**Brief Biodata**

**Name:** Dr. Neeraj Kotwal

**Designation:** Chief Scientist (Agri. Entomology)

**Place of posting:** RHRSS Bhaderwah, SKUAST-Jammu

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**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION**

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| **Ph.D. (Agri. Entomology)** | 2004 |
| **M.Sc. (Agri. Entomology)** | 2000 |
| **B.Sc. (Agriculture)** | 1998 |

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

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| **Designation** | **Period** | **Place of posting** |
| **Asstt. Prof./Jr. Scientist (Agri. Entomology)** | 2007 to 2019 | RHRSS Bhaderwah |
| **Senior Scientist (Agri. Entomology)** | 2019 to 2022 | RHRSS Bhaderwah |
| **Chief Scientist (Agri. Entomology)** | 2022 to till date | RHRSS Bhaderwah |

**PUBLICATIONS**

* **Research Papers**: **37**
* **Pamphlets: 12**
* **Book chapters:** **05**
* **Technical bulletins**: **08**
* **Popular article:** **21**
* **Success stories**: **05**
* **Abstracts**: **50**

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

**Associated ( 06) externally funded research projects**.

1. Outreach of technologies for temperate fruits (ICAR-CITH)
2. National innovation in climate resilient agriculture (NICRA)
3. In situ moisture conservation for higher maize production under rain condition (RKVY)
4. Induction of antharacnose resistant mutants of P. *vulgaris* L. (BARC **)**
5. All- India Co-ordinated Research Project on “Honey Bee and Pollinators” (ICAR )
6. Exploration of Underutilized Amaranthus spp. for Sustainable Livelihood, Nutritional Security and Climate Resilience of Western Himalayan Region (DBT)

**Evaluation of New Chemicals**

1. Bio-Efficacy and evaluation of fungicide Cuprofix and UPF 513 on apple.
2. Evaluation of bio-efficacy and phyto-toxicity of Zineb 75% WP against diseases of apple.
3. Evaluation of bio-efficacy and phyto-toxicity of Simodic 100 DC against apple mite.
4. Bio-efficacy and evaluation of GOD-004 aganst diseases of apple.
5. Evaluation of bio-efficacy and phyto-toxicity of bio-stimulant sea-weed extract granules on growth and yield attributing parameters of apple.
6. Testing of Potasil granule and G-5 liquid on apple.
7. Evaluation of bio-efficacy and phyto-toxicity of new fungicide of Heranba Industries Limited against diseases of apple.
8. Evaluation of bio-efficacy and phyto-toxicity of PIX 10172 against diseases of apple, UPL

**Associated in 25 University funded research projects**

1. Productivity enhancement of elite apple cultivars through high density planting and efficient water and pollination management.
2. Plant architectural engineering for higher energy harvest vis-a vis productivity in apple**.**
3. Multi location testing of elite walnut genotypes under medium density.
4. Survey and mapping of major pests and diseases of temperate fruits.
5. Testing of identified genotypes of temperate fruit crops.
6. Imparting trainings to stakeholders for technology outreach**.**
7. Management of walnut weevil (*Alcides porrecirostrosis*) in walnut (*Juglans regia* L.)

**Varieties developed**

* Associated in development of Bhaderwahi rajmash cultivar BR-104 (Indeterminate growth habit, trailing type, average yield 8 quintals/ha, shiny bold maroon coloured seeds).
* Associated in development of Bhaderwahi rajmash cultivar BR-39 (Determinate growth habit, bush type, average yield 14 quintals/ha, bold and maroon coloured seeds).
* Associated in development of Walnut cultivar Bhushan (High yielding, white nuts and kernel, jumbo sized nuts and high shelling percentage).
* Associated in GI tagging of Bhaderwahi rajmash.

**GERMPLASM COLLECTION**

* Apple: **38**
* Walnut: **12**
* Plum: **05**
* Persimmon: **03**
* Pomegranate: **05**
* Rajmash: **14**
* Buck wheat : **01**
* Amaranths : **06**
* Strawberry: **10**

**ADMINISTRATION**

* Acting as Incharge, Regional Horticulture Research Sub-Station, Bhaderwah, SKUAST-Jammu wef 2019 to till date

**Participation in seminar/ symposia/workshop/Conferences/Trainings etc.**

* International level: 02
* National level: 03
* State level: 02
* Training : 02
* Awards : 01

**EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

* Conducted 34 Front Line Demonstrations on wheat and pulses.
* Established 2 seed villages for seed production of Bhaderwahi rajmash.
* Established linkages for contract farming of Bhaderwahi rajmash.
* Conducted 71 training programmes for farmers and officials of Agriculture and Horticulture Departments.
* Consultancy to FPOs and farmers regarding management of insect /pests
* Delivered 06 radio talks on different aspects of Hill Agriculture at All India Radio, Bhaderwah Jammu and Kahmir.

**(Neeraj Kotwal)**