

First Circular

# Progressive Horticulture National Symposium (PHNS-2024)

on

# Horticulture in the HIMALAYAS



17- 19 October, 2024



## TIMELINES

Abstract Submission Opens

Early Bird Registration  
Deadline

PHNS-2024 Begins

1 Aug., 2024

10 Sep., 2024

17 Oct., 2024

15 July., 2024

10 Aug., 2024

20 Sep., 2024

Announcement of PHNS-2024

Early Bird Registration  
Opens

Abstract Submission  
Deadline



## Organized By



Department of Horticulture  
School of Agriculture & Allied Science  
H.N.B. Garhwal University (A Central University),  
Srinagar (Garhwal)-246174, Uttarakhand, India

## In Association with



Indian Society of Horticultural Research  
& Development (ISHRD), Uttarakhand, India



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Payment



Venue



Registration



## About Progressive Horticulture National Symposium (PHNS-2024)

Himalayan mountains represent royalty and aristocracy in their natural landscape, flora and fauna. The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) covers ~95 districts of the Indian union, which starts from the foothills in the south (Siwalik); the region extends to the Tibetan Plateau in the north (trans-Himalaya). The IHR occupies a strategic position of forming the entire northern boundary (northwest to northeast) of the country and touches almost all the international borders of seven countries with India. The contribution of India is ~16 % of total geographical area, out of which ~17 % area is under permanent snow cover and ~35 % is under seasonal snow cover. The IHR is responsible for providing water to a large part of the Indian subcontinent and contains varied flora and fauna; it was estimated that ~40 million of the population reside in this region. The Indian Himalayan rivers run off ~1,600,000 million m<sup>3</sup> of water annually for drinking, irrigation, hydro-power, etc. The IHR has been a potential source of important horticultural crops including fruits, vegetables, medicinal herbs and shrubs. This region is extremely rich in plant life and abounds in genetic diversity of all types. These high hills are the storehouse of numerous horticultural crops, which are exploited not only for the pharmaceutical industries but also for other purposes. Besides this, the Himalayan regions remain as a source of many agricultural and allied enterprises.

Horticulture is one of critical sectors in the economy of the Indian Himalayan regions (IHR). It provides much needed opportunity for diversification and increased employment in the Himalayan states, where scope of high rate of growth in conventional agriculture is rather limited due to topography and scattered and marginal holdings. The climate change impact is at a global level, and this Himalayan region is no exception. Flooding, drought, wildfire and other changes resulting from pollution and overexploitation of resources, threaten the sustainability and productivity of important crops in the region. Additionally, the region is facing water scarcity issues, land degradation, deforestation, unsustainable agriculture practices, soil fertility and stability, making it difficult for farmers to maintain productivity of horticulture crops. Socio-economic factors further compound the challenges faced by farmers in the Himalayas. Limited access to markets, infrastructure, and agricultural extension services restricts their ability to adopt improved farming practices and technologies. Additionally, the outmigration of the younger population to urban areas in search of better opportunities leaves behind an aging workforce, less capable for coping with the physical demands of farming and less open to adopting innovative practices. The current state of infrastructure and technology presents another hurdle for Himalayan horticulture. Rugged terrain and

limited infrastructure make transportation of goods challenging and expensive. Lack of proper storage facilities leads to spoilage, especially for perishable commodities. Access to modern technologies, such as precision irrigation systems and weather monitoring tools, is often limited, hindering efficient resource management and adaptation to climate variability. Government policies and support systems are often inadequate in addressing the unique needs of farmers in the Himalayas. There is a lack of tailored horticultural research and extension services that consider the region's specific climatic and topographical conditions. Moreover, subsidies and financial incentives for sustainable horticultural farming practices are often inaccessible to small-scale farmers due to bureaucratic hurdles and lack of awareness. In conclusion, the emerging challenges for horticultural farming in the Himalayan region are multifaceted and interlinked, requiring a holistic and integrated approach to address them effectively. Research into climate-resilient crop varieties and integrated disease/pest management practices can offer solutions for a changing environment. Exploring alternative revenue streams through organic certification, planting density, food processing and geographically indicated products (GI tags) can enhance farmer income and market access. Investing in infrastructure including post-harvest processing, cold storage facilities and improved transportation networks, will reduce post-harvest losses and connect farmers with wider markets. Integrating technology, such as mobile phone applications that provide market information and weather forecasts, can empower farmers with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions.

