

Dr Rakesh Sharma

Associate Professor



Specialization: Post Harvest Management and Value Addition
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Ongoing Research Projects

- All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Postharvest Engineering and Technology (PHET) funded by ICAR (Principal Investigator)
- Agroecological crop protection towards international co-innovation dynamics and evidence of sustainability (ACROPICS) funded by the European Research Executive Agency (REA) for four years w.e.f. Jan, 2024 (Co- Principal Investigator)
- Value Addition of Sand Pear: Waste to Worth Approach for Sustainable Livelihood of Rural Population funded by Department of Environment, Science & Technology (DEST), Himachal Pradesh, Shimla (Principal Investigator)
- Enhancing farm income through climate resilient Subhash Palekar Natural Farming System in horticulture ecosystems” funded by Department of Agriculture, Government of Himachal Pradesh (Co-Principal Investigator)
- Agro Incubation Center on Food Processing funded by ICAR-NAHEP-IDP (Activity In charge since June 2022).

Important Research Publications

- Sharma R, Gautam S, Verma SC, Sood G, Bharat NK, Thakur KS, Chandel A, Thakur US, Bishist R, Sharma S, Kumar P and Chandel RS. 2023. Influence of modified atmospheric packaging on shelf-life and quality of naturally grown tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.) stored under different conditions. *Brazilian Archives of Biology and Technology* **66**: e23220466.
- Banga S, Kumar V, Kumar S, Sharma R, Kaur R and Grover K. 2022. Process optimization for the development of fruit-based diet drink: a low-calorie approach. *Journal of Food Processing and Preservation* **46**(7): 1-10.
- Sharma R, Thakur A, Kumar S and Kumar V. 2022. Product optimization, storage quality and sensory acceptance of low calorie beverage developed from bitter gourd and kiwifruit. *Brazilian Archives of Biology and Technology* **65**: e22210371.
- Hamid, Thakur NS, Sharma R and Thakur A. 2021. Stability of mango drink enriched with micro-encapsulated pomegranate peel extract. *Indian Journal of Horticulture* **78**(3): 330-7.
- Sharma R, Burang B, Kumar S, Sharma YP and Kumar V. 2021. Optimization of apricot (*Prunus armeniaca* L.) blended Aloe vera (*Aloe barbadensis* M.) based low-calorie beverage functionally enriched with aonla juice (*Phyllanthus emblica* L.). *Journal of Food Science and Technology* **59**(5): 2013-24.
- Sharma R, Gautam S and Hamid. 2021. Effect of MAP on shelf-life of broccoli and cabbage grown under natural farming. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences* **91**(9): 1353-7.

- Sharma R, Sharma R and Thakur A. 2018. Development and evaluation of Vitamin C enriched low calorie Aloe vera-aonla blended functional squash using stevioside. *Indian Journal of Horticulture* **75**(2): 289-94.
- Sharma R, Joshi VK and Kaushal M. 2015. Effect of pre-treatments and drying methods on quality attributes of sweet bell-pepper (*Capsicum annum*) powder. *Journal of Food Science and Technology* **52**(6): 3433-9.
- Sharma R, Sharma PC, Rana JC and Joshi VK. 2015. Improving the olive oil yield and quality through enzyme-assisted mechanical extraction, antioxidants and packaging. *Journal of Food Processing and Preservation* **39**: 157-66.
- Sharma R, BB Lal and Sharma PC. 2007. Development of cost effective commercial method for enhancing yield and quality of olive oil. *Journal of Food Science and Technology* **44**(2): 133-7.

Books and manuals

- Raj D, Sharma R and Patel NL. 2016. Handbook of Food Science and Technology Vol-1 & 2, Studium Press (India) Pvt Ltd., New Delhi, 525p.
- Sharma R, Thakur NS, Joshi VK and Sharma RC. 2014. Technical manual on Processing of fruits and vegetables for value addition, Department of Food Science and Technology, Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan (HP), 106p.
- Raj D, Sharma R and Joshi VK. 2011. Quality Control for Value Addition in Food Processing, New India Publishing Agency, New Delhi, 324p.

Awards & Recognitions

- **Dr MR Thakur Memorial Scientist Award for Outstanding Contribution in Teaching and Research** in recognition of the leadership and contribution to the university in the field of Food Science and Technology during 39th Foundation Day of university on December 1, 2023
- **Visiting Scientist** at Central Coast Primary Industry, University of Newcastle, Ourimbah Campus, New South Wales, Australia for undertaking ICAR-NAHEP sponsored International Research Activity w.e.f. Feb 13-March 30, 2023
- **Member, Scientific Panel on Fruits and Vegetables and their products (including dried fruits and nuts)-SP-12** of the prestigious Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) for three years w.e.f March 2023 to Feb, 2026
- **Excellence in Research Publication Award-2021** conferred by Dr YSPUHF, Nauni, Solan (HP) during its Foundation Day held on December 1, 2021
- **Eminent Scientist Award-2020** conferred by the AEDS, UP, India during its International Web-Conference (NTAEBSD-2020) w.e.f. June 21-22, 2020
- **Certificate of Excellence in Reviewing- 2019 and 2020** conferred by Defence Life Science Journal, DRDO, New Delhi and International Journal of Pure and Applied Chemistry, West Bengal, India

- **Best Oral & Poster Presentation Award-2019** for the research paper during National Seminar held at Dr YSPUHF Nauri, Solan w.e.f. June 5-7, 2019
- **Certificate of Appreciation-2018** conferred by Dr YSPUHF, Nauri, Solan (HP) for meritorious services to the university during its Foundation Day held on December 1, 2018
- **Best Research Paper Award-2018** during 2nd National Conference on Seabuckthorn held at Shimla (HP) w.e.f. October 23-25, 2018
- **Best Poster Presentation Award-2016** for the research paper during National Conference held at ICAR-CIPHET Ludhiana (Pb) w.e.f. September 29-30, 2016
- **JS Pruthi Memorial Award -2011** for best research paper published in Indian Food Packer conferred by All India Food Processor's Association
- **ISHA Best Research Paper Award and Founder Fellow Award-2010** conferred by Indian Society of Hill Agriculture, Hill Campus, Ranichauri, Uttarakhand
- **Best Research Paper Award-2007** under the category Food Technology published in Journal of Food Science and Technology (JFST) conferred by Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (India), CFTRI, Mysore
- **NN Mohan Memorial Award-2005** for best research paper conferred by All India Food Processor's Association, New Delhi