

Dr. Muhammad Waqar Alam

Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology)

30 Years, Pakistani, Fluent in Urdu and English

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RESEARCH FOCUS

My focus of research is to understand the dynamics of postharvest diseases of fruits because thousands of tons of fruit are wasted due to postharvest diseases. The scope of my research ranges from pathogen detection to sustainable disease management tactics and pathogen genetics.

AREA OF EXPERTISE

- Mycology
- Postharvest diseases of fruits and vegetables
- Disease management

EDUCATION

2012-2017 University of Agriculture, Faisalabad **Ph.D.** (Agriculture/Plant Pathology)

2010-2012 University of Agriculture, Faisalabad **M.Sc. (Hons.)** (Agriculture/Plant Pathology)

2006-2010 University of Agriculture, Faisalabad **B.Sc. (Hons.)** (Agriculture/Plant Pathology)

2003-2005 Government College, Pattoki **F.Sc.** (Biology, Physics, Chemistry)

2001-2003 Government High School, Pattoki **Matric** (Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Math)

CURRENT STATUS

Serving as Assistant Professor under IPFP program at Institute of Agricultural Sciences, University of the Punjab, Lahore since 19-03-2018 to date.

LECTURER (Visiting)

Served as a Lecturer (visiting) at Department of Plant Pathology, University College of Agriculture, Sargodha, during spring semester (26-02-2017-23-06-2017), and taught various courses at undergraduate level including Introductory Plant Pathology, Diseases of Field Crops, Introduction to Molecular Plant Pathology, and Pesticides, their Application and Action.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Served as teaching assistant in the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad from 12-03-2015 to 06-07-2015.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Six month Ph.D. overseas scholarship under international research support initiative program (IRSIP) at IOWA State University, USA.

PROJECTS AS RESEARCHER

1. Worked as Researcher in a project entitled Controlled Atmosphere Technology Project (**PARB, 143**) from 20, November 2010 to February 2012 in the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad.

2. Worked as Researcher in a project entitled “Characterization of native and potential mango varieties in relation to *Ceratocystis manginecans* and other economic traits (PARB, 150)” from 20 March, 2012 to 15 November, 2012 in the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad.
3. Worked as Researcher in a project entitled “ACIAR/Australian Aid Mango Value Chain Improvement Project II” with collaboration of “Australia-Pakistan Agriculture Sector Linkages Program” (ASLP) from 10, December 2012 to 30, November, 2014 in the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