Considering the above-mentioned challenges of Himalayan Horticulture and their expected role in ensuring food and nutritional security to mankind by turning the Horticultural Sciences into Useful technologies. The Progressive Horticulture National Symposium (PHNS)-2024 is being jointly organized by the HNB Garhwal University (A Central University), Srinagar (Garhwal) in association with Indian Society of Horticultural Research and Development, Uttarakhand and VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar on October 17-19, 2024. The deliberations during this event will generate enormous interest amongst horticultural fraternity and result in many useful recommendations for consideration of different implementing agencies. The Organizing committee deems it an honour in inviting all its stakeholders associated with horticulture and allied sectors and representatives from the public/private sector, central and state government departments, scientists and students from institutes and universities, entrepreneurs/farmers, banks and financial institutions, representatives from media, farmers' associations, agri-input suppliers, etc. The official language of the symposium will be English and Hindi.



## About the Host

Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, was established as a State University vide U.P. State Government notification no. (10)/(865)/15/(75)(85)/64 dated 23 November 1973. It has a rare distinction of taking birth through a powerful and popular movement during the early 1970s. This movement symbolized the hopes and aspirations of the masses for the development of higher education institutions in the Garhwal region. The people of this remote mountain region struggled for opening a university in the small but historic semi-rural town of Srinagar, Garhwal. It was an expression of the quest for empowering their future generations to overcome endemic economic and social backwardness, geographic and environmental constraints, preserving cultural identity, and harnessing the human resources for development. The HNBGU was converted to a Central University on 15th January 2009 by an Act of Parliament i.e. The Central Universities Act 2009. The University has thus been entrusted with new responsibilities to guide its students, faculty and all other stakeholders to achieve excellence in academics and strive for the all-round development of the students. Since its inception, the University has shown commitment towards regional and

community development inherent in its teaching courses, research agenda and other outreach and extension initiatives. The synergy derived from the circumstances of its genesis still inspires and promotes its vision for the future. However, being a Central University, HNBGU has a Pan-India appeal and draws students from various pockets of the country.

The University, nestled in the lap of Himalaya, ranges in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand, is a residential cum affiliating institution of higher learning. It has jurisdiction over seven districts of the Garhwal region of UK. The University has three Campuses distantly located from each other - Birla Campus with its extension at Chauras Campus Srinagar Garhwal, B. Gopal Reddy (BGR) Campus Pauri and Swami Ram Teerth (SRT) Campus Badshahithaul, Tehri. In addition, there are 121 colleges/ institutes affiliated with HNBGU, spreading over 07 districts of the Garhwal region. On University Campuses, UG, PG and Doctoral programmes are offered in various disciplines. Besides conventional courses, the University has introduced some regionally relevant courses of greater significance for the mountainous areas also.

**Details are available on university website (<https://hnbgu.ac.in>)**



## About the Society

The genesis of the Society of Horticultural Research and Development (ISHRD), dates back to March, 1969. Initially, it was registered as the Hill Horticulture Development Board (HHDB) at the Horticulture Experiment and Training Centre (HETC), Chaubattia, Ranikhet, Almora, Uttar Pradesh (Now Uttarakhand). The promotion of research in horticulture and publication of research journal was the dream of Dr. S.S. Teotia, the then Director, of the Directorate of Fruit Utilization, Government of Uttar Pradesh. A quarterly journal "Progressive Horticulture" was first published in April-June, 1969. Since then, the journal has successfully completed 55 volumes of its publication. Luminaries in the field like Dr. J.N. Seth, Dr. R.P. Srivastava, Dr. D.S. Rathor, Dr. S.D. Lal Mishra, Dr. P.L. Gautam, and Dr. H.P. Singh have contributed immensely

toward the growth of society, and its journal, which is regularly publishing significant research pertaining to horticulture.

Presently the Society is marching under the able and dynamic leadership of Prof. R.K. Pathak, as its President. Progressive Horticulture is the second oldest journal of horticulture in the country, widely cited by the scientific fraternity. Presently, the journal is published bi-annually in the months of June and December. The journal is available online at [www.indianjournals.com](http://www.indianjournals.com) and on its website at [www.progressivehorticulture.in](http://www.progressivehorticulture.in). Beside the publication of the journal, ISHRD has also instituted prestigious awards for various stake holders. ISHRD also organizes its lead event Progressive Horticulture Conclave (PHC) and National Symposia on specific leading issues, regularly.



## About the VCSG UUHf Bharsar

Hills cover major part of Uttarakhand State. About 65% of the total geographical area is under forest. For multitude reasons, agriculture in hill region of the state has been at subsistence level. However, horticulture and forestry are the two major sectors that hold enormous potential for sustainable growth. With a view to develop these sectors through scientific interventions, the state government of Uttarakhand established VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture & Forestry (VCSG UUHf) by an Act of State Legislative Assembly [The Uttarakhand Krishi Evam Prodhogiki Vishwavidhyalaya (Amendment) Act, 2011 {Uttarakhand Act No.13 of 2011}] dated 28th April, 2011 with head quarter at Bharsar, Pauri Garhwal. The Notification No. 732/XIII-II/2011-12(02)/2011, dated 26th September, 2011 has also been issued in this regard by the state government. It is a state government university, and is lined with National Agriculture Research System (NARS) and Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR). The University has been named in the honour of freedom fighter Late Shri Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali (VCSG) who was associated with Peshawar events of 1931 (by an amendment by the state government vide gazette notification number 339/XXXVI (3)/2015/89(1)/2014 dated January 22, 2015). With the establishment of VCSG UUHf, various colleges, research centers and KVKs viz; College of Horticulture, Bharsar; KVK, Distt. Pauri Garhwal, Bharsar; College of Forestry & Hill Agriculture and KVK, Ranichauri, Distt. Tehri Garhwal; and Research Centers at Kanatal and Gaja (Tehri Garhwal) of Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar have been merged with UUHf.

