

Academic Profile of Pratiksha Kumari

Name : **Pratiksha Kumari**

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Field of specialization: Tissue Culture, Hybridization, Landscaping

Describe yourself : I would describe myself as a very determined and highly motivated person. I am very proud of being in the field of science and research. I take my job very seriously but I'm able to see things in perspective and believe I'm quite easy-going to work with. I'm an optimist rather than a pessimist – but I'm also a realist and I cope well when the going gets tough; I'm very good at finding solutions to problems. Above all, I would say I'm a positive and enthusiastic person.

Educational Qualifications	Degree	University/Institute	Marks obtained (%)
	B.Sc. (Ag)	Institute of Agricultural Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	82.0
	M.Sc. (Hort.)	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	88.4
	Ph.D. (Hort.)	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	88.9

Research Projects:	
M.Sc. (2012-2014)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> propagation of difficult-to-root bougainvillea cultivars
Ph.D. (2014 to till date)	Improvement in China aster [<i>Callistephus chinensis</i> (L.) Nees.] through hybridization and mutation

Achievements

- **All India Rank 4 in ICAR'S AIEEA-PG-2012.** (horticulture)(UR) (2012)
- Received ICAR-JRF fellowship for pursuing M.Sc. degree programme (from 2012 to 2014)
- Cleared National Eligibility Test (**NET**) in the discipline of floriculture in 2014 conducted by ASRB (ICAR), New Delhi which is recognized by UGC/CSIR .
- Got **Best poster presentation** award on- 'Micropropagation of difficult-to-root Bougainvillea cultivars Mahatma Gandhi and Refulgens' by the horticulture Society of India in 7th Indian Horticulture Congress on 'Doubling Farmers Income through Horticulture'. November 15-18, 2016.
- Got **first prize in poster presentation** on- 'Vertical farming prospects and challenges in india' at International Conference on Vertical Farming. 2-3 November 2015.
- Secured **All India Rank 16** in the UET-Ag BHU.(2008)
- A Ranked in **Top 10** of the batch in **1st** year of Graduation at Institute of Agricultural Science, Banaras Hindu University. (2008-2010)
- **1st** position in IARI-IIHR PhD Entrance test (Floriculture and Landscape Architecture)

Research papers published in Journals

1. **Kumari, P.**, Swaroop, K., Janakiram, T., Singh, S.K., Prasad, K.V. and Jain R. 2016. *In vitro* Sterilization, Rooting and Acclimatization of difficult-to-root Bougainvillea Cultivars. *International Journal of Bio-resource and Stress Management*,7(3): 412-419.
2. **Kumari, P.**, Swaroop, K., Janakiram, T., Singh, S.K., Prasad, K.V. and Jain R. *In-vitro* protocol for mass multiplication in bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea* sp) cv. Mahatma Gandhi and Refulgens. *Indian journal of agricultural sciences*, **86**(8): 1031–6.
3. **Kumari, P.**, Swaroop, K., Janakiram, T. 2017. *In vivo* propagation of difficult-to-root bougainvillea cultivars by air-layering. *Research on crops*, **18**(2)(June). (accepted)

Abstracts published in Conferences/Symposia/ Seminars/Workshops: (all)

4. **Kumari, P.**, Hembrom R. and Thaneshwari. 2015. Hanging Baskets: Because we are going vertical. International conference on vertical farming, 2nd and 3rd November 2015.
5. Thakur, N., Thaneshwari, Hemlata, Hembrom R. **Kumari, P.**, 2015. Vertical Gardening: A new concept for urban landscaping. International conference on vertical farming, 2nd and 3rd November 2015.
6. Hemlata, Rao, T. M., Yadav, I., **Kumari, P** 'Vertical farming prospects and challenges in india' at International Conference on Vertical Farming. 2nd and 3rd November 2015.
7. **Kumari, P.**, Swaroop, K., Janakiram, T., Singh, S.K., Prasad, K.V. and Jain R. Micropropagation of difficult-to-root Bougainvillea cultivars Mahatma Gandhi and Refulgens. 7th Indian Horticulture Congress on 'Doubling Farmers Income through Horticulture'. November 15-18, 2016. pp.256.

