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Specialization: Food Technology

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Ongoing Research Projects

- Value Addition of Sand Pear: Waste to Worth Approach for Sustainable Livelihood of Rural Population funded by Department of Environment, S&T (DEST) Himachal Pradesh, Shimla (Co-PI).

Important Research Publications

- Thakur A, Thakur NS and Kumar P. 2017. Preparation of *Myrica nagi* (Box myrtle) drink and effect of storage temperature on its quality. *Journal of Applied and Natural Science* **9**(4): 2137-42.
- Thakur A, Thakur NS, Hamid, Chauhan M and Sharma C. 2020. Comparison of quality of *anardana* (dried arils) prepared in mechanical cabinet and solar tunnel drier from wild pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.) fruits procured from different locations of Himachal Pradesh, India. *Journal of Applied and Natural Science* **12**(2): 71-8.
- Thakur A, Thakur NS, Hamid and Gautam S. 2020. Effect of packaging on phenols, flavonoids and antioxidant activity of dried wild pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.) arils prepared in solar tunnel drier. *Annals of Phytomedicine* **9**(2): 197-205.
- Hamid, Thakur NS, Thakur A and Kumar P. 2020. Effect of different drying modes on phenolics and antioxidant potential of different parts of wild pomegranate fruits. *Scientia Horticulturae* **274**: 1-15.
- Hamid, Thakur NS and Thakur A. 2020. Microencapsulation of wild pomegranate flavedo phenolics by lyophilization: effect of maltodextrin concentration, structural morphology, functional properties, elemental composition and ingredient for development of functional beverage. *LWT – Food Science and Technology* **133**: 1-11.
- Thakur A, Thakur NS, Hamid and Gautam S. 2021. Effect of packaging on phenols, flavonoids and antioxidant characteristics of mechanical cabinet dried wild pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.) arils. *Journal of Applied and Natural Science* **13**(1): 101-109.
- Thakur NS, Aarti, Thakur A, Attri S, Hamid and Gautam S (2021). Studies on storage quality evaluation of drink prepared from *Rhododendron* (*Rhododendron arboreum* Sm.) flowers extract. *Annals of Phytomedicine* **10**(1): 263-276.
- Sharma C, Thakur NS, Thakur A, Hamid and Bhatt K. 2022. Comparative evaluation on drying of pomegranate arils for production of *anardana*. *Indian Journal of Horticulture* **79**(1): 116-23.
- Hamid, Thakur NS, Sharma R, Sharma YP, Gupta RK, Rana N and Thakur A. 2022. Phenolics from underutilized wild pomegranate fruit flavedo: extraction, quantification, hierarchical clustering, antibacterial properties, HPLC, SEM analysis and FT-IR characterization. *South African Journal of Botany* **145**: 85-94.
- Gangta R, Thakur NS, Hamid, Gautam S and Thakur A. 2023. Optimization of pre-drying treatment and drying mode for reducing browning to produce shelf stable fructooligosaccharide rich yacon (Ground Apple) powder. *South African Journal of Botany* **157**:96-105.

Awards & Recognitions

- **Best Poster Presentation Award-2021** for paper presented at International e-Conference on “Postharvest Disease Management and Value Addition of Horticultural Crops” organized by ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India on August 18-20, 2021 at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India
- **Young Scientist Award-2021** for innovative research work done in the field of Horticulture on the occasion of 4th Plantica Plant Science Research Award- 2021 organized by Association of Plant Science Researchers (APSR), Plantica Foundation on 20 June, 2021
- **University Gold Medal** for Highest Overall Grade Point Average of 8.78/10.00 during Doctor of Philosophy (College of Horticulture) in the year 2017-18 on the occasion of 10th Convocation held on March 5, 2020 at Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, India
- **Chiranjit Parmar Distinguished Publication Awards in Wild Fruits-2018** for best thesis (PhD) by Society for Advancement of Human and Nature, Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan 173230 Himachal Pradesh
- **Himotkarsh Gold Medal-2018** for first position in Ph.D. programme in all the disciplines of College of Horticulture (2014 batch) by Himotkarsh Sahitya Sanskriti avam Jankalyan Parishad, Una, 174303 Himachal Pradesh
- **Outstanding student award-2017 (PhD)** at Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan, 173230 Himachal Pradesh
- **Chiranjit Parmar Distinguished Publication Awards in Wild Fruits-2014** for best thesis (MSc) by Society for Advancement of Human and Nature, Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan 173230 Himachal Pradesh