

November 10, 2022

Announces

Dr Darshan Singh Brar Award in Agriculture -2022

Dr. Darshan Singh Brar was an outstanding Geneticist and a Biotechnologist. He was a faculty member at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) from 1973 to 1987. While at PAU, he started the biotechnology research and teaching program, and trained numerous students and young scientists. He motivated and supported hundreds of students to pursue Ph.D. degrees in advanced laboratories not only in India but also globally. He was a kind, humble and generous person.



Dr. Brar joined the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) as a Plant Breeder in 1987, where he rose to the coveted position of the Head of the Division of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology from 2007-2012. He was a dedicated teacher and an outstanding scientist. He spent a major part of his career at IRRI, striving to broaden the gene pool of cultivated rice through interspecific hybridization. He identified many novel genes for tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses, as well as yield-enhancing QTL in an array of wild relatives and transferred them to cultivated rice. His work on understanding the patterns of alien introgression, using molecular markers, led to a paradigm shift in the use of wild species in wide hybridization programs in crop improvement. Dr. Brar was a fine blend of having an in-depth understanding of conventional plant breeding approaches and modern biotechnology. He developed several rice breeding lines with resistance to bacterial blight, blast, brown planthopper, tungro virus and iron toxicity. While some of his introgression lines were released as varieties, most others were used in various rice breeding programs for varietal development worldwide. Dr. Brar's scientific achievements contributed significantly to global food security. At IRRI, he also served as an academic mentor for several MS and PhD students, and he was always a sought-after teacher. Throughout his career, Dr. Brar played a critical role in organizing several international conferences and symposia, all of which had one mission in common - to support and kindle the spirit of young researchers from developing countries.

After retiring from IRRI in 2012, Dr. Brar rejoined his alma mater PAU where he served as an Honorary Adjunct Professor and continued his zeal for teaching and mentoring students and young scientists. His sudden demise on March 11, 2020, came as a great loss to his family, friends, and the scientific community worldwide. To honor and celebrate legacy of Dr Brar, his friends, students, and

Dr Gurdev Singh Khush
Chairman

Dr Harwant Kaur Khush
Vice Chairperson

Dr Kuldeep Singh
Secretary

Dr Gurjit Singh Mangat
Treasurer

Ex-officio Member
Vice Chancellor, PAU

Members

Dr Sardara Singh Johl

Dr Ranjiv Singh Khush

Dr Navtej S Bains

Dr RS Tamber

Sh KS Pannu, IAS

Dr Gurdial S Sidhu

Ms Rajdev Brar

Dr. Gurdev Singh Khush Foundation for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences

family have established an 'Endowment Fund'. Income from this endowment will be used to support an award in his name to recognize achievements of outstanding scientists in the field of agriculture.

The Award

The award is named “**Dr. Darshan Singh Brar Award in Agriculture**”. It will be given annually to an Indian agricultural scientist irrespective of age. It will carry a cash award of Rs 3.0 lakh, a citation, and a plaque. The awardee will be invited to PAU to receive the award and deliver a lecture on his/her research contributions to Agriculture.

Nomination and selection procedures

Nominations for the award should be sent on a prescribed nomination form (attached) along with the supporting materials, including recommendation letters. Only the nominations with complete documentation will be considered for the award. A jury composed of eminent scientists appointed by the GS Khush Foundation will choose the most deserving recipient, and the recommendation of the jury will be final. **The nomination of the candidates will remain active for two years.** The award will be given in March 2023 at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.

The last date to receive nominations is **December 30, 2022**.

The Awardee will be announced by **10 February 2023**.

Please send nominations online to: <secretary@khushfoundation.org>



Secretary

***Dr. Gurdev Singh Khush Foundation for Advancement of
Agricultural Sciences***

Nomination form for “Dr Darshan Singh Brar Award in Agriculture”

1. Nominee’s personal data	
i. First Name:	
ii. Last Name:	
iii. Affiliation:	
iv. Telephone Number:	
v. Mobile Number:	
vi. E-mail:	
vii. Date of Birth:	
viii. Office Address:	
ix. Home Address:	
In case of a joint nomination, joint nominees’ particulars	

2. Proposed citation for the Award (not more than 100 words)

3. Education

4. Main positions held

5. Brief description of nominee’s achievements (not more than 700 words)

Dr. Gurdev Singh Khush Foundation for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences

6. List of 15/20 most significant publications in refereed journals (*Please do not attach the reprints*)

--

7. Major honors and awards

--

8. Supporting letters from 3 scientists not affiliated with the institution of the nominee. Supporting letters must be on their official/personal letterheads. (*The nominator should write a nomination letter himself/herself. Either nominator or the nominee may contact three other persons to write supporting letters addressed to the nominator or Secretary, GS Khush Foundation.*)

--

9. Nominator

Full Name:	
Address of Nominator:	
Nominator's Affiliation:	
E-mail:	
Mobile number:	
Nominator's Signature:	

10. A recent photograph of the nominee in high resolution (300 dpi or more)

--