

The publication of **Volume 8** of the *International Treatise Series on Advances in Plant Physiology* has been feasible - exclusively and unquestionably due to commendable contributions from World Scientists of distinction in explicit fields. Within eight years, the treatise series has been instituted in the spirits and compassion of illustrious readers all through the world. The proficient *International and National Co-ordinators* have all along unified their views for the expediency of readers assisting them to speed up important research work in the field of **Plant and Crop Physiology, Biochemistry & Plant Molecular Biology**. In spite of handiness of quick accessibility of vast literature from internet, this treatise series in the field of life sciences has been realized over and above to be like a true guide, friend and philosopher, everlastingly enlightening the most hidden perceptible nerves of an individual worker, which is beyond the competence of mere web services. The **Volume 8** is absolutely another one of its kinds for incorporation of most timely and important worthy reviews of diverse objectives contributed by forty four well-informed, admirable and documented scientists/ stalwarts, of which twenty three participated from abroad. The original writing coming in bounteous journals of international repute covering new technologies and tools in plant science research have been pulled together in affirmative, prolific and supportive manner by specialists all over the globe. In this volume efforts have been made to fetch together twenty one indispensable review articles, duly evaluated by the respective Consulting Editors of international stature from *India, U.K., U.S.A., Argentina, Australia, France, Germany, Japan, Spain, Portugal, Israel, and Morocco* and rationally distributed in eight sections.

Indeed, the treatise is wealth for interdisciplinary exchange of information. Apart from fulfilling need of this kind of exclusive edition in different volumes for research teams in Molecular Plant Physiology and Biochemistry in traditional and agricultural universities, institutes and research laboratories throughout the world, it would be extremely a constructive book and a voluminous reference material for acquiring advanced knowledge by post-graduate and Ph.D. scholars in response to the innovative courses in *Plant Physiology, Plant Biochemistry, Plant Molecular Biology, Plant Biotechnology, Environmental Sciences, Plant Pathology, Microbiology, Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, Agronomy, Horticulture, and Botany*.

**Dr. A. Hemantaranjan** is Associate Professor in the Department of Plant Physiology, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India as well as *Fellow, Indian Society for Plant Physiology [FISPP]*. He was awarded U.G.C. JRF and SRF during his Ph.D. from the Banaras Hindu University. He has been teaching Post-Graduate/Ph.D. classes since 1984, conducting research for the last twenty-seven years and guiding research for the last sixteen years in the area of plant micronutrients, abiotic stresses and plant growth regulators with reference to plant/crop physiology in various capacities (Research Associateship and Pool Officer) under the U.G.C. and C.S.I.R. In 1988, he became the recipient of "Research Scientist A Award" conferred on him by the University Grants Commission, Govt. of India. Over 65 of his research papers and review articles/book chapters/books are globally published in journals/treatise of international/national repute including proceedings of international/national symposia and recurrently cited world over especially in international journals including *Annual Review of Plant Physiology* (1985). He is the recipient of a number of advanced trainings related to plant sciences, in general, and plant mineral nutrition, in particular. He was one of the active organizers of the *International Conference on Plant Physiology, 1991* sponsored by Indian Society for Plant Physiology, New Delhi and Association of Plant Physiologists of SAARC Countries in the year 1991. In addition, he has been delivering invited lectures/guest lectures, presenting research papers and taking part in scientific deliberations, etc. in numerous scientific gatherings organized by the universities in India and abroad. In 1987, he presented three valuable research papers in the *Fourth International Iron Symposium* and actively participated in the *Round Table Discussion* on invitation amongst one of the three Indian Scientists at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, U.S.A. In 1994, he delivered an invited lecture in the *Sixth International Trace Element Symposium* at the University of Horticulture, Budapest, Hungary and also visited University of Wien, Vienna, Austria, in this connection. Admirably, he is the *Editor-in-Chief* of the *International Treatise Series on Advances in Plant Physiology* since 1998. Besides his commendable publication of eight inspiring and stirring volumes of the international treatise series, he has also published treatises on "Advancements in Iron Nutrition Research" (recognized as one of the 55 best buys books on plant nutrition: <http://www.bestwebbuys.com/books>) and "Advancements in Micronutrient Research" in 1995 and 1996, respectively in addition to many specific books. Besides, he is the Expert Member of Board of Studies of one of the reputed Agricultural Universities of India. Above and beyond, he is Life Member of many Indian and overseas *Learned Bodies in Biology and Agriculture*. He has also acted as the Consulting Editor, *Indian Journal of Plant Physiology, Indian Journal of Pulse Research, Legume Research (An International Journal)* - Agricultural Research Communication Centre, etc.



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