



4th Indian Horticulture Summit- cum-International Conference-2026

**Theme : Harnessing Indigenous and Underutilized Horticultural Crops
for Sustainable Development, Health and Economic Resilience**

28-30 January 2026

Venue:

**Rani Lakshmi Bai Central
Agricultural University, Jhansi,
Uttar Pradesh, India**



Organized by

Society for Horticultural Research and Development (SHRD), Uttar Pradesh, India

In collaboration with

Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India

SKN Agriculture University, Jobner, Rajasthan, India

Division of Vegetable Science, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, India

ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research, Anand, Gujarat, India

Central Horticultural Experiment Station, ICAR-CIAH, Godhra, Gujarat, India



Background

Indigenous and underutilised horticultural crops hold immense potential in promoting health and nutritional security, especially in regions grappling with malnutrition and food insecurity. These crops adapted well to the local climatic and soil conditions and have been cultivated traditionally by communities for generations but received limited attention in modern agricultural practices and commercial food production systems. Many indigenous horticultural crops are nutritionally superior to our staple food crops. For instance, several indigenous vegetables and fruits are excellent source of antioxidants and dietary nutrients. Tuber crops including yams and cassava, provide a good source of carbohydrates, fibres and secondary metabolites beneficial for health. By incorporating these crops in our daily diets, we can combat micronutrient deficiencies and enhance overall dietary diversity.

This Summit will provide a valuable platform to all stakeholders, including eminent scientists, teachers, researchers, students, farmers, entrepreneurs, policy-makers etc. to interact and share their noble experience during Summit. This platform will provide an excellent opportunity to update with the latest research and developmental activities to all stakeholders. The stakeholders will be enriched with advanced technological know-how in their respective fields. The 4th *Indian Horticulture Summit-cum-International Conference-2026* with a theme, 'Harnessing Indigenous and Underutilized Horticultural Crops for Sustainable Development, Health and Economic Resilience' will be convened at the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India, from 28-30 January 2026.

Objectives

The objectives are:

- ❖ Harnessing the diversity of indigenous and underutilized horticultural crops with therapeutic and nutraceutical benefits.
- ❖ Promoting crop diversification to enhance productivity and livelihoods in different agroclimatic zones.
- ❖ Deploying cost-effective and scalable solutions to improve profitability and sustainability in horticultural farming.
- ❖ Advanced strategies like biotechnological tools, molecular breeding and genome editing for genetic improvement of horticultural crops
- ❖ Strengthening plant health management through integrated, data-driven, and eco-sensitive solutions.
- ❖ Development of climate-resilient technologies for sustainable horticultural production.
- ❖ Promoting carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and eco-friendly practices to combat environmental degradation.
- ❖ Eco-friendly approaches for controlling pests and diseases, including biological controls and organic methods.
- ❖ Advancing clean, green, and health-conscious production systems that align with global sustainability goals.

Summit Themes

The Summit will focus on following themes:

- ❖ **Genetic resources, diversity, exploration, evaluation, conservation and their use in crop improvement:** Identification and utilization of genetic resources for stresses tolerance as well as nutrition and processing traits. Development of pre-breeding materials, rootstock breeding and tapping of underutilized crops to diversify the horticultural system and strengthen food security.
- ❖ **Genomics for improvement of indigenous and underutilized horticultural crops:** Advanced genomic tools such as genetic mapping, genome editing and molecular markers for improvement of horticultural crops.

