



Dr. (Mrs) Ashiv Mehta

(b. March 3, 1955)

Principal Scientist (Retd.), ICAR-Central Potato Research Station, Jalandhar Email address: ashivmehtacprs@gmail.com Dr. (Mrs.) Ashiv Mehta obtained her Master's degree in Botany from PAU, Ludhiana and Ph. D. degree in Agricultural Botany from CCS University, Meerut (UP). She joined A.R.S. in 1977 and is serving as Principal Scientist in Crop Physiology, Biochemistry and PHT division. She worked throughout her research career on physiological/ applied aspects of potato storage and post-harvest management. She has published 75 research papers/reviews/book chapters and 44 Technical Bulletins/Extension folders/popular articles/documentary films and presented 55 conference papers including a lead lecture and an invited paper. She has developed two technologies in the field of potato storage, i) On- farm storage of table and processing potatoes in heaps up to 14 weeks without refrigeration with the use of CIPC, which is a simple method for glut crisis management and can profitably be used to preserve the quality of processing potatoes at significantly lower storage cost, ii) Technology of storage of potatoes at 10-12o C with non-toxic compound-salicylaldehyde as a replacement for CIPC. Indian Potato Association Hand Book 55 She has also developed a Technology of Dehydration of potatoes and registered in IPO for grant of patent. High quality dehydrated potato cubes and shreds made by this process, having low moisture content and longer shelf life, can be reconstituted by simple rehydration process/pressure cooking prior to consumption. The technology has been transferred to two parties after signing of MoU with CPRI and is being commercialized. Dehydration of potatoes on large scale will help to solve the problem of market gluts at harvest, potato storage and reduce the post-harvest losses in potatoes in the coming future.