

Dr Usha Sharma
Senior Scientist



Specialization: Plant Pathology (Plant Virology)
Contact: +91 0177-2740261(O)
Mobile: +91 9418078973
E.mail: ushaanandsharma@rediff.com; ushampp@yspuniversity.ac.in

Ongoing Research Projects

- Development of Subhash Palekar Natural Farming (SPNF) Model in apple funded by State Department of Agriculture, Shimla, HP for ₹1.13 crores from 2019 to 2024 (Principal Investigator).
- Validation of prediction system of apple foliar diseases based on virtual weather station funded by BAYER India for ₹27.14 lakhs from 2022 to 2024 (Principal Investigator).
- Evaluation of new and brand name fungicides/ formulations against plant diseases (long term) funded by different pesticide companies for ₹ 68.00 lakhs (Collaborator).
- Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project (HP-HDP) Sub component "Pest Surveillance and Forecasting/Forewarning System of Horticulture Department funded by World Bank for ₹ 153.12 Lakh from 2017 to 2023 (Collaborator).

Important Research Publications

- Neelam K, Sharma U, Sharma S and Gupta B. 2022. Diversity and relative abundance of insect fauna of apple (*Malus domestica* Borkh.) in high density plantation. *Journal of Entomological Research* **46** (1): 158-2.
- Watpade [S](#), Mhatre PH, Pramanic KK, Shukla AK, Kumar J and Sharma U. 2022. Studies on white root rot of apple caused by *Dematophora necatrix*. *Indian Phytopathology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42360-022-00481-0>.
- Watpade [S](#), Kumar [R](#), Bhardwaj [P](#), [Pramanick](#) KK, Shukla [AK](#), [Baswaraj R](#), [Kumar J](#), [Sharma U](#), Vashisth [S](#) and [Verma S](#). 2021. Establishment of virus-free elite mother orchards of apple in the Trans-Himalayan region of India. *Indian Phytopathology* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42360-021-00412-5>.
- Sharma U, Watpade S and Gupta B. 2020. Economic losses due to infection by apple scar skin viroid in Himachal Pradesh, India. *Virus Disease* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13337-020-00625-8>.
- Watpade S, Baswaraj R, Pramanick KK, Sharma N, Handa A and Sharma U. 2013. Simultaneous detection of Apple Chlorotic Leaf Spot Virus and Apple Mosaic Virus in crab apples and apple rootstocks by duplex RT-PCR. *Scientia Horticulturae* **164**: 88-3.

- Walia Y, Kumar Y, Rana T, Bhardwaj P, Ram R, Thakur PD, Sharma U, Hallan V and Zaidi A. 2009. Molecular characterization and variability analysis of Apple scar skin viroid in India. *Journal of General Plant Pathology* **75**(4): 307-1.
- Tomar M, Thakur PD, Handa A, Sharma U and Jarial K. 2008. Serological detection of viruses infecting apple in Himachal Pradesh. *Indian Phytopathology* **62**(3): 404.
- Thakur PD, Handa A, Sharma U, Jarial K and Bhaik A. 2007. A phytoplasma associated disease causing degeneration of *Toona ciliata* – An important agroforestry tree in India. *Indian Journal of Agroforestry* **9**(1): 56-9.

Awards & Recognitions:

- Best Presentation award in International e- conference on Postharvest Disease Management and Value Edition of Horticultural Crops held on August 18-20, 2021 at ICAR- IARI, New Delhi, India.
- 2nd Best poster award for research paper in Global Potato Conclave held on January 28-31, 2020 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujrat, India.
- 2nd Best paper award in National symposium held on October 27- 28, 2017 at YSP University of Hort. & Forestry, Nauni, Solan, HP.