Indigenous Epistemology and the Rejection of Colonial Taxonomy in Janice Pariat’s <i>Everything the Light Touches</i> (2022) – <i>Animesh Roy</i>
				Can the Forest Speak? : Navigating Environ(Mental) Health in the Contemporary Ecofiction of Assam, India – <i>Chandana Rajbanshi</i>
12.15pm– 1.30pm	6d	EFLU Hall 1	<i>Ecomusicology and Vegetal Life: Acoustic Landscapes</i>	<i>Kan Zotlang Ram Nuam: An Ecocritical Reading of Selected Mizo Songs of Rokunga</i> – <i>Nunchawii Hatlei and PC Laldingliani</i>

Chair: Namrata Pathak (North-Eastern Hill University)				Ecomusicology and Plant Culture in Assam: A Perspective from Popular Assamese Bihu Songs – <i>Pankaj Jyoti Gogoi</i>
				Garden in Your Songs: An Analysis of Plants in Select Assamese Songs – <i>Anansha Borthakur and Jyotirmoy Talukdar</i>
12.15pm–1.30pm	6e	EFLU Hall 2	<i>Sustainable Plant Ecologies: Culture, Care, and Conservation</i>	From Hearth to Heritage: Bio-Fuel as a Resilient Model of Sustainability in the Sundarbans Amidst the Modern Energy Crisis – <i>Asim Mondal</i>
Chair: Suktilang Majaw (North-Eastern Hill University)				Beyond Anthropocentrism: Reconceptualizing Veganism and the Rights of the Non-Human World – <i>Barnana Bhattacharjee</i>
				“U dei tang u piskot”: Piskot and the Everyday in the Khasi Hills – <i>Iairikynti Lyngdoh</i>
				Understanding Phytopoetics in Karbi Society through Totems and Taboos – <i>Mainu Teronpi</i>
12.15pm–1.30pm	6f	EFLU Hall 3	<i>Human-Plant Metamorphoses in Literature and Culture</i>	Queer Ecologies in South Asian Speculative Fiction: Exploring Phytomorphosis in Tasha Suri’s <i>The Jasmine Throne</i> – <i>Suraj Das</i>
Chair: Subashish Bhattacharjee (Munshi Premchand Mahavidyalaya, India)				Tree Time and Decomposing the Human: Temporality and Posthuman Entanglements in Sumana Roy’s <i>How I Became a Tree</i> – <i>Devabala Smitha</i>
				Vegetal Metamorphosis in Selected Assamese Folktales – <i>Anupom Kumar Hazarika</i>
				Plant Agency, Gender, and Stewardship in Subi Taba’s ‘Plant, Pig and Woman’ and Jean Giono’s ‘The Man Who Planted Trees’ – <i>Rikee Talukdar</i>
12.15pm–1.30pm	6g	EFLU Hall 4	<i>Plantaction, Poetics, and Performance</i>	Plantaction: Developing an Idea through Archive, Practice and Pedagogy – <i>Geetanjali Sachdev</i>

Chair: Sujoy Paul (Mekliganj College, India)		Vegetal Agency and the Digital Bloom: Media Ecology in <i>The Secret Garden</i> – <i>Shobhit Kandari</i>	
		Exploring the Construction(s) of Arjuna: A Critical Probing into Paritosh Sen’s <i>A Tree in My Village</i> – <i>Madhumita Roy</i>	
		The Perennial Closet: Botanical Ornamentalism and Performed Identity in <i>Fun Home</i> – <i>Subhangi Bahuguna</i>	
1.30pm–2.30pm	LUNCH HOUR AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL		
2.30pm–3.00pm	KEYNOTE 7	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	Plants, Conservation, and Activism in North-East India <i>Soumyadeep Datta (Chair: Patrycja Austin)</i>
3.05pm–4.35pm	ROUND TABLE	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	<i>Plant Relationalities: Pedagogies, Perspectives and Possibilities from India's Northeast</i> Chair: <i>Rakhee Moral (Cotton University)</i> Speakers: <i>Desmond Kharmaphwlang, Uma Shankar, Theyie Kreditsu, Marco Babit Mitri, and Rakhee Kalita Moral</i>
4.35pm–5.00pm	Closing Ceremony	NEHU Golden Jubilee Hall	Chairperson, Head, Department of English, Cotton University – <i>Prof. Rakhee Moral</i>
		Valedictory Speaker, Director, EFLU, Shillong Campus – <i>Prof. Mousumi Guha Banerjee</i>	
		GPHN President and Incoming Vice-President – <i>Goutam Majhi and Patrycja Austin</i>	
		Vote of Thanks	
5.00pm–5.30pm	VALEDICTORY TEA AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL		

5.30pm–
6.30pm

CULTURAL PROGRAMME II AT NEHU GOLDEN JUBILEE HALL

DAY IV

Sunday, 10 May 2026, Field Trip

9am–4pm