

# Curriculum Vitae

## Personal Details

Name: Muhammad Sarmad Iftikhar  
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Province Punjab, Pakistan  
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## Educational Qualifications

PhD, Quantitative Genetics	The University of Queensland		
M.Sc. (Hons) PBG	University of Agriculture, Faisalabad	3.88/4.00	81.54%
B.Sc. (Hons) Agri. Sciences	University of Agriculture, Faisalabad	3.76/4.00	77.86%
F.Sc. Pre-medical	BISE Faisalabad	830/1100	75.45%
Matriculation	BISE Lahore	740/850	87.05%

## Experience

9 weeks internship at CEMB (Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology, Lahore) working on “Cotton bollworm resistance gene detection” (March, 17- June, 25 2014)

## Conferences Attended

- International colloquium on Challenges to Maize Production (Pakistan)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> National Student Conference on Biological Sciences (Pakistan)
- Biometrics by the Border (Australia)

## Research Publications

- **Iftikhar, M.S.**, Naseer Cheema, H.M., Khan, A.A., DeLacy, I.H. and Basford, K.E., 2024. Genetic diversity assessment of cucumber landraces using molecular signatures. *BMC genomics*, 25(1), p.1046.
- Aleem, M., Razzaq, M.K., Aleem, M., Yan, W., Sharif, I., Siddiqui, M.H., Aleem, S., **Iftikhar, M.S.**, Karikari, B., Ali, Z. and Begum, N., 2024. Genome-wide association study provides new insight into the underlying mechanism of drought tolerance during seed germination stage in soybean. *Scientific Reports*, 14(1), p.20765.
- Awan, Z. A., Shoaib, A., **Iftikhar, M. S.**, Jan, B. L., & Ahmad, P. 2022. Combining biocontrol agent with plant nutrients for integrated control of tomato early blight through the modulation of physio-chemical attributes and key antioxidants. *Frontiers in microbiology*, 13, 807699.
- **Iftikhar, M. S.**, Talha, G. M., Aleem, M., & Shamim, A. 2021. Bioinformatics–computer programming. In *Nanotechnology in Cancer Management* (pp. 125-148). Elsevier.
- **Iftikhar, M.S.**, G.M. Talha, R. Shahzad, S. Jamil, S. Jameel, M. Aleem, M.Z. Iqbal. 2019. Early response of the cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) genotypes against drought stress. *Int. J. Biosci.* 14(2), 537-544.

- Ali A., **M.S. Iftikhar**, M.U. Majid, M.S. Akram, T. Munawar, M. Aleem, S. Ali, K.S. Bajwa, T.R. Samiullah, I.A. Nasir and T. Husnain. 2014. Genes and transcriptional factors in Chilli plant (*Capsicum annuum*) with aspect to metabolism and resistance against virus, bacteria and fungi; A review. J. Agric. Sci. and Technol. pp 509-517.
- Imran, M., Saif-ul-malook, M. Sajjad, M. Sarfaraz, M.K. Shahbaz, **M.S. Iftikhar**, S.A. Qasrani, A.S. N.azick, R. Kalsoom, S. Azam, T.R. Samiullah and G. Mustafa. 2014. An overview of Genetic Variability in *Helianthus annuus* L. Int. J. Adv. Life Sci. 7(4): 699-707.

### **News Articles**

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- Junaid, J.A., **M.S. Iftikhar**, H. Saleem. August 15, 2024. Ideotype breeding in cotton: Transforming Pakistan's cotton sector. The Veterinary News and Views.
- **Iftikhar, M. S.** February 02, 2014. Dilemma of Sugarcane Growers. Pakistan Today
- **Iftikhar, M. S.** May 07, 2013. Slow Promotion of Oilseed Crops and Its Remedies. The Business

### **Research Grants**

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- National workshop on “Agri-data and smart stats bootcamp for faculty” (2024)

### **Laboratory Skills**

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☞ Polymerase Chain Reaction      ☞ Gel Electrophoresis      ☞ DNA Extraction

### **Field Skills**

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☞ Selfing and Crossing in Major and Minor Crops      ☞ Field Layout for Experiments  
☞ Data Collection      ☞ Data Processing

### **Miscellaneous**

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☞ Communication skills      ☞ Scientific Writing

### **Softwares**

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☞ Genstat      ☞ Biplot Analysis      ☞ XLStat  
☞ Endnote      ☞ R and RStudio      ☞ Clustal W

### **Computer Skills**

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☞ Internet Surfing      ☞ Microsoft Office  
☞ Microsoft Windows (Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 10, Windows 11, Drivers and Software)

### **Awards and Honors**

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- RTS Scholarship from The University of Queensland Australia for PhD
- 50 Overseas scholarships for PhD by the Chief Minister Punjab
- Merit laptop scheme by the Chief Minister Punjab
- Merit laptop scheme by the Prime Minister of Pakistan
- Internal Merit Scholarship throughout the bachelor's degree Program
- Conspicuous position in management of University Golden Jubilee Celebrations 2011

### **Extra-curricular Activities**

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- Management of curricular and co-curricular activities at the University of Agriculture Faisalabad
- Enhanced overall performance of The Agrarian Society®

- Won first prize in Poetry competition at University level
- Wrote different stage plays and also acted and directed on the stage (comparing and acting)

### **Language**

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- English, Urdu and Punjabi (Reading, Writing and Listening)
- International GRE score: Verbal 145, Quantitative 152, Essay 3 bands
- IELTS: Listening 8.0, Reading 7.0. Writing 6.5, Speaking 6.5, Overall 7.0

### **Memberships**

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- Executive Council Member (Department Councilor) in The Agrarian Society® (TAS)
- Practorial Board Member in The Agrarian Society® (TAS)
- General Secretary, University of Queensland Pakistani Student Association (2017-18)
- Gatton engagement officer, SAFS researcher's society (2017-18)
- Student representative, SAFS HDR committee (2019-to date)

### **Academic Referees**

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- 1) Prof. Kaye E. Basford  
Emeritus Professor,  
School of Agriculture and Food Sustainability, UQ  
[k.e.basford@uq.edu.au](mailto:k.e.basford@uq.edu.au)
- 2) Prof. Amir Shakeel  
Professor  
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