

BRIEF BIO-DATA & SIGNIFICANT COBTRIBUTIONS



Dr. M. S. Ladaniya, Director, Central Citrus Research Institute, Nagpur

Born on 12th January 1959 in Maharashtra, Dr. M.S. Ladaniya received his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Horticulture with specialization in Fruit Crops from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana during 1982 and 1986, respectively. He joined ARS at IIHR, Bengaluru in June, 1986 and later shifted to NRCC, Nagpur in May 1987. He has made outstanding contributions in developing post-harvest protocols for fresh citrus fruits and has laid foundation of systematic post-harvest research on citrus fruits in 1987 at NRCC, Nagpur. On the basis of his pioneering research on mechanized handling of Indian citrus varieties, packinghouses including degreening, pre-cooling and refrigerated storage facilities are established in many parts of the country for Kinnow, Nagpur mandarin, acid lime and sweet orange. His contributions cover development of standards for fruit maturity, degreening, handling, packaging containers, modified atmosphere packaging and storage. Growers have adopted many of his technologies including higher capacity low-cost evaporative cool chamber and gibberellic acid treatment for delayed harvesting to avoid market gluts. He established processing unit at ICAR RC (Goa) and developed carbonated drink from cashew apple juice and carambola squash besides techniques to extend shelf-life of tropical cut flowers & fruits. His efforts led to development of quality standards for citrus and most of his technologies find place in package of practices published by APEDA for Nagpur mandarin. He has provided consultancies on post-harvest management to many government and private organizations, individual growers and entrepreneurs.

Dr. Ladaniya has received advanced training for 4 months in post-harvest physiology & technology in the USA and as a principal investigator completed more than 14 inter-institutional, externally funded and in-house projects in his career of 30 years so far. He has authored over 50 peer reviewed research papers, 3 technical bulletins, 22 popular articles, 15 extension bulletins, 3 books and 10 book chapters apart from 50 presentations in seminars and symposia. He was invited to present oral and poster paper presentations at 12th International Citrus Congress, Valencia, Spain in 2012.

As a head, Horticulture Section at ICAR Research Complex for Goa, he has introduced germplasm of cut flowers like Heliconia, Bird of Paradise, lilies, anthurium and many fruit species form different parts of the country. He also initiated work on protected cultivation of cut flowers and established economic

viability of these ventures in Goa. He has initiated work on high density planting of citrus at NRCC, Nagpur and started demonstration trials at farmers' fields. He has also started demonstrations of canopy management at Wadegaon, Akola, in overgrown acid lime orchards to invigorate 18-20 year old trees which constitute 35-40% of area under this crop. Dr. M. S. Ladaniya is working as a PI of 2 externally funded and 1 institutional research projects at present.

Dr. Ladaniya is a recipient of Hari Om Ashram Trust Award in Horticulture from ICAR(2001-02), Kejriwal and K.U Patel Awards from All India fruit and vegetable Processors Association, New Delhi, Vasant Rao Naik Gold Medal from Dr. PDKV, Akola and Dr. J. C. Anand Gold Medal (2012) from Horticultural Society of India (HSI) for contributions in Postharvest Technology. He is a fellow of Horticultural Society of India (HSI), Indian Society of Citriculture and the Confederation of Horticultural Association of India (CHAI). He is an executive councilor of the HSI and associated with 7 professional Agricultural/Horticultural Societies including Int. Soc. Hort. Sci. and Int. Soc. Citriculture. Presently he is working as a Mission Leader of Technology Mission on Citrus for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Chhindwara since September 2013. He is elected unopposed as the President of the Indian Society of Citriculture in December 2014. He is also a crop (Citrus) Co-ordinator in All India Co-ordinated Research Project for Fruits. He has joined as a Director of the ICAR-CCRI from 2nd September, 2013.

Foreign experience:

- 1) Training in USA (Oregon, California and Florida) on Post harvest Technology for 4 months (1988- 89) .
- 2) Presentation of invited research papers at International Citrus Congress at Valencia, Spain (2012). Visit to Citrus industry of Spain (15 days).