



Dr. Alka Singh

PhD Horticulture

Indo US Research Fellow (UC Davis, CA, USA)

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Youtube: Floratalk by Alka

Present Designation:

Dean and Principal
ASPEE College of Horticulture
Navsari Agricultural University
Navsari 396450, Gujarat

She joined as a faculty at the college in 2006, served as Head of the department of Floriculture and landscape Architecture and now has charge of Principal and Dean.

She works 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.

KEY SKILL SETS

- Ability of good student -interaction, motivation, involvement and skill based approach in teaching
- Organizational capacity building
- Team leadership and management
- Innovative thinking and approach in research
- Project Planning, Execution and Management
- Research and Development
- Technical writing, editing and compilation

CORE COMPETENCIES

Protected cultivation of flowers, Postharvest Technology, Value addition and Dry Flower Technology
Pot Plant Production technology, Soilless Cultivation, Flower Arts and Techniques (ikebana /Contemporary)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching** B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D., courses credits since 2006 to date
- **Students guided as Major guide in Floriculture and Landscape Architecture**
13 (MSc) and 7 (PhD)
- **Syllabus/Courses Design**
 - **Designed new courses** at PG level, approved at National level (BSMA)
 - **Revised Syllabus/ courses** as per fifth deans committee for UG (convenor for Floriculture subject (UG/PG level) for SAUs, Gujarat)
- **Strengthening of skill based teaching as MD of EL Unit**
- **Teaching/training manuals published: 10**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Project handled in-house/ external funded as PI

- A. **Experiential Learning Program**(ICAR)on Protected Cultivation of Hort. crops
- B. **Indo-US Science and Technology Fellowship Program** at University of California, CA, USA (2009-10): 10 months
- C. **Practical Training Centre** of Hi-Tech for Horticultural Students
 - State Govt. funded, sanctioned in 2005 to continue
- D. **Advance Technology Centre of Soilless System** for Various Crops,State Govt. funded , 2015-cont.



Major Research Findings

- **Breeding in Adenium**- developed and released 4 varieties (**G. Ad-1, G. Ad-2, GNAd3 and GNAd 4**) with novel colour and flower form and other promising hybrids developed are under evaluation.
- **Functional gene analysis** through VIGS in ornamentals
- **Protected cultivation of cut flowers**- Research with regard to cultivation practices including integrated nutrient management and varietal screening in rose and gerbera for green house under South Gujarat condition has been done.
- **Pot plant production technology** for Adeniums, *Euphorbia milii* and Haworthia for urban horticulture.
- **Dry flower technology** in rose and also in local weeds.
- Standardized the **postharvest technology** in different cut flowers

Recommendations made: 14

Varieties released at SVRC: 4 in Adenium

LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A. **Organized Seminars/Conference (as organizing Secretary/co-organizing secretary):** 5
- B. **Organized Exhibitions/Flower shows:** 8
- C. **Conducted Trainings on Florist and Protected Cultivation (as Training Director):** 3
- D. **Contribution in the Infrastructure Development at the College:**
 - Modernization of Laboratories and development of value addition lab in the department
 - Cold storage facility at the GH Complex
 - Establishment of Modified Greenhouse structures for cut flowers like rose, gerbera, orchids and pot plants
 - Ornamental plant nursery/medicinal plant nursery
 - Contribution in bio-aesthetic planning though landscaping like creation of Strolling garden, Sand garden, renovation of roof top garden, interiorscaping and informal gardens at different sites of the University campus

PUBLICATIONS

Research Papers:69

(NAAS rating 6 to 8: 8, NAAS rating 4 to 6: 28, Others: 33)

Books: 7

Proceedings/compendiums/ Reports: 11

Training manuals/Extension Bulletins/ Brochures: 17

Book Chapters (National Publisher with ISBN No): 17

Articles in reputed National magazines: 37



Presentations in International Conference outside the country: 2 (Denmark and US)

Lead talks in National/International conference within the country: 10

HONOURS AND AWARDS



- **Indo-US Research Fellowship-2009-10** by Indo-US Research Forum and DST, New Delhi
- **Prof. J P Trivedi Award For Research on Dry Flower Technology** by **GAAS, Ahmedabad-2019**
- **Dr. Manhmohan Attavar Gold Medal 2018** (Floriculture), Horticulture Society of India, New Delhi
- **Young Scientist Award 2017**-By IJTA and Serial Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
- **All India Best Publication Award 2017** by the Society for Advancement of Human and Nature, Solan, HP.
- **Young Fellow Award, 2006**, Society for Recent Development in Agriculture, Meerut, U.P
- **Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal for BSc (Hort), 2000**
- **Financial grant awarded** for attending International Symposium at Denmark, 2008 by DST, New Delhi