

Spring 2021 PSLA
LECTURE
SERIES
April 26, 2021

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SEMINAR takes place
live via

UMD Zoom

Time:
12PM



NIDHI RAWAT

Developing Multi-Pronged Approaches for Fighting Fungal Foes of Wheat

Plant diseases cause up to 40% loss in crop production globally. The goal of my program is to fight fungal pathogens of wheat, one of the most important food crops worldwide. Research in my lab is focused on gene discovery and molecular isolation of resistance genes, exploration of negative regulators and susceptibility factors against fungal pathogens, and mechanistic understanding of important resistance genes. This presentation will take you on the journey of the small grain pathology program from its inception to recent findings and future directions.

Dr. Nidhi Rawat is an Assistant Professor at UMD and leads the small grain pathology program here. She did her PhD in Plant Genetics from the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, India in 2009, after which she joined Kansas State University for her post-doctoral training. She joined UMD and established the small grain pathology lab in August 2016. Her lab conducts fundamental research on fungal diseases of wheat. In addition, her applied research efforts have been saving millions of dollars to farmers annually.