

# Muna Thapa

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## SUMMARY

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Bachelor of Science in Agriculture graduate (GPA 3.38) with research experience in crop yield, pest management, and Agrometeorological indices with climate change adaptation strategies. Conducted and submitted studies on rapeseed and potato to peer-reviewed journals and presented findings at international conferences. Skilled in data analysis (R-Studio, SPSS), scientific writing, and experimental design, with practical experience in IPM, disease diagnostics, and field trials. Awarded scholarships and research grants, with proven leadership and multilingual communication in English, Nepali, and Hindi.

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## EDUCATION

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### **Bachelor of Science in Agriculture**

**2019-2022**

*Far Western University, School of Agriculture, TIKAPUR, KAILALI*

GPA: 3.38/4.0

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## AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

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**Merit-Based Scholarship** – Awarded full tuition for B.Sc. Agriculture as a top-ranked entrance examinee.

**National Blog Competition Winner** – “*Way Forward for Nepalese Agriculture: Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Sustainability*” organized by DELTA & YPARD Nepal (June 2019).

**Research Mini-Grant Recipient** – Funded by the **Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA), 2022** for research on *agrometeorological indices of rapeseed under climate change adaptation measures in Western Terai, Nepal*.

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## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

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- Thapa, M., Amgain, L. P., & Chaudhary, M. (2025). Growth, Productivity and Profitability of Different Cultivars of Potato (*Solanum tuberosum L.*) with and without Straw-Mulch in Dadeldhura, Nepal. *Nepalese Horticulture*, 19(1), 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.3126/nh.v19i1.86415>
- Paper Presentation: “*Growth and yield performance of different potato (*Solanum tuberosum L.*) varieties with and without straw-mulch in Dadeldhura, Nepal*” at 1st Undergraduate Symposium on Research, Practices, and Seminar – Far Western University, Nepal (August 2023).
- Research Mini-Grant Recipient – Funded by the Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA), 2022 -*Evaluation of major agrometeorological indices of rapeseed grown with climate change adaptation measures under Western Terai agroecology of Nepal*
- Oral Presentation: *Evaluation of major agrometeorological indices of rapeseed* at 4th NAPA Biennial International Scientific Conference, USA (Virtual, May 2024).
- Oral Presentation: *Evaluation of major agrometeorological indices of rapeseed* at World Congress on “Climate Change and Its Effects (CCIE-2025)”, (6–8 September 2025), at Central College, Kathmandu, Nepal.

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## SKILLS

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### *Technical & Software:*

Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), R-Studio, SPSS, ArcGIS, Canva

### *Research & Academic:*

Proposal writing, report writing, presentation, data analysis, scientific writing

### *Field Skills:*

- Plant Propagation & Techniques: Proficient in seed germination, vegetative propagation (cutting, grafting, layering), media preparation, potting, and repotting.
- Disease Diagnosis & Management: Symptom identification, pathogen isolation, and identification.
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) & Pollination: Includes emasculation and pollination techniques in wheat and mustard.
- Crop Measurement & Pruning: Field measurement (plant height, number of leaves, branches, stem, yield, plant biomass) and tree/shrub pruning techniques.
- Greenhouse & Post-Harvest Management: Climate control, soil and water management, post-harvest handling, grading, sorting, and cold storage operation.

### *Laboratory Skills:*

- Laboratory Techniques: Proficient in microscope handling for cellular examination, insect classification and dissection (including internal structures, organs, and reproductive systems), and titratable acidity (TA) testing of lime.
- Pathogen & Microbial Analysis: Disease sample plating and diagnosis, fungal spore isolation, bacterial isolation, culture, streaking, and isolation from diseased samples.
- Fruit Ripening & Specialized Methods: Artificial ripening of banana using ethephon.

