

Dr. Ashok Kumar Thakur

Senior Scientist



Specialization: Seed Technology

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Ongoing Research Projects

- ICAR mega seed project on Seed production of agricultural crops and fisheries (Co-Principal Investigator)
- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Govt. of India - Popularization of cultivation of spices in H.P. (Co-Principal Investigator)
- Production of Quality Seed of Vegetable Crops for Distribution to Farmers of Tribal Area to Enhance Crop Productivity under Natural Farming, Tribal Dev Dept., MoTA, GOI (Co-Principal Investigator)

Important Research Publications

- Kumar J, Bhardwaj DR, Thakur CL, Thakur AK, Sharma P and Tomar S. 2025. Land use impacts on soil aggregation and carbon storage in the dry temperate himalayas: strategies for sustainable ecosystem management. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*. **27** (8).
- Bhandari DP, Sharma U, Sharma M, Thakur AK, Kumar A. 2024. First report of *Nectria dematioides* causing European canker of apple in India. *Journal of Phytopathology*. **172** (3): 1-3.
- Kumar A, Kumar R, Thakur AK, Bhandari DP, Deepika and Gautam N. 2024. Studies on growth, flowering, fruiting and quality attributes of different apple cultivars (*Malus x Domestica* Borkh) under high density plantation in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh, India. *Plant Archives* **24**(1):387-394.
- Deepika, Thakur AK, Kumar A, Gautam N, Manju Devi and Bandana. 2024. Effect of Biozyme on yield and quality of Apple. *Plant Archives*. October **24**(2):794-96.
- Kumar A, Thakur AK, Bhandari DP, Budhi Ram and Neg D. 2023. Evaluation of Aquafert as a foliar fertilizer on apple cv Royal Delicious. *Plant Archives*. **23**(1): 156-159.
- Kumar L, Verma SC, Sharma PL, Dutt B, Thakur AK. 2018. Essential oils as grain protectants against pulse beetle (*Collosobruchus chinensis* L.) infecting pea seeds. *Indian Journal of Entomology*. **80**(2):239-243.
- Kumari M, Verma SC, Bhardwaj SK and Thakur AK. 2017. Impact of elevated CO₂ and temperature on quality and bio-chemical parameters of bell pepper (*Capsicum annuum* L.) crop. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences*. **87**(2): 179-184.
- Sharma M, Thakur PD, Gupta D and Thakur AK. 2013. Identification of viruses and screening of summer squash (*Cucurbita pepo*) germplasm against viral disease under controlled conditions. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences*. **83**(4): 426-30.
- Shukla YR, Thakur AK and Joshi A. 2009. Effect of inorganic and bio-fertilizers on yield and horticultural traits in tomato. *Indian Journal of Horticulture*. **66**(2): 285-87.
- Thakur AK and Kohli UK. 2005. Studies on genetics of shelf life in tomato. *Indian Journal of Horticulture*. **62**(2): 163-167.
- Thakur AK, Kohli UK and Manish Kumar. 2004. Inheritance of resistance to bacterial wilt in tomato. *Indian Journal of Genetics and Plant Breeding*. **64**(1):79-80.

Varieties Developed

- Developed **Solan Bharpur**: an **OP variety** of bell pepper
- Developed **Solan Garima**: a **hybrid cultivar** of tomato
- Developed **Solan Sindhur**: a **hybrid cultivar** of tomato
- Introduced Mithi Phalli: a variety of edible podded peas

Books and Manuals

- Rana RK, Singh R, Thakur AK, Chahal VP and Singh AK (Eds). 2019. Contemplating agricultural growth through farmers' frugal innovations. ICAR-ATARI-1, Ludhiana, Punjab: 160p. (ISBN 978-81-941899-0-9)
- Nalwa, C., Thakur, A.K., Vikram, A., 2019. Manual on Cold Plasma Treatment of Seed: Seed enhancement in bell pepper. LAP, Germany. 101p. (ISBN: 9786200324535)
- Thakur AK and Mehta K. 2017. Manual on genuineness and purity testing of cultivars. Dr Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, India. 110p. (ISBN 978-93-5267-916-4)
- Maiti RK, Rodriguez HG, Ghosh B, Sarkar NC, Mandal D, Meena R, Thakur AK and Ramanjaneyulu AV (Eds). 2018. Research trends in bioresource management and technology. American Academic Press, USA. 408p. (ISBN 978-1-63181-981-0)
- Maiti RK, Rodriguez HG, Thakur AK and Sarkar NC (Eds). 2017. Applied botany. American Academic Press, USA. 236p. (ISBN 978-1-63181-866-0)
- Maiti RK, Kumari A, Thakur AK and Sarkar NC (Eds). 2016. Bioresource and stress management. Springer, Germany. 276p. (ISBN 978-981-10-0994-5)
- Dogra RK, Thakur DS and Thakur AK. 2014. Practical manual on crop improvement. Dr Y S Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, India. 98p. (ISBN 978-81-927930-9-2)
- Kanwar HS, Mehta DK, Thakur AK and Rana K. 2013. Beej prodyogiki (in Hindi). Dr Y S Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, India. 67p. (ISBN 978-81-927930-4-7)
- Thakur AK, Vikram A and Kohli UK. 2013. A manual on heterosis and diallel analysis- Half diallel mating in tomato. LAP, Germany. 138p. (ISBN 978-3-659-44150-9)

Awards & Recognitions

- Young Scientist Award (Ratikanta Maiti Foundation in 2013)
- Outstanding Professional Award and ISHA Founder Fellow Award (ISHA in 2011)
- Certified Crop Advisor (American Society of Agronomy in 2011)
- Best Editor Award (Ratikanta Maiti Foundation in 2017)
- Awarded University Merit Scholarship during M.Sc
- Attended the School of Science, Hawkesbury Campus of Western Sydney University, Richmond, New South Wales, Australia as Honorary Visiting Fellow w.e.f. 22 Feb to 30 Mar 2023 and successfully completed International Faculty Training Programme entitled "Enhancing Vegetable Production and Quality in Greenhouse and Open Field Conditions"