

Dr Ajay Brakta
Assistant Professor

Specialization: Plant Virology
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Ongoing Research Projects

- Validation of prediction system for apple foliar diseases based on virtual weather stations funded by Bayer Crop Science Ltd. Maharashtra India for ₹ 27.14 lakh from Jan,2022 to Dec,2023 (Co-Principal Investigator).

Important Research Publications

- Bohra Y, Brakta A, Handa A and Thakur PD. 2019. Rapid detection of a capsicum infecting tospovirus -*Capsicum chlorosis virus* (CaCV) in asymptomatic weed reservoir hosts. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry* **8**(1):2013-2017.
- Phurailatpam S, Sharma JN, Brakta A, Sharma S and Sharma S. 2019. Morphological and molecular characterization of *Marssonina coronaria* causing premature leaf fall of apple in India". *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences* **8**(6):2762-2769.
- Brakta A, Thakur PD, Handa A and Sharma U. 2017. Prevalence of *Apple stem grooving virus*: biological, serological and molecular studies- An Indian perspective. *Plant Disease Research* **32**(1):105-114.
- Ajay Brakta, Anil Handa, P. D. Thakur. 2015. *Malus pumila* 'Spy 227' and *Apple stem pitting virus*: Graft incompatibility and epinasty. *Virus Disease* **26**:92-96.
- Brakta A, Bohra Y, Handa A, Thakur PD. 2015. First record of *Capsicum Chlorosis virus* from Himachal Pradesh and its molecular characterization. *Plant Disease Research* **29**(2):193-196.
- Thakur PD, Shivakoty P, Brakta A, Handa A and Bhardwaj N. 2014. Molecular evidence for natural occurrence of *Pepper Veinal Mottle Virus* (PVMV) on Hot Pepper (*Capsicum annuum* L.) in Himachal Pradesh. *Journal of Plant Disease Sciences* **9**(2):154-162.
- Brakta A, Thakur PD and Handa A. 2013. First Report of Apple Top Working Disease Caused by Viruses (ASGV, ACLSV, and ASPV) in Apple in India. *Plant Disease* **97**(7): 1001.

Awards & Recognitions

- Recipient of Best Oral Paper award in 3rd Global Conference "Plant Pathology for Food Security" held at Udaipur from 10-12 January, 2012.
- 3 months visiting fellowship to Networking Resource Centre in Biological Sciences- School of Biological Sciences, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-India (Feb-May 2012).
- Best poster paper award in 5th Indian Horticulture Congress "Horticulture for Food and Environment Security" held in Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana from 6-9 November, 2012.