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Specialization: Soil Fertility and Chemistry

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Ongoing Research Projects

- Scientific exploration of natural farming system in apple cultivation through bio-prospective insights funded by State Department of Agriculture, Shimla, HP for ₹24.0 lakh from 2025 (Principal Investigator).
- Establishment of Natural Farming Model Farm at RHR&TS Mashobra & farmers' field funded by ICAR-IIFSR, Modipuram for ₹ 5.555 lakh from 2025 (Principal Investigator).

Important Research Publications

- Sharma U, Kaler NS and Verma S. 2025. Effect of foliar application of boron on apple yield and socio-economic status of farmers in cold desert region of North-Western Himalayas. *Journal of Applied Horticulture* **27**(2): 211-214.
- Sharma U, Vashisth S and Verma S. 2025. Effect of mulching on soil moisture conservation, yield, soil properties and profitability in apple (*Malus domestica*) at cold desert region in North-Western Himalayas. *Journal of Horticultural Sciences* **20**(2):
- Baghla D, Butail NP, Sharma U, Thakur P, Thakur P, Anjali, Shukla AK, Sharma M, Kumar P, Behera SK and Kumar P. 2025. Efficacy of zinc fertilizers on potato performance in an acid alfisol. *Soil Science Society of America Journal* **89**(1).
- Thakur P, Kumar P, Shukla AK, Butail NP, Sharma M, Kumar P and Sharma U. 2023. Quantitative, qualitative and energy assessment of boron fertilization on maize production in North-West Himalayan region. *International Journal of Plant Production* **17**: 165-76.
- Butail NP, Kumar P, Shukla AK, Behera SK, Sharma M, Kumar P, Sharma U, Takkar PN, Rao CS, Trivedi V, Das S and Green A. 2022. Zinc dynamics and yield sustainability in relation to Zn application under maize-wheat cropping on Typic Hapludalfs. *Field Crops Research* **283**: 108525.
- Nazir G, Kumar P, Shukla AK and Sharma U. 2019. Influence of boron fertilization on cauliflower productivity, nutrient uptake and soil nutrient status in an acid Alfisol in Northwestern Himalaya. *Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis* **50**(12): 1403-16.
- Sharma U and Subehia SK. 2016. Fractions of copper in soil and their contribution to copper availability in rice - wheat cropping system under long-term integrated nutrient management in an acid Alfisol. *Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis* **47**(08):980-8.

- Sharma U, Paliyal SS, Sharma SP and Sharma GD. 2014. Effects of continuous use of chemical fertilizers and manure on soil fertility and productivity of maize-wheat under rainfed conditions of the Western Himalayas. *Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis* **45**(20):2647-59.
- Sharma U and Subehia SK. 2014. Chemical fractions of zinc and their contribution towards its availability under long-term integrated nutrient management in rice-wheat sequence in an acidic Alfisol. *Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis* **45**(22):2898-10.
- Sharma U and Subehia SK. 2014. Effect of long-term integrated nutrient management on rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) - wheat (*Triticumaestivum* L.) productivity and soil properties in North Western Himalaya. *Journal of the Indian Society of Soil Science* **62**(3):248-54.