

A Message from the Editor-in-Chief: Outstanding Editors in 2016

I would like to thank the following Editors for their outstanding contribution to the 2016 volume of *Archives of Phytopathology and Plant Protection*. The quality of the journal depends on dedicated Editors such as these and I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to them for accepting this extra task in their already very busy schedules.

Shahrokh Khanizadeh, Editor-in-Chief, Feb 2017



Dr. Arash Zibae was born in Rasht, a city in north Iran, in December 5th, 1981. He graduated BSc in Plant Protection from University of Guilan and he presented his MSc thesis on “Resistance of *Chilo suppressalis* population to diazinon in north of Iran” in 2007. He was accepted as a PhD student in University of Tehran and received a scholarship on behalf of the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology the same year. He did a sabbatical research period in the Department of Life Science (Formerly Department of Animal Biology), University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, and worked on histology and molecular biology of *Drosophila melanogaster* under the supervision of Prof. Davide Malagoli during March to August of 2010. He obtained his PhD in 2010 and joined the Department of Plant Protection, University of Guilan in November of 2010.

His main study areas are digestive physiology and immunity of insects by emphasis on regulatory mechanisms to clarify whether they lead to decreased population outbreaks of insect pests or increased efficacy of natural predators. He has several peer-reviewed papers in well-known journals and works as an associate editor for journals such as: *Frontiers in Physiology*, *Archives of Phytopathology and Plant Protection* and *Journal of Entomological and Acarological Research*. He was also the consulting editor for *Journal of Open Access Insect Physiology* under the editorial activities of Prof. Guy Smagghe, which is now known as *Research and Reports in Biology*. Arash has been a member of the Entomological Society of America since 2011 and is part of the Awards and Honors Committee for the International Branch.



Dr Ajay K Tiwari is working as a Scientific Officer at UP Council of Sugarcane Research, Shahjahnapur, UP, India. He did his PhD in 2011 on Cucurbit viruses in the Biotechnology department of CCS University, Meerut, UP, India. Dr. Tiwari is a regular member of the British Society of Plant Pathology, Indian Phytopathological Society, Sugarcane Technologists Association of India, International Society of Sugarcane Technologists, Society of Sugarcane Research and Promotion, Prof H S Srivastava foundation, and Society of Plant Research. He has published 70 research articles and 9 review articles in national and international journals. He has also published 6 book chapters in edited books and has also authored 6 edited books. He has submitted more than 150 nucleotide sequences of plant pathogens

in Genbank to his credit.

He is a regular reviewer and member of the editorial board for many international journals. He has been awarded the Young Researcher award in Italy 2011, the Young Scientist award by DST-SERB and was nominated for the Narshiman Award by the Indian Phytopathological Society. Very recently he was awarded the Young Scientist Award by the Chief Minister of the State Government of UP for his outstanding contribution in the area of plant pathology. Dr Tiwari is the recipient of many international travel awards given by DST, DBT, CSIR from India, PATHOLUX from Luxembourg and IOM from Brazil. He has visited China, Italy, Germany, Thailand for conferences and workshops. He has been involved in research on molecular characterization and management of agricultural plant pathogens for the last 9 years. Currently he is working on molecular characterization of sugarcane phytoplasma and their secondary spread in nature.