

MODERN
MUSHROOM
CULTIVATION

Reeti Singh U. C. Singh



Modern Mushroom Cultivation



REETI SINGH

Senior Scientist
Department of Plant Pathology
Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University
Campus: College of Agriculture, Gwalior

U. C. SINGH

Senior Scientist (Plant Protection)
Krishi Vigyan Kendra
Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University
Campus: College of Agriculture, Gwalior



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Phone: +91-291-2643993, 2643994, Fax: 2642319

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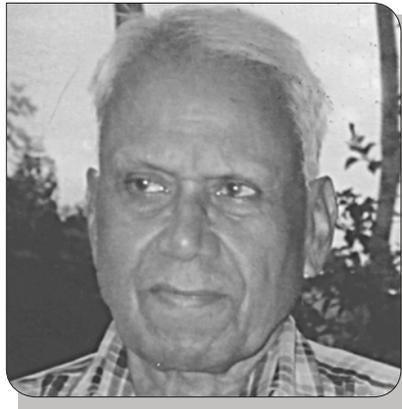
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IN AFFECTIONATE
MEMORY OF OUR FATHER



Dr. Surendra Prasad Singh
(1926-2002)



Dr. Dwarika Singh
(1928-2004)



जवाहरलाल नेहरू कृषि विश्वविद्यालय
dɪ'kʊxj] vk/kkjrkj] tcyi g & 482004 ½e-i½
Jaaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya
Krishinagar, Adhartal, Jabalpur – 482 004 (M.P.), INDIA

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कुलपति

Dr. D. P. Singh

Vice Chancellor

Ph.: 0761-2480789 (R)

Fax: 0761-2481389, 2481074

E-mail: Dpsingh_jnkvv@yahoo.co.in

FOREWORD

India is regarded as Mushroom Paradise due to rich diversity of agro-climatic and socio-cultural conditions prevailing in the country.

In the era of healthy eating by cutting down the calories, saturated fat and cholesterol, mushrooms are bound to attract the attention. In fact, early herbalist recommended mushroom as dietary substitute more due to its medicinal and nutritional values.

The scope of mushroom cultivation has widened tremendously during the last two decades and is emerging out as an agro based industry. It is a labour intensive indoor activity which can help the landless, small and marginal farmers to raise their income, diversify economic activity and can create gainful employment especially for underemployed youths, weaker sections of the society and women folk.

The mushroom cultivation has been included in course curriculum in all the State Agriculture Universities resulting the need of a good text book. The present book, "**Modern Mushroom Cultivation**" written by Dr. Reeti Singh and Dr. U. C. Singh is a timely publication, to cater to the needs of students, progressive farmers and research workers. The language of the book is simple, lucid and present appropriate expression of the subject.

I do hope that the students, teachers and entrepreneurs will equally like it.

(D. P. Singh)

Preface

The cultivation of mushroom has increased tremendously during last 3 decades. Now it is developing as an industry day by day. As such its scope has widened enough in our country. Though much literature has been published in the field of mushrooms in India and abroad in the form of journals and books even then still many aspects remain unrevealed and as such an attempt has been made not only this critically review the present status of mushroom cultivation to provide ready reference but other details are being given at a place.

The chapters have been suitably illustrated with both black and white and coloured photographs alongwith line diagrams. In concluding pages of the book author and subject index have been provided to facilitate the reader.

On the matter of references our policy has been to include (1) all those cited in text (2) all those from which illustrations have been taken and (3) a few of the most recent published work-pertaining to the subject matter in each chapter - even through they may not have been mentioned in the text – for the sake of interested student/research worker a bibliography has been prepared.

Special attention has been given on the identification of some edible wild/cultivated and poisonous types of mushrooms with pictorial description, their distribution and live diagrams. These photographs may be useful for mushroom collectors for spot identification is unique in this book. Inclusion of recent literature on the medicinal mushroom has increased its capability to a great extent, as it is rarely described in any book.

In the preparation of the book many published articles, books on this subject in India and abroad have been consulted for which authors wish to express their gratefulness and thanks.

AUTHORS

Acknowledgment

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all who have aided us in any way . We are especially grateful to late Dr. S. P. Singh, Ex. Dean, JNKVV, Jabalpur, who spent many hours for this cause, which he would otherwise devote to his own busy schedule. Really he had been the greatest help and source of inspiration throughout the entire task. We are much thankful to Dr. R. P. Tewari, Director, National Research Centre of Mushroom (NRCM), Solan, who has gone through manuscript and gave valuable suggestions. Our thanks are due to Dr. S. R. Sharma, Principal Scientist, NRCM, Solan, who gave his suggestions for the chapter on Management of Mushroom Diseases, Insects, Pests and Nematodes and their remedies. We also wish to thank Dr. S. C. Sharma Principal Scientist, JNKVV, Campus- Gwalior for his upgrading help rendered in going through manuscript. Our thanks are also due to Dr. O. P. Verma, Dean, JNKVV, Campus- Gwalior and the retired Associate Professor (Agril. Botany) Dr. C. M. Mathur for their help and assistance from time to time.

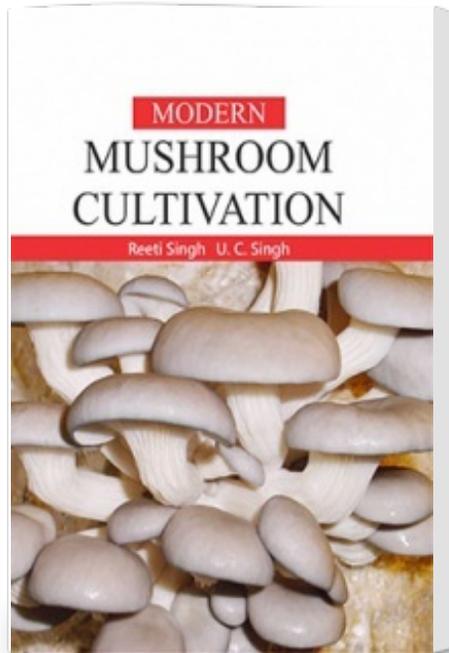
I am highly grateful to my teachers Dr. M. N. Khare and S. C. Vyas, who installed an interest in plant pathology in general during my formative years. I wish to express my sincere gratitude's to Dr. N. S. Bhadoriya, Umesh Chandeliya and P. P. Singh for the assistance they provided.

Our heartly thanks to the members of family viz., Mrs. Savitri Singh, Mrs. Sharda Singh, Dr. Neelam Singh, Neha and Ranuak for extending their encouragement and cooperation without which we would not be able to expose this work to broad day light.

There may be many errors and omission and the authors will be highly indebted to those who will put their healthy suggestions in the improvement of the book. Such types of criticism/suggestions/ideas are ever welcome by both the authors.

Reeti Singh
U.C. Singh

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Author : R Singh And U C
Singh

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