Millets

Reservoir of Nutrients



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Millets:

Reservoir of Nutrients

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PREFACE

The basis of our life is "Tamaso Ma Jyotirgamaya" which tells us that we move from darkness to light and with this light the darkness in the entire creation disappears when the rays of the sun illuminate the earth. The basis of our life is the energy of the Sun, and this energy is stored in our food and agricultural products.

Cereals are food agricultural products, which are the biggest source of energy for us. According to Atharvaveda, food is the basis of life of all living beings. Without grains a creature cannot survive. Among grains, 'coarse grain' is an important grain which has a very notable place in our lives. Coarse grains are also known as 'Shri Anna' and 'Millets'.

India celebrated 2018 as the 'National Year of Millets' to create greater awareness about unparalleled attributes of millets. Further, India advocated for declaration of 2023 as "International year of Millets" which brought millets into mainstream grains. Undoubtedly millets are reservoir of nutrients and strong profile with numerous health benefits. They are healthy not only for human being but also for our agriculture and overall environment. Every possible effort is being made to popularize millets so that they can be adopted by majority of households. Being educationist and researcher, this is our small effort to highlight several dimensions of millets. It has been tried to cover many aspects such as nutritional importance, health benefits, medicinal values of millets and role of agro based industries in promotion of millets. This book combines information on some nutritious, healthy and easy preparations so that inclusion of millets in daily diet can be increased at large scale. It also explains the role of home makers in popularizing millets at household level.

Thus, this book describes various dimensions of millets and their emerging importance with respect to nutrition, health, processing industries and food security.

Acknowledgement

This edited book is a compilation of chapters contributed by authors from different disciplines and covers various dimensions of millets starting from production to consumption. Millets are storehouse of nutrients with magical health benefits. Many initiatives have been taken to popularize millets and efforts are being made to enhance adoption level of millets at large scale.

We are grateful to the concerned authors who enriched this book with their knowledge and experience. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the publisher and the entire team for being supportive and their technical assistance in bringing out this book.

Kavita Kumari

Smita Kumari

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ABOUT THE EDITORS



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published articles in UGC CARE listed and peer reviewed journals. She has worked as a resource person in a food processing training program organized by MSME, Patna. She was a member of board of studies committees, CBCS, Deptt. of Home Science, Patna University. Presently she is doing a project work funded by R&D Cell, Patna University, Patna. Her sincerity and punctuality for the profession are the things which make her a distinguished personality. The aim of editing this book is to spread knowledge and popularize millets at all level. Being an educationist, she has tried to cover several dimensions of millets so that population can get adequate knowledge about nutritional values and health benefits of millets. The book also contains chapter on easy and nutritious millets' recipes. Certainly this will helpful in popularizing millets and accelerate adoption level of millets among the population.



Dr. Smita Kumari former Head, Department of H.Sc RMW College Nawada is presently involved in research activities at PG department of H.Sc Magadh University BodhGaya having 3 research scholar and around 20 Postgraduate students for preparing dissertation in various fields of nutrition for developing new India. In her academic career she has got opportunity to be **All India Topper** in ICAR Combined Entrance Exam for M.Sc. She has earned her B.Sc and M.Sc degree from Rajendra Agriculture University Pusa and Awarded **University Gold Medal** in M.Sc (food and nutrition). She has cleared **UGC** as well as **ICAR NET**.

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