

Dr Meena Thakur

Senior Scientist

Specialization: Apiculture

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Ongoing Research Projects

- Honey and other hive products production model for sustainable high-hill beekeeping in Himachal Pradesh funded by NBB under NBHM, MOA & Farmers Welfare, GOI with ICAR-IARI, New Delhi for ₹ 335.27 lakh (Principal Investigator).
- Exploration of Gut Microbiome for Sustainable Beekeeping funded by NBB under NBHM, MOA & Farmers Welfare, GOI with ICAR-IARI, New Delhi for ₹ 9.0 lakh (CCPI from Solan Centre).
- Establishment of Disease Diagnostic Laboratory funded by NBB under NBHM, MOA & Farmers Welfare, GOI for ₹ 29.95 lakh (As Principal Investigator).
- AICRP on Honey Bees and Pollinators (long term project) funded by ICAR, New Delhi for ₹ 50.0lakhs/year (Co-PI/ Collaborator).
- Managed Pollination Component under Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project (HP-HDP) funded by World Bank for ₹ 760.65 lakh (Co-PI/ Collaborator).
- Identification of potential honey pockets & Scientific interventions for high altitude honey production funded by NBB, New Delhi for ₹ 16.00 lakh (Co-PI/ Collaborator).
- Skill Development Programme under Himachal Pradesh Kaushal Vikas Nigam (HPKVN)-Co-PI for Beekeeping component funded by HPKVN for ₹ 20.0 lakh (Co-PI/ Collaborator).

Important Research Publications

- Devi S. Parihar A, Thakur M, and Sharma HK 2021 Antibacterial potential of hive bees honey from Himachal Pradesh. *India Archives of Microbiology* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00203-021-02489-y>.
- Negi BR, Sharma HK, Thakur M and Prashad H. 2021. Lethal and sublethal effects of thiamethoxam, a neonicotinoid molecule, on colony performance of *A. mellifera*. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-021-16426-5>.
- Kaur M, Thakur M and Sharma KC. 2021. Biological and life table parameters of diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella* (L.) (Lepidoptera: Yponomeutidae) from five different geographical regions of India. *Phytoparasitica* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12600-021-00916-w>.
- Thakur M, Gupta N and Sharma HK. 2021. Physicochemical characteristics and mineral status of honey from different agro-climatic zones of Himachal Pradesh, India <https://www.emerald.com/insight/0007-070X.htm>.
- Thakur S, Sharma HK, Rana K, Thakur M, Sharma MK and Nayak RK. 2021. Bumble bee (*Bombus haemorrhoidalis* Smith) - a potential pollinator in bell pepper under protected cultivation *Indian Journal of Horticulture* **78**(1):84-87.
- Negi Neha, Thakur M, Sharma HK and Rana K. 2020. Survey studies on beekeeping with *Apis mellifera* in Himachal Pradesh: Beekeeper's prospective. *Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies* **8**(1):315-318.
- Sharma HK, Kalia L, Sharma R, Thakur M, Prasad H, Devi M, Thakur P, Sharma D and Rana K. 2020. Seasonal incidence, epidemiology and establishment of different pests and

disease in laboratory reared *Bombus haemorrhoidalis* Smith. Manuscriptid: JTIS-D-20-00557R1. *International Journal of Tropical Insect Science*: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42690-021-00435-5>.

- Singh P, Thakur M, Chander K, Sharam HK and Nayak RK. 2020. Larval feeding capacity and pollination efficiency of the aphidophagous syrphids, *Eupodes frequens* (Matsmura) and *Episyrphus balteatus* (De Geer) Diptera: Syrphidae) on the cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae* L.) (Homoptera: Aphidae) on mustard crop. *Egyptian Journal of biological Pest Control* **30**:105.
- Thakur M, Negi N, Sharma HK, Rana K and Devi M. 2020. Incidence of *Tropilaelaps clareae* on *Apis cerana* at (Nauni) Solan, Himachal Pradesh. *Journal of Apicultural Research*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00218839.2020.1790792>.
- Nayak RK, Rana K, Sharma HK, Rana VS and Thakur M. 2019. Influence of bumble bee pollination on quantitative and qualitative parameters of kiwi fruit. *Indian Journal of Horticulture* **76** (2):294-299.

Awards & Recognitions

- **Best Oral Presentation** for presenting work on Physicochemical characteristics and mineral status of some unifloral honeys from Himachal Pradesh” “VII International Conference in Hybrid Mode on Global Research Initiatives for Sustainable Agriculture and Allied Sciences (GRISAAS-2022)” w.e.f November 21- 23, 2022.
- ‘Er JP Gupta Memorial All India **Best Research Award at Master’s Level** 2022 “awarded to Ms Rohini Sharma (Student guided as major advisor) on the topic Melissopalynological and physico-chemical characteristics of honey from different regions of Himachal Pradesh. MSc Thesis, Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry Nauni Solan.
- **Best poster presentation** on “Physicochemical and Mineral status of floral honey from Himachal Pradesh” to Ms Rohini Sharma (student guided) In “VII International Conference in Hybrid Mode on Global Research Initiatives for Sustainable Agriculture and Allied Sciences (GRISAAS-2022)” w.e.f November 21- 23, 2022.
- **Best oral presentation** for presenting work on “Physico-chemical characteristics and correlation analysis of honey of wild honeybees” in National Web Symposium on “Recent Advances in Beneficial Insects, Natural Resins and Gums” (virtual mode) jointly organized by Society for Advancement of Natural Resins & Gums (SARANG), Ranchi and ICAR Institute- Indian Institute of Natural Resins & Gums (IINRG). w.e.f. February 25-26, 2021.
- **2nd prize for poster presentation** on “Quality characteristics of squeezed honey of hive and wild honeybees” to Ms Neha Gupta (student guided). In: 2nd International Conference on Recent Advances in Agricultural, Environmental and Applied Sciences for Global Development (RAEASGD-2019) held on dated at Dr. YS Parmar UHF Nauni, Solan, H.P. w.e.f September 27-29, 2019.