1. Khizar Razzaq, Abdul Rehman, **M. W. Alam**, Saira Mehboob, Romana Anjum, Farooq Ahmad, Sundas Hanif, Yasir Ali, Zeshan Ali, and Owais Yasin. 2018. Genetic diversity of wheat hybrid lines against wheat rust of wheat in relation to epidemiological factors. International journal of Biosciences. **Accepted.**
2. S. Sarfraz, K. Riaz, S. Oulghazi, C. Jeremy, **M. W. Alam**, Y. Dessaux and F. Denis. 2018. First report of *Dickeya dianthicola* causing Blackleg disease on Potato plants in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 102: 452.
3. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, M. S. Haider, M. L. Gleason, H. Rosli, M. Saira, S. M. Khan, S. Aslam, M. A. Khan, A. Hameed, and S. Sarfraz. 2018. First report of *Ceratocystis fimbriata* causing wilt of loquat in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. **IF. 3.192.**
4. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, A. U. Malik, S. M. Khan, S. Ali, S. Aslam, A. Hameed and S. Sarfraz. 2018. First report of *Alternaria alternata* causing postharvest fruit rot of Jujube in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 102: 452.
5. Muhammad Rizwan Bashir, Muhammad Atiq, Muhammad Sajid, Muhammad Mohsan, **Muhammad Waqar Alam**, Waseem Abbas, Muhammad Bashair. 2017. Antifungal exploitation of fungicides against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *capsici* causing Fusarium wilt of chilli pepper in Pakistan. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*. doi.org/10.1007/s11356-017-1032-9.
6. Sidra Aslam, Aisha Tahir, Muhammad Farhan Aslam, **Muhammad Waqar Alam**, Arshad Ali Shedayi and Sehrish Sadia. 2017. Recent advances in molecular techniques for the identification of phytopathogenic fungi -A mini review. *Journal of Plant Interactions*. 12: 493-504.
7. **Muhammad Waqar Alam**, Abdul Rehman, Shahbaz Talib Sahi and Aman Ullah Malik. 2017. Exploitation of natural products as an alternative strategy to control stem end rot disease of mango fruit in Pakistan. *Pakistan Journal of Agricultural Sciences*. 54: 503-511.
8. Hasnain Sajjad, Muhammad Iqbal, Abdul Rehman, **Muhammad Waqar Alam**, Saira Mehboob and Muhammad Idrees. 2017. Varietal response of bitter melon germplasm against *Myrothecium roridum* Tode ex. Fr. causing Myrothecium leaf spot disease. *Pak. J. Phytopathol*. 29: 129-135.
9. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, Z. Iqbal, S. Muhammad, M. Saira, S. Aslam, M. R. Bashir, A. Hameed and S. Sarfraz. 2017. First report of Tomato wilt caused by *Plectosphaerella cucumerina* in Punjab, Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 1543.
10. **M.W. Alam**, A. Rehman, A. U. Malik, Z. Iqbal, M. Amin, S. Ali, A. Hameed and S. Sarfraz. 2017. First report of *Geotrichum candidum* causing postharvest sour rot of Peach in Punjab, Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 1543.
11. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, M. L. Gleason, K. Riaz, M. Saira, S. Aslam, H. Rosli, and S. Muhammad. 2017. First report of *Nigrospora sphaerica* causing leaf spot of Kinnow mandarin in Pakistan. *Journal of Plant Pathology*. 107: 295.

12. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, M. Saira, S. Aslam, A. Hameed, S. Sarfraz, S. Muhammad, and K. Riaz. 2017. First report of leaf spot caused by *Myrothecium roridum* on watermelon in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 1053. *Plant Disease*.
13. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, M. Iqbal, M. Saira, S. Aslam, S. Muhammad, A. Hameed, and M. L. Gleason. 2017. First report of *Ceratocystis fimbriata* causing Eucalyptus wilt in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 1050. *Plant Disease*.
14. **M. W. Alam**, M. L. Gleason, A. U. Malik, M. Amin, M. Fiaz, S. Ali, H. Rosli and A. Rehman. 2017. First report of *Botrytis* spp. as a postharvest pathogen of strawberry in Pakistan. *Journal of Plant Pathology*. 107: 297.
15. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, M. L. Gleason, A. S. Khan, M. Amin, S. Ali, M. Fiaz, and R. Ahmed. 2017. First report of *Alternaria alternata* causing postharvest fruit rot of lychee in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 1041. *Plant Disease*.
16. **M. W. Alam**, A. Rehman, M. Saira, N. A. Kan, S. Aslam, M. Fiaz, and S. Muhammad. 2017. First report of leaf spots in *Aloe vera* caused by *Nigrospora oryzae* in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 841.
17. **M.W. Alam**, M. L. Gleason, M. Amin, S. Ali, S. Muhammad, H. Rosli, and A. Rehman. First report of root and crown rot of strawberry caused by *Chaetomium globosum sensu lato* in Punjab, Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 837.
18. Saira, M, A. Rehman, M. L. Gleason, **M. W. Alam**, M. F. Abbas, S. Ali and M. Idrees. First report of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* causing stem and crown rot of berseem (*Trifolium alexandrinum*) in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 835.
19. S. Mehboob, A. Rehman, M. L. Gleason, **M. W. Alam**, S. Muhammad, and M. Idrees. 2017. First report of *Myrothecium verrucaria* causing leaf spot of maize in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101 (4): 633.
20. **M. W. Alam**, M. L. Gleason, K. Riaz, S. Mehboob and A. Rehman. 2017. First report of *Ceratocystis fimbriata* causing pomegranate wilt in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 251. **I.F. 3.192.**
21. **M. W. Alam**, M. L. Gleason, S. Aslam, K. Riaz and A. Rehman. 2017. First report of *Botrytis cinerea* causing stem end rot of mango fruit in Pakistan. *Plant Disease*. 101: 255.
22. **Muhammad Waqar Alam**, Abdul Rehman, Sajid Ali, Muhammad Fiaz and Kashif Riaz. 2016. Assessment of different food additives for postharvest disease control of Kinnow mandarin. *Transylvanian Review*. 10: 1934-1950.
23. Abdul Rehman, Rizwan Maqbool, **Muhammad Waqar Alam**, and Saira Mehboob. 2016. Exploration of ethanoloic and methanolic extracts of parthenium and lemon grass for management of citrus scab (*Elsinoe fawcettii*). *Pakistan Journal of Phytopathology*. 28: 101-106.
24. M. Fiaz, A.U. Malik, M. Amin, A.S. Khan, A. Rehman, **M.W. Alam**, P. Hofman and P. Johnson. 2016. Production locality influences Post Harvest Disease Development and Quality in Mangoes. *Acta Horticulture*. 369-376.
25. Abdul Rehman, Mohammad Imran, Saira Mehboob, Nasir Ahmad Khan, **M. Waqar Alam** and Kashif Riaz. Etiology, Pathogenicity and Management of Collar Rot in Cockscomb (*Celosia argentea*). *International Journal of Agriculture and Biology*. 17: 9-14.
26. Abdul Rehman, Aman Ullah Malik, Haider Ali, **M. Waqar Alam** and Bushra Sarfraz. 2015. Pre-harvest Factors Influencing the Postharvest Disease Development and Fruit Quality of Mango. *Journal of Environmental and Agricultural Sciences*. 3: 42-47.

