



National Conference on *Underutilized Horticultural Genetic Resources: Conservation and Utilization (NCUHGR-2022)*

Register at: <https://forms.gle/8nzswMRMnCPoQVwr6>



Date: June 3-4, 2022

Venue: Virtual mode

Organized by:

**Andaman Science Association, Port Blair, Andaman &
Nicobar Islands**

In collaboration with

**ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair
Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi**

Background

India is blessed with diverse agro-climatic conditions which make it home to wide diversity of flowering plants of economic and ecological importance. Our country is one of the major producers of horticultural crops including fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, spices, plantation crops and medicinal & aromatic plants. Besides these commercial crops, a number of species have been traditionally used for a variety of purposes such as feed, medicine, fuel, natural colorant, gene source, artifacts, shelter, rootstocks etc. Many a times, these species have limited territorial distribution and are generally utilized based on indigenous technical knowledge associated with them. Such species have been generally termed as underutilized/ lesser known/ underexploited species, suggesting their potential for further utilization.

Crop husbandry in recent past has been facing multiple challenges including uncertainty of climate, surge of devastating pests/ diseases and unprecedented natural calamities such as cyclones, tsunami, rapid desertification etc. Lack of diversification and dependence on a few crops has further worsened the situation resulting in huge losses to the farmers. Identification and promotion of locally adapted species with economic potential could not only give impetus for conservation of native diversity of a region but also provide alternative sources of income to the local farmers. Further, many underutilized species are wild relatives of commercial crops and could hold potential as source of gene/ rootstock for combating long standing problems of cultivated species. Promotion of some of these species in challenged areas would also be beneficial considering the shrinking cultivable area in the country.

Research and awareness about such underutilized species is limited owing to various issues associated with them. However, the ecosystem services offered by such species make them the most sustainable sources of livelihood, nutritional and ecological security. The event would create awareness about these underexploited genetic resources and open up multifaceted avenues for researchers, farmers, processors and policymakers to intervene and offer the unoffered range of products and services to the stakeholders apart from addressing some long standing issues of horticulture.



Technical sessions

There will be four technical sessions and each session will have invited lectures and selected oral presentations. E- posters will be displayed during the event on the website.

Inaugural Session: Special invited lecture on the theme of the conference

Theme 1. Diversity, ethno-botany and conservation of underutilized horticultural species

Theme 2. Domestication and cultivation of underutilized horticultural species

Theme 3. Genetic improvement of underutilized horticultural genetic resources

Theme 4. Postharvest management and marketing of underutilized horticultural species for improving nutritional and livelihood security



Abstract preparation

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words and should be typed in Times New Roman, 12 font. Abstract should have title (bold, 14), names of authors (bold, 12), affiliations (italics, 12), email ID of corresponding author and five keywords. Abstracts will be scrutinized and selected abstracts after scrutiny will be accepted for oral/ poster presentation. E abstract book of the accepted papers shall be published. In each thematic area, Best Oral and Poster Presentation Certificates will be given.

Target stakeholders

The conference will be a knowledge sharing platform amongst the researchers, academicians, conservationists, graduate and postgraduate students, policymakers and officials of line departments.

Mode of conduct of the event

The event will be organized through online mode. Link for attending various sessions will be shared before the event.

Chief Patron:
Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (Hort.)

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Important Dates to Remember

**Registration
and abstract
submission
opens:**

Mar 2022

03

**Abstract
submission
closes:**

May 2022

15

**Intimation
of abstract
acceptance:**

May 2022

20

Event dates:

Jun 2022

3-4

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