

Bio-Data



Dr. Alka Singh

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Present Designation: *Principal and Dean*

ASPEE College of Horticulture,

Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari

I work with passion for strengthening education system with skill building and interactive approach, igniting interest and enthusiasm in the students along with steering research aiming at problem solving and applied technology benefiting the society in the horticulture sector.

Vision: To build up Horticulture college into a world class educational and research institution for excellence in horticultural science and technology, with emphasis on skill development, entrepreneurship, industry linkage and rural integration, contributing to the economic growth, nutritional security, environmental resilience and social development of the community.

KEY SKILL SETS

- Team leadership and management
- Organizational capacity building
- Administrative ability of meticulous execution of students' activities with skill based approach of learning
- Innovative thinking approach in research
- Critical project planning, execution and management
- Technical skills of writing, reviewing, editing and compilation

International Exposure: USA (Indo-US Fellowship-10 months)
Denmark (Conference paper- 5 days)

CORE COMPETENCIES

Protected cultivation of flowers, Breeding in ornamentals, Postharvest Technology, Value addition and Dry Flower Technology, Pot Plant Production technology, Soilless Cultivation, Flower Arts and Techniques (Ikebana /Cotemporary)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching:** B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D., since 2006 to date
- **Students guided as Major guide: 24** (14 M.Sc and 10 Ph.D)
- **Syllabus/Courses Revision**
 - **Revised Syllabus/ courses** as per fifth and sixth deans committee for UG and as per BSMA for PG (As convener of Floriculture subject for SAUs at Gujarat)
 - **Designed and Submitted 4 new courses** and revised existing courses for PG BSMA recommendations (approved by the National committee)
- **Strengthening of skill based teaching as MD and CEO of Experiential Learning Units under protected cultivation.**
- **Acted as paper setter/Moderator for GPSC examinations and ARS(Floriculture), ASRB**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Projects handled as PI (Plan/external funded/ other agency)

- A. **Development of DUS testing guidelines in Adenium, PPVFRA, GOI** (Sanctioned in 2024)
- B. **Experiential Learning Program** (ICAR) on Protected Cultivation of Hort. crops (Sanctioned in 2008)
- C. **Indo-US Science and Technology Fellowship Program** at University of California, CA, USA (2009-10): 10 months
- D. **Practical Training Centre** of Hi-Tech Horticulture for Horticultural Students (Plan project , sanctioned in 2005 to continue)
- E. **Advance Technology Centre of Soilless System** for Various Crops (Plan Project, 2015-cont.)

MAJOR RESEARCH FINDINGS

- **Standardized Pot plant production technology** for Adenium, Ferns, Aglaonema, moon cactus and Haworthia.
- **Standardized Protected cultivation of cut flowers-** in orchids, rose and gerbera
- **Breeding in Adenium-** Developed and released five varieties (**GAd1, GAd2, GNAd3 (Aabha), GNAd4 (Shobhita), GAd5 (Shashaank)**)
- **Breeding in succulents-** Released snake plant variety (**Gujarat Snake Plant 1**)
- **Standardized Dry flower technology** in rose, other flowers and local weeds
- **Functional gene analysis** through VIGS in ornamentals
- Standardized the **postharvest technology** in cut flowers
- **Tinting technique** in tuberose

Technologies released as recommendation for farming community: 24

Varieties released: 5 in Adenium, 1 Snake Plant

New Ventures: Plants for AQI, Edible flowers and value added floral products

MoU Signed for Research – 1 (PPVFRA, New Delhi)

MoU Signed for education – 1 (JNV, Tapi)

LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| A. Organized Seminars/Conference/Meet at National level | 09 |
| B. Organized Exhibitions based on Floriculture/Horticulture | 10 |
| C. Conducted Trainings for farmers (as Training Director) | 06 |
| D. Conducted Trainings for students (as Training Director) | 05 |
| E. Organized programs for students for skill development | 12 |
| F. Contribution in the asset creation/ Infrastructure development at the College : | |
| • Establishment of modified greenhouse structures for Horticulture | |
| • Modernization of laboratories and development of value addition lab in the department | |
| • Creation of Reading hall, recreational rooms, college parking, ornamental plant nursery | |
| • College bio-aesthetic planning though landscaping viz., creation of Strolling garden- <i>Kayuseketein</i> , zen garden, courtyard garden- <i>Tsuboniwa</i> , roof top garden, indoor gardens, stage decor aesthetics in various key events of University. | |
| • Handled campus beautification scheme for two years at Navsari Agricultural University | |

PUBLICATIONS

Research Papers	: 80 (10 with >6 NAAS rating)
Books + Booklets	: 24 +6
Teaching Manuals	: 10
Book Chapters (National Publisher with ISBN No)	: 16+4 (under print)
Popular articles in reputed National magazines	40
Lead paper	: 20
Folder	: 05
Presentations at outside the country	: 02 (Denmark and USA)
Lead talk within the country	50
Video documentary	: 24 (for students and farmers)
AD Scientific index rank at NAU	: #1 (Horticulture)

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Award by the University

- 1 **Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal for B.Sc (Hort), 2000**

Award by the State Academies/Societies

2. **Prof. J P Trivedi Award For Research on Dry Flower Technology** by Gujarat Association of Agricultural Sciences (GAAS), Ahmedabad-**2019**

Honours /Awards by Central Govt. Organisations/ Institutes e.g. ICAR, DST, DBT

3. **Indo-US Research Fellowship-2009-10** by Indo-US Research Forum and DST, New Delhi
4. **Financial grant awarded** for attending International Symposium at Denmark, 2008 by DST, New Delhi
5. **NAIP-International Training** Awarded for NARS scientists under NAIP, ICAR, 2009-10, could not avail it as same time Indo-US research fellowship.
6. **JRF and SRF -ASPEE Foundation for M.Sc research and Ph.D research**

Fellowships and Honours/ Awards by National Academies/ Societies

7. **Lotus purskar 2024**, Indian Society of ornamental horticulture
8. **Dr. Manmohan Attavar Gold Medal 2018** (Floriculture), Horticulture Society of India, New Delhi
9. **Fellowship Award, 2017 (Floriculture)** –Horticulture Society of Indian, New Delhi
10. **Fellowship Award, 2012** –Indian Society for Ornamental Horticulture, New Delhi
11. **Fellow of CHAI, 2013**- Confederation of Horticulture Associations of India, New Delhi
12. **Honorary Fellow of SHRD 2022**, Society for Horticultural Research and Development, Ghaziabad
13. **Fellow of ISHRD 2024** – PH-SHRD, Uttarakhand
14. **Distinguished scientist Award, 2019** Hi-tech Horticulture Society

Young Fellow/ Scientist, conference best Oral, posters award and others honours

15. **Young Scientist Award 2017**-By IJTA and Serial Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
16. **All India Best Publication Award 2017** by the Society for Advancement of Human and Nature, Nauni, Solan, HP.
17. **Honorable Mention Certificate for excellence in research**-2017- EET CRS and Fifth Academic Achievement Awards
18. **Young Fellow Award, 2006**, Society for Recent Development in Agriculture and S.V.B.P.U & T, Meerut, U.P
19. **Conference awards as best posters and oral presentations**-17 in different seminars/conferences