

CURRICULAM VITAE

DR HITESH KUMAR

Assistant Professor,

Department of Botany,

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AREAS OF INTEREST

Plant Molecular Biology, Gene Isolation, Functional Genomics

EMPLOYMENT

Jul. 2022 - Onwards

Assistant Professor

Department of Botany, Sardar Patel University, Mandi-
Himachal Pradesh, India

Dec. 2021 - Jul. 2022

**Assistant Professor (Academic Level 11, May 2020 to
July 2022)**

Department of Botany, Government College Naura,
Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, India

Sept. 2018 – Dec. 2021

Assistant Professor (Academic Level 10)

Department of Botany, Government College Palampur,
Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, India

Aug. 2013 - Sept. 2018

Assistant Professor (Academic Level 10)

Department of Botany, Government College Joginder
Nagar, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, India

Jun. 2010 - Aug. 2013

Assistant Professor (Academic Level 10)

Department of Botany, Government College Palampur,
Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, India

EDUCATION

Nov. 2004 - Jan. 2013

Panjab University, Chandigarh

Plant Biotechnology (Ph.D.)

Dissertation: Molecular basis of stevioside biosynthesis in *Stevia rebaudiana* (Bertoni), a source of non-calorific sweetener (Research work was being carried out at Biotechnology Division, CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur, India).

Ph.D. advisors: Dr Sanjay Kumar and Dr Kashmir Singh

Jun. 2001 - Nov. 2003

Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla

Botany (M.S.)

Dissertation: Effect of phytohormones on the plant growth and development

Dissertation advisor: Dr Shanti Swaroop Sharma

Mar. 1999 - Apr. 2001

Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla

Basic Sciences (B.S.)

PUBLICATIONS

- **Hitesh Kumar** and Sanjay Kumar (2017) Comparative organ-specific transcriptome analysis of *Stevia rebaudiana* (Bertoni) Bertoni, a source of natural non-calorific sweetener. *Proceedings of Revolutionizing Next Generation sequencing (2nd Edition) symposium*, Antwerp, Belgium.
- **Hitesh Kumar**, Rajesh Kumar, Pallavi Mahajan, Ravi Shankar, Sanjay Kumar (2015). Organ specific transcriptome analysis identifies the regulation of glycosides biosynthesis in *Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni. *Proceedings of 8th EUSTAS Stevia symposium*, J.M.C. Geuns (Editor) Euprint, Heverlee, pp. 82-99.

- **Hitesh Kumar** and Sanjay Kumar (2014) *Stevia rebaudiana*: A Source of Natural Non-calorific Sweetener" In: *Recent Progress in Medicinal Plants Vol 42*. J.N. Govil (Editor) Studium Press LLC, USA.
- **Hitesh Kumar** and Sanjay Kumar (2013) Molecular basis of steviol glycosides biosynthesis in *Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni, a source of non-calorific sweetener. *Proceedings of 7th EUSTAS Stevia symposium*, J.M.C. Geuns (Editor) Euprint, Heverlee, pp. 43-74.
- **Hitesh Kumar**, Sanjay Kumar (2013) A functional (*E*)-4-hydroxy-3- methylbut-2-enyl diphosphate reductase exhibits diurnal regulation of expression in *Stevia rebaudiana* (Bertoni) *Gene* 527(1):332–338
- **Hitesh Kumar**, Kashmir Singh, Sanjay Kumar (2012) *2C-methyl-D-erythritol 2,4-cyclodiphosphate synthase* from *Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni is a functional gene. **Molecular Biology Reports** 39(12):10971-10978
- **Hitesh Kumar**, Kiran Kaul, Suphla Gupta-Bajpai, Vijay K. Kaul, Sanjay Kumar (2012) A comprehensive analysis of fifteen genes of steviol glycosides biosynthesis pathway in *Stevia rebaudiana* (Bertoni). **Gene** 492(1):276-284.
- Sanjay Ghawana, Asosii Paul, **Hitesh Kumar**, Arun Kumar, Harsharan Singh, Pradeep K. Bhardwaj, Arti Rani, Ravi Shankar Singh, Jyoti Raizada, Kashmir Singh, Sanjay Kumar (2011) An RNA isolation system for plant tissues rich in secondary metabolites. **BMC Research Notes** 4:85

PATENTS

1. Bhardwaj P.K., Kumar A., Kishor A., Ghawana S., Rani A., Singh K., Singh H., Singh R.S., **Kumar H.**, Sood P., Dutt S., Kumar S., Ahuja P.S. (2017) Method of cloning stable stress tolerant superoxide dismutase using universal primers. **European Patent EP-2268661-B1**.
2. Bhardwaj P.K., Kumar A., Kishor A., Ghawana S., Rani A., Singh K., Singh H., Singh R.S., **Kumar H.**, Sood P., Dutt S., Kumar S., Ahuja P.S. (2015) Method of cloning stable stress tolerant superoxide dismutase using universal primers. **USA Patent US 9212350 B2**.

