



Dr. S K Luthra

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Mobile: 09457033148; **Email address:** skluthra@hotmail.com

Dr. SK Luthra, a potato breeder, started his career as Scientist-Genetics & Cytogenetics at National Academy of Agricultural Research Mangemnet, Hyderabad on 5th October, 1989, later he joined Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla in 1990 and presently working as Principal Scientist-Genetics & Cytogenetics in Crop Improvement division at CPRI Campus Modipuram, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. He has twenty-seven-year experience in germplasm management, varietal development and extension of potato varieties to the stakeholders and associated with institute (3), externally funded (2) and international collaborative (2) programmes. He is Principal investigator of the institute programme “Breeding to evolve trait specific varieties for productivity, quality and resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses” with a mission to meet the varietal requirement of different agro-ecologies like sub-tropical plains (short duration agile potatoes for table and processing, specialty potatoes), hills (resistance to late blight, cyst nematode), plateau regions (tolerance to high temperature, drought & viruses) and conducting adaptation evaluation trials in multi-cultural environment of the country. Dr. Luthra’s contribution for development of varieties for different eco-system and uses (table & processing) has been remarkable and he has developed and introduced 59 advanced hybrids in AICRP on Potato. He has five varieties namely Kufri Anand, Kufri Arun, Kufri Sadabahar, Kufri Garima and Kufri Mohan to his credit. He has registered four elite genetic stocks namely SS1735-2 (resistance to cold induced sweetening), SS1725-22, SS2040 (frost tolerance) and P7 (late blight resistance & excellent keeping quality). Dr Luthra has standardized the flower induction technology under short days by extended photoperiod and application of hormones for production of TPS. He has 156 national/international publications to his credit including 69 research papers, 21 popular articles, 9 technical bulletins, books, annual reports, 8 book chapters and 49 research abstracts etc.,. He has attended 58 trainings/workshop/symposia and delivered 50 lectures in international/national training/radio/TV programmes. He has been awarded best poster award for his work on “Germplasm evaluation for low cold induced sweetening” (2008). He is fellows of ISGPB, New Delhi (1999) & IPA, Shimla (2014) and was conferred with CPRI best worker award 2015 (scientific category) and Dr S Ramanujam award (2012-2015) for team work on Genetic enhancement of *Solanum* gene pool through conventional and molecular approaches (Potato Research and Development in India).