

DROSOPHILA STOCK CENTRE - A NATIONAL FACILITY

Drosophila Stock Centre – A National facility is a “Pride possession” of the Department of Studies in Zoology, University of Mysore. Having recognized the long history and the strength of the ongoing Drosophila research in the department, DBT had awarded funds to Professor H.A.Ranganath to establish this national facility for Drosophila stocks, in 1990. The founder team had Dr. S.N.Hegde, Dr. S.R.Ramesh & Dr. V.Vasudev as coordinators. Envisaging its importance, subsequently University of Mysore has taken over the establishment with the approval of Karnataka State Government.

The centre houses about 2000 live stocks of Genetic strains and about 50 Species of *Drosophila*, procured from research labs and institutes of different parts of the world, which are maintained from last 30 years. The stock centre is functioning as a resource centre to provide these genetic strains for research and teaching purposes to all the life science departments of the campus, large number of Undergraduate and Post graduate colleges, and several research institutes of the country.

Stock centre also owns the responsibility of conducting periodical workshops and hands on training programs on basic and advanced aspects of - using Drosophila in teaching and learning Biology. **Strengthened with faculty and the technical staff, DSC on an average caters 1600 stock requests, educational visits (UG & PG) including up to 1500 students / teachers, hands on training for nearly 30 candidates annually, apart from the workshop participants.** The centre has been providing interactive platform for the researchers through national conferences – “**Drosophila meeting**” (1 to 6). Researchers also visit and use the facility to conduct short term collaborative Drosophila based projects.

Motto: “We promote and support the use of Drosophila at all levels of teaching and research”