- ❖ **Conventional breeding for crop improvement:** Enhancing genetic potential through conventional breeding approaches such as hybrid breeding, selection of superior genotypes and combining ability estimation.
- ❖ **Recent advances in production technology of indigenous and underutilized horticultural crops:** Innovation in horticultural crop production for enhancing productivity and sustainability.
- ❖ **Post-harvest management, processing, value addition, and Agri-export zones for indigenous and underutilized horticultural crops:** Recent advances in post-harvest management of perishable crops including nano-encapsulation and smart packaging. Value addition using minimal, thermal, and non-thermal processing methods. Functional food production and waste utilization. Agri Export Zones (AEZs) to expand export potential, reduce losses, and enhance profitability and economic development.
- ❖ **Clean planting material and high yielding seeds:** Production of high-yielding hybrid seeds, planting material, genetic testing and seed treatment to enhance yields and overall crop productivity.
- ❖ **Protected cultivation and precision farming:** Standardization of package of practices of horticultural crops for protected cultivation. Site-specific and resource-efficient crop management through precision horticulture using drone technology, GIS, GPS, nutrient film techniques, drip fertigation, hydroponics and aeroponics.
- ❖ **Diseases and pest management of horticultural crops:** Integrated pest and disease management, field diagnostics, molecular diagnosis, use of new-generation pesticides, botanicals, and biocontrol agents to enhance crop productivity and safety.
- ❖ **Climate-resilient horticulture production:** Adoption of climate-resilient varieties and technologies, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, carbon sequestration, canopy management, HDP, use of sustainable inputs like biofertilizers, nano-urea, and drip fertigation.
- ❖ **Entrepreneurship development and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs):** Strengthening FPOs to improve the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers.

Participants

The Summit is open to all stakeholders interested in Horticultural Research and Development and related sectors, namely representatives from both public and private sectors, central and state government ministries, scientists and students from agricultural institutes and universities, farmers, representatives from international agencies, farmers' associations, agri-input associations (like seeds, fertilizers, plant-protection chemicals, growers association, NGOs etc. The deliberation of the Summit shall be in both English and Hindi.

Awards of the SHRD

The Society recognizes the contribution of R&D personnel in different fields for the development of Horticultural Science and Horticulture Sector as such in the country. Therefore, the SHRD has instituted various awards in different fields which are as follows:

- ❖ **Dr Gautam Kalloo Award** for Excellence in Horticultural Research
- ❖ **Dr Kirti Singh Memorial Award** for Best Vegetable Scientist
- ❖ **Lifetime Achievements Award** in R&D in Horticultural Sciences
- ❖ **SHRD Best Teacher Award** in Horticulture
- ❖ **Leadership Excellence Award** in Horticultural Research
- ❖ **Distinguished Horticultural Scientist Award**
- ❖ **Outstanding Horticultural Scientist Award**
- ❖ **Outstanding Woman Horticultural Scientist Award**
- ❖ **Young Horticultural Scientist Award**
- ❖ **Honorary Fellow of the SHRD**

- ❖ **Fellow of the SHRD**
- ❖ **SHRD Best Thesis Award** (Ph.D. and M.Sc.)
- ❖ **Best Research Paper Award** (Current Horticulture)
- ❖ **Shri Kamala Rai Memorial Best Innovative Farmer Award** in Horticulture
- ❖ **Chaudhary Gangasharan Tyagi Memorial Best Farmer/Entrepreneurship Award** in Horticulture
- ❖ **Smt. Saroj Singh Memorial Innovative Farmer/Entrepreneur Award** in Horticulture

All awards will be decided by high-profile committees.

Applications for awards along with relevant biodata should be submitted on www.currenthorticulture.com. The last date for submitting application for award is 30.11.2025. (For guidelines, please visit our website: www.currenthorticulture.com).

Presentation

The Summit will cover lead, oral and poster presentations in each session.

Lead / Invited Papers: Lead papers on specific topics highlighting the central theme of each session will be invited by the organizing committee from senior research workers and on the basis of suggestions received.

The extended abstracts for lead/invited papers (about 2 pages) are required to be submitted within a fortnight of request, while the full-length papers will be required to be submitted latest for publication of proceedings and release during the inaugural session.

Oral Presentations: Both members and non-members of SHRD within India and abroad shall be considered for oral presentation subject to the relevance of the title and experience of the scientist related to the subject to the presentations shall be state-of-the-art report.

Poster Presentations: The researchers/students are invited to submit abstracts (max two as senior registered author) relating to broad theme areas of the summit, which would be peer reviewed and presented as poster papers in the three-day event. Abstract(s) of only registered authors will be published.

Best oral and poster presentation awards will be given in each session.

Field Visit

There will be field visits to nearby places for scientific interaction.

