Utilization of e-resources in Agriculture Education

PARMEST VISHNU KUMAR SHARMA
Librarian, Homoeopathy University, Jaipur (Rajasthan), India
Email: parmestvishnu@gmail.com

Abstract

India is an agriculture Dominant country, and basic GDP of India's economy is based agriculture. For advanced and excellent agriculture practice, it is necessary that agricultural education should be advanced, progressive and excellent. Agricultural education in India has been excellent since ancient times. Due to this, its information sources have their own special importance in order to provide information to students, professors, researchers and scientists for excellent education in agro-forestry and related fields. All possible efforts related to the use of e-information resources are made by the librarians, as a result of this excellent agricultural education research is being done in India. In agro-forestry and related subjects, the use of e-information sources, e-repository, agricultural fund, Aches' Agricola, agricultural education, etc. has yielded improved results.

Introduction

Knowledge, science and technology have greatly influenced human life, in which information technology has played the most important role. Information technology has made the whole earth well connected, due to which the people from one part of world can communicate to other part easily who are sitting several thousand miles away. Therefore, information technology has become a symbol of power and development today. Information technology cannot be imagined without computer, internet & mobile.

Computer has brought a revolution in the field of knowledge and science. The use of computer is becoming a necessity in all walks of life. The combined effort of computer, internet and information is given the name of e-information, the information available in the library from these e-information sources is being used anywhere at any time, thus information from e-information sources as compared to printed information sources. Recovery is more rapid. This is the reason why most of the educational libraries are including these e-information sources in their collections. In the era of current information explosion, e-information sources are being used like weapons for information retrieval. Like all other subject areas, the libraries of higher educational institutions of agricultural science and its allied subject areas are playing their important role for the availability of e-information sources and information retrieval. Venkanna, (2018) in his study found that digital libraries are important to wait for the opportune time to take advantage of the resources. Using the Internet and its resources for providing information services only requires re -orientation of traditional skills of Medical Librarianship. With the available infrastructure in the medical education we can make a beginning in exploiting the digital library resources on the internet for better and newer services. The digitized media is a supportive too, for searching and locating the information faster to the targeted end users. Mishra (2017) study discussed a functional Approach to Digital Library in India. They focused about concept, core elements of digital library. Singh and Satija (2016) Explained the policies related to information search behaviour of agricultural scientists of the Agricultural Research Institute of Punjab Agricultural University and about 72.05% agriculture scientists are completely dependent on information collection from libraries. Important place of information gathering for subject journals It is believed that here

this information believes that agronomists want to get information from their new sources regularly for their different work, for which they also use informal medium of information. Ahirwal (2018) studied the role of agricultural university librarians in his article e-Usability of information sources. The types of e-information sources, benefits, functions of agricultural librarians and how e-information sources can be promoted by them have been described in detail.

Objective of the study:

The main objective of the study areó

*Study of availability of electronic information sources in agricultural science and related subjects.

*To study information technology and technology available in agricultural universities.

*To study the electronic sources and resources of agricultural science and related subjects and their utility.

*Study of the role of agricultural university librarians in the use of electronic information sources.

Methodology

The conceptual & textual information related to the present study was collected from primary & secondary sources of information such as Text-books, National & International research papers, Agricultural Institutional website for science and allied subjects have also been visited

Agricultural Science and Electronic Information Sources

Agricultural science is an ancient word, under which all agriculture related business like animal husbandry, botany, veterinary science and all primary business are included, information in electronic information sources is in electronic format, which can be used anytime anywhere with the help of basic electronic resources. Electronic information sources available in agricultural science Following is the use of which farmers, professors, researchers and scientists get advanced information

1. Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture

Popularly known as CeRA is an e-Consortium of Agricultural Libraries under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES) Libraries. Established in November 2007, the Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) is the first of its kind for facilitating 24x7 online accesses of select journals in agricultural and allied sciences to all researchers, teachers and students, policy planners, administrators and extension specialists in NARS through IP

authentication. The 152 Consortium members consist of ICAR institutes/NRCs/Directorate/Project Directorates/National Bureau etc. and State Agricultural Universities. CeRA is now the most sought after online platform by scientists/ teachers in NARS for literature search for their professional pursuit. To put it in a nutshell, CeRA acts like a catalyst to enhance agricultural research, education and extension activities of NARS institution in achieving excellence and setting high standards in output and service to the society. After the completion of NAIP project, CeRA is entrusted to ICAR ó DKMA from July 2014 onwards

2. Krishi Prabha

Krishi Prabha is a full-text electronic database of Indian Agricultural Doctoral Dissertations submitted by research scholars to the 45 State/Deemed Agricultural Universities during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2006. This database, listing about 10500 Dissertations, has been created by Nehru Library, Ch. Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar with financial support from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi under its National Agricultural Innovation Project.

3. Krishikosh

Krishikosh is a versatile open access digital repository catering to the needs of Indian National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES) and has architecture of centralized hosting (at ICAR-IARI, Pusa, New Delhi) of content but decentralized management. Krishikosh is repository of knowledge in agriculture and allied sciences, having collection, institutional publications, technical bulletins, project reports, thesis, and various documents spread all over the country in different libraries of Research Institutions and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs). As decided by competent authority the item under this repository can only be viewed in viewer, but could not be downloaded. The responsibility for authenticity, relevance, accuracy, copyright and IPR issues of these contents rests with respective organization from where the contents are sourced. Krishikosh repository has no responsibility or liability for these contents. Every effort is made to keep this repository up and access smoothly to the end users.

Conclusion

E-technology along with library in agricultural education has brought unprecedented changes, with the help of which the latest discoveries are brought to

the glory of the whole world and the retrieval of information from e-information sources becomes more rapid. With the use of information technology in agricultural extension, there is a possibility of more research. Conclusion In a vast country like India, where agriculture is being adopted as a form of employment, information technology has a special role in the field of agricultural expansion and agricultural science will be greatly advanced with the electronic information sources of agricultural science mentioned above.

References

Ahirwar (2018). Role of Librarians of Agricultural Universities in Utilizing E-Information Sources 3(4), pp. 216-223. Retrieved 13 April 2022, from https:// ir.govtscience collegedurg.ac.in/IRDOCUMENT/7.pdf

https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/25563/1/ Unit-7.pdf

https://www.icar.org.in/content/consortium-e-resources-agriculture- cera#:~:text=Consortium%20for%20e%2 DResources%20in%20 Agriculture%20(popularly %20known%20as%20CeRA, Education%_20 System%20(NARES)%20Libraries.

ICAR website, Retrieved 25 April 2022, from. http:// www.icar.org.in

Krishi kosh, Retrieved 25 April 2022, from.https:// krishikosh.egranth.ac.in/

KrishiPrabha (e-Theses) Retrieved 25 April 2022, from. https://tlsgroup.co.in/hau/thesis.html

Papy, Fabrice (2008), Digital Libraries, pp.56-61, Ist Ed., Viley Publication, UK.

Shiri, A. (2003). Digital library research current development & trends. library review 52(5):pp. 198-202.

Singh, K.P. and Satija, M. P. (2007). Information seeking behaviour of agricultural scientists with particular reference to their information seeking strategies. Annals of Library and Information Studies, 54,213-220. Retrieved 18 April 2022 , from http://hdl.handle.net/ 123456789/3240.

Venkanna, E. (2018). Perspectives of digital libraries in medical education. International Journal of Advance Research and Innovative Ideas in Education,4(1):pp.235-240.

www.digitallibrary.tulane.edu.