POPULAR ARTICLES

Rehman A., T. Ahmad, M. W. Alam. AAM Ki Safoofi phaphondi. 2012. Zari Digest, January 2017. University of Agriculture Faisalabad.

TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES

1. Participated in a workshop entitled “Reviewing a Manuscript” held on 2 August, 2016 at Tampa Convention center, Tampa, Florida, **USA**.
2. Participated in APS Annual Meeting held from 30 July to 03 August, 2016 at Tampa Convention center, Tampa, Florida, **USA**.
3. Participated in American Phytopathological Society North Central Division Meeting from 7-9 June, 2016 organized by University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus, **USA**.
4. Participated in an International conference entitled “Malnutrition Kills! Can we see the writing on the wall?” from 7-8 April, 2016 at Bahuuddin Zakariya University, Multan, **Pakistan**.
5. Participated in International Seminar on “Integrated value chain approach to deliver quality mangoes to market” held on 1st April, 2015 at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, **Pakistan**.
6. Presented in international Conference on “Citriculture: Challenges & Management” from 11-13 February, 2015 held at Bahuuddin Zakariya University, Multan, **Pakistan**.
7. Participated in International Conference on “Emerging Horizons of Agri. Extension for Sustainable Rural Development” from 27-28 February, 2014 at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, **Pakistan**.
8. Participated in a workshop on “Plant Diseases and Diagnosis” on 23rd April 2014 at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, **Pakistan**.
9. Participated in a workshop on “Biological management of Root Knot Nematodes on vegetables” on 4th July 2013 held at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, **Pakistan**.
10. Participated in an international workshop on “Management of Post-harvest diseases of mango” from 26-28 August 2012 at NARC, Islamabad, **Pakistan**.

MEMBERSHIP OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

Member of American Phytopathological Society.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Certificate of excellence in co-curricular activities from Department of Plant Pathology, UAF, Faisalabad.
- Vice President of Young Phytodocor Forum at UAF, Faisalabad.
- Won Inter-collegiate Debates and Poetry Recitation (Mushaira) competitions.
- Best speaker in urdu from Govt. College Pattoki, session 2003-05.
- Sub-editor of AL-QALAM (annual magazine) Govt. College Pattoki in 2005.