At present, the University has 3 colleges viz; College of Horticulture (CoH), Bharsar; College of Forestry (CoF), Ranichauri; College of Hill Agriculture (CoHA), Chirbatiya; 2 R&D institutes i.e. Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants (IMAP), Gairsain, Chamoli and Institute of Food Science & Technology (IFST), Doiwala, Dehradun and 5 centres viz., Research & Extension Center, Selaqui, Dehradun; Center of Excellence for Temperate Fruits, Kanatal (Tehri); Research & Extension Center, Gaja (Tehri); Mali Training Centres, Pratapnagar and Jakhinda (Tehri) and 2 KVKs viz; KVK, Pauri Garhwal (Bharsar) and KVK, Tehri Garhwal (Ranichauri). Within a short period after its establishment, University has excelled especially in the teaching-learning of horticulture and forestry. This is evident from the fact that students from across the 18 states of the country have been enrolled so far and they are outshining in their respective fields after completing various degree courses from this university.

**More details are available on university website (<https://uuhf.ac.in>)**



## The Events during National Symposium

**Presentations:** The PHNS-2024 will provide an opportunity for lead and invited lectures, oral and poster presentations in each of the thematic areas based on the selection of the abstracts by the competent committee. Detailed presentation schedule and guidelines will be made available on the society's website: [www.progressivehorticulture.in](http://www.progressivehorticulture.in)

**Lead/Invited Papers:** Lead papers on topics pertinent to the theme of the technical sessions will be invited from leading researchers/academicians/authorities. Full-length lead/invited papers will be published in the conference compendium. Details will be available on the society's website: [www.progressivehorticulture.in](http://www.progressivehorticulture.in)

**Oral and Poster Presentations:** The abstracts received will be peer-reviewed and screened by the competent committee for mode of presentation. Abstracts of only registered participants will be published in the book of abstracts and presented in oral/ poster form in the three-day event. Detailed guidelines for oral/poster presentation will be made available on the society's website ([www.progressivehorticulture.in](http://www.progressivehorticulture.in)).

**Awards:** The society will announce its awards and recommended Fellowship namely, Life Time Achievement Award, Horticulture Leadership Award, Best Teacher Award and ISHRD Fellowships will be conferred during inaugural/valedictory functions of PHNS. Besides these, the best oral and poster presentations in each session will be judged and awarded. Also, the Best Women Researcher and Best Thesis Research Awards will also be conferred during the Symposium.

**Call for Abstracts:** The abstracts should be submitted in the following defined thematic areas. The 300 words abstract should be in MS word, Times New Roman, 12 font size containing a short title, name and affiliation of the author(s), introduction of problem, methodology followed and experimental results with conclusion. The e-mail address of the corresponding author must be mentioned. Top right side of the abstract should mention the name of the technical session opted. The guidelines for oral/ poster presentation will be made available on the society's website ([www.progressivehorticulture.in](http://www.progressivehorticulture.in)).



## Major Themes of the Symposium

Technical Session	Thematic Area
I	Diversity, New Crops and Wild Edible of Himalayas
II	Crop Improvement and Varietal Developments
III	Planting Materials and Other Inputs Issues
IV	Organic/ Natural Production and Innovations in Horticulture
V	Soiless/Precision Horticulture and New Tools for Himalayas
VI	Post-Harvest and Value addition Technologies
VII	Plant Protection and Climate Change Issues in Himalayas
VIII	Beekeeping, Mushroom Cultivation and Traditional Herbal Knowledge
IX	Success Stories, Marketing and Horti-business
X	Progressive Farmers and Industry Meet

## Programmes

On 17th October, 2024, an opening ceremony will kick-off the Progressive Horticulture National Symposium (PHNS-2024) at 11.00 Hrs which will be followed by two days of concurrent technical sessions. Each technical session will have a Plenary lecture to highlight an overview of the session theme; while Lead and Invited talks will provide in-depth analysis of specific aspects of Himalayan horticulture. Contributory paper presentation will provide an opportunity to the participants to share their research findings. Throughout the symposium, there will be ample opportunities for personalized R2R (researcher to researcher) and B2B (business to business) interaction. On 19th October, 2024, we will have a valedictory session where we will discuss the key takeaways from each of the technical sessions and outline the future roadmap. There will be a trip to nearby area. A contributory local sightseeing or city tour can be organized based on the number of interested participants.

