

Dr. RK Arora

(b. August 27, 1952)

Principal Scientist (Retd.) ICAR – CPRS, Jalandhar 66-67, Basant Vihar, Khambra, Jalandhar -144026 (Punjab) Email: rkacpri@yahoo.com Mobile: 9465822770 Dr. R.K. Arora, a Plant Pathologist, worked at ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute and its regional stations Kufri, Ooty and Jalandhar. He joined CPRI in 1977 as Scientist S-1 and retired as Principal Scientist in 2014. He worked mostly as a field scientist and carried out research on late blight, black scurf, russet scab, bacterial wilt and seed production of potato. He explored variability in late blight and bacterial wilt pathogens, developed late blight forecasting system for Punjab, developed methodology to monitor late blight from space using remote sensing, worked out disease management schedules, standardized soil solarization technique to manage soil borne diseases of potato, standardized and popularized boric acid seed treatment, worked on etiology and management of russet scab, worked on biocontrol of potato diseases and developed a Trichoderma based bio-formulations to manage potato tuber diseases in environment friendly way. He also contributed in CPRI mandate to estimate potato crop area ahead of its harvest through remote sensing. He was actively associated with production and improvement of pre-basic and breeder's seed through out length of the service. He has published over 150 scientific publications including scientific reviews in national, international journals, bulletins and books. He was elected as Fellow of Indian Phytopathological Society, Vice President of Indian Potato Association for two terms and Fellow of Indian Potato Association. He was awarded S. Ramanujam Merit Award by CPRI and K.C. Mehta & Manoranjan Mitra award by Indian Phytopathological Society besides two best paper awards. He was invited by United Nations Economic Commission of Europe for meetings on standardization Indian Potato Association Hand Book 32 of seed potato held at Switzerland, Indonesia, Czech Republic and Finland and contributed to the development of a common Seed Potato Standard that could be followed as a universal reference in promoting international trade of seed potato. After retirement, he is providing guidance to potato growers and private seed producing companies on plant protection and production of high quality seed potato. He has also set up his own facility to produce G0 and G1 potato minitubers at Jalandhar.