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- Received a travel award (1,00,000/- INR) vide Recommendation letter No.6-7/2017(TG) from University Grant Commission, India in 2017.

- The Highly Cited Researcher Award by Thomson Reuters IP and Science, 22 Thomson Place, Boston, MA, 02210, USA in 2016.
- Best Associate NCC Officer Award (Academic) from Major General N. Srinivas Rao during the Pipping Ceremony of PRCN Course-159 at Officer's Training Academy, Kamptee Nagpur in 2016.
- Received NCC Commission (No. NCC/12110226) and Lieutenant Rank Badge from Director General NCC in 2016.
- Received a travel award (1,00,000/- INR) vide letter No.SB/ITS-Y/04758/2016 from Science and Engineering Research Board, Department of Science and Technology, India in 2015.
- Received a travel award (1,00,000/- INR) vide letter No.3/2/TG-40/HRD-2012 from Indian Council of Medical Research in 2013.
- Qualified 'National Eligibility Test' conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research, eligible for Assistant Professorship in 2010.
- Awarded 'Junior Research Fellowship' and 'Senior Research fellowship' by Indian Council of Medical Research in 2004 and 2006, respectively.
- Qualified 'National Eligibility Test' conducted jointly by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-University Grants Commission, eligible for Junior Research Fellowship and Assistant Professorship in 2004.
- Qualified 'National Eligibility Test' conducted jointly by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-University Grants Commission, eligible for Assistant Professorship in 2003.
- Qualified 'Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering' conducted jointly by the Indian Institute of Science and seven Indian Institutes of Technology in 2003.

**INDUCTION/ ORIENTATION PROGRAMMES/ REFRESHER COURSES/
WORKSHOPS/ TRAININGS**

1. Participated in two weeks "Virtual Refresher Course in Plant Taxonomy, Ecology and Biodiversity Conservation" organized by Department of Botany, Panjab University Chandigarh from 01/04/2022 -18/04/2022.
2. Participated in three weeks "Degree college teachers training program in Biology / Life Science" at Talent Development Center, IISc Bangalore from 22/11/2018 to 12/12/2018.
3. Participated in four weeks 112th Orientation Course being organized by UGC-HRDG, Panjab University, Chandigarh from 1/11/2016 to 28/11/2016.

4. Participated in three months National Cadet Corps “Pre-Commission Training Course-159” at Officer’s Training Academy, Kamptee Nagpur from 10/12/2015 to 12/03/2016.
5. Participated in two weeks Induction Training program conducted by the Government College of Teacher’s Education, Dharamshala at GCTE, Dharamshala from 30/04/2012 to 12/05/ 2012.
6. Participated in one month training program on “Technology Lead Entrepreneurship” conducted by the Faculty of Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore at CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai, India from 12/02/2007- 11/03/ 2007.

REVIEWER OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

1. International Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences (02/08/2011 onwards).
2. Global Research Journal of Microbiology (25/08/2011 onwards).
3. Biotechnology and Molecular Biology Reviews (21/09/2011 onwards).
4. PLoS ONE (13/12/2012 onwards).
5. Plant Molecular Biology (13/12/2012 onwards).
6. Gene (21/06/2014 onwards).
7. Biocatalysis and Agricultural Biotechnology, 55, Elsevier, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (03/08/2016 onwards).
8. Journal of Plant Growth Regulation, Springer Nature, Germany (12/11/2017 onwards).
9. Journal of Plant Research Springer Nature, Japan (26/02/2018 onwards).
10. Gene Reports Elsevier Amsterdam, The Netherlands (10/02/2020 onwards).
11. Current Molecular Medicine, Bentham Science, UAE (29/06/2022 onwards).

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS

- Invited speaker for the *Proceedings of Revolutionizing Next Generation sequencing (2nd Edition) symposium*, during March 20-21, 2017 at Antwerp, Belgium.
- Invited speaker for the EUSTAS 8th Stevia Symposium organized by European Stevia Association during January 27-28, 2015 at University of Bonn, Germany.
- Invited speaker for the EUSTAS 7th Stevia Symposium organized by European Stevia Association during June 24-26, 2013 at Ecole d'Ingénieur de Purpan-Toulouse, France.
- Chaired the session “Steviol Glycosides and Plant Physiology” in the International EUSTAS 7th Stevia symposium held during June 24-26, 2013 at Ecole d'Ingénieur de Purpan-Toulouse, France.