

Circular

ICAR Sponsored Summer School

Recent Advances in Crop Improvement, Production and Post-harvest Technology in Potato Research

(18th July – 7th August, 2017)

Eligibility: Candidates holding the rank of Scientist/Assistant Professor and above or equivalent in the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) including ICAR institutes, State Agricultural Universities, Deemed Universities, Central Agricultural Universities possessing Master's or Doctoral degree in Agriculture and allied sciences are eligible to apply for the Summer School. Application for participation in Summer school may be made in prescribed format as given herewith and forwarded by the competent authorities where the candidate is employed. Application may be sent in advance if they anticipate delay in forwarding through proper channel. However, the final selection will be made only if the application duly recommended by the authority is received.

How to apply: Applications are invited from interested scientific and teaching staff of Universities/Institutes through online (<http://cbp.icar.gov.in/HomePageAfterLogIn.aspx>) portal. Application should be uploaded after all official formalities duly approved by competent authority on or before 10th June, 2017. After the candidates are intimated of their selection, they should immediately reply with firm acceptance and travel plan. Cancellation at the last moment for casual reasons after acceptance will be regarded as a breach of ethical conduct since it may deprive other eager candidates who could have availed this opportunity.

Important Dates

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| Last date of Submission of Application | 10 th June, 2017 |
| Communication to Participants | 15 th June, 2017 |
| Commencement of Training Programme | 18 th July, 2017 |

All correspondence may be made to **Course Director:**

Dr. N.K. Pandey

Head, Division of Social Sciences

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Venue: ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla



**ICAR-CENTRAL POTATO RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Shimla-171001 (Himachal Pradesh)**



Recent Advances in Crop Improvement, Production and Post-harvest Technology in Potato Research

Potato is one of the most important food crops of India. It was identified as **Food for Future** by Food and Agriculture Organization, Rome during the year 2008. India is the second largest potato producing country in the world. During the year 2015-16, India produced 43.41 million tonnes of potato from an area of 2.11 million ha with an average productivity of 20.6 t/ha. Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Punjab and Gujarat are the major potato producing states of the country. Population of India is increasing and has reached 121 crore according to census 2011. In this scenario, Indian agriculture is facing a challenge to provide food for the growing population. Potato is going to play a major role in providing food and nutritional security to Indian farmers in near future. Although, India is a leader in potato production under subtropical conditions but there are many challenges before us to increase the production and productivity of potato especially in plateau and hilly regions of the country.

Objectives: The objective of this summer school is to provide training to scientists and teachers to update their skills in the field of recent advancements made in the field of Crop Improvement, Production and Post-harvest Technology in Potato Research. Extension of such technological advances to farmers and other stakeholders will enable them to achieve higher productivity thus realising the goals of food security for increasing population. This exposure will provide trainees an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas with experts/resource persons who are involved deeply in the field of potato research and development.

Course content: The course content will broadly cover the development of potato varieties, general and molecular breeding approaches for biotic and abiotic stress management, identification and management of potato pests/diseases through various approaches, seed production technology, multiplication of micro-plants, micro-tubers, agronomic practices, potato based cropping systems, methods of modern irrigation, techniques of post harvest technology, processing and storage of potatoes, molecular

techniques for gene transfer in potato, mechanization, marketing, technology transfer approaches in potato etc.

Travelling, boarding and lodging facilities: The boarding, lodging, TA and DA expenses of the selected candidates will be met from ICAR funds as per norms and operational guidelines for organization of Summer School. Participants will be paid to and fro fare for journey by train as per their entitlement (restricted to the maximum of AC-II Tier) or bus or any other means of transport in vogue, as the case may be. The participants will be paid actual TA on production of documentary proof. Participants are requested to send their travel plan in advance. Internal candidates posted at this institute will be provided lunch and forenoon/afternoon tea. The participants will be provided free boarding and lodging at the Institute Guest house. **Participants are advised not to bring their spouse/children along with them during training period.**

Registration Fee: Only 25 participants will be selected for the course by a screening committee. All selected participants have to pay **Rs 50/- as registration fee in the form of Demand Draft/Postal Order in favour of ICAR Unit, CPRI, Shimla.**

About ICAR-CPRI Shimla: Central Potato Research Institute is actively involved in Research and development in the field of potato crop. The institute is located in the heart of beautiful city of Shimla, the capital of Himachal Pradesh. It is located at 31.61°N 77.10°E with an average altitude of 2000 meters above mean sea level. It is situated near Bemloe, 4 km from Shimla bus stand and 6 km from Shimla Railway Station on National Highway No. 22. The weather at Shimla during the month of July will be pleasant with mean temperature ranging from 18-28°C. The institute has 5.2 ha of area for research and development. The major thrust areas of the institute are crop improvement, plant protection, potato processing, post-harvest technology, and agronomical research including cropping systems, nutrient and water management and seed production through tissue culture and aeroponics. CPRS, Kufri is located nearly 18 km from Head quarters where breeder seed of potato is produced. Kufri is also a popular tourist destination