



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION AND DEAN AGRICULTURE  
Dr. PANJABRAO DESHMUKH KRISHI VIDYAPEETH  
KRISHI NAGAR, AKOLA - 444 104 (M. S.)

No. DN (Agri.)/TO/Plagiarism/ 63 /2026

Dated: 06/05/2026

## C I R C U L A R

**Subject: Mandatory Use of Drillbit Anti-Plagiarism Checker for Ph.D./PG Thesis Submission**

The University Grants Commission (*Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions*) Regulations, 2018 (hereafter referred to as UGC Anti-Plagiarism Regulations) came into effect on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018. As per the directives issued by the Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi, vide letter No. D.PS/DDG (EDG)/IAUA/2019 dated June 17, 2019, the matter was discussed in the Steering Committee meeting of CeRA organized by DKMA. It was resolved that ICAR should adopt the UGC regulations in this regard.

This is an important issue for agricultural universities as well. ICAR has adopted most of the UGC regulations as they directly contribute to quality improvement in higher education.

Accordingly, to prevent scientific misconduct, including plagiarism in research work and academic writing, Dr. PDKV, Akola has decided to adopt and implement the University Anti-Plagiarism Policy, which was approved by the Academic Council in 2021 and is applicable within its jurisdiction.

Whereas the assessment of academic and research work done leading to the partial fulfilment for the award of degrees at Masters and Research level, by a student or a faculty or a researcher or a staff, in the form of thesis, dissertation and publication of research papers, chapters in books, full-fledged books and any other similar work, reflects the extent to which elements of academic integrity and originality are observed in various relevant processes adopted by the University;

Now, therefore, all Ph.D. & PG scholars are hereby informed that, in accordance with the University's academic integrity and research ethics guidelines, the use of the *Drillbit Anti-Plagiarism Checker* is now *mandatory* prior to the submission of the Ph.D./ PG theses.

The University Library, Dr. PDKV, Akola is equipped with the Drillbit plagiarism detection software, and access to the system has been provided to the *Student's Advisory Committee (SAC)* for use by all registered students.

Every Ph.D./M.Sc. scholars must ensure that their thesis is screened using the Drillbit plagiarism detection system and that a Similarity Report is generated. The final thesis will be accepted for evaluation only when accompanied by the official plagiarism report indicating compliance with the permissible similarity limits prescribed by the University and regulatory bodies.

**Key Instructions:**

1. Students must submit the *Drillbit Similarity Report* duly verified and signed by the *Chairman of Student's Advisory Committee (SAC)*.

2. Any thesis submitted without the required plagiarism report will be *returned without review*.
3. Scholars are advised to check their work thoroughly and make necessary corrections before the final submission.
4. Access to the Drillbit software is available through the University Library. For assistance, students may contact the respective departmental SAC.
5. Plagiarism report must be certified / verified by the Research Guide.

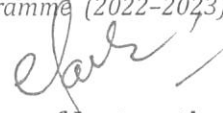
All Post Graduate students are requested to adhere strictly to these guidelines to maintain the integrity and quality of research at our University.

### Prevention of Plagiarism:

An institutional mechanism should be in place to check the plagiarism. The students must be made aware that manipulation of the data/plagiarism is punishable offenses with serious consequences. *The certified report of Plagiarism should be appended in the Rough bound thesis.*

Master's Degree	Doctoral Degree
Plagiarism Check report to be appended in the thesis <b>similarity should be less than 20%</b> except Review of Literature and Material Methods Chapter. <b>The Report should be counter signed by the Chairman SAC.</b>	Plagiarism Check report to be appended in the thesis <b>similarity should be less than 10%</b> except Review of Literature and Material Methods Chapter. <b>The Report should be counter signed by the Chairman SAC.</b>

As per the *Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate Degree Programme (2022-2023), State Agricultural Universities of Maharashtra, Rule No. 65 (p. 57).*

  
**Director of Instruction &  
 Dean, Faculty of Agriculture  
 Dr. PDKV, Akola**

**Copy fwcs to:** The Dean, Faculty of Agril. Engg./Horticulture, Dr. PDKV, Akola.

### Copy to:

- 1) The Associate Dean, PGI, Akola/CoA, Nagpur for information and necessary action.
- 2) The Head (All), Dept. of \_\_\_\_\_, Dr. PDKV, Akola for information and necessary action.
- 3) The Registrar, Dr. PDKV, Akola for information.
- 4) The Director, School of Agri Business Management, Nagpur for information and necessary action.
- 5) The Principal, Shri. Shivaji Agriculture College, Amravati for information and necessary action.
- 6)  The University Librarian, Dr. PDKV, Akola for information and necessary action.
- 7)  The Dy. Registrar (Acad.), Dr. PDKV, Akola for information and necessary action.
- 8)  The Officer In-Charge, ARIS Cell, Dr. PDKV, Akola to upload the copy on the University website.
- 9)  The T.S. to V.C, Dr. PDKV, Akola for favour of information of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. PDKV, Akola.

