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**Dr Sushil K. Sharma, PS, (Agricultural Microbiology)**

Dr Sushil K. Sharma is currently working as a Principal Scientist (Agricultural Microbiology) at ICAR-National Institute of Biotic Stress Management, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India in the area of microbial resource conservation, secondary metabolites of *Chromobacterium* sp and antimicrobial peptides for biotic stress management of crops. In the recent past, he worked at ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms, Maunath Bhanjan, Uttar Pradesh, India for more than 6 years in the capacity of In-charge/curator, National Agriculturally Important Microbial Culture Collection (NAIMCC, [http://www.wfcc.info/ccinfo/collection/by\\_id/1060](http://www.wfcc.info/ccinfo/collection/by_id/1060)). During 2013-2019, in the capacity of In-charge of NAIMCC, conserved more than 3500 microbial cultures and supplied around 900 cultures to Government institutions and private companies/sectors for research and bioformulation development. He also coordinated with national and international bodies such as Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee (CIBRC), National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), World Federation for Culture Collection (WFCC), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) etc for implementing regulatory mechanisms pertaining to microbial resource management of agricultural importance. Besides, he coordinated the mega-network project on “Application of Microorganisms in Agriculture and Allied Sectors (AMAAS) for its successful implementation throughout the country. He had also worked in the capacity of Director (Acting) of ICAR-NBAIM, Mau for 5 months with full administrative and financial powers. Before the above cited assignment, he had worked for 15 years at ICAR-Indian Institute of Soybean Research (ICAR-IISR), Indore in the capacity of Scientist since 1997, wherein he worked mainly on the rhizobiology of soybean and identified efficient strains of rhizobia, fungi and other plant growth promoting rhizobacteria for biofortification of Zn and Fe and also on P mobilization and assimilation by soybean and wheat crops. Dr Sharma with his team developed a method for on-farm production of AM fungi propagules for utilization by farmers. As a team member of AICRP on Soybean from 1997 to 2013, he contributed in the conduct of field trials on soybean crop for evaluation of different microbiological strains or products. During 1993-97, he developed a non-chemical method to control soil-borne pathogens associated with arid legumes through bio-fumigation of soil using cruciferous residues under natural summer heating at ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India.

A magazine ‘*Sookshmajeev Darshan*’, published in Hindi, was awarded with ‘Shri Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Krishi Patrika Puraskar’ by ICAR, New Delhi in the year 2014. So far he had published 110 articles (research, review, book chapter etc.) in both national and international journals/book/conferences. In 2018, he had edited a book on “*Microbial Resource Conservation: Conventional to Modern Approaches*” which was published by Springer, Germany. He delivered a talk in International PGPR conference in Medellin, Columbia in June, 2012 and subsequently in Asian PGPR Conference, Tashkent, Uzbekistan in 2019. At present, he is one of the members of editorial board of book series “Microorganisms for Sustainability” published by Springer Nature as well as active reviewer for many journals. Dr Sharma has been individual member of WFCC since 2015. For details of publications and citation, please visit website [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sushil\\_Sharma10/research](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sushil_Sharma10/research) (RG score 21.4), [https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=PM\\_GziIAAAAJ&hl=en](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=PM_GziIAAAAJ&hl=en) (i10: 19; h-Index: 17).

