

A brief Resume of Dr. Pradeep Kumar

Dr. Kumar is a Senior Scientist at ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur

He earned a **Ph.D. in Horticulture** from the University of Tuscia (Italy); holds M.Sc. and B.Sc. in Horticulture and Agriculture from BHU, Varanasi and NDUAT, Ayodhya, respectively

Past roles include Scientist at ICAR-CAZRI (2008–2021) and Program Assistant (Horticulture) in KVK, New Delhi (2005–2008).

He Specializes in **protected cultivation** for hot-arid climates—both soil and soilless cultivation systems—optimizing greenhouse structures, crop and water/nutrient management, and environmental stress resilience.

Deeply engaged in **vegetable grafting**, aiming to improve drought and salinity tolerance in crops like tomato, cucumber, bell pepper, etc.

Works on **abiotic stress management**, adopting techniques including biostimulants, grafting, and seed priming.

Citations & publications: 2,500+ citations with 24 h-index. Authored over 100 publications including 80+ research papers and 14 book chapters, lead papers, etc. Authored five technical bulletins/training manuals, edited books/souvenir, etc.

Awards and recognitions: Recipient of ICAR International Award, Two Societies Fellowships (Indian Society of Vegetable Science & Indian Soc. of Hort. Research & Development), Two Young Scientist Awards, several paper (oral & poster) presentation awards, besides recipient of best CAZRI Scientist award and best CAZRI research paper award.

Technologies developed: Five ICAR certified technologies, and some others included in POPs.

Transfer of Technology: Engaged in TOT through different platforms, including he is running a whatsapp group on protected cultivation since 2016, helping hundreds of farmers. He developed over 50% of all Entrepreneurs developed by CAZRI through offering EDP training by its ABI centre since its inception in 2019-20.

Invited Lecture Delivered: More than a dozen invited lectures in International/national conferences/seminars.

Visited several countries to present his research like Italy, Spain, France, Switzerland, Germany, Portugal, Turkey and Greece.