

Obituary

Dr. Kartar Singh Brar (06.04.1947 to 27.01.2022)



Dr. Kartar Singh Brar, Professor of Entomology (Retd.) Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab) was born on April 6, 1947 at Village Jalal (District Bathinda) in Punjab. He completed school education from his home town. He pursued B.Sc. (Agriculture), M.Sc. (Entomology) and Ph.D (Entomology) from PAU Ludhiana. He joined PAU as a Research Assistant in 1971 and thereafter worked in the University as Assistant Entomologist, Entomologist, Senior Insect Ecologist and Professor of Entomology. He attained superannuation on April 30, 2007. He was an excellent researcher, teacher and an extension worker by profession and a definitely a great human being. During his service tenure, he was actively involved in the development of effective and sound strategies for the management of major insect pests of cotton, rice, sugarcane, oilseed and vegetables. His contributions especially in the development of biocontrol based pest management programmes are indeed

significant. Being Principal Investigator in ICAR-AICRP on Biological Control of Crop Pests and Weeds, he gave significant recommendations on the biocontrol of lepidopteran pests in sugarcane, rice and maize using *Trichogramma* bioagents, which is still being followed by the farmers of Punjab on large scale and has been adopted by the sugar mills of the state. His other notable contributions are the development of IPM modules for mustard aphid, white grub of groundnut, foliage feeders of sunflower, sucking pests and bollworm complex of cotton, tomato fruit borer etc. He handled two research projects as PI, three as Co-PI and eight as a collaborator. He published his research work in the field of biological control, crop entomology (vegetables, oilseeds, cotton) as major author and has co-authored in more than 132 research papers in reputed journals. He also has 15 full papers as proceedings and 2 book chapters. His research contribution has been presented in more than 41 conferences at

the National and International level. As an extension worker, he had outstanding contributions in the demonstration and transfer of BIPM technology to the farmers of Punjab state. He has to his credit more than 75 extension articles published in vernacular language. He taught 9 UG courses and 3 PG courses and guided 4 M. Sc. and one Ph.D. students.

His immense and significant contributions in the field of entomology, especially biocontrol will be remembered forever. He left for heavenly abode on 27th January, 2022. Dr Kartar Singh Brar was a dedicated scientist and his sad demise is an irreparable loss not only to his family and relatives, but also to scientific community. We pray to God to grant peace to his departed soul and provide strength to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

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