Abstract

The abstract should be prepared in MS word not exceeding 250 words. It must contain a clear title, name and affiliation of the authors. The name of the presenting author should be underlined and e-mail should be given at the end. There should not be any sub-headings, figures, tables or references in the abstract. The detailed specifications for preparing the poster paper (size 4½' x 3'), would be mailed to corresponding authors whose abstracts are accepted for presentation. The abstract should be submitted only through online (www.currenthorticulture.com). For detailed guidelines of abstract submission, poster presentation etc., please visit our website: www.currenthorticulture.com

Important Dates

Last date for receiving abstract(s) : 15th December 2025

Last date for sending acceptance letter: 10th January 2026

Last date for sending full length paper: 10th January 2026 (lead/invited)

Last date for sending the registration fee: 31st December 2025

Registration fee for Participants

Category	On time (₹)	With late fee (₹)
Corporate sector	12,000	13,000
Non-members	9,000	9,500
Members	8,000	8,500
Students/Research Fellows	4,000	4,500
Farmers	3,000	3,500
Foreign Delegates	US\$ 150 (SAARC countries) US\$ 200 (others)	

About Jhansi

Jhansi is a historic city in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. It lies in the region of Bundelkhand, on the banks of the Pahuj river, in the extreme south of Uttar Pradesh at an average elevation of 285 m (935 ft). It is about 471 km (293 mi) from national capital New Delhi, 108 km (67.5 mi) from Gwalior, 240 km (150 mi) from Kanpur and 320 km (200 mi) from state capital Lucknow. Jhansi is well connected to all other major cities by road and railway networks. You can reach Jhansi through major modes of transportation like train and road. The nearest commercial airport is in Gwalior (Rajmata Vijaya Raje Scindia Air Terminal), which is about 120 kilometres away. Jhansi is easily accessible from all major cities of India.

Accommodation

There is a limited guest house accommodation available in the university and neighboring guest houses. However, very good hotels are available for which special rates for stay and breakfast have been negotiated. Correspondence for accommodation should be directed to our team which will be intimated, through our website.

Sponsorships

The organizers seek support from different stakeholders, especially the government and non-governmental organizations to make this academic event, a grand success. The sponsorships in the following categories are welcome.

Summit Co-Sponsor (2.0 lakh)

Organization/Company's logo on event brochure, backdrops, publications, distribution of promotional material if any, colour advertisement one full page and two complementary registration and two exhibition stalls.

Delegate kit sponsor (1.5 lakh)

Organization/Company's logo on event brochure, backdrops, delegate bags, publications, distribution of promotional material if any, colour advertisement one full page and one complementary registration and one exhibition stall.

Lunch/dinner sponsor (1.5 lakh)

Organization/Company's logo on event brochure, backdrops, publications, distribution of promotional material if any, colour advertisement one full page and one complementary registration and one exhibition stall.

Single lunch/dinner sponsor (1.0 lakh)

Banner during the event and one complimentary registration

Single Hi Tea (0.5 lakh)

Banner during the event (0.5 lakh)



Advertisements

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Inside Back Cover	:	₹ 35,000/-
Full Page (colour)	:	₹ 25,000/-
Half Page (colour)	:	₹ 15,000/-
Exhibition stall	:	₹ 25,000/-

Indian Horticulture Summit-2020, 2022 and 2024

The SHRD has organized 1st Indian Horticulture Summit-2020 at Chitrakoot from 14-16 February 2020, the 2nd Indian Horticulture Summit-2022 during 27-29 April 2022 at Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat. and 3rd Indian Horticulture Summit at RARI, Durgapura, Jaipur, during 1-3 February 2024. Those events were very successful.

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4th Indian Horticulture Summit- cum-International Conference-2026

**Theme : Harnessing Indigenous and Underutilized Horticultural Crops
for Sustainable Development, Health and Economic Resilience**

28-30 January 2026

Venue: Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India

*We invite all interested participants to visit our official website
for comprehensive details regarding the summit.*

www.currenthorticulture.com

The website provides detailed guidelines and updates on the following:

- **Registration Process**
- **Poster Presentation**
- **Sponsorship Opportunities**
- **Other Important Conference Updates**
- **Abstract Submission**
- **Registration Fee Payment**
- **Accommodation and Travel Support**

Please Note: All communications related to the 4th Indian Horticulture Summit-cum-International Conference-2026 will be conducted online.



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IFC Code : SBIN 0008110

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4th INDIAN HORTICULTURE SUMMIT-CUM-INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE-2026

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