



Dr Ajay Kumar Sood

Principal Scientist & Head

Department of Entomology

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Field of specialization
and Research Interest

Specialization: Economic Entomology (Pest Management)
Research Interest: Insect and mite pest management in vegetable crops under
protected environment using biorationals and bioagents

Educational
Qualifications

Ph.D. (Entomology)

Employment Record along with Professional Experience

Principal Scientist

January 5, 2010 to continuing

Senior Scientist

January 5, 2004 to January 4, 2010

Scientist

January 5, 1995 to January 4, 2004

Professional
Experience

29 years (Teaching, Research and Farmers outreach)

Research Projects
handled

14 (as Principal Investigator)

12 (as Co-Principal Investigator)

Research Publications
(Best five publications
during last five years)

Total Publications in peer reviewed journals: 70

1. Deeksha, Ghongade D.S. and Sood A.K. 2023. Biological characteristics and parasitization potential of *Encarsia formosa* Gahan (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) on the whitefly, *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* Westwood (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae), a pest of greenhouse crops in north-western Indian Himalayas. *Egyptian Journal of Biological Pest Control* 33(3):13 (<https://doi.org/10.1186/s41938-023-00646-7>)
2. Sharma, Shakshi, **Sood, A.K.** and Ghongade, D.S. 2022. Assessment of losses inflicted by the aphid, *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer) to sweet pepper under protected environment in north western Indian Himalayan region. *Phytoparasitica* 50: 51–62.
3. Thakur, Sudeshna and **Sood, A.K.** 2022. Foliar application of natural products reduces population of two-spotted spider mite, *Tetranychus urticae* Koch on parthenocarpic cucumber (*Cucumis sativus* L.) under protected environment. *Crop Protection* (Published online) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cropro.2022.106036>
4. Joshi, Sunil, Bhaskar, H., Poon, V.S.A., Jayanthi Mala, B.R., Kamala Jayanthi, P.D., Pai, Sachin G., Thite, Sachin V., **Sood, A.K.**, Kedar, S.C., Sridhar, V., Deepthy, K.B., Navik, O. and Rachana, R.R. 2021. Occurrence and spread of *Ceroplastes cirripediformis* Comstock (Hemiptera: Coccoomorpha: Coccidae) in India. *Zootaxa* 5039 (4): 561–570
5. Ghongade, D.S. and **Sood, A.K.** 2021. Economic injury level for *Tetranychus urticae* Koch on parthenocarpic cucumber under protected environment in north-western Indian Himalayas. *Phytoparasitica* 49: 893–905.

Books published/Book
Chapters/Manual

Books: 2
Book Chapters: 6
Teaching manual: 1

	Training manuals: 5
Conference/Symposium papers	39
Farmers outreach/ including popular articles	Number of trainings organized: 25 Popular articles/ Pamphlets: 36
Students guided as major adviser	M.Sc.: 15; continuing: 2
	Ph.D.: 4; continuing: 3
Awards/Fellowships (Best three)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Awarded `Anastasios Christodoulou International Conference Grant 2004-05` by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, London, UK for participation in `XXII International Congress of Entomology`, Brisbane, Australia; August 15-21, 2004. ii) Best poster award for the paper `Evaluation of innovative formulations of <i>Eupatorium adenophorum</i> Spreng against <i>Plutella xylostella</i>` 4th International Congress on Insect Science at Bangalore organized by Indian Society for the Advancement of Insect Science from February 14-17, 2013 iii) Best paper award for the paper `Population modeling of greenhouse whitefly, <i>Trialeurodes vaporariorum</i> (Westwood) in tomato under protected cultivation in mid-hill conditions of Himachal Pradesh` in National Seminar on `Technologies and Sustainability of Protected Cultivation for Hi-Valued Vegetable Crops` organized by Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari (Gujarat, India) on 1-3 February, 2018
International exposure/Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Participated in `XXII International Congress of Entomology`, Brisbane, Australia; August 15-21, 2004. ii) Visited University of Minnesota, Saint Paul Minneapolis for 45 days training on `Genome Editing in Soybean` w.e.f. August 16, 2023 to September 30, 2023
Miscellaneous achievements/activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Developed 12 Agro-technologies which have been incorporated in Package of Practices of different crops for the benefit of farming community ii) Associated with development of ten crop varieties of cucumber, tomato, garden pea and mustard