### *Interpersonal & Leadership:*

Teamwork, Leadership, Networking, Communication

### *Languages:*

English (Advanced), Nepali (Native), Hindi (Fluent)

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## TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

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### *Research & Data Analysis*

- *Statistical Computation and Data Analysis Using R-Studio* – CARE Kathmandu (July 2023).
- *Framework for Data Collection and Analysis* – University of Maryland (Online).
- *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper (Project-Centered Course)* – École Polytechnique (Online)
- *Introduction to Calculus* – University of Sydney (Online).
- *Decision Support System for Agrotechnology Transfer (DSSAT)* – FAO & Tribhuvan University (August 2025)

### *Agricultural Practices & Technologies*

- *Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) & Research Methodology* – Far Western University, Nepal (April 2022)
- *Green Grain Storage Technologies for Developing Countries* – Ministry of Commerce & Henan University of Technology, China (July 2025)
- *Environment and Biodiversity Conservation Leadership* – Forest Action Nepal (March 2024)

### *Professional Development*

- *Project Proposal Development and Management* – YPARD Nepal
- *ARC-GIS for Agricultural Applications* – YPARD Nepal
- *Basic Excel* – YPARD Nepal
- *Google Tools for Professional Use* – Green Rangers (October 2020)
- *3rd APEC Seminar on Digitalization & Innovation in Food Supply Chains* – Academy of National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration, Hefei, China (July 2025)

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## **EXPERIENCES**

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### **Nepal Development Research Institute, Sanepa, Lalitpur**

Research Assistant

(October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 –Present)

- Conducted comprehensive literature reviews on Nepal's large cardamom sector, analyzing production systems, market demand, export patterns, and price mechanisms to generate evidence-based insights for project reporting.
- Provided research and administrative support across the Livelihoods and Food Security thematic area, contributing to ongoing projects, team meetings, and collaborative activities under the supervision of project and thematic leads.
- Supported in overall research, assisted in field surveys, data cleaning, transcribing and translation of qualitative data and documentation in Safe Migration and Integration of Food Safety and Nutrition in Nepal

### **Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project, PIU- DADELDHURA**

*Agriculture Intern*

(31<sup>st</sup> Jan – 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023)

- Participated in the identification and management of **Citrus Greening Disease (HLB)** in Sweet Orange Orchards.
- Sample preparation for PCR test for Citrus Greening Disease.
- Training on the Application of Plastic Mulching for Potato and Soybean Cultivation Provided to farmers.
- Investigation of Potato **Powdery Scab** Management in Infected Soil Using Diverse Biological and Chemical Treatments.
- Varietal evaluation, morphological characterization and preference analysis of potato genotype.
- Investigation on effect of Seed Tuber Size on Growth and Yield of Potato (*Solanum Tuberosum L.*) Variety Desiree.
- Investigation on effect of different organic manure in growth and yield of potato (Desiree).

- Attended Training on Integrated Pest Management Practices for Potato.

### **Dynamic Mountain Organic Agro Company Pvt. Ltd**

Farm Manager

(July, 2024- September, 2025)

- Supervising farm workers, ensuring their tasks were completed effectively and safely.
- Overseeing daily farm operations, including irrigation, fertilization, and harvesting activities.
- Monitoring crop health and implementing pest and disease control measures.
- Keeping detailed records of yields, weather patterns, and resources utilization.
- Ensuring compliance with local regulations and promoting sustainable farming practices

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### **ACADEMIC PROJECTS & RESEARCH**

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- Detailed study of morphology, biology, and ecology of prevalent pests and diseases.
- Fungal growth in Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA): Study on Alternaria and mushroom (*Agaricus bisporus*) cultivation on rice straw substrate.
- Business report preparation for Agri-Enterprise Learning and Development.
- Accelerating Genetic Gain in Rice through varietal trials (Spring Rice 120-day Trial).
- Study on the impact of Rhizobium seed inoculation on yield and quality of forage and seed in Berseem Clover (*Trifolium alexandrinum L.*)

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### **LEADERSHIP & MEMBERSHIPS**

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- **Local Director**, IAAS Nepal, FOA Tikapur (2020–2021)
- **Campus Director**, Hult Prize On-Campus Program, Far Western University (2021–2022)
- **Reporting Head**, Hult Prize On-Campus Program (2020–2021)
- **Chairperson**, IAAS LC FOA Tikapur Local Congress (2022)
- **Local Representative**, Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD) Nepal (2020–2023)
- **Member**, Youth Council in Action for Nation (2020–2021)

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### **REFERENCES**

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#### **Lal Parsad Amgain (Ph.D.)**

*Professor - Department of Agronomy*

*Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science(IAAS), TU  
Kathmandu, Nepal*

*Cell: +977- 9851219516*

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#### **Mrs. Laxmi Bhandari**

*Assistant Professor- Department of Agronomy, Far  
Western University, Tikapur-01, Kailali*

*Email: [laxmi.bhandari@fwu.edu.np](mailto:laxmi.bhandari@fwu.edu.np)*