Popular articles published

- Horticulture: For a better tomorrow', in Souvenir- 'National Conference on Horticultural Education: Present and future prospects'. 24 September. 2016. IIHR, Bengaluru.
- 'Precision Agriculture' – ICAR-IIHR Students Newsletter. April- June. 2016. Vol 1.no 1.
- Bioplastic Containers for sustainable nursery production. ICAR-IIHR Students Newsletter. April- June. 2016. Vol 1.no 1.
- Moonlight Garden or Night-Scented Garden ICAR-IIHR Students Newsletter. Oct- Dec. 2016. Vol 1.no 3.
- Community Garden: New concept for food security and Healthy life. Oct- Dec. 2016. Vol 1.no 3.
- NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS POLICY-2016 Creative India-Innovative India: रचनात्मकभारत-अभिनवभारत. Oct- Dec. 2016. Vol 1.no 3.
- Lifesaver Plants in December issue, 2012 of 'Northeast Today' magazine.

Participation in Conferences/Symposia/ Seminars/Workshops:

1. Participated in the National Conference on fruit breeding in tropics and subtropics - an Indian perspective. IIHR, Bengaluru, India. 27-29 April, 2016.
2. Did poster presentation on –'Hanging baskets: Because we are going vertical' at International Conference on Vertical Farming
3. Participated in 3rd International symposium on "Phytophthora: taxonomy, genomics, pathogenicity, resistance and disease management", IIHR, Bengaluru, India. 9-12 September, 2015.
4. Participated in the National Meet on Distant Hybridization in Horticultural Crop Improvement Held at ICAR-IIHR.
5. Participated in the National Conference on 'Vartaman shaikshik chunaotiyana va suchana ka adhikaar' by Kashi Jansuchana foundation. 19 November. 2011.
6. Participated in 'Virocon 2016' International Conference on " Global Perspectives in Viral Diseases Management." IIHR, Bengaluru, India. 8-10 December, 2016.
7. Participated in 'National Conference on Horticultural Education: Present and future prospects'. 24 September. 2016. IIHR, Bengaluru.

Additional Roles

1. Served as student representative member in "Board of Studies" Panel, IARI-IIHR. Academic year 2014-15.
2. Worked as editor-in-chief of ICAR-IIHR Students Newsletter. Sept-Dec. 2016. Vol 3.

3. Worked as member of the editorial board of the students magazine- 'Pankhudi' at IARI (2012)

Extracurricular activities

1. Participated in 'Udghosh' annual sports meet at IARI (2012-2013)
2. Elementary course in Photography from BHU. (2010-11)

Trainings

1. Training program on "Computer Aided Design (CAD) for Landscaping " held at ICAR-IIHR. Bengaluru. September 7 -9, 2016.
2. Training program on "Hand Pollination Technique in Custard Apple Hybrid Arha Sahan" held at ICAR-IIHR. Bengaluru on 30th April, 2016.
3. On "Scientific Method of Lac Production, Processing and Utilisation" at Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) 03/05/2010-08/05/2010.

Other interests

1. Poetry, Script writing, Sketching, Painting
2. Anchoring in inter class cultural competition SRISHTI in 2009 and 2010 at Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University.

Expertise specific to the area of specialization:

1. Knowledge of media preparation, explant preparation, inoculation and other aspects of working in a tissue culture laboratory. Prepared protocols for *in vitro* multiplication of bougainvillea cultivars (as part of MSc program).
2. Practical understanding of hybridization methods and utility to obtain hybrid vigor in plants. Made hybrid crosses with 5 female and 3 pollen parents in China aster [*Callistephus chinensis* (L.) Nees.] (as part of PhD program) and obtained seeds.
3. Mutation breeding of China Aster [*Callistephus chinensis* (L.) Nees.].