



National Seminar on **Plant Biodiversity for Food, Nutrition and Health Security in North-West Himalayas (PBFSNWH)**

November 27-28, 2023



Venue

**University Auditorium, Shoolini University
Village Bajho, PO Sultanpur, Bajhol Solan-173229, Himachal Pradesh**

Organizers

Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR), New Delhi

Shoolini University (SU), Solan, Himachal Pradesh

ICAR- National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi

Co-organizers

Alliance for Bioversity International and CIAT, New Delhi

Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority (PPV&FRA), New Delhi

National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai

HP Council for Science Technology and Environment (HIMCOSTE), Shimla

Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN), Shimla

Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi

Choudhury Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh, Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (CSKHPKV), Palampur

Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry (YSPUHF), Solan

Knowledge Partners (Potential)

ICAR-Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Srinagar

ICAR-Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Almora

CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIM), Jammu

CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Nagla, Pantnagar

Defense Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh

Defense Institute of Bio-Energy (DIBER), Pithoragarh

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla

Govind Ballabh Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (NIHE), Almora

Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organization (HESCO), Dehradun

GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUAT), Pantnagar

VCSG University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar, Pauri Garhwal

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST-K), Jammu

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST-K), Srinagar

Career Point University, Hamirpur

Background of Seminar

The world continues to face ever-growing challenges such as combatting hunger, ensuring food security, and eradicating all forms of malnutrition. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these issues, exposing vulnerabilities in our agricultural and food systems and pushing the number of food-insecure individuals from 800 million to a staggering 957 million, globally.

To address these pressing concerns and build resilience against potential future pandemics, a renewed emphasis on plant biodiversity is essential, particularly within local food systems (LFS). By doing so, we can make significant strides towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 2 (Zero hunger), Goal 3 (Good health and well-being for all), and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production). The UN Food Systems Summit, held on September 23, 2021, marked a significant turning point by introducing bold new initiatives as part of the UN's Decade of Action to reach the SDGs by 2030, refocusing on regenerative agriculture and local food systems (LFS).

Furthermore, recognizing the potential of millets to offer sustainable market opportunities for both producers and consumers, the UN General Assembly declared 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets (IYM 2023)' during its 75th session in March 2021. This declaration reinforces the importance of harnessing the power of millets to address these global challenges.

The Himalayas, recognized as one of the 36 global biodiversity hotspots, stand out for their exceptional richness and representation of diverse plant life. This region is endowed with a remarkable array of plant biodiversity, including agrobiodiversity, due to wide range of climatic and ecological conditions. It is a hotspot for an extensive diversity of cereals, millets, pseudo-cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, fruits, spices, condiments, medicinal plants, herbs, and fibers. Further, local foods are gaining recognition as the optimal choice for ensuring the food, nutrition, and health security of the people living in these regions.

In the light of rapid habitat/species loss, climate changes and changes in food consumption patterns, it is imperative to conduct a comprehensive assessment of plant biodiversity in the North-Western Himalayan region. This assessment should encompass their production potential, the current status of genetic improvement research, conservation practices through utilization, their nutritional and medicinal values, options for value chains, socio-economic considerations (including consumption patterns, costs, and affordability), and the necessary policy support required to promote them as alternative sources of food, nutrition, and health security.

To address these critical issues, a seminar is being organized, bringing together all stakeholders, including researchers, intellectuals, regulators, policymakers, farmers, NGOs, and private sector representatives, on a neutral platform. The Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, Shoolini University, Solan and ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, in collaboration with the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, TAAS, PPV&FRA, and other knowledge partners, will host a **National Seminar on Plant Biodiversity for Food, Nutrition, and Health Security in the North-Western Himalayas (PBFSNWH)** during **November 27-28, 2023**. This seminar aims to engage researchers, experts from the public and private sectors, CG Centers, representatives of Farmers Organizations, NGOs, progressive farmers/entrepreneurs, faculty, and students. Participants will have the opportunity to present their research findings, perspectives, and recommendations related to the seminar's themes. This collective effort will contribute to the development of a roadmap for the optimal, efficient, and sustainable utilization of North-Western Himalayan plant biodiversity, along with the formulation of enabling policies. Ultimately, this will enhance food and nutritional security and improve overall health in the region.

Thematic Sessions

1. Current status and management of North-Western Himalayan (NWH) plant biodiversity
2. Traits discovery and genomics in plants of NWH
3. *In situ* /on-farm, *ex situ* conservation, access and benefit sharing
4. Plant biodiversity and local food systems
5. Entrepreneurship and value chains – role of youth and women

Calls for Abstract

The Organizing Committee invites participants to contribute abstracts for rapid oral and poster presentations. The abstract, not exceeding 300 words, should have a title followed by name of the author(s), affiliation and e-mail address of the corresponding author. It should contain a brief Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion; and be in font—Times New Roman; size 12. Name of the presenting author must be underlined.

The abstracts may be submitted to **pbfsnwh2023@gmail.com** on or before **November 7, 2023**. Acceptance will be communicated to the presenting author by **November 10, 2023**. There will be separate “Poster Sessions” for each technical session to encourage wider interaction and sharing of the information. Best poster and oral presentation in each session will be awarded.

Registration

Registration form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8sn2XYHK339GtnmnP-BG9yGU1tMKa6AjtX4fohUIQTRXqRA/viewform?usp=sf_link and registration fee should be paid either through demand draft or NEFT in favour of the ISPGR, New Delhi, to the following account number:

Name of the Bank & Branch: **Canara Bank**, Beej Bhawan, New Delhi-110012

Account No.: **91212010004780**

IFSC : **CNRB0019121**

Registration Fee

Categories	Registration Fee (INR)	
	Before Due Date	After Due date or On Spot
ISPGR Member	3,000	4,000
Non-ISPGR Member	4,000	5,000
Students/Research Fellows	1,500	2,000
Industry and Private Organization	6,000	7,000

* The accompanying person who wishes to attend the symposium has to pay extra INR 2,500

Sponsorship – Diamond, Gold and Silver

There is an opportunity to give advertisements in the publications of seminar, which will contain messages from important dignitaries and articles from renowned scientists. Interested companies may contact the Secretariat (pbfsnwh2023@gmail.com) for giving the advertisements.

Diamond Sponsorship (INR 2 Lakhs)

Name/logo of sponsor to be displayed at prominent places including backdrop of the dais/website Advertisement in publications (full page color, cover/special insertion). Exemption of registration fee for three participants

Gold Sponsorship (INR 1.0 Lakh)

Name/logo of sponsor to be displayed at prominent places. Advertisement in publications (full page color) Exemption of registration fee for two participants

Silver Sponsorship (INR 50,000)

Name/logo of sponsor to be displayed at prominent places Advertisement in publications (half page color) Exemption of registration fee for one participant.

Venue

University Auditorium, Shoolini University,
Village Bajho, PO Sultanpur, Bajhol
Solan-173229, Himachal Pradesh



Exhibition

Concurrent with **PBFSNWH**, an Exhibition will also be held at the same dates at venue. It will be a great opportunity to showcase the diversity of economically important food crops of North-Western Himalayas by the host and local partner Universities/organizations to create awareness among the participants, renewing the collaborative programs and establish the new joint collaborations to promote Plant Biodiversity for Food, Nutrition and Health Security in North-West Himalayas

Weather at Shoolini

The average temperature in Shoolini, Solan in November, for a typical day ranging from a high of 22°C to a low of 10°C. The Participants are requested to have the warm woolen clothes.

Accommodation

On-campus housing at Shoolini University and Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, is limited and available on First-Come-First-Served-Basis. Some accommodation will be available at the Guest House Request for campus accommodation can be sent at sourabhkulshreshtha@shooliniuniversity.com; singhmohar_2003@yahoo.com; ysnegi@shooliniuniversity.com. Accommodation will be provided on a payment basis upon receipt of a request from the registered delegates.

Transport

Transport will be provided by the Organizers from Guest Houses to the Venue of Seminar,

IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for Abstract Submission: November 7, 2023

Date to Communicate Abstract Acceptance: November 10, 2023

Registration opens: November 1, 2023

Distinguished Chairs & Speakers:



R.S. Paroda,
President, ISPGR & Chairman, TAAS,
New Delhi



Himanshu Pathak,
Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR,
New Delhi



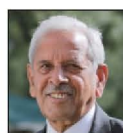
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Chairman, PPVFRA, New Delhi
(Co-Chair and Distinguished Speaker)



Sanjay Kumar,
Chairman, ASRB,
New Delhi



P.L. Gautam,
Former Chairperson NBA &
PPV&FRA, Palampur



P.K. Khosla,
Chancellor, Shoolini University, Solan



RC Agrawal,
DDG (Education), ICAR,
New Delhi



Ashwani Pareek,
Executive Director, NABI, Mohali



R.S. Chandel,
YSPUHF, Solan



D.K. Vatsa,
CSKHPKV, Palampur



B.S. Dhillon,
Former VC, PAU,
Ludhiana



S.K. Sharma,
Former VC, CSKHPKV, Palampur



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World Food Laureate,
New Delhi



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ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi



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Mahyco, Mumbai



Jagdish Singh,
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CSIR-IHBT, Palampur



Vaneet Jishtu,
ICFRE-HFRI Shimla



V.P. Sharma,
ICAR-DMR, Solan



KK Jindal
Former ADG (Horticulture),
ICAR, New Delhi



Y.P. Sharma,
YSPUHF, Solan



Nand Lal Sharma,
Himachal Pradesh Tourism
Development Corporation

Patrons

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 Dr P L Gautam, Former Chairperson, PPV&FRA, New Delhi & NBA, Chennai
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 Dr Laxmi Kant, Director, VPKAS, Almora
 Dr C Viswanathan, Joint Director Research, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

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Dr Mohar Singh, ICAR-NBPGR RS, Shimla	Member-Secretary

Organizing Secretary (National): Dr Anuradha Agrawal

Organizing Secretaries (Local): Dr Saurabh Kulshreshta and Dr Mohar Singh

Co-Organizing Secretaries: Dr Kuldeep Tripathi and Dr Monika Singh

Contact

Organizing Secretary, PBFSNWH, ISPGR c/o ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi-110012
 E-mail: pbfsnwh2023@gmail.com; Mobile Phone No.: +91-98 1126 4360; +91 88 9400 9386

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**Plant Biodiversity for Food,
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November 27-28, 2023

(Please mail the filled registration form and send to pbfsnwh2023@gmail.com)

Name: Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms _____

Designation: _____

Gender: Male _____ Female: _____ Other _____

Institute/University: _____

Address: _____

Mobile No.: _____

E-mail Id : _____

Alternate Email ID: _____

ISPGR Member: Yes _____ No _____

Title of the abstract: _____

Session: _____

Mode of paper presentation: Oral _____ Poster _____

Mode of Registration Fee Payment: _____

Note: Please add your full name and PBFSNWH in the comment box while making online payment

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Date: _____ Name of Bank: _____

Date: _____

(Signature of the participant)