## Timelines



## Registration Fee

Category	Registration Fee (Rs)	
	Early Bird (till Sep. 15, 2024)	On the Spot
Cooperate Sector	6,000/-	7,000/-
Faculties/ Scientists/ Academicians (ISHRD Member)	4,000/-	5,000/-
Faculties/ Scientists/ Academicians (Non-Member)	5,000/-	6,000/-
Students/ Research Fellows/ Farmers	1500/-	2000/-



## The Payment Details

It is advisable that delegates must get registered in advance by filling the registration form and depositing the required registration fees in the account of **Organizer, Progressive Horticulture National Symposium (PHNS-2024), Account no. 43096760551 IFSC Code: SBIN0010583 of State Bank of India, (10583)- HNBGU Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand**. The transaction details with the duly filled registration form (Copy of ID card & and a certificate on non-availing any fellowship is required for student delegates) must be emailed to [phnshnbg2024@gmail.com](mailto:phnshnbg2024@gmail.com), [proghortsymp2024@gmail.com](mailto:proghortsymp2024@gmail.com)



Payment

## Symposium Venue and Weather conditions

The venue of PHNS-2024 is the Department of Horticulture, H.N.B Garhwal University, located in Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand. Srinagar is known for its beauty that embodies green rolling mountains, lush forest and the meandering River Alakananda.

Geographically, it is positioned in the Alaknanda valley, nestled between a longitude of 78° 47' 30" E and a latitude of 30° 13' 0" N, at the heart of the Garhwal region. This site boasts an elevation of 540 meters above mean sea level (AMSL) and is nestled in the lesser Himalayan region. The valley itself spans approximately 6 kilometers in length and 1 kilometer in width, bisected by the sacred river "Alaknanda," which flows in a North-East to South-West direction. Moreover, this location is conveniently located 143 kilometers from Dehradun, along the Delhi- Badrinath Highway (NH-58). The valley region of Srinagar Garhwal exhibits a subtropical climate. The average temperature in Srinagar during the events is expected to be 26 °C max. and min..11 °C



## How to reach Srinagar (Garhwal)

One can easily reach Srinagar by road from any part of Uttarakhand. Besides, there are other means like railways and airways service to get here.

**By Air:** At a distance of 128 km from Srinagar is the Jolly grant, Dehradun Airport, which is the nearest one from where visitors can easily get a cab to reach here.

**By Rail:** The nearest railway stations are Rishikesh and Haridwar which are 110 km and 136 km away respectively from Srinagar. After reaching the railway stations, one can easily get a taxi/bus to Srinagar. As Rishikesh railway station is not connected to major cities so people opt to travel till Haridwar railway station, which has better connectivity.

**By Road:** NH-58 conjoins Delhi with Badrinath and Mana Pass in Uttarakhand which is close to Indo-Tibet Border and as Srinagar lies on NH-58, it is a major stop for the buses travelling to and from Delhi to Badrinath via Haridwar and Rishikesh. Regular bus service by Uttarakhand Transport Corporation and several private bus operators is made available to the tourists. There are also cabs readily available from Rishikesh, Haridwar, and many parts of the state to reach Srinagar.



Venue

## Accommodation

A limited number of pre-registered delegates will be accommodated in the University Guest Houses, on first-come-first-serve basis on official rate. Other participants are requested to book their accommodation directly at the hotels of their choice available in Srinagar city. Organizer may also book the hotel on request by the participants subject to payment of full tariff (non-refundable) in advance. We suggest making your reservations as early as possible to get the best discount and to avoid any tourist rush.



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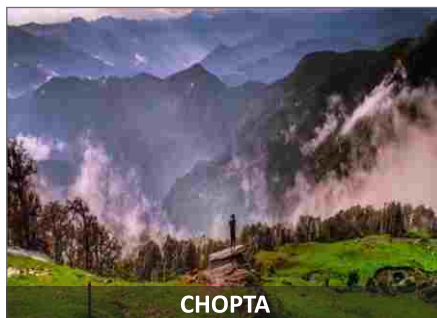
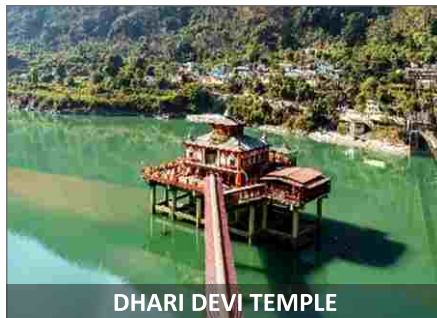
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