

Name: Dr. Kirti Kumari

Designation: Subject Matter Specialist (Food Tech.)

Institution: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ranichauri, Tehri Garhwal
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Educational Qualification:

Ph.D. (Processing & Food Engineering), Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
M.Tech (Processing and Food Engineering) and B.Tech (Food Technology), MPUAT, Udaipur

Research Areas:

Food Processing and Engineering; Post-Harvest Management and Value Addition; Novel Food Processing Technologies; Functional Foods; Food and Nutrition; Food Freezing and Shelf-life Enhancement; Nutrition-sensitive Agriculture

Professional Experience:

More than 13 years of experience in food processing, post-harvest technology, research, teaching and agricultural extension. Served as Officer-in-Charge, Post Harvest Technology Unit, College of Forestry, Ranichauri, and presently working as Subject Matter Specialist (Food Processing) at KVK Ranichauri.

Major Research & Development Contributions:

Development and commercialization of functional Iron Laddu, Local Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (L-RUTF) and millet-based Nutri-Bar; research on mushroom post-harvest management and freezing; food product development and value addition of fruits, vegetables, millets and other Himalayan crops.

Research Projects

Dr. Kumari has been associated with externally funded and institutional research and development programmes including:

1. **National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA)** project sponsored by ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad.
2. **Cluster Front Line Demonstrations on Pulses** sponsored by ICAR-ATARI, Ludhiana.
3. **ICAR Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)**
4. **Iron Laddu Project** implemented through inter-departmental collaboration.

Awards & Recognition:

Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis Award (2026); **Teelu Rauteli Rajya Stree Shakti Award (2020)**; **Brand Ambassador – Beti Bachao Beti Padhao**; **Excellence in Extension Award (2019)**; **Young Scientist Award (2017)**; **Excellence in Food Processing initiatives (2021)**, Best Oral Presentation Award and several district/state-level recognitions.

Research Publications

8 research papers, 4 review papers, 4 full-length conference papers, 9 conference abstracts, 13 magazine/journal articles, 14 extension literature/pamphlets, 9 livelihood-generation success stories, and 36 technical reports

Extension & Social Impact:

Extensive work on community nutrition, anaemia reduction, women empowerment, food processing entrepreneurship and livelihood enhancement through SHGs and farmer groups. Contributed to

training, demonstrations, Kisan Melas, nutrition programmes and technology dissemination in Uttarakhand.

Success Stories and Case Studies (selected)

1. **Belmati Women Cooperative of Tehri Garhwal.** Published by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under *Success Stories of Progressive Women Farmers and Agripreneurs*, 2022.
2. **Adding Agro-Eco-Tourism to Food Processing Business for Stability and Increment in Farm Income.** Published by ICAR-ATARI, Ludhiana, 2026, under *Seeds of Success: Youth-driven Models of Enterprise, Innovation and Impact*.
3. **Agri-Food Entrepreneurship as a Pathway to Women's Empowerment: A Case Study of Swabhlambi Women Self-Help Group in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand** Published in the abstract book of the Global Conference on Women in Agri-Food Systems, 2026.

Professional Memberships

- Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers, New Delhi
- Society for Agriculture Innovation and Development, Ranchi
- Society of Biological Sciences and Rural Development, Allahabad
- Association of Food Scientist and Technologist (India)
- Food Scientist and Nutrition Association (FSNA), India
- Forestry Society for Education and Conservation of Nature (FOSECON)
- Indian Academy of Environmental Sciences
- Society of Environmental Protection
- Society for Advancement of